

Pre budget FY15 antics | could be sanguine for cement players

Federal government has finalized budget for FY15, salient features could be:

- Rolling out outlay of Rs 3.864 trn;
- Depicting budget deficit of Rs 1.630 trn;
- In line with IMF demands, government looks towards 5.5% vis-à-vis GDP, as being reported by newspaper Business Recorder;
- The paper quoted sources that finance minister wants to bring this deficit down to Rs 1.404 trn which could be 4.4% of GDP (projected budget surplus of Rs 226bn) in FY15;
- This outlay would entail Rs 3.290 trn current expenditure, &Rs 525 bn development expenditure;
- The most important tax collection is forecasted at Rs 3.937 trn on the assumption of Rs 2.810 bn tax collection by FBR & a non-tax revenue of Rs 817bn;
- Rs 1.347 trn has been earmarked for debt servicing which represents 17% higher than Rs 1.151 trn estimated FY15.

Cement makers demanding...

- Cement manufacturer's association APCMA asking reprieve from government in FY15 budget
- Reduction in duties on alternate fuels since conventional energy usage constitute major expense for cement makers; the alternate fuels include shredded tyres alongside petroleum coke~ though we still feel cement makers have been raking lot of margins on present retention prices.
- We also see coal prices from Indonesia is coming down viz. US\$ 75/ton wherein APCMA is asking for zero duty over shredded tyres in similar pattern to that of import of coal.
- We are positive in cement sector. Our top picks remain FCCL (yielding PE of 7x), MLCF (yielding PE of 4x). *Our detailed report in MLCF to be released tomorrow.*

IFC putting investment stakes in BAFL
SBP allows IFC to inject interest in Bank Alfalah. IFC putting minority strategic interest.

We have buy ratings in BAFL vide our yesterday's call.

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