

INDIAN CEMENT SECTOR

Cement prices declined by 10% YoY in H1 FY2025

OCTOBER 2024



Agenda













Overview





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In August 2024, cement volumes stood at 33.5 million MT, a drop of 3% YoY.

In 5M FY2025, the volumes increased by 1% to 178.0 million MT on a YoY basis.



Outlook: ICRA continues to maintain a Stable outlook on the Indian cement sector.



Cement volumes lower by 3% YoY in August 2024: In August 2024, cement volumes were 33.5 million metric tonnes (MT), down 3% YoY. In 5M FY2025, the volumes increased by 1% YoY to 178.0 million MT. In FY2024, volumes increased by 9% YoY to 426 million MT and in FY2025, the volumes are likely to grow by 7-8% to 455-460 million MT, supported by demand from the housing and infrastructure sectors.



• Average cement prices declined by 11% YoY in September 2024: In September 2024, the average cement prices decreased by 11% YoY to Rs. 330/bag. However, they increased by 2% on a MoM basis. In H1 FY2025, they declined by 10% YoY to Rs. 330/bag. In FY2024, the average prices stood at ~Rs. 365/bag over Rs. 375/bag in FY2023.



Coal prices stable; petcoke and diesel prices lower in October 2024 on YoY basis: In October 2024, coal prices remained stable on a YoY basis at \$125/MT and petcoke prices were down 26% YoY to Rs. 10,180/MT. Diesel prices also declined by 2% YoY to Rs. 88/litre. In 7M FY2025, the prices of coal, petcoke and diesel were lower by 34%, 15% and 2%, respectively, on a YoY basis, resulting in reduced input costs.



• Easing of input costs to improve operating margins: With the easing of cost-side pressures, the operating margins are likely to improve by 20-40 bps to 17.6-18.0% in FY2025.



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