

INDIAN CEMENT SECTOR

Cement volumes higher by 13% YoY in November 2024

JANUARY 2025



Agenda













Overview





In November 2024, cement volumes stood at 34.1 million MT, an increase of 13% YoY.

In 8M FY2025, the volumes increased by 3% to 282.0 million MT on a YoY basis.



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



Cement volumes higher by 13% YoY in November 2024: In November 2024, cement volumes were 34.1 million metric tonnes (MT), up 13% YoY. In 8M FY2025, the volumes increased by 3% YoY to 282.0 million MT. ICRA expects cement volumes to grow by 4-5% YoY to 445-450 million MTPA in FY2025 and further by 6-7% YoY to 475-480 million MT in FY2026, backed by sustained demand from the housing and infrastructure sectors.



Average cement prices declined by 5% YoY in December 2024: In December 2024, the average cement prices moderated by 5% YoY to Rs. 345/bag. However, they increased by 3% on a MoM basis. In 9M FY2025, they declined by 10% YoY to Rs. 335/bag. In FY2024, the average prices stood at ~Rs. 365/bag over Rs. 375/bag in FY2023.



Coal, petcoke and diesel prices lower in January 2025 on YoY basis: In January 2025, coal prices declined by 1% YoY to \$124/MT and petcoke prices were down 10% YoY to Rs. 11,200/MT. Diesel prices also declined by 2% YoY to Rs. 88/litre. In 10M FY2025, the prices of coal, petcoke and diesel were lower by 27%, 16% and 2%, respectively, on a YoY basis, resulting in reduced input costs.



• Moderation in operating margins: The operating margins are likely to moderate by 130-180 bps to 15.6-16.1% in FY2025 due to a decline in cement prices.



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