Economic Times

Emami: In an expansion mode

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Analysts' views

With the slowest quarter out of the way, analysts are bullish on the firm's performance in the coming quarters.

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A new product line-up, strong international demand and improving margins make this FMCG major a good buy.

mami reported muted volumes in the first quarter of the new fiscal year, which was in line with the trend in the FMCG industry. However, this figure inched up 6% on a year-on-year basis primarily because of the early onset of the monsoon, and the resultant fall in demand for its cooling products in hair oil and talcum powder, which is highest during summer. The local body

nignest during summer. The local body tax (LBT)-related issues also created tem-porary supply chain bottlenecks in Maha-rasthra, affecting its Zandu Balm sales. However, this was partly offset by the robust growth in its international business, where the revenue surged 25% in the same period. The volume is expected to pick up in the coming quarters as, tra-ditionally, the first quarter has reported the slowest growth for the company.

Margin expansion on the cards: The company has reported a robust margin expansion, driven by the fall in price of menthol oil, a key ingredient, as well as price hike in some products. The gross margins expanded by 370 basis points on a year-on-year basis, though this was offset partially by a jump in staff costs, resulting in a properties of 177 by an operating margin expansion of 177 ba-sis points. The company has locked in the current price of menthol oil for the rest of the year, which is

likely to keep margins buoyant for some time even after a counting for an expected increase in advertising spend.

Power brands show momentum: Most of the power brands in

the company's product suite continue to witness strong the company's product suite continue to witness strong growth and market share gains. Despite the monsoon impact, Navratna oil and Cool talc saw 9% and 32% revenue growth, respectively, and also gained market share. After a re-launch of its skincare product, Fair and Handsome, in June, the brand saw a 16% jump in revenue. Its flagship brand, Zandu Balm's, sales also grew 8%. Fast Relief grew the most with a 55% jump in revenue. The strong performance of its Pancharishta and Lalima brands also helped its healthcare segment clock a 27% growth. The brands and their extensions are expected to continue to do well. The company has also an-

tinue to do well. The company has also announced new launches in the second half of the current fiscal year, which should drive

Selection methodology: We pick the stock that has shown the maximum increase ir consensus analyst rating during the past lysts are becoming more bullish on the stock. To ensure that we pick only those

companies that have a decent analyst coverage, this search is restricted to stocks that have been covered by at least 10 analysts. You can see similar consensus analyst rating changes during the past week in ETW 50 table (see page 21).

- Sanket Dhanorkar

TATIS at arms arts a drain



Relative valuation

	2 Sep '13	Credit Suisse		Outperform	560
>	Lates	brokerage Research house	calls	Advice	Target price
	GlaxoSmith	Kline Consumers	13.29	38.12	1.05
	Godrej Cons	sumers Products	8.39	34.82	0.61

