MLCF & PIOC: 1QFY27 result previews

- We present 1QFY27 earnings expectations for Maple Leaf Cement Ltd (MLCF) and Pioneer Cement Ltd (PIOC).
- MLCF is expected to post consolidated EPS of Rs3.20 in 1QFY27, up 23% YoY, driven by 5% growth in core dispatches and improved gross margins on higher retentions and low-cost coal inventories. Sequentially, earnings are expected to decline 21%, largely due to a ~Rs1.5bn one-off royalty expense reversal recorded in the previous quarter.
- PIOC is also expected to witness a 38% YoY increase in earnings to Rs7.72/sh, led by a 7% YoY increase in dispatches and decrease in finance cost, whereby the company has retired 100% of its debt as of Jun-2026. Sequential profitability is expected to decline on a normalized tax rate versus 20% in 4QFY26, which benefited from a deferred super tax credit.
- MLCF is our top pick in the sector with a Jun-2027 target price of Rs135.

MLCF: Earnings to rise YoY, QoQ decline expected

Maple Leaf Cement Factory Ltd (MLCF) board meeting to discuss 1QFY27 results is scheduled on 26th Oct. We expect the company to post consolidated EPS of Rs3.20 in 1QFY27, up 23% YoY, driven by 5% growth in core dispatches and improved gross margins on higher retentions and low-cost coal inventories. As per our estimates PIOC's net contribution (1QFY27 PAT vs 1QFY27 finance cost related to acquisition) will be slightly negative at Rs.10/sh for MLCF. Sequentially, earnings are expected to decline 21%, largely due to a ~Rs1.5bn one-off royalty expense reversal recorded in the previous quarter.

MLCF – Key Stats from Earnings Preview

(Rs mn)	1QFY27E	1QFY26	YoYΔ	4QFY26	QoQΔ
Net sales	30,116	16,483	83%	28,182	7%
Gross profit	10,511	5,592	88%	12,320	-15%
PAT	**3,354**	**2,728**	**23%**	**4,267**	**-21%**
EPS (Rs)	3.20	2.60	23%	4.07	-21%

Source: Company announcements, JS Research

PIOC: Dispatch growth and deleveraging to drive EPS

Pioneer Cement Ltd (PIOC) is scheduled to announce its 1QFY27 result today. We expect a 38% YoY increase in earnings to Rs7.72/sh, led by a 7% YoY increase in dispatches and decrease in finance cost, whereby the company has retired 100% of its debt as of Jun-2026. Sequentially, profitability is likely to decline due normalized tax rate compared to deferred super tax credit in 4QFY26 which led to an effective tax rate of 20%.

PIOC – Key Stats from Earnings Preview

(Rs mn)	1QFY27E	1QFY26	YoYΔ	4QFY26	QoQΔ
Net sales	10,335	8,417	23%	9,859	5%
Gross profit	3,055	2,507	22%	3,121	-2%
PAT	**1,754**	**1,274**	**38%**	**2,198**	**-20%**
EPS (Rs)	7.72	5.61	38%	9.68	-20%

Source: Company announcements, JS Research

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Bloomberg Code: MLCF PA
Target Price: Rs135
Market Price: Rs87.54
Market Cap: Rs92bn, US$331mn
1-yr ADTO: 10mn shares, Rs1,018mn, US$3.6mn
1-yr High / Low: Rs130.38 / 72.87
Estimated free float: 471mn shares (45%)

Bloomberg Code: PIOC PA
Target Price: Rs348
Market Price: Rs227.68
Market Cap: Rs52bn, US$187mn
1-yr ADTO: 0.8mn shares, Rs284mn, US$1.0mn
1-yr High / Low: Rs421.37 / 204.16
Estimated free float: 34mn shares (15%)

Key multiples

	FY26		FY27F		Market Cap (Rs mn)
	PE(x)	DY	PE(x)	DY	
MLCF	7.72	0%	6.46	0%	91,704
PIOC	7.84	0%	6.60	0%	51,717

Source: Company announcements, JS Research

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