



Result Update

Q1 FY26

Bharat Forge Ltd.

Institutional Research

Bharat Forge Ltd.



Auto Ancillary | Q1FY26 Result Update

07th August 2025

Tariff-induced environment soften sales; Estimates beat on margin front

Bharat Forge reported a 10.0% YoY and 2.7% QoQ decline in revenue, coming in at Rs. 21,047 million. The decline was driven by weakness in export revenues, particularly from North America, due to regulatory uncertainty, tariff disruptions, and the rollback of emission norm changes for heavy trucks. Additionally, seasonal weakness in the aerospace and domestic CV business further weighed on top-line performance. Gross profit declined 5.2% YoY and 1.3% QoQ, yet gross margins expanded by 307 bps YoY and 90 bps QoQ to 61.2%, on account of stable RM prices (lower annually) and higher inventory stock. EBITDA stood at Rs. 5,718 million, down 12.2% YoY and 7.3% QoQ. The margin contraction (down 70 bps YoY and 134 bps QoQ) to 27.2% was primarily due to higher tariff-related costs and an unfavourable product mix in the export portfolio. Despite softer operating performance, reported PAT grew 25.6% YoY, aided by a lower base and absence of exceptional losses seen in Q1FY25. On a sequential basis, PAT was marginally lower by 2.1%, in line with the decline in operating profit. PAT margins improved sharply by 456 bps YoY and 11 bps QoQ to 16.1%. During the quarter, the company secured new orders worth Rs. 847 crores, including Rs. 269 crores in Defence and Rs. 429 crores in Bharat Forge.

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Bharat Forge delivered a resilient operating performance in Q1FY26 despite a challenging external environment. The topline decline was largely anticipated, reflecting macro headwinds across export markets. However, the company's ability to sustain margins amid this topline pressure underscores the benefit of diversified end-markets and cost discipline. While export-linked segments remained under pressure, the domestic industrial and defence verticals performed well, highlighting the growing contribution from non-auto and high-value strategic businesses. Looking ahead, the near-term outlook remains cautious, particularly for the export-focused portfolio, as tariff-related uncertainty in the US and subdued sentiment in Europe persist. However, H2FY26 is expected to see a recovery, aided by the execution of the Rs. 9,400 crores defence order book (with another Rs. 1,400 crores expected to be converted), continued growth in aerospace (20%+ full year growth expected), and the full-quarter consolidation of American Axle Q2FY26 onwards, which is estimated to add ~Rs. 1,000 crores to FY26 topline. Additionally, infrastructure-led demand should support the domestic industrial and construction verticals. On margins, Q2FY26 is likely to remain under pressure due to lower volumes and the absorption of tariff costs (~Rs. 14 crores in Q1FY26). Still, improvement is expected in H2FY26 as volume recovery, favourable mix, and cost optimisation kick in. The turnaround in the US aluminium operations (second EBITDA-positive quarter) further reinforces medium-term margin visibility.

Key Highlights

Particulars (Rs. Mn)	Q1FY26	Q1FY25	YoY (%)	Q4FY25	QoQ (%)
Net Sales	21,047	23,381	-10.0%	21,630	-2.7%
Gross profit	12,891	13,604	-5.2%	13,054	-1.3%
Gross margin (%)	61.2%	58.2%	307 bps	60.4%	90 bps
EBITDA	5,718	6,515	-12.2%	6,167	-7.3%
OPM (%)	27.2%	27.9%	-70 bps	28.5%	-134 bps
Adj. PAT	3,385	2,694	25.6%	3,456	-2.1%
PAT Margin	16.1%	11.5%	456 bps	16.0%	11 bps

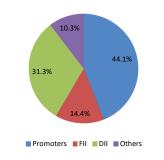
Source: Company, BP Equities Research

Sector Outlook	Neutral		
Stock			
CMP (Rs.)	1,158		
BSE code	500493		
NSE Symbol	BHARATFORG		
Bloomberg	BHFC IN		
Reuters	BFRG.NS		

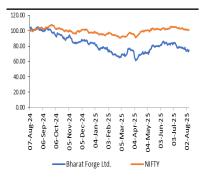
Key Data Nifty 25,091 52 Week H/L (Rs,) 1,695/919 O/s Shares (Mn) 478 Market Cap (Rs. bn) 553 Face Value (Rs.) 2

Average Volume	
3 months	13,21,640
6 months	14,21,680
1 year	12,57,120

Share Holding Pattern (%)



Relative Price Chart



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Key Concall Highlights

Consolidated Financial Performance

Revenue in Q1FY26 stood at Rs. 39,088 million, representing a decline of 4.8% YoY. EBITDA was reported at Rs. 6,817 million, translating to a margin of 17.4% (down 110 bps YoY).

Tariff Impact

The imposition of 25% import tariffs in the US has disrupted cost structures and added uncertainty to the export flow. The full impact of tariffs is likely to be felt in Q2FY26, as shipments made after early August will be fully subject to new duties.

Management is actively working with customers to share the tariff burden through pricing adjustments, given the extraordinary circumstances.

"The company has also set up SMT and electronics capacity to support growth in the EV and defence verticals and is pursuing PLI benefits for this investment."

American Axle Acquisition Update

The American Axle acquisition will be consolidated from Q2FY26 and is expected to contribute approximately Rs. 1,000 crore to FY26 revenue.

This acquisition enhances Bharat Forge's access to the LCV and SUV segments and brings in critical axle design capabilities.

Other Business Highlights

The US aluminium forging business reported its second consecutive quarter of profitability, driven by improved utilisation and operating efficiency. Current capacity utilisation in the US aluminium facility stands at around 70%, reflecting a steady ramp-up from earlier quarters. A second forging line is under installation in the US, with part of the capacity intentionally left unbooked to retain flexibility.

The aerospace business is projected to grow over 20% year-over-year, with limited US market exposure.

The company has a defence RFQ pipeline with Rs. 9,000 crores of orders, plus a pending tender worth Rs. 1,400 crores that needs to be converted into a signed order.

Bharat Forge has set up SMT and electronics capacity to support growth in the EV and defence verticals and is pursuing PLI benefits for this investment.

"A second forging line is under installation in the US, with part of the capacity intentionally left unbooked to retain flexibility."

"Only about one-third of their exports from Indian manufacturing were to the US in Q1FY26."

Quarterly Snapshot



Source: Company, BP Equities

		Key Fi	nancials			
YE March (Rs. mn)	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26E	FY27E
Revenue	62,546	75,727	89,686	88,437	91,090	99,289
Revenue Growth (Y-o-Y)	71.3%	21.1%	18.4%	-1.4%	3.0%	9.0%
EBITDA	17,157	19,111	24,778	25,034	26,416	29,588
EBITDA Growth (Y-o-Y)	135.8%	11.4%	29.7%	1.0%	5.5%	12.0%
Net Profit	10,778	10,455	14,250	13,223	14,119	16,085
Net Profit Growth (Y-o-Y)	245.3%	-3.0%	36.3%	-7.2%	6.8%	13.9%
Diluted EPS	23.2	22.5	30.6	28.2	29.5	33.7
		Profitab	ility Ratios			
EBIDTA (%)	27.4%	25.2%	27.6%	28.3%	29.0%	29.8%
NPM (%)	17.2%	13.8%	15.9%	15.0%	15.5%	16.2%
ROE (%)	15.2%	13.6%	16.6%	12.1%	11.8%	12.4%
ROCE (%)	11.6%	11.9%	15.3%	13.5%	14.1%	15.5%
Valuation Ratios						
P/E (x)	50.0x	51.6x	37.8x	41.1x	39.2x	34.4x
EV/EBITDA (x)	34.4x	31.3x	23.8x	23.5x	21.9x	19.4x
Market Cap/Sales (x)	8.8x	7.3x	6.2x	6.3x	6.1x	5.6x

Source: Company, BP Equities

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Disclaimer Appendix

Analyst (s) holding in the Stock: Nil

Analyst (s) Certification:

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