Muted demand weighs on LTIMindtree outlook

Falling attrition, lower employee count among positives on margin front

RAM PRASAD SAHU Mumbai, 29 March

he stock of the country's fourth largest listed IT services company, LTIMindtree, has plummeted by over 22 per cent from its January peak. Concerns related to integration challenges, senior management exits and near-term demand slowdown have contributed to this decline. It is the worst performing largecap IT company over the past three months, with underperformance compared to the Nifty IT index at over 20 percentage points.

Over the past year and a half, more than a dozen senior management personnel have left the company in the run-up to the merger of L&T Infotech and Mindtree.

While some exits were expected, the process has taken more time than expected. Analysts, led by Kawaljeet Saluia of Kotak Securities, noted that they would have preferred quick changes, restricting the pain to 1-2 quarters. "However, the management's accommodative stance to reduce risks has paradoxically turned into a riskier policy, leading to frequent senior management exits and associated instability. These likelv impacted focus on driving revenue growth and realisation of merger synergies," said the brokerage.

Sluggish revenue growth

Muted demand environment is another concern. The company reported a weak sales growth of 0.7 per cent sequentially on a constant currency basis which was half of what brokerages expected. The growth was impacted by more furloughs than expected and a continued slowdown in discretionary spending. The management has indicated that Q4 growth will mirror Q3 due to persistent pressure on clients' spending.

After weak Q2FY24 and Q3FY24, revenue growth would remain muted in Q4FY24 and Q1FY25, as discretionary tech spending remains soft and clients remain cautious about evolving macroeconomic conditions, points out Pivush Pandev of Centrum Institutional Research. Deal wins were, however, strong at \$1.5 billion higher by 15 per cent



THE SLOWDOWN

– LTIMindtree —— Nifty 50 —— Nifty IT

140 129 BASE= 100 **1**22 104-100 80 Mar 31,'23 Mar 28,'24 Source: NSE

sequentially with the deal pipeline too being robust.

Despite the increase in multi-year deals, the total contract value to revenue conversion has been weak. Further margins too, were muted over the last couple of quarters led by higher sales, general and administrative costs, says Centrum Research.

Stress on margins

The margins in the quarter declined by 60 basis points sequentially to 15.4 per

cent and missed street estimates. Despite a drop in employee strength, profitability was impacted by higher furloughs and pass-through revenues.

The company indicated that the guidance of 17 per cent margin at the EBIT or earnings before interest and taxes level by Q4FY24 would be delayed by a few quarters.

The positives on the margin front for the company are falling attrition, lower employee headcount with a focus on improving utilisation and some gains as hybrid model continues. Analysts at Centrum Research believe the company has sufficient operating levers that will help it report a higher margin in FY25 as against FY24, led by falling attrition, productivity measures, lower subcontracting cost and improvement in employee pyramid structure.

While valuations have been corrected, they do not completely factor in the risk. Valuations at 23 times its FY2026 earnings estimates do not still price in integration and demand risks, says Kotak Securities. Stock trades at 28 times oneyear forward price to earnings, 20 per cent above the mean. A further 10 per cent correction in price can make the stock interesting, says Kotak Securities.

Axis Securities, which has a 'reduced' rating on the stock, savs expensive valuations are a risk amid a tough macro and notwithstanding the targeted merger synergies.

IMPACT OF FINANCIAL CHANGES EFFECTIVE APRIL 1 Choose life policy carefully; early surrender can cause major losses

Switch credit card if changes in reward structure do not align with your needs BINDISHA SARANG

With the new financial year commencing on April 1, several changes will come into effect that may impact your financial life. Below, we outline some of the significant ones and offer guidance on how to navigate them effectively.

New regulations on surrender value

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority's (IRDAI) final regulations on the surrender value of insurance policies will come into force from April 1. Surrender values are expected to maintain their current levels or decrease if policies are surrendered within three years. If they are surrendered between the fourth and the seventh year, surrender values may increase slightly. Surrender value is the amount

insurers pay when a policyholder surrenders his or her policy prematurely. "A policy's surrender value will

depend on its tenure: policies surrendered within the first three years will yield lower surrender values while longer tenures will result in higher values," says Naval Goel, chief executive officer

(CEO), PolicyX. Goel suggests that surrendering a policy, particularly in

the initial years, should be avoided as it entails a loss for the policyholder. He adds that life insurance policies yield higher returns when kept for longer tenures. Policyholders who need money should consider taking a loan against their policy rather than surrendering it.

Changes in credit card rewards

Several credit card issuers have announced changes in their reward terms and conditions. ICICI Bank's website, for instance, says that to qualify for complimentary lounge access during the April-June 2024 quarter, customers must spend a minimum of ₹35.000 in the January-March 2024 quarter. Similar requirements will apply

FACTOR IN HIGHER TCS WHEN PLANNING OVERSEAS TRAVEL

Overseas credit card spends will come under the liberalised remittance scheme (LRS) with an annual limit of \$250,000 from April 1

Cardholders will pay tax collected at source (TCS) of up to 20 per cent for foreign transactions via credit card. This applies only for amounts above ₹7 lakh per individual per annum

"Banks periodically tweak their reward programmes to make them more relevant to users," says Adhil Shetty CEO Bankbazaar Banks like the State Bank of India (SBI). Yes Bank. and Axis Bank have changed their reward structures. Some credit cards have discontinued reward points on rent payments, and on insurance, gold and fuel spends. Some have limited reward points on utility bills

while others have abolished the exemption in annual fees. "Learn about the updated reward structure to maximise its benefits. But do not alter your spending patterns or overspend to earn rewards. YOUR Evaluate your card's features MONEY periodically," says Shetty. Choose cards that match your spending patterns. Check

minimum spend thresholds for rewards. Finally, if the changes in a card's reward terms no longer meet your needs, switch to a new one.

Taxation

While the interim budget announced on February 1, 2024, did not make major changes to the individual tax regime, here are a few points you must keep in mind when filing your tax return this year. The new tax regime is the default regime from 2023-24. Under this regime, tax slabs have been modified from six to

Plan outward remittances to minimise TCS. For multiple outward transfers planned for the year for foreign travel, the first spend can be towards transactions attracting a higher TCS rate

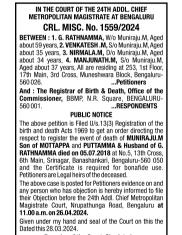
■ Limit your expenses to ₹7 lakh to optimise your trip expenses

Make standalone bookings for overseas accommodation, travel tickets, etc. instead of bundled tour packages, as the former will not qualify as an Overseas Tour **Programme Package**

five, and the minimum exemption limit has been hiked from ₹2.5 to ₹3 lakh. The highest surcharge rate has been reduced from 37 per cent to 25 per cent. A standard deduction of ₹50.000 is available to salaried individuals under the new tax regime as well. "A higher portion of your income is tax-exempt, reducing your taxable income. Individuals will enjoy potential savings on taxes," says Anant Singh Ubeja, senior associate, SKV Law Offices.

Section 87A of the Income-Tax Act provides a rebate of 100 per cent of tax liability to an individual whose income does not exceed ₹5 lakh. Finance Act 2023 increased this limit to ₹7 lakh for taxpayers who opt for the new tax regime. "This higher rebate limit offers financial relief to individuals in the lower and middle-income groups. It effectively reduces their tax burden, allowing them to retain more of their earnings and utilise the savings for investments, expenses, or savings," savs Nikhil Varma, managing partner, MVAC. Middle-income groups should carefully estimate their tax outgo in the new tax regime.

"They should opt out only if necessary, as they would not be able to claim the deductions under Chapter VI-A, house rent allowance, leave travel allowance, etc. if they stay with the new tax regime," says SR Patnaik, partner, Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas.



By order of the Court, Sheristeda XXIVth ACMM, Bangalore.

.....Complainant

.....Accused

court

Advocates

NOTICE

Periyakulam Theni District Tamilnadu

and it has been numbered as STC No.

930/2020 and it has been posted on

29-04-2024 and also make arrangements either to appear in erson or through your counsel on that

day failing which the matter will be

S. Swapna, B.A., B.L. (Hons)

113. North Agraharam, Thenkarai

Periyakulam, Theni Dt, Tamilnadu

Cell No 9486021151.

cided in your absence on merits. P. Subramani, B.A., B.L.

Judicial Magistrate

ne

Opinion, Insight Out

to subsequent quarters. IN THE COURT OF THE XXIII ADDL. CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE AT BENGALURU C.Misc. No.2205/2024

· Sri Venkatesh V Venkateshappa. V and others Respondent : The Commissioner Registrar o Births & Deaths, Mahadevapura Range

engaluru-560048

PUBLIC NOTICE The undersigned advocate submit on behalf of my client Sri. Venkatesh.V @Venkateshappa. V S/o Late Deceased venkatappa Aged about 58 years R/at No.23, 11th Cross, Near Mutyalamma Temple Thigalarapalya Hoodi, Mahadevapura, Bangalore-560 048. and another. have filed the petition for the death certificate o sed by name ANJINAPPA, S/O. LATE VENKATAPPA as he died on 10.01.2003 at No. 68, Thigalarapalya, Hoodi Village, Mahadevpura Nagarasabe, BENGALURU. I any parties who have objections may dispute

IN THE COURT OF THE XXIII ADDL. CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE AT BENGALURU C.Misc. No.2206/2024

Petitioner : Sri. Venkatesh.V

D Venkateshappa. V and others

Births & Deaths, Mahadevapura Range Bengaluru-560048

Respondent : The Commissioner Registrar of

PUBLIC NOTICE

The undersigned advocate submit on behalf om my client Sri. Venkatesh.V @Venkateshappa. V

S/o Late Deceased venkatappa Aged about 58 years R/at No.23, 11th Cross, Near Mutyalamma Temple Thigalarapalya Hoodi, Mahadevapura, Bangalore-560 048. and another. have filed the

leath petition for the death certificate of deceased by name SEETHAMMA, W/O. LATE. VENKATAPPA as she died on 10.03.2014 at



Opinion, Monday to Saturday

To book your copy, sms reachbs to 57575 or email order@bsmail.in



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No. 68, Thigalarapalya, Hoodi Village, Mahadevpura Nagarasabe, BENGALURU. If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same or appear before the Hon'ble rding the same or appear before the Hon'ble 23rd A.C.M.M. Court on 19/04/2024 at 11-00 AM in C.Misc. No.2205/2024. 23rd A.C.M.M. Court on 19/04/2024 at 11-00 AM in C.Misc. No.2206/2024. BY ORDER OF THE COURT BY ORDER OF THE COURT Sd/- SHERISTEDAR, COURT OF THE - SHERISTEDAR, COURT OF THE 23rd A.C.M.M BENGALURU 23rd A.C.M.M BENGALURU MADHU . V. ADVOCATE MADHU . V. ADVOCATE PERIYAKULAM M/s. Rajshree BIO Solutions LLP, PUBLICE NOTICE Notice is hereby given to the Public that the (1) Memorandum of Deposit in Twour of Wa. Shutawithil Souhard Sahakara Bank Niyamiha, bearing document no. MDL-11996-2010-11, in CD MDLD55, registered in the office of the Sub registrar, Medanayakanahatil, (2) Memorandum of Deposit of Title deads dated 21-10-2013 Executed by Sti A N Deepak in favour of Shushruth Souharda Credit Co-operative Limited, bearing document no. DSP-1-6964-2013-14, in CD DSPD173, (3) Dischargo Deed dated 15-10-2013, exocuted by Mw. Shushruth Souharda Sahakara Bank Niyamiha to Sti A N Deepak in favour of Shushruth Souharda Credit Co-operative Limited, bearing document no. DSP-1-6962-4013-14, in CD DSPD173, (4) Dischargo Deed dated 15-10-2014, in CD DSPD173, (5) Dischargo Deed dated 15-10-2014, in CD DSPD173, (6) Dischargo Deed dated 15-10-2014, in CD DSPD173, (6) Dischargo Deed dated 12-03-2019, exocuted by Shushruth Souharda Sahakara Bank Niyamiha to Sti A N Deepak, bearing document no. DSP-1-6962-4018-14, in CD DSPD207, (6) progistered in the office of the Sub registrar, Desangura in respect of property bearing Sitson.06, Kothn - Sout: 1-40.0 beet, in all Measuring 1200 square feet, have been lost/mispiacod. I have given Police Complaint through chines -bott maspiacod. I have given Police Complaint through, Sit. Shi G Na Angaragasana, no Hemorandum of Deposit of Title deeds and Discharge Deeds. All persons are hereby infimed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of missing documents. On beharf of the Citle Advocate hereby Infimed the tavay assiding Within 7 days from this date. In absence of any claims or objections, it any in case of nay claims or objections (infin) the subjusted times, I shab Do deemot of any claim or objections, it in the subhard fine (int Si A N Deposit of Title deeds and Discharge Deeds. within 7 days from this date. In absence of any claims or topeotron, it any. In case of ony claims or objections (int) in the subjusted times, I shab Do deemo epresented by Mr.Thanga PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given to the Public that an Agreement of Sale dated 07-10-2015, executed between \$71.6. V.Prasad \$30 late G.Muniyappa and Smt.Chanda Raj W/o \$15.Ratanial Jain, bearing document No. BYP-102817-2015-16 in CD BYPD228, registered in the office of Sub registrar, Bytarayanepura, Bangalore and Cancellation of Sale Agreement dated 11-09-2017 executed between Smt.Chanda Raj W/o \$15.Ratanial Jain and \$16.0. VPrasad \$50 late G.Muniyappa, bearing document No. BYP-1-02846-2017-18 in CD BYPD246, registered in the office of Sub registrar, Bytarayanepura, Bangalore in respect of property bearing \$150 No. 2, Katha No. 43/12, formed out of converted \$9, No. 43/1, iconverted from anticultural to non- anticultural residential irupathi Varadaraj Nagar eriyakulam Taluk, Theni Distriet amilnadu. P.Nagabhushan Proprietor of Chethan Traders 356/1 uranna Complex New Bus stand avagada, Tumkur, arnataka State. Take Notice that the complainant as filed complaint against you before

Bylarayanapura, Bangatore in respect of property bearing Site No. 2, Kath No. 43/12, formed out of converted Sy. No. 43/1, [converted from agricultural to non-agricultural residential purpose vide conversion order No. ALN: (NAY) SR: 18/2014-15, dated 10/04/2016, issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangatore), situated at Chikabettahalli Village, Ytelahanka Hobil, Bangatore North Taluk, now comes under BIMP Limits, measuring East to West: on northem side 41.3 feet, on the southem side 40.5 feet, North 5 South: 30-0 feet, total 1227sq.ft, have been lost/misplaced. I have given Police Compaint through online e-lost report, vide lost report No.994683 dated 29:03-2024 for loss of the said Sale Agreement and Cancellation of Sale Agreement. All persons are hereby infromed not to deal or cany out any transaction with anyone on the basis of missing documents. On behalf of the client Sri.K.Sundar Sio Late Kristinappa, the undersigned Advocate in envely infrom ting to the below mentioned address within 7 days from this date. In absence of any claim within the stipulated time, it shall be deemed that above said properly have to claim by virtue of lost Sale Agreement and address within 7 days from this date. In absence of any claim within the stipulated time, it shall be deemed that above said properly have to claim by virtue of lost Sale Agreement and the sale date to the sale of lost Sale Agreement and address within 7 days from this date. In absence of any claim

ty has no claim by virtue of lost Sale Ag

Nalini Mogale Advocate, No.450, 1st Floor, III Block, HMT Layout, st Hoor, in _____ anyapura, Bangalore-560067 malore Date: 29-03-2024 Place: Bangalore

Advocate for Petitioners : SYED ALIMULLA, Advocate Mob: 9036376521 IN THE COURT OF THE IN THE COURT OF THE JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE PERIYAKULAM S.T.C.No. 930 / 2020 S.T.C.No. 927 / 2020 M/s. Rajshree BIO Solutions LLP. Represented by Mr.Thanga Tirupathi Varadaraj Nagar Periyakulam Taluk, Theni Distriet, Tamilnadu.

.....Complainant

D.Nareshreddy Proprietor of Sri Sandhya Agro Agencies 12/1/163/2 GUN I near Market Yard Police Station Raichur Karnataka State

NOTICE

Take Notice that the complainan has filed complaint against you before the Judicial Magistrate cour Perivakulam Theni District Tamilnadı and it has been numbered as STC No. 927/2020 and it has been posted on 29-04-2024 and also make arrangements either to appear in person or through your counsel on that day failing which the matter will be ecided in your absence on merits.

P. Subramani, B.A., B.L. S. Swapna, B.A., B.L. (Hons) Advocates 113, North Agraharam, Thenkarai Periyakulam, Theni Dt, Tamilnadu Cell No 9486021151.

Notice						05.
	is hereby given to public in ger		TUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE forcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and TI			
		neral and in particular to borrower and guarantor that b entioned in appended table till the recovery of loan due				
Hous	ng Finance Limited) for the lo	pan availed by Borrower(s), Co borrower(s) and Guara	antor(s). The secured creditor is having physica	al possession of the belo	w mentioned Sec	ured Asset.
SI. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/Co Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Amount of Recovery	Reserve Price and EMD	Date & Time of the Auction	Date & Time of the Inspection	Physical Possession Date
1.	ASHRAFUL SHAIKH (Borrower) & JESMINA BEGAM (Co-Borrower)	Rs.21,21,125/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakh Twenty One		07-05-2024 Between	11.00 am to	13-02-2024
		Thousand One Hundred Twenty Five Only) as on		11.am to 12 Noon (With		
		19.03.2024 + Further Interest thereon+ Legal		5 Minutes Unlimited		
		Expenses for Lan no LHUBSBI0000093826	Sixty Four Thousand Only)	Auto Extensions)	3.00 pm	
		All The Part And Parcel Bearing Flat No.104 Total Adm Roston Park Block-B Situated At Non Agricultural Plo				
		/4+9/B Ward No.28, Pid No.28/5715 At Gopankoppa V				
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	auction sale will be conducte	a onime unough the website https://sanaesi.auctionti				
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aim by virtue of lost Memorandum of Deposit of Title deeds a

Nalini Mogale Advocate, No.450, 1st Floor, III Block, HMT Layout, Vidyaranyapura Bangalore-560097 Place: Bangalore Date: 29-03-2024



