INDUS TOWERS EQUITY RESEARCH



Source : Company 02-05-2025

Rating Business Financials Valuation Management



arget : ₹475



Research Report

Rating: BUY Company: Indus Tower Limited. Sector: Telecommunication.

	<u>Rating : BU</u>		
Buy Range : ₹ 375-385	Target : ₹425		
Stock Info			
Stock info Market Cap (₹ in Cr)	1026891.6		
52-Weeks High/Low	460.35 - 292.00		
Avg Volume		68,28,366	
		2694.90	
No. of eq shares (cr)			
Face Value	10.00 534816		
Bse Code	INDUSTOWER		
Nse Code	513035.07		
Free Float (cr) Source : NSE/BSE	515055.07		
	2024	2025	
Particulars	2024	2025	
P/E (x)	13.00	8.96	
P/B (x)	2.90	3.33	
EV/EBITDA (x)	6.63	5.14	
P/S (x)	2.74	2.99	
EPS	22.40	37.31	
ROCE (%)	20.20%	28.76%	
ROE (%)	25.07%	33.36%	
Interest Coverage	20.29	14.58	
Equity/Assets	0.48	0.51	
Soruce : Company			
Particulars	2024	2025	
Promoters	69%	50%	
Mutual Funds/AIF	7%	14%	
Insurance co.	3%	4%	
Other DIIs	0%	1%	
Govt of India	0%	0%	
FII	16%	26%	
Retails and Others	5%	5%	
Total	100%	100%	
Soruce : NSE/BSE			
Particulars	TTM		
P/E	10.16		
P/B	3.78		
EV/EBITDA	5.71		
P/S	3.39		
EPS	37.31		
P/CF	8.82		
Source : Company			
——Indus Tower Performand	ce — Nifty Price	Performance	
200%	M	Kynny.	

100%

Indus Tower Limited: Indus Towers Limited is India's leading provider passive telecom infrastructure and it deploys, owns and manages telecom towers and communication structures, for various mobile operators. The Company's portfolio of over 249,305 telecom towers, makes it one of the largest tower infrastructure providers in the country with presence in all 22 telecom circles. Indus Towers caters to all wireless telecommunication service providers in India. The Company has been the industry pioneer in adopting green energy initiatives for its operations.

Potential Upside Upto: 25.00%

Key Highlights: A significant development is the acquisition of 16,000 towers, with approximately 12,700 from Bharti Airtel (including macro sites, ultra lean sites, and cell on wheels) and 3,400 from Bharti Hexacom, a subsidiary of Bharti Airtel. This transaction, finalized and announced in early 2025, is valued at Rs 3,308.7 crore (\$379 million), or \$23,540 per tower, comparable to American Tower's \$32,170 per tower in a previous deal with Brookfield. Post-acquisition, Indus Towers' total sites reach 250,643, bringing it closer to the number two spot globally, behind China Tower. This expansion enhances Indus Towers' leasing capacity, potentially increasing revenue from tower rentals and co-locations, as it caters to all wireless telecommunication service providers in India.

Vodafone Idea, a key tenant of Indus Towers, has announced aggressive network expansion plans, aiming to launch 5G services by March 2025 across 17 priority circles and expand 4G coverage from 1.03 billion to 1.2 billion people. Supported by a \$6.6 billion capex plan, with \$3.6 billion committed to equipment deals with Nokia, Ericsson, and Samsung, the 4G rollout will begin in November 2024. Vodafone Idea plans to add over 60,000 tenancies, positioning Indus Towers to benefit through increased tower leasing and co-location revenues. Indus Towers' CEO, Prachur Sah, expressed confidence in capturing a significant share of these additions, leveraging the company's strong network footprint and execution capabilities.

Indus Towers Limited held its board meeting on April 30, 2025, to consider shareholder enhancement measures such as a bonus issue, share buyback, or dividend. However, no such announcements were made following the meeting. The absence of shareholder rewards, despite earlier expectations, may have influenced investor sentiment. Previously, Indus Towers had declared a dividend of ₹11 per share in May 2022, with no subsequent distributions since then.

Indus Towers is also exploring diversification into new business areas, such as EV charging, with pilots underway to assess technical feasibility. While still in early stages, this could provide additional revenue streams in the future, though its impact on margins is uncertain at this point. The company's focus on green energy initiatives, with over half of its towers being diesel-free, also aligns with sustainability trends, potentially reducing operating costs and improving margins over time.

Bharti Airtel's shareholding increased to just above 50% following a $\stackrel{?}{\sim}$ 2,640 crore buy-back, making Indus Towers a subsidiary. This was approved by the Competition Commission of India (CCI), potentially leading to better synergies and operational efficiencies.

VIL has continued 100% monthly payments and repaid ₹1,020 crore of past dues, reducing provisions from ₹5,700 crore to ₹3,600 crore, improving Indus Towers' financial health.

The evidence leans toward Indus Towers benefiting from increased tenancy and tower additions, driven by VIL and BSNL's network expansion plans. Combined with strong financials and strategic alignments, this positions the company for higher revenue and improved operating margins.

The company attributed this performance to maintaining a dominant share of major customers' rollouts and significant collections of overdue receivables, particularly from VIL, with a write-back of ₹3,024 crore in provision for doubtful receivables

Indus Towers reported consolidated revenue of ₹7,727 crore for Q4 FY25, a 7.4% year-on-year increase. Consolidated EBITDA rose 7.1% to ₹4,395 crore, with an EBITDA margin of 56.9%. Net profit declined 4% to ₹1,779 crore. Return on Equity (Post-Tax) improved to 33.4% from 25.1% a year ago, and Return on Capital Employed rose to 29.1% from 19.4%. The quarter benefited from a ₹226 crore write-back of provisions due to improved collections.

Key Risk: 1.Indus Towers has been anticipating significant tenancy growth from Vi's network expansion, particularly in 4G and 5G deployments. However, Vi's challenges in raising funds have led to delays in clearing dues to Indus Towers, with a reported ₹60 crore shortfall in collections during Q4 FY24. While Vi has made partial payments, the timing and completeness of these payments remain uncertain

2. Indus Towers' prudent capex strategy, where telecom towers are only constructed once secured by an anchor tenant under long-term contracts with exit penalties during the lock-in period, carries a potential risk. While this strategy ensures stable revenue and mitigates the risk of underutilized assets, it also limits flexibility in responding to changes in market demand. Any delays in securing tenants or changes in demand could impact the company's ability to efficiently deploy capital and achieve optimal returns on its investments.

WWW.Fin2Research.com 9711885801

Ashish.Sanwariya@Fin2Research.com



Research Report

RATING SCALE: DEFINITION OF RATINGS

- BUY We expect the stock to deliver more than 10%-20% returns over the next 9 months.
- ACCUMULATE We expect the stock to deliver 5% 12% returns over the next 9 months.
- REDUCE We expect the stock to deliver 0% 5% returns over the next 9 months.
- SELL We expect the stock to deliver negative returns over the next 9 months.
- NR Not Rated. Fin2Research is not assigning any rating or price target to the stock. The report has been prepared for information purposes only.
- RS Rating Suspended. Fin2Research has suspended the investment rating and price target for this stock, either because there is not a Sufficient fundamental basis for determining, or there are legal, regulatory or policy constraints around publishing, an investment rating or target. The previous investment rating and price target, if any, are no longer in effect for this stock and should not be relied upon.
- NA Not Available or Not Applicable. The information is not available for display or is not applicable.
- NM Not Meaningful. The information is not meaningful and is therefore excluded.
- NOTE Our target prices are with a 9-month perspective. Returns stated in the rating scale are our internal benchmark.

DISCLAIMER

ANALYST CERTIFICATION

I Ashish Sanwairya Research Analyst, author, and the name subscribed to this report, hereby certify that all of the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my views about the subject issuer(s) or securities. I also certify that no part of our compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendation(s) or view(s) in this report. It is also confirmed that above-mentioned Analyst of this report has not received any compensation from the companies mentioned in the report in the preceding twelve months and does not serve as an officer, director, or employee of the companies mentioned in the report.

Terms & conditions and other disclosures:

Investments in the securities market are subject to market risks. Read all the related documents carefully before investing.

Registration granted by Sebi and certification from NISM in no way guarantee the performance of the intermediary or provide any assurance of returns to investors. None of the research recommendations promise or guarantee any assured, minimum, or risk-free return to the investors.

Fin2research Investment Advisor Private Limited (FIA) is the source of information and opinions in this report, which may be subject to change at any time. Any and all content in this report is confidentially sourced only for that intended audience and may not be altered, transmitted (in whole or in part), copied into another medium, or reproduced elsewhere without the written permission of Fin2research Investment Advisor Private Limited (FIA). Although we will endeavor to update the information contained herein for reasonable reasons, Fin2research Investment Advisor Private Limited (FIA) may be unable to do so.

The accuracy of this report is not guaranteed and it relies on information from public sources that have not been independently verified. This report and the information contained in it are for informational purposes only and should not be used or considered as an offer document or as an invitation to buy, sell, or subscribe to securities or other financial instruments. Although it is distributed to all clients at the same time, not all clients can receive this report at the same time. Fin2research Investment Advisor Private Limited (FIA) will not treat recipients as customers by virtue of their receiving this report. Nothing in this report constitutes investment, legal, accounting, or tax advice or a representation that any investment or strategy is or would be appropriate for your particular circumstances.

The securities mentioned and opinions expressed in this document might not be appropriate for all investors, who have to make their very own investment decisions, primarily based totally on their very own investment objectives, economic positions, and needs of the particular recipient. This may not be taken in substitution for the exercising of independent judgment through any recipient. The recipient must independently compare the investment risks. Any number of factors, including fluctuations in interest rates and foreign exchange rates, could affect the value and return on investment. Fin2research Investment Advisor Private Limited (FIA) disclaims all responsibility for any form of loss or damage resulting from using this material. Future performance is not always predicted by past performance. Before making an investment in the securities markets, investors are recommended to review the Risk Disclosure Document to understand the risks involved. Actual results may differ materially from those set forth in projections. Statements that are deemed forward-looking are not guarantees and could change at any time.

As of the final day of the month before the research report was published, none of the following parties owned 1% or more of the equity securities of the company mentioned in the study: Fin2research Investment Advisor Private Limited (FIA), all of its subsidiaries, research analysts, or any family members of any of these parties.

The material contained in this study may not align with previous reports published by Fin2research Investment Advisor Private Limited (FIA) or reach a different conclusion. Fin2research Investment Advisor Private Limited (FIA) and its Research Analysts have not participated in any market-making activities on behalf of the firms listed in the report. We contend that no regulatory authority has taken any significant disciplinary action against Fin2research Investment Advisor Private Limited (FIA) that would have an impact on the company's ability to conduct equity research analysis.

The distribution, publication, availability, or use of this report by any person or entity that is a citizen or resident of, or located in, any locality, state, country, or other jurisdiction is not authorized or intended, as it may violate legal requirements or subject Fin2research Investment Advisor Private Limited (FIA) and affiliates to registration or licensing requirements in such jurisdictions. Certain groups of investors or all jurisdictions may not be able to purchase the securities covered here. It is expected of everyone who may come into possession of this material to become aware of and abide by these restrictions.

THANK YOU

Fin2Research Investment Advisor Pvt Ltd (FIA)

CIN: U70200DL2023PTC413207IA Registration No: INA000018425

Registered Office: Plot No A 2nd Floor, Street New Bungalow Road, Malka Ganj, Delhi North Delhi,110007 Delhi

Phone no: 9711885801

Email id: customercare@fin2research.com

Website: www.fin2research.com

For Research Query- researchdesk@fin2research.com

WWW.Fin2Research.com 9711885801 Ashish.Sanwariya@Fin2Research.com