

# Fsn E-commerce Ventures (Nykaa)

# Mirror, mirror, on the wall, is Nykaa a platform at all?

When a buzzword (platforms) emerges that affords (GOD)LY valuations, investors and businesses tend to tie themselves in a knot to claim a credible association of their business with the term. Hence, many online businesses are termed as platforms, but not all are. This note is an attempt to help investors understand where we believe Nykaa (India's go-to BPC e-tailer + fledgling fashion marketplace) fits in. In our view, Nykaa has the potential to be a hybrid, but as of now (85% of NSV - inventory-led), it shares more characteristics with a busy, efficient, linear online pipeline than a platform. Additionally, Nykaa's TAM seems to be oversold as well. Hence, valuation stencils must be realigned accordingly. Sales/EBITDA/PAT CAGRs of 35/65/113% over FY22-25E and a full recovery in return profile by FY25 is built in (From 5 to 15% over FY22-25). We initiate coverage with a SELL recommendation and DCF-based target price of INR 800/sh (implying 81x Sep-24 EV/EBITDA/5x Sept-24 EV/sales).

- Nykaa-more an efficient online pipeline than a platform's capability to layer on new revenue streams at low incremental production costs aid its scaling process. This ability is absent in online pipeline businesses. Most platforms over CY17-21 (1) grew at 30-120% CAGR (vs. 19-50% CAGR for online pipelines, despite a smaller base); (2) sported a negative to 15x asset turn (vs. 4-6x for online pipelines); and (3) clocked an EBITDAM expansion of 5-95pp (vs. -5 to 5 pp for online pipelines). Nykaa clocked 50% CAGR over FY19-22; its EBITDAM expanded ~250bp and it has a linear asset turn profile (from 2.7x to 1.9x over FY19-22)—all akin to an online pipeline.
- Ad income provides non-linearity in monetization but will be closely contended for: Absence of a potent competitor in BPC e-tailing ensured Nykaa remains over-indexed in BPC ad budgets (accounts for 10-12% of Nykaa's BPC NSV; INR3bn+). This is likely to change with more deeppocketed e-tailers (AJIO, Myntra, and TATA Cliq Palette) wanting their pound of BPC-related ad income. The INR3bn+ ad income also means BPC product margins just about profitable now. (FY22: -1% on NSV) and that its profitability (FY22 EBITDA: INR1.63bn) seems overly reliant on ad income.
- Total addressable market (TAM) seems oversold: CMP implies Nykaa's BPC AUTC would hit 40%+ (122mn AUTC) of the relevant TAM by FY42. On an NSV basis, this translates to half the relevant BPC TAM (in AUTC)—a bit farfetched! Especially against the backdrop of (1) increasing competition in the beauty category; (2) thinning population density beyond the top-30 districts. We bake in 25/79mn BPC AUTC for Nykaa by FY27/42, implying 19/26% of relevant TAM (~140/300mn AUTC) and 25/33% value share in BPC by FY42.
- Financials: Expect Nykaa to clock 31/49/115% (overall: 35%) revenue CAGR for BPC/fashion/other segments (INR 75.3/10.8/6.4bn) respectively over FY22-25. AUTC will remain the anchor growth variable across segments. EBITDAM is expected to expand by ~370bps to 8% by FY25 as (1) BPC product margins improve from -1% to 5.6%, courtesy (1) higher private labels; (2) scale-led operating efficiencies; and (3) fashion losses ebb (building in a breakeven in FY26). RoE/RoCE likely to more than fully recover by FY25 (built-in: 21/15%).
- Valuation and outlook: Nykaa is an efficient online business; its success in part is due to the absence of potent competitors (this is gradually changing). Ex-ad income, lack of non-linear monetization levers forces us to realign our valuation compass somewhere between a linear business and a pure platform. Hence, we initiate coverage with a SELL recommendation and DCF-based TP of INR 800/sh (implying 81x Sep-24 EV/EBITDA/5x Sept-24 EV/sales).

# **SELL**

CMP (as on 02 Nov 2022)	INR 1,153
Target Price	INR 800
NIFTY	18,083

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SHAREHOLDIN	G PATTEI	RN (%)
	Jun-22	Sep-22
Promoters	52.41	52.38
FIs & Local MFs	2.01	3.01
FPIs	6.54	6.57
Public & Others	39.04	38.04
Locked-in Shares		
Source : BSE		

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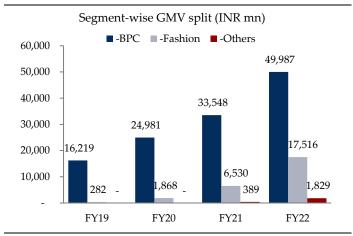
Financial summary (INR mn)

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Profit and Loss Statement					
GMV	40,467	69,332	98,700	1,37,726	1,87,834
NSV	23,380	37,118	51,337	70,474	94,477
Net Sales	24,409	37,739	51,426	69,757	92,564
EBITDA	1,567	1,633	3,043	4,612	7,386
EBITDAM (%)	6.4	4.3	5.9	6.6	8.0
APAT	616	413	1,209	2,020	3,978
APATM (%)	2.5	1.1	2.4	2.9	4.3
Dil. EPS (Rs/sh)	1.3	0.9	2.6	4.3	8.4
· · ·					
Balance Sheet					
Networth	4,899	13,399	14,608	16,628	20,607
Debt	1,875	3,330	3,330	3,330	3,330
Other non-current Liabilities	2,558	5,563	7,417	9,271	11,126
Total Liabilities	9,332	22,292	25,356	29,230	35,063
Net Block (incl C-WIP)	940	2,129	2,467	2,714	2,883
Working Capital (ex-cash & Eq)	3,627	13,151	8,390	9,700	11,172
Cash & Equivalents	2,490	2,670	8,390	8,942	11,367
Total Assets	9,332	22,292	25,356	29,230	35,063
Cash Flow Statement					
Cash from Operations	1,498	(3,540)	7,501	2,624	4,576
Cash from Investing	(1,297)	(6,028)	(479)	(298)	(246)
Cash from Financing	(377)	9,270	(641)	(850)	(1,061)
FCFF	1,062	(4,988)	6,631	1,709	3,612
Key Ratios					
P/E (x)	866.7	1,294.1	441.8	264.5	134.3
P/B (x)	109.1	40.6	37.2	32.7	26.4
EV/EBITDA (x)	347.4	333.4	178.9	118.0	73.7
ROE (%)	15.2	4.5	8.6	12.9	21.4
RoIC (%)	12.3	4.4	7.7	11.8	19.3
ROCE (%)	10.5	5.2	7.2	9.7	14.8
KPIs					
BPC					
AoV	1,963	1,864	1,814	1,868	1,924
AUTC	5.6	8.4	11.0	14.1	17.6
Orders	17.1	27.0	35.3	45.5	57.2
T. 1.					
Fashion	2.720	2.420	2.450	2.722	2.00
AUTO	2,739	3,420	3,659	3,733	3,807
AUTC	0.6	1.8	2.6	3.7	5.0
Orders	2.4	5.2	7.8	11.0	15.0



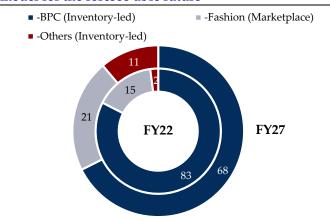
# **Focus Charts**

## While Nykaa has scaled well...



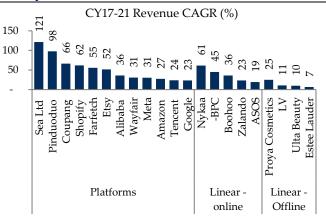
Source: Companies, HSIE Research

# ...Its likely to remain a pre-dominantly inventory-led model for the foresee-able future

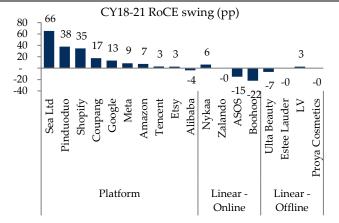


Source: Company, HSIE Research

...Ergo, its ability to scale isn't as non-linear as one might think. Pure-play platforms have scaled faster in top-line/profitability (despite being larger) than online pipeline counterparts, while the latter exhibit a more linear journey



Source: Companies, HSIE Research



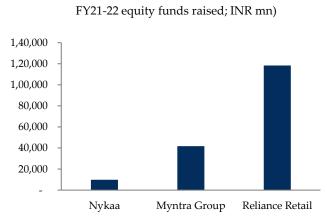
Source: Company, HSIE Research

# ...Nykaa's unit economics seems ad income reliant currently (BPC Product margins is yet to hit profitability)

FY22 Indicative Unit Economics (Per Order, INR)	BPC	Fashion
AoV	1,864	3,420
NSV	1,121	1,104
Revenue (on product)	1,121	600
GM (on products)	33	78
A&P Expenses	108	302
FFC expenses	120	121
Ad/Shipping Income	134	26
Contribution	277	68
Employee Expenses	91	125
Other expenses	68	75
EBITDA	118	(131)
EBITDAM (% on NSV)	10.5	(11.9)
EBITDAM (on product)	(16)	(158)
Product EBITDAM (% on NSV)	(1.4)	(14.3)

Source: Companies, HSIE Research

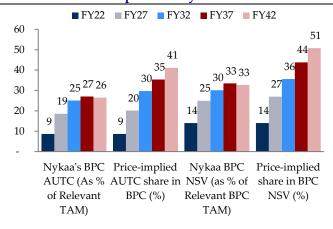
...ad income could get split as peers scale up the tech stack for their respective lifestyle (BPC & Fashion) platforms

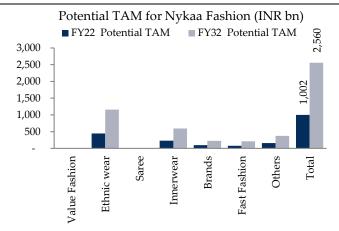


Source: Company, HSIE Research; Note: Intangible asset under development (FY22) used as proxy to showcase investment aggression



TAM seems oversold if one slices it by HH income and population density; we bake in 26/33% share in BPC AUTC/NSV; while price suggests Nykaa owns 40% of the relevant TAM/50%+ by NSV...A bit of a stretch, we think! In Fashion (A tough category) too, right-to-win isn't clear...we remain generous in our estimates for both segments within the realm of plausibility

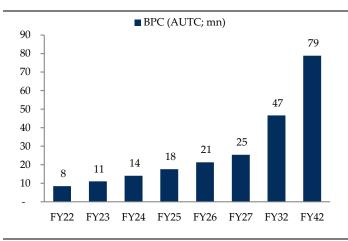


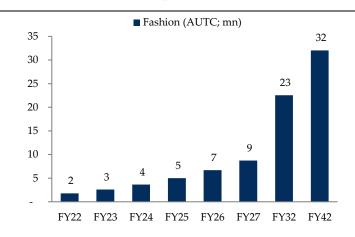


Source: Companies, HSIE Research; HH - Household

Source: Company, HSIE Research

## We bake in a generous 19/29% decadal CAGR for Nykaa's BPC/Fashion segment respectively (in terms of AUTC)

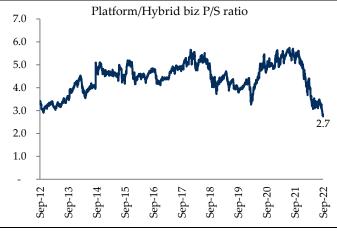


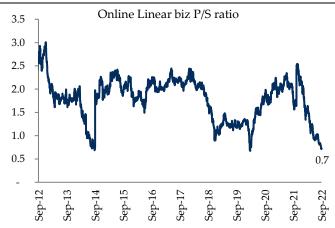


Source: Companies, HSIE Research

Source: Company, HSIE Research

# Platforms (even post the global tech carnage) command premium valuations vs online pipe-line businesses (Price/Sales)





Source: Companies, HSIE Research



# **Peer valuation**

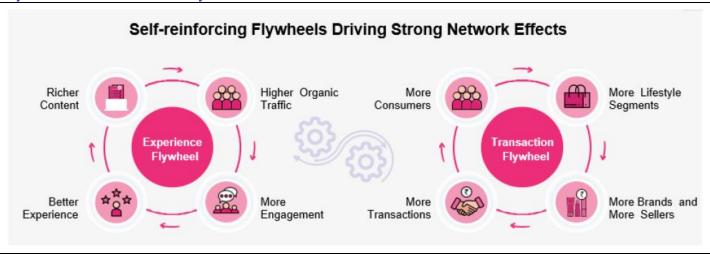
	Market		F	Revenue (	USD mn	)	EE	ITDA	(USD n	nn)	F	BITD	AM (%	5)	I	AT (U	SD mr	1)	Ro	ÞΕ	Ro	CE	EV/Sales				EV/EBITDA			
	Cap (USD bn)	EV (bn)	CY20	CY21	CY22	CY23	CY20	CY21	CY22	CY23	CY20	CY21	CY22	CY23	CY20	CY21	CY22	CY23	CY20	CY21	CY20	CY21	CY20	CY21	CY22	CY23	CY20	CY21	CY22	CY23
Amazon	1,036.7	1,046.4	386.1	469.8	514.6	577.4	39.1	47.8	51.3	75.3	10%	10%	14%	15%	21.3	33.4	20.5	34.2	27	29	16	12	2.7	2.2	2.0	1.8	27	22	15	12
Alibaba	177.7	147.9	109.5	134.6	124.8	139.0	11.6	16.8	20.8	24.7	11%	12%	19%	19%	21.9	7.4	18.9	22.4	17	5	10	7	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.1	13	9	6	5
Coupang	24.6	22.5	12.0	18.4	20.7	24.5	-0.5	-1.5	-0.6	-0.1	-4%	-8%	0%	2%	-0.5	-1.5	-0.4	0.0	154	-196	-72	-54	1.9	1.2	1.1	0.9	-44	-15	-316	57
Pinduoduo	69.3	58.3	9.1	14.7	17.0	21.0	-1.4	1.1	3.9	4.8	-16%	7%	23%	23%	-1.1	1.2	4.0	5.0	-17	12	-12	11	6.4	4.0	3.4	2.8	-41	54	15	12
Shopify	42.7	47.4	2.9	4.6	5.5	6.7	0.1	0.3	-0.0	0.1	3%	6%	-1%	1%	0.3	2.9	-0.1	0.0	7	33	6	29	16.2	10.3	8.6	7.1	526	177	-995	658
Tencent	269.4	269.0	69.9	86.8	77.6	87.3	18.0	17.3	16.4	22.5	26%	20%	30%	33%	23.2	34.9	15.9	19.1	28	30	18	20	3.8	3.1	3.5	3.1	15	16	12	9
Sea Ltd	26.5	22.2	4.4	10.0	12.2	15.2	-1.2	-1.5	-2.3	-1.2	-28%	-15%	-15%	-4%	-1.6	-2.0	-2.1	-1.4	-71	-38	-40	-24	5.1	2.2	1.8	1.5	-18	-15	-12	-38
ASOS	0.6	1.0	5.3	5.1	4.8	5.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	8%	4%	5%	6%	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	21	17	15	10	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	2	5	4	3
Boohoo	0.6	0.6	2.3	2.7	2.1	2.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	7%	0%	3%	5%	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	23	-1	22	-1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	4	49	9	6
Proya Cosmetics	4.6	4.3	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	16%	16%	17%	17%	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	20	21	18	17	8.0	6.0	5.3	4.2	50	38	30	25
Zalando	6.0	5.1	9.1	12.2	10.4	11.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.6	4%	4%	4%	5%	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.1	12	11	9	7	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.4	12	11	12	9
Etsy	11.9	12.9	1.7	2.3	2.5	2.7	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.7	25%	20%	27%	27%	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5	61	72	24	20	7.5	5.5	5.2	4.7	30	28	19	17
Ulta Beauty	22.8	23.0	6.2	8.6	9.9	10.4	0.2	1.3	1.1	1.3	4%	15%	17%	17%	0.2	1.0	1.1	1.2	9	56	5	28	3.7	2.7	2.3	2.2	97	18	13	13
Estee Lauder	72.8	74.2	16.2	17.7	18.1	19.6	0.6	2.6	3.5	4.2	4%	15%	24%	25%	2.9	2.4	2.7	3.0	17	58	7	20	4.6	4.2	4.1	3.8	122	28	17	15
LV	318.6	326.8	51.0	76.0	77.9	84.2	9.5	20.3	22.6	25.9	19%	27%	34%	34%	5.4	14.2	14.6	16.1	13	30	7	16	6.4	4.3	4.2	3.9	34	16	12	11
Farfetch	3.1	2.8	1.7	2.3	2.4	2.9	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	-24%	-10%	-1%	2%	-3.4	1.5	0.1	-0.5	950	-169	-192	-1202	1.7	1.3	1.2	1.0	-7	-13	-212	41
Urban Outfitter	2.3	2.2	3.4	4.5	4.8	4.9	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.4	0%	9%	7%	8%	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.2	0	19	0	11	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	546	5	6	5
Bath & Bodyworks	11.1	15.1	6.4	7.9	7.4	7.8	1.1	1.4	0.9	1.1	17%	18%	20%	22%	0.8	1.3	0.7	0.8	-78	-122	10	16	2.4	1.9	2.0	1.9	13	11	10	9
Google	1,262.0	1,141.7	182.5	257.6	235.1	270.6	41.2	78.7	103.6	117.9	23%	31%	48%	46%	40.3	76.0	73.5	84.2	19	32	16	27	6.3	4.4	4.9	4.2	28	15	10	9
Meta	262.2	229.7	86.0	117.9	116.2	123.3	32.7	46.8	41.8	48.6	38%	40%	43%	39%	29.1	39.4	27.1	23.8	25	31	23	27	2.7	1.9	2.0	1.9	7	5	5	5
Ocado	4.0	4.9	3.0	3.4	3.0	3.5	-0.2	-0.4	-0.2	0.0	-8%	-13%	-2%	2%	-0.1	-0.3	-0.5	-0.4	-6	-11	-2	-4	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.4	-20	-11	-91	63
Meituan	97.8	96.0	16.7	27.8	30.6	39.9	-0.5	-3.7	-0.9	1.1	-3%	-13%	1%	6%	0.7	-3.6	-0.2	1.9	5	-21	6	-20	5.8	3.5	3.1	2.4	-175	-26	324	38
DoorDash	14.7	16.6	2.9	4.9	6.4	7.8	-0.3	-0.3	0.3	0.5	-11%	-6%	5%	6%	-0.5	-0.5	0.1	0.2	-16	-10	-50	-29	5.8	3.4	2.6	2.1	-53	-56	54	34
Wayfair	3.9	6.0	14.1	13.7	12.1	12.6	0.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	3%	-1%	-3%	-1%	0.2	-0.1	-0.8	-0.5	-17	9	10	-35	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	17	-64	-15	-63
Nykaa	6.6	6.6	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	6%	4%	5%	7%	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	15	5	11	5	19.6	13.4	9.8	7.2	306	309	185	107
Zomato	5.5	4.8	0.3	0.5	0.8	1.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-23%	-44%	-26%	-12%	-0.11	-0.16	-0.14	-0.09	-11	-12	-9	-12	17.7	8.9	6.2	4.4	-75	-20	-24	-38



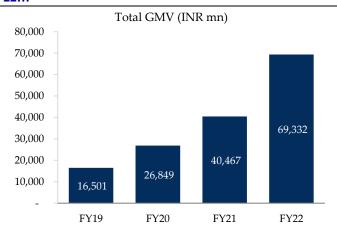
# What Nykaa got right

- In a very short time, Nykaa has become the go-to destination for beauty and personal care (BPC) and cosmetics retailing. Founded in 2012 by Mrs. Falguni Nayar, Nykaa successfully addressed two bottlenecks: (1) product authenticity issues via its inventory-led model in a category (BPC) historically plagued with counterfeit products; (2) accessibility issues at both ends (brands and consumers) through broadening of distribution pipe (via its predominant online business model). Its online content-led BPC product discovery certainly aided category building (especially within the more active Genz & Millennial set), in turn aiding its scorching growth.
- The company also houses a fashion marketplace (Nykaa Fashion), which on a low base has achieved encouraging traction. Nykaa recently launched its e-B2B initiative (superstore), which promises meaningful scale, if executed well.
- The online lifestyle retailer has also forayed into improving its offline presence and now has 121 stores in 53 cities (as on Q2FY23). The company also has a suite of own brands, which now account for 11.2/12.1% of GMV in BPC/fashion respectively.

### Nykaa's content-to-commerce flywheel

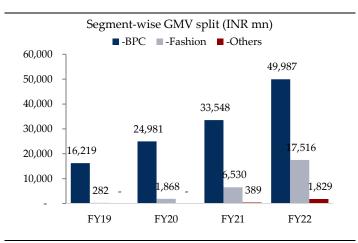


# ...has led to a 61% CAGR growth in GMV over FY19-22...

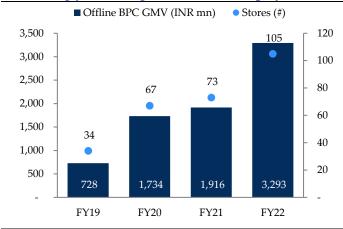


Source: Companies, HSIE Research

# ...mainstay BPC has clocked 46% CAGR over FY19-22...

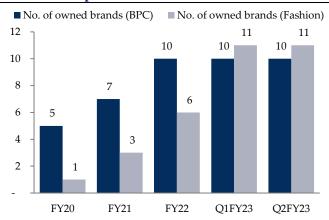


# ...In it's efforts to broaden the consumer net, Nykaa is increasingly becoming an omni-channel play



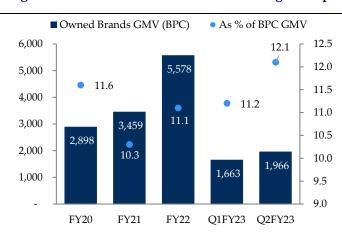
Source: Companies, HSIE Research

# The e-tailer has been consistently improving on its owned brand portfolio too



Source: Company, HSIE Research

## ...gets reflected in their owned brand GMV growth profiles (For both for BPC & Fashion)

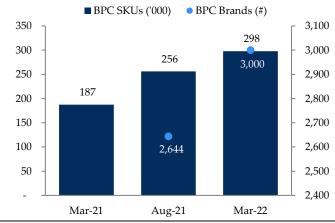


Source: Companies, HSIE Research



Source: Company, HSIE Research

### Brand on-boarding and SKU addition has been healthy



Source: Companies, HSIE Research





# Platforms vs pipelines!

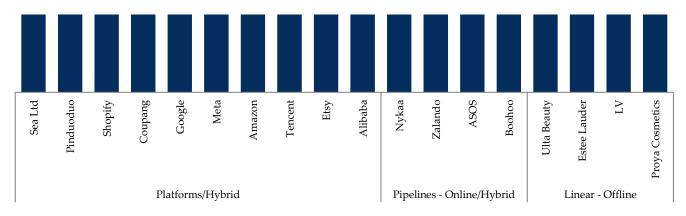
- Not all online businesses are platforms. Platforms are more non-linear in their monetization abilities (Shopify, Pinduoduo, etc.); while online pipelines are more linear (Nykaa BPC, ASOS, Bohoo, etc.).
- It is the non-linear monetization button at scale and low marginal production cost that warrant rich valuations, not the 'online business' tag. Hence, despite the recent tech carnage across the globe, platforms continue to command healthier valuations vis-a-vis online pipelines.
- Ex-mature businesses, most platforms over CY17-21 (1) grew at 30-120% CAGR (vs. 7-50% CAGR for online pipelines, despite low base); (2) sported a negative to 15x asset turn (vs. 4-6x for online pipelines), and (3) clocked an EBITDAM expansion of 5-95pp (vs. -5 to 5 pp for online pipelines). Cash flow and return profiles followed suit.
- Nykaa, at best, could graduate to being a hybrid. But currently, with <u>~85% of NSV operating on an inventory-led model</u>, it shares more characteristics with that of a busy, linear but efficient online pipeline than with a platform.

### It's time to invert!

As is often the case, a buzzword (platforms) emerges that affords (GOD)LY valuations, and investors tend to tie themselves in knots to claim a credible association of their investment with the term. Hence, many online businesses get passed on as platforms, but not all of them are.

However, if one inverts as being in the cash flow business with the product/service being just a vehicle to transport back and forth the quality, quantum and growth of cash flows, then identifying platforms vis-à-vis pipelines from a seemingly disjointed cohort (**Refer 'platforms vs pipelines'**) of online businesses gets easier.

## Classification - Platforms vs. linear/hybrid businesses



Source: Companies, HSIE Research

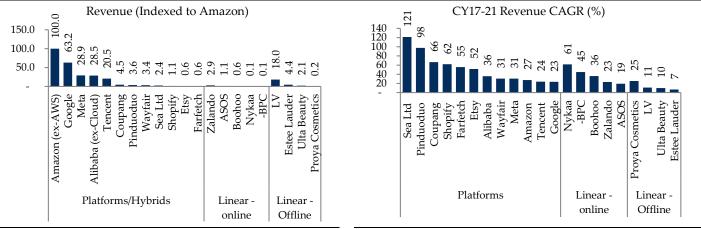
### What are platforms and why are they so coveted?

- Platforms are primarily matchmaking mechanisms to facilitate a transaction/interaction. They connect consumers/users with merchants/suppliers. The real source of value in a platform is its ability to unleash monetization opportunities at multiple nodes of this core transaction/interaction, fueled by its positive network effects. This value keeps increasing as the interactions keep getting more engaging and broader (i.e., increasing customer Lifetime Value (LTV) for the platform at lower incremental CAC).
- Once a platform achieves critical mass on both the supplier/merchant and consumer sides, the monetization switch can be extremely powerful at scale as there is little-to-no marginal production cost attached to growth.



- It is this ability to scale coupled with the powerful monetization switch with little-to-no marginal production cost that make platforms the most coveted business models ever in the history of businesses (E.g., Pinduoduo, Shopify, Etsy, Sea Ltd, etc.)
- Pipelines: Pipelines, on the other hand (whether online or offline), can be successful but have a more linear value chain and supply-side/capital constraints (thanks to their inventory-led model) that limit their pace of growth (Nykaa's 1P BPC & eB2B segments, ASOS, Boohoo, DMART, offline apparel retailers, etc.).

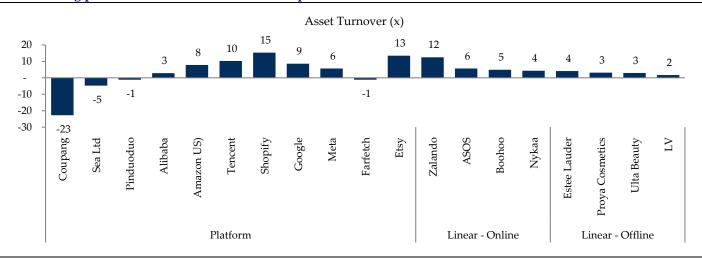
Platform businesses scale faster and bigger, courtesy their ability to tap into a larger share of customer lifetime value (as it typically targets a larger TAM or a larger share of the TAM's wallet)



Source: Companies, HSIE Research, Amazon (ex-AWS) indexed to 100

Source: Company, HSIE Research,

To add, low required marginal capital and production costs for growth certainly aid in the blitz-scaling process; inventory-led online pipelines might be more efficient than their offline counterparts but are not 'platforms' in their scaling potential and their monetization capabilities

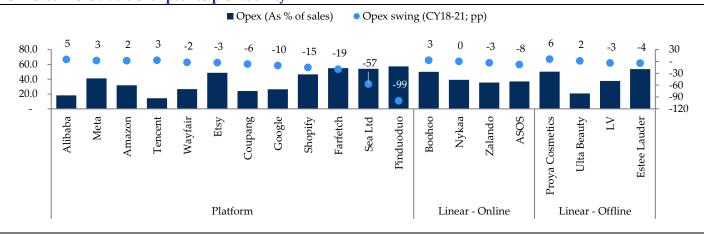


Source: Companies, HSIE Research, Asset Turnover = Sales/(Capex + WC-ex cash) for core business

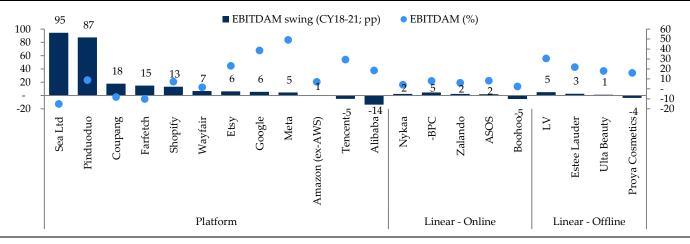
Note: All categories highlighted have some overlapping traits of the other. Categorization is done based on the predominant business model currently.



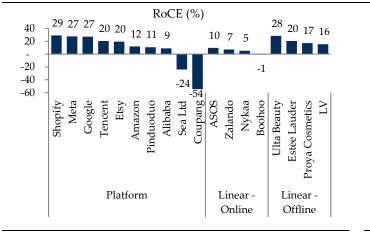
The reduction in operating cost structures (courtesy better-fixed cost absorption on A&P/R&D spends) once the platforms' monetization button is switched on is significant; in comparison, linear businesses (online/offline) exhibit a more traditional path to profitability

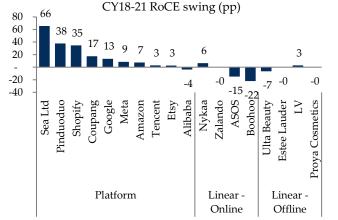


...hence, across the cohort of online businesses, the biggest swing in profitability has been in platforms, whereas efficient pipelines, while good businesses have witnessed a more linear EBITDAM expansion



## ...and the return ratios follow the same trajectory



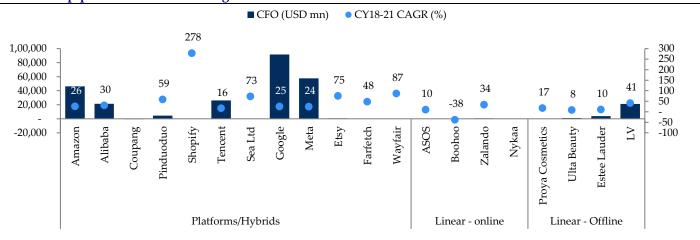


Source: Companies, HSIE Research

Source: Company, HSIE Research, For mature biz like Google, Meta, Amazon, Alibaba, and Tencent, we've considered the swing over CY16-21, For Nykaa, the period highlighted is from FY19-22



# Platform vs pipelines: CFO scale and growth over CY18-21





# Shopify—An inkling of the power of a platform!

Let's look at the case of Shopify (platform) to drive home the point that successful platforms are the ultimate business models:

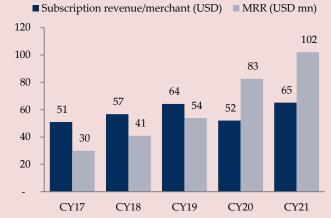
- Shopify is a leading provider of internet infrastructure for commerce enables merchants to easily display, manage, market and sell their products across a dozen different sales channels, including web and mobile storefronts, physical retail locations, pop-up shops, etc. It exhibits a two-sided network.
  - -More consumers lead to more merchants that in turn lead to more consumers.
  - -More app partner solutions lead to more merchant monetization tools lead to more merchant partners.
- As merchants grow in scale and become more successful on the platform, they opt for more sophisticated tiers of subscription with a wider array of services/solutions. A variety of merchant solutions are also offered beyond those in subscription to address the broader array of functionalities like accepting payments, shipping and fulfilment, securing WC, etc. To add to this, Shopify also earns through transaction fees, ad revenue, payment processing fees, referral fees, etc. It also aids app developers in building more merchant monetization tools and earns via a revenue share agreement with app partners.
- The success of the platform can be seen in the growth in subscription revenue/merchant and the monthly recurring revenue (MRR) for Shopify. Each grew at 6/36% CAGR over CY17-21.
- Interestingly, these layers of additional revenue streams come at extremely low incremental costs as can be seen in the high and growing incremental gross margins for each segment. More importantly, growth isn't restricted by capital constraints; hence, the ∼23x scale jump over CY15-21 as growth is largely delinked with the asset base (total asset turns increased from 9x to 15x over CY17-21).
- EBITDAM improved from -7.3% to 6% over CY17-21, despite A&P and R&D expenses per order remaining broadly unchanged.
- The attractiveness of more monetization tools (by app developers and self-developed ones) lures more merchants, which in turn lure more consumers. The rising merchant base in turn attracts more app developers and the flywheel continues to snowball.

Note: There are many such examples of platforms highlighted in the table titled 'platforms vs pipelines'.



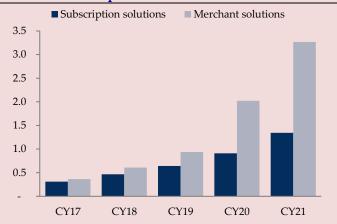
# Shopify—An inkling of the power of a platform!

# Shopify's subscription/merchant and MRR grew at 6/36% CAGR over CY17-21...



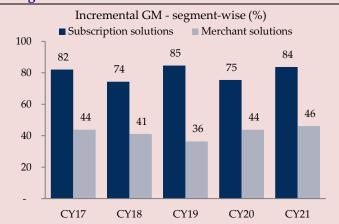
Source: Company, HSIE Research, Revenue is indexed to 100 in base year

# ...as a result subscription & merchant solutions clocked 44/73% CAGR resp over CY17-21...



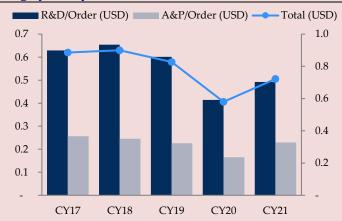
Source: Company, HSIE Research

# ...with a significant improvement in incremental margins...



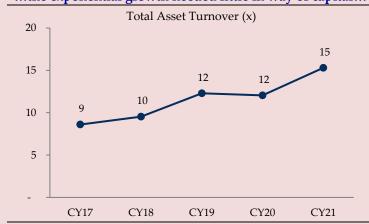
Source: Company, HSIE Research, Revenue is indexed to 100 in base year

# ...while A&P and R&D spends per order remained largely steady ...



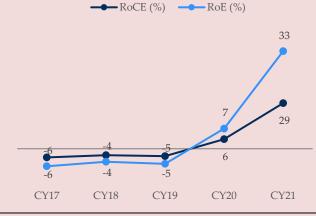
Source: Company, HSIE Research

## ...the exponential growth needed little in way of capital...



Source: Company, HSIE Research, Revenue is indexed to 100 in base year

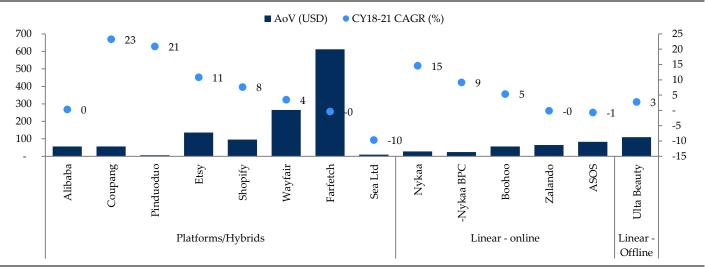
## ...ergo, the big swing in return ratios (%)



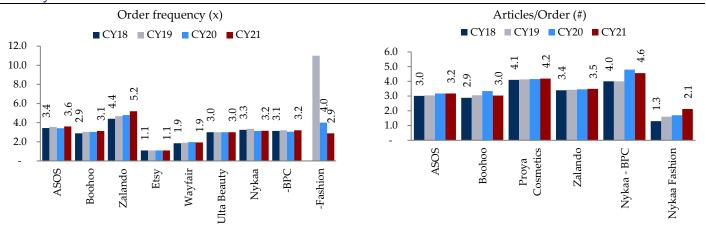


- Pipelines lack non-linear revenue streams: Unlike platforms, pipelines typically lack the ability to build non-linear cash flow-accretive revenue streams (except perhaps ad income generated from brands if it's an online pipe). Ad income too is likely to be split among peers as they gain a fair share within the category. Hence, the ability to broaden/increase customer lifetime value (LTV) is limited by (1) a volume-led rise in AoV; (2) an increase in purchase frequency; and (3) increase in higher-GM private labels/own brands.
- For Pipe-lines not all variables are equal; AUTC growth is key: Let's walk through the equation GMV = average selling price (ASP) x number of articles/order x annual unique transacting customers (AUTC) x purchase frequency
  - 1. ASP could typically mimic inflation in the medium to long term.
  - 2. Articles per order and purchase frequencies move linearly, if at all (for any category).
- As can be seen with other online (linear) businesses like ASOS and Bohoo (different category), their order frequency and articles per order move linearly, if at all.
- For Nykaa, AoV growth did get a one-time bump up in AoV, as it imposed a minimum threshold order value for free delivery during the pandemic. This has begun to mean-revert but still remains higher than pre-pandemic levels. AoV increased from INR 1,448 in FY20 to INR 1,963 in FY21. For Q1/Q2FY23, AoV stood at INR 1,780/1,872.
- Nykaa's purchase frequency also remains broadly steady at 3-3.5x annually. Order frequency is likely to be averaged out as lighter users get added to the customer mix. In BPC, accounting for a typical makeup/skincare routine, we suspect Nykaa might already be well optimised in terms of the number of articles/order (there is a theoretical but limited upside here though).
- This leaves us with the key value driver AUTC (discussed in next chapter).

Ex-Nykaa, growth in AoVs (volume-led) has been lower than platforms, given the lack of non-linear revenue streams



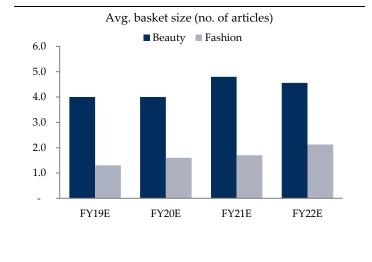
# Avg. basket size (no. of articles) and order frequency for vertical/category specific businesses don't change non-linearly



Source: Companies, HSIE Research

Source: Company, HSIE Research, For Nykaa, we've used estimates

# Average basket size (number of articles) seems welloptimised already (estimates; numbers)



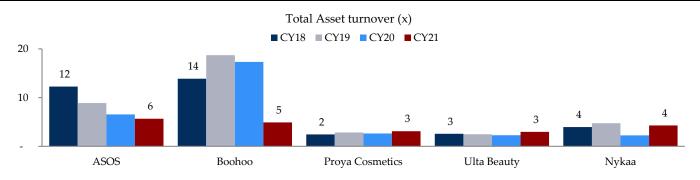
Source: Companies, HSIE Research

In terms of a typical makeup/skincare routine...there is a theoretical upside to number of articles in a basket, but that is likely to average out as lighter users get added to the consumer mix

	Usage	Articles/year
	(months)	(#)
Moisturizer	3	4.0
Foundation	5	2.4
Consealer	5	2.4
Lipstick	12	1.0
Compact	12	1.0
Blush	12	1.0
Face wash	4	3.0
Total (ex-Toner & Serum)		14.8
Avg. order frequency		3.2
No. of articles/Order		4.6
Toner	4	3.0
Serum	4	3.0
Total		20.8
Avg. order frequency		3.5
No. of articles/Order (Potential)		5.9
FY22 BPC articles/Order		4.8
Theoretical upside in articles/order (%)		24

Source: Company, HSIE Research

Given that key inputs of growth (ASP, order frequency, articles/order) are linear; hence, online pipelines have a steadier trajectory in asset sweating vs their non-linear cousins (platforms)



# Platforms vs pipelines

Platforms vs			
Platforms	Description  Shopify is a leading provider of assential internet	Revenue Streams -Tier-wise subscription model (recurring	Margin & Cost Structures movement
Shopify	-Shopify is a leading provider of essential internet infrastructure for commerce (SaaS). It enables merchants to easily display, manage, market and sell their products across over a dozen different sales channels, including web and mobile storefronts, physical retail locations, pop-up shops, etc -2-side network effects at play:  More consumers lead to more merchants lead to more consumers  More app partner solutions lead to more merchant monetization tools lead to more merchant partners  GMV: USD175bn, Order: 1.8bn (CY21)  GM: 54%, EBITDAM: 7%	revenue)  -Merchant solutions such as 1. accepting payments, 2. shipping and fulfilment, and 3. securing working capital for merchants, transaction fees, 4. Referral fees from app partners, 5. Ad revenue  -Nearly all revenue streams are highly scalable with little-to-reducing incremental service/product-based costs attached  -Customer LTV can get enhanced via multiple stakeholders within ecosystem (Via Core Solutions, partner apps, etc)	-High GM biz. Subscription/Merchant Solutions have 80/43% GM with strong utility based premiumization options -R&D and A&P expenses dictate the EBITDAM swing. Over CY18-21, Shopify's EBITDAM swung from -6% to +7% as the layer of services opted by merchants kept increasing even though R&D/order and A&P/order remained flat
Pinduoduo	-PDD provides a team purchase model for value-formoney merchandise. Buyers come to our platform to browse, explore and purchase attractive value-for-money merchandise from third-party merchants under the "team purchase" option -Active multiple team buyer helps attract farmer merchants to the platform, and the scale of sales volume encourages merchants to offer even more competitive prices/customized products/services to buyers, thus forming a virtuous cycleMerchant handles fulfilment.  GMV: USD383bn; Active Buyers: 869mn (CY21) GM: 66%, EBITDAM: 9%	-Online marketing services/others. Primarily to allow merchants to bid for keywords that match product listings appearing in search/browser results on the platform and advertising placements such as ad banners, links, etc -Transaction services. PDD charges merchants fees for Transaction-related services that are provided to merchants on our platformMerchandise sales. Direct Online sales of purchased products (small portion).	-High GM biz; typical of a marketplace -R&D and A&P expenses dictate the EBITDAM swing. Over CY18-21, PDD's EBITDAM swung from -79% to +9%Scale gain has little to no bearing on operating cost structures once network effects kicked in, post the company achieving critical mass at both the farmer merchant and active buyer sides.
Coupang	Coupang is a hybrid offering both 1P & 3P product e-commerce. 1P dominates the revenue stream. It undertakes fulfilment responsibilities for the majority of the orders it services.  Some of its developing business models are Rocket Fresh (Grocery delivery), Coupang Eats (Food Delivery), Coupang Play (Video streaming), Fintech (Payments solutions)  Revenue: USD18.4bn; Active Buyers: ~18mn (CY21) GM: 16%, EBITDAM: -8%	-1P product sales -Commission from merchants for 3P services -Advertising revenue -Revenue from online ordering & delivery -Note 3P/ad sales and other cash-flow accretive revenue streams are growing meaningfully faster than 1P sales	Lower GM (courtesy 1P business), EBITDAM swing not as severe (Over CY19-21, EBITDA losses moved from -10% to -8%). As 3P & ad revenue rise in the mix, profitability is likely to improve further.
Sea Ltd	Sea Ltd has three multi-sided marketplace businesses. 1. Digital Entertainment (Garena), 2. E-Commerce, 3. Digital financial services ltd.  Revenue: ~USD 10bn, GM: 39%, EBITDAM: -15%.	-Digital Entertainment: Pre-dominantly, via selling in-game items -E-Commerce: Pre-dominantly a marketplace which earns via 1. Paid advertising from sellers, 2. Transaction-based fee and 3. Value added services like fulfilment, logistics, etc -Digital financial services: 1. Commissions from 3P merchants, 2. Fees to 3P financial institutions which offer financial products/lend to consumers on the platform	-In the DE biz, 1. as Sea publishes more self-developed games, pay channel costs reduce. 2. An increasing layer on in-game purchases means better absorption of amortized licence fees. '-In E-Comm biz, since it's a marketplace for pre-dominantly long-tail categories, improving take rates, ergo, increasing ARPU is easier on the consumer side and merchants could opt for more sophisticated services like payment solutions and ad services which have low incremental costs.  These are reflected in financials as well. Consol EBITDA losses swung from -110% in CY18 to -15% in CY21.
Amazon	-Amazon consumers through our online and physical stores and focus on selection, price, and convenience. It sells both 1P & 3P products via its app/websites. The company offers programs that enable sellers to grow their businesses and sell their products for a fixed fee, a percentage of sales, per-unit activity fees, interest, or some combination thereof via their seller programs.  -Amazon also serve enterprises through AWS (Cloud service), which offers a broad set of on-demand technology services.  Revenue: ~USD: 470bn (CY21) GM: 42%; EBITDAM: 10%	-1P & 3P product sales -Ad revenue -Subscription revenue -Cloud revenue	1P business is akin to any typical linear retailer - fulfilment costs, marketing spends, etc.  -Interestingly, revenue from margin accretive revenue streams such as 3P + ad income + AWS has grown from 18% to 42% from CY14-21. Hence, despite, the rising investments in FFC & marketing, EBITDAM improved 600bps over CY14-21.

# FSN E-Commerce Ventures Ltd (Nykaa): Initiating Coverage



Platforms	Description	Revenue Streams	Margin & Cost Structures movement
Etsy	-Etsy operates two-sided online marketplaces connecting creative artisans and entrepreneurs with thoughtful consumers. It is a seller-aligned business model. It offers sellers a range of seller tools/services that are specifically designed to help creative entrepreneurs generate more sales/scale their businesses.  -In addition to the core marketplace, Etsy also houses Reverb - musical instrument marketplace; Depop - A fashion resale marketplace, and Elo7 - The Brazilian version of Etsy  GMS: USD13.5bn (CY21) GM: 72%/EBITDAM: 20%	-Listing fees -Transaction fees -Payment processing fees -Ad revenue -Others  All, revenue streams have little incremental costs attached to them.	Since all sales are 3P, All revenue streams have little incremental costs attached to them. This gets reflected in the EBITDA swing.  With scale, EBITDAM swung from 2.7% in CY17 to 20% in CY21  Since, Etsy operates in a niche (handmade/vintage items), wherein scale of the industry/supply chain may not attract horizontals. It is likely to remain unchallenged by deep-pocketed retailers.
Farfetch	The Farfetch marketplace is the largest global digital luxury fashion marketplace connecting, consumers over 190 countries with merchandise in more than 50 countries from over 1,400 brands, boutiques and department stores, delivering a unique shopping experience and access to the most extensive selection of luxury at a single destination.  GMV: USD4.2bn (CY21) GM: 45%/EBITDAM: -10%	Farfetch operates on a revenue share model wherein it collects commission from sellers for the transaction (75%+ of revenue) '-Fulfilment revenue from sellers '-1P sales	While still making losses, the EBITDAM swing over CY18-21 is 10pp (i.e. from - 20% to -10%) as fixed cost absorption (marketing spends, FFC, others) improved with scale.  -A strong ad revenue lever could meaningfully change the complexion of the P&L, if exercised.
Wayfair	It's pre-dominantly a multisided platform that works as a furniture and home-goods online drop-shipping marketplace connecting 27mn active customers with 33k+ suppliers. Assortment range: 33mn products. Has ~19mn sq. ft of leased fulfilment space.  Net revenue: USD13.7bn (CY21) GM: 28.4%/EBITDAM: 1.7%	-Take rate (commission) on transactions -Ad revenue -Product sales (private labels)	While just about to break even, EBITDAM swing over CY18-21 was -5% to 2%. Path to profitability still not clear due to the nature of category. A logistics mistake could meaningfully cost profitability.
Alphabet	-It's a multi-sided platform that connects advertisers with users of the google services. (Predominant monetization tool is advertisement revenue) -Also offers enterprises Cloud-based services via Google Cloud/Google Workspace -Other bets: Moonshot projects Net Revenue: USD 257bn (CY21) GM: 57%/EBITDAM: 30.6%	-Ad revenue via google services -Subscription revenue on products such as Gmail, YouTube TV, YouTube premium -Product sales - Includes hardware sales like Pixel, Sales of apps and in- app purchases (via Google Play) -Cloud-based revenue -Other bets: Sales of health tech & other internet services  Flywheel 1: Interplay between users and advertisers Flywheel 2: Interplay between app developers, users and advertisers	Key costs are R&D and marketing expenses. These have been consistently declining with scale and theoretically could get disconnected from scale as peers increasingly get left behind (Google chooses to remain aggressive on this front).  Despite aggressive investments in R&D and marketing, EBITDAM expanded 560bps to 39% in core operations.
Meta	-It's a multi-sided platform that connects advertisers with users of the Google services. Emerging businesses: Reality Labs which sells augmented and virtual reality products  Net Revenue: USD 118bn (CY21) GM: 81%/EBITDAM: 40%	-Ad revenue -Payment & product sales  Flywheel: Stronger user identity, social graph - Stronger user engagement - More targeted ads - Heightened user engagement - Attracts more ad dollars - Leads to FB investing in its algorithm and the cycle repeats	Key costs are R&D which is primarily for platform maintenance and for storing user data which powers FB's flywheel.  While R&D expenses have remained broadly steady over CY18-20, its EBITDAM has increased from 40% to 49% for Core operations. This is primarily due to reducing marketing spends in relation to scale.  Note: FB has many under-monetized properties like the Insta-reel, WhatsApp marketplace. If they switch these on, they come along with little incremental costs attached.



Linear - Online/Hybrid	Description	Revenue Streams	Margin & Cost Structures movement
ASOS	-ASOS is an online fashion retailer targeting the 20-somethings . It's a more linear model with growth tied to the hip with Inventory/WC investmentsThey do offer 3P services vis their Partner fulfil programme but this is in its infancy.  Uses 3P logistic partners predominantly for fulfilment  Revenue: GBP 3.9bn (FY22) GM/EBITDAM: 45.4/8.3%  AUTC: 26mn, Order Frequency: 3.5, Visit-Order conversion: 3%, Articles/bill: 3.2	Product sales (Inventory-led model)	Cost structures are more linear in movement with sales Opex over CY17-20 contracted from 43.5% to 39%. EBITDAM expanded 50bps to 4.6%
Boohoo	Same as ASOS  Revenue: GBP 2bn (FY22) GM/EBITDAM: 52.5/2.5% AUTC: 20mn, Order Frequency: 3.1, Visit-Order conversion: 2.8%, Articles/bill: 3.0	Product sales (Inventory-led model)	Cost structures are more linear in movement with sales Opex over FY18-21 expanded from 45.5% to 47%. EBITDAM remained steady at 8.5%
Zalando	Same as ASOS  Revenue: EUR 10.35bn (CY21) GM/EBITDAM: 42/6% AUTC: 49mn, Order Frequency: 5, Visit-Order conversion: 3.4%, Articles/bill: 3.0	Product sales (Inventory-led model)	-Cost structures are more linear in movement with sales -Opex over FY18-21 expanded from 40% to 38%. EBITDAM improved from 4% to 6% over CY18-21
Nykaa (BPC)	Nykaa is an online BPC and fashion retailer. The company predominantly operates its BPC segment on an inventory-led model, while the fashion vertical is a marketplace.  Only BPC: GMV: ~INR50bn, Revenue: ~INR33.8bn (FY22) GM/EBITDAM: 40/11% (Product GM/EBITDAM: 33/-1.3%) AUTC: 84mn, Order Frequency: 3.2, Visit-Order conversion: 3.2%, Articles/bill: ~5	BPC - Product sales - Inventory-led model Fashion - Product sales - Marketplace Nykaa - eB2B segment - Inventory- led model	BPC: Given the nascency of the model, cost structure improvement cannot be extrapolated as non-linear in nature (39% to 31%). Costs in BPC are to a significant extent tied to the hip with product revenue. Fulfilment efficiency and tapering marketing costs could add to operating leverage but there is a cap on this movement like any other inventory-led online retailers

Source: Companies, HSIE Research

Hence, not all online businesses qualify as platforms. As for Nykaa, the lion's share of the business (~85% of NSV; Nykaa BPC, Nykaa Man, eB2B) operates on an inventory-led model and it shares more characteristics with that of a busy and linear online pipeline (such as ASOS, Bohoo, etc.) than with platforms (like Shopify, Pinduoduo, etc.) which, in our view, should guide the valuation stencil. While Nykaa Fashion is a marketplace, it is still a budding segment targeting a premium customer base. Its right-to-win is not yet established.



# Nykaa's unit economics

- BPC powers Nykaa's engine: Nykaa's BPC unit is the predominant cash cow that powers the business. However, our estimates of segmental unit economics suggest that:
  - 1. The BPC segment (Nykaa's cash cow), while a go-to-destination for shopping, is (as of today) heavily reliant on ad/shipping income for its profitability/return ratios. Product EBITDAM is estimated to be just about profitable now (FY22: -1.4% of NSV). Of course, this might change as Nykaa scales its (a) own brand portfolio and (b) order density. However, any dip in the ad income could be a negative counter-balancing factor (not factored in). Ad budgets could potentially get split between more players in the medium to long term. We expect Nykaa's BPC segment to hit 5% product margin and 15% EBITDAM on NSV by FY25.

**Unit economics (BPC segment)** 

Unit economics (BPC segmen	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
	1121	1122	BPC	11212	1123E
Avg. order value (AoV; INR)	1,963	1,864	1,814	1,850	1,887
NSV	1,225	1,121	1,124	1,147	1,170
Revenue (on product)	1,225	1,121	1,124	1,147	1,170
AoV-NSV conversion (%)	62	60	62	62	62
Gross profit (on products)	386	371	372	383	393
GM (on products)	31.5	33.1	33.1	33.4	33.6
A&P expenses	73	108	100	98	96
FFC expenses	110	120	96	96	94
Contribution (on product)	203	143	176	188	204
As % of NSV	16.6	12.8	15.6	16.4	17.4
Ad/shipping income	111	134	118	117	117
Contribution	314	277	294	305	320
Employee expenses	113	91	84	77	72
Other expenses	89	68	70	70	72
EBITDA	112	118	140	158	176
EBITDAM (% on NSV)	9.1	10.5	12.5	13.7	15.0
EBITDAM (on product)	1	(16)	22	40	59
Product EBITDAM (% on NSV)	0.1	(1.4)	2.0	3.5	5.1
WC (ex-cash)	212	488	238		
Capex	26	54	25		
Capital employed	238	541	262		
EBIT	94	103	125		
RoCE (%)	30	14	36		

Source: Companies, HSIE Research

2. In fashion (marketplace), the right-to-win is not yet established. It's at a nascent stage of its scaling process. Nykaa's predominant price positioning is premium (Masstige + Premium + Luxe constitute ~75% of assortment on display). Given the positioning, scaling might be restricted (~54% of apparel market is value fashion). However, given that A&P/FFC costs/order are estimated at ~INR293/138 per order (vs <INR100 each for BPC), there are some low-hanging fruits to pluck in terms of efficiencies.

Note: Big corporate houses have stepped up their aggression on fashion & lifestyle segment via their respective horizontal/vertical online offerings. Hence, competitive intensity is likely to keep A&P expenses high. We expect Nykaa Fashion to almost break even in FY26.



Unit economics (fashion segment)

	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
			Fashion		_
Avg. Order Value (AoV; INR)	2,739	3,420	3,659	3,733	3,807
NSV	962	1,104	1,171	1,194	1,218
Revenue (on product)	576	600	636	651	667
AoV-NSV conversion (%)	35	32	32	32	32
Gross Profit (on products)	377	466	472	477	483
GM (on products)	65.3	77.6	74.3	73.3	72.3
A&P Expenses	169	302	272	245	220
FFC expenses	117	121	140	111	108
Contribution (on product)	90	42	60	121	155
As % of NSV	9.4	3.8	5.1	10.1	12.7
Ad/Shipping Income	23	26	47	49	51
Contribution	113	68	107	170	206
Employee Expenses	160	125	137	157	177
Other expenses	62	75	100	128	108
EBITDA	(109)	(131)	(130)	(115)	(79)
EBITDAM (% on NSV)	(11.3)	(11.9)	(11.1)	(9.6)	(6.5)
EBITDAM (on product)	(132)	(158)	(177)	(164)	(130)
Product EBITDAM (% on NSV)	(13.7)	(14.3)	(15.1)	(13.7)	(10.7)

Source: Companies, HSIE Research

- In a category as fragmented as fashion (apparel), both in terms of supply and quality, assortment returns can lead to meaningful losses. To illustrate this point, see the below table of apparel focused online retailers (some inventory-led and some marketplaces). One can see that even with scale, the ability to reduce fulfilment (FFC) costs is restricted.
- Also, the A&P expense lever constantly needs to be engaged to gain scale. Historically, online retailers (focused on fashion) have found it tough to rein in this expense.
- Nykaa Fashion might end up being an exception but, for an analyst, forecasting improvement on this variable (A&P expense) is like trying to catch lightning in a bottle.

The fulfilment cost lever has limited room to wiggle beyond a certain point in fashion; a few have managed to improve upon this through scale

FFC Costs (As % of sales)	CY18	CY19	CY20	CY21 (	(Decrease)/Increase (bps)	AoV (USD)
ASOS	26	26	23	22	-358	83
Boohoo	24	23	24	26	188	56
Zalando	28	27	26	25	-276	65
Nykaa Fashion	-	18	20	19	101	45
Myntra	11	17	18	18	736	18



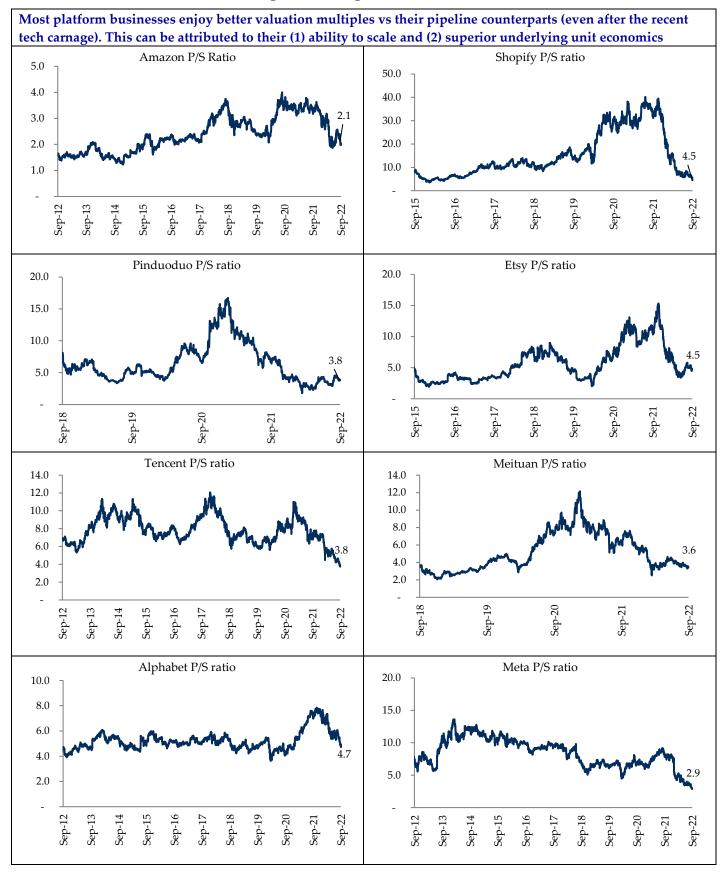
# A&P expenses are a stickler too in fragmented categories like fashion...very few have managed to rein this expense in with scale after hitting a certain threshold

A&P (As % of sales)	Business Model	CY16	CY17	CY18	CY19	CY20	CY21	Scale gain (CY16- 21)
ASOS	Inventory-led	5.3	4.5	4.4	4.5	3.7	5.1	2.7
Boohoo	Inventory-led	-	-	4.0	5.0	5.0	5.5	3.4
Proya Cosmetics	Inventory-led			37.5	39.2	39.9	43.0	2.0
Zalando	Inventory-led	10.3	8.1	7.4	8.1	8.3	9.0	2.8
Etsy	Marketplace	22.5	24.7	26.2	26.3	29.0	28.1	6.4
Farfetch	Marketplace	-	17.9	16.2	14.8	11.9	12.9	9.3
Wayfair	Marketplace	12.1	11.6	11.4	12.0	10.0	10.1	4.1
Ultra Beauty	Inventory-led	5.3	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.5	1.8
Estee Lauder	Inventory-led	22.7	24.0	23.1	23.8	22.9	21.9	1.5
LV	Inventory-led	38.8	38.5	37.9	37.7	37.6	34.7	1.7
Nykaa		-	12.0	12.9	11.4	6.9	12.7	6.8
-BPC	Inventory-led	-	-	12.9	10.9	5.5	8.6	6.1
-Fashion	Marketplace	-	-	-	35.8	28.2	48.2	8.9

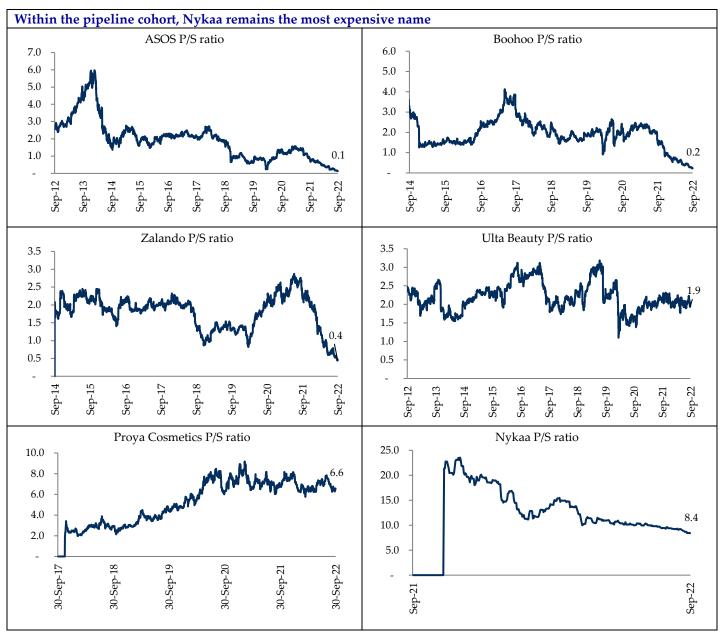


While the majority of platform businesses have corrected, online pipelines have corrected even more. The deciding factor is the non-linear monetization switch that platforms enjoy.

Most platform businesses trade between 3-5x trailing P/S, while pipeline businesses (online/offline) trade between 0.2-7x trailing P/S (ex-Nykaa). Nykaa is trading at 12x trailing P/S.





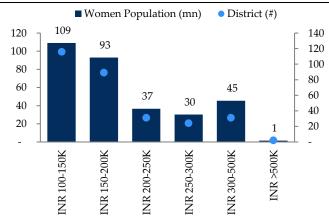




# Price reeks of an oversold TAM!

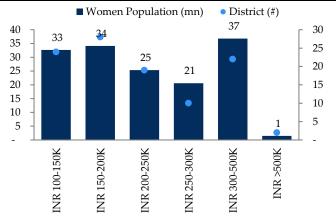
- While Nykaa remains a preferred destination for BPC and hosts a budding fashion marketplace, valuations reek of an oversold TAM both in BPC and fashion.
- On the Adj. TAM, while we pencil in 26/33% share in BPC AUTC/NSV, CMP suggests 41/51% share in AUTC/NSV by FY42—seems implausible!
- Deep-pocketed retailers (Reliance Retail, Myntra, and Tata group) have been aggressively stitching their BPC offerings, given healthy category unit economics.
- Myntra infused ~INR42bn over FY21-22 to further its growth story; Reliance Retail has invested INR118.4bn towards tech stack building for all its online platform businesses and category building. BPC/fashion are key COGS for both.
- Price suggests Nykaa would own half the relevant BPC market by FY42: The CMP suggests Nykaa's BPC AUTC would hit 41% of the relevant customer base by FY42. On an NSV basis, this translates to 51% of relevant BPC TAM a bit farfetched, we believe. Especially against the backdrop of (1) aggressive competition from deep-pocketed players who are all vying for the beauty category; (2) thinning population density beyond a point. Hence, we suspect today's price reeks of an oversold TAM.
- Women population falls off a cliff as one straddles per capita income/population density profiles: If one excludes the universe below INR450k per household income and districts with women population density <300/km², the adjusted TAM falls off a cliff (from ~320mn to ~150mn; as on FY22). This is not to say that Nykaa can't service districts with population density <300/km². However, these customer acquisitions are likely to be more expensive.
- Our proprietary model covering ~600 districts (based on per capita income profile and population density) suggests that even if districts with women population above 300/km² grow at ~4.5% (3x the growth rate of India's average population), we may still be looking at a relevant adj. TAM of ~186/300mn by FY27/42 resp. Hence, at 25/79mn BPC AUTC by FY27/42, Nykaa would've achieved ~19/26% of the relevant market already (built-in). This translates to one-third of the market by NSV—a tall but plausible ask!

Women population with >INR 100k per capita income (PCI)...



Source: Companies, HSIE Research

...falls precipitously if districts with  $<300 km^2$  are excluded





While we build in one-third market share by FY42 for Nykaa, price suggests Nykaa would capture half of the relevant TAM.

In mn	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY32	FY37	FY42
Women population (mn)	195	204	215	225	237	248	310	377	458
-Aged 15-45 (assumed @ 50%; mn)	97	104	112	119	128	137	186	235	298
-Online BPC women shoppers within age 15-45 years (mn)	54	58	64	69	75	82	116	153	201
-Nykaa's BPC AUTC (mn)	8	11	14	18	21	25	47	64	79
Nykaa's BPC AUTC (As % of relevant TAM)	9	11	13	15	17	19	25	27	26
Nykaa's BPC AUTC (As % of BPC online shoppers)	16	19	22	25	28	31	40	42	39
Price-implied									
-Nykaa's BPC AUTC (in mn)	8	11	15	18	23	27	55	82	113
Nykaa's BPC AUTC (As % of Relevant TAM)	9	11	13	15	18	20	30	35	38
Nykaa's BPC AUTC (As % of BPC Online shoppers)	16	19	23	27	30	33	47	54	56
11 /									
BPC industry value (INR bn)	1,237	1,488	1,679	1,869	2,081	2,306	3,602	5,112	6,638
Total relevant BPC market (INR bn)	243	285	331	378	429	487	864	1,223	1,763
Online BPC industry value (INR bn)	134	159	189	219	253	292	540	795	1,190
Online BPC (as % BPC market)	10.8	10.7	11.2	11.7	12.2	12.7	15.0	15.6	17.9
Online BPC (as % relevant BPC market)	55	56	57	58	59	60	63	65	68
Nykaa BPC NSV (INR bn, grossed up for tax)	34	45	59	77	98	121	260	409	577
Nykaa BPC NSV (as % of online BPC)	25	28	31	35	39	42	48	51	48
Nykaa BPC NSV (as % of relevant BPC TAM)	14	16	18	21	23	25	30	33	33
Price-implied									
Nykaa BPC NSV	34	45	61	81	104	131	308	531	827
Nykaa BPC NSV (as % of online BPC)	25	28	32	37	41	45	57	67	69
Nykaa BPC NSV (as % of Relevant BPC TAM)	14	16	18	21	24	27	36	43	47

Source: Companies, HSIE Research

■ Fashion is a tough turf to play on: Fashion & lifestyle (apparel) remains an extremely fragmented space with no single brand in India clocking > INR20bn/annually. Nykaa's fashion marketplace (Nykaa Fashion) intends to play on trends/new season assortment instead of being driven by discounts (~65-70% of its assortment caters to masstige and above segments).

### Limitation of this positioning is:

- 1. One has to resize the TAM downwards meaningfully. We suspect if one eliminates value fashion, sarees and some other select brands that only offer their labels on their respective group/partner websites/apps (Westside, Zara, H&M etc.), then the TAM to play with is likely to be ~20-25% of the total apparel market (in our view, ~INR1/2.6tn currently/FY32 respectively).
- 2. Fashion is a browsing/discovery-based category. Hence, engagement (i.e., time spent on app + no. of visits) is disproportionately correlated to purchases and customer lifetime value. A sizeable share of browsing/visits comes from value conscious consumers whom Nykaa Fashion is not likely to cater to in a meaningful way.
- **Positives of this positioning:** It could become a profitable niche marketplace, given the healthy AoVs. However, Nykaa Fashion will have to contend with deeppocketed players in this segment too. Most F&L apps have their respective premium app fronts too (E.g.: AJIO Luxe, Myntra Luxe, Tata Cliq Luxury, etc.).
- Note: (1) Myntra infused INR42bn over FY21-22 to further its growth story. (2) Reliance Retail has invested INR118.4bn towards tech stack building for all its online platform businesses and towards assortment across categories (fashion,



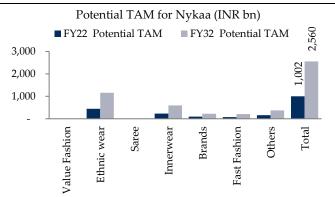
BPC being key categories) over FY20-22. It is tough to consistently compete with a limited wallet with these juggernauts.

While F&L market seems sizeable at INR 4.6tn (growing at 11% CAGR)...

# Fashion & Lifestyle market (INR bn) Fashion & Fy22E Fy32E Saree Fy32E Physical Responses Frashion Saree Physical Responses Frashion Others Total Total

Source: Companies, HSIE Research

...Nykaa's fashion positioning eliminates a sizeable share of the market



Source: Company, HSIE Research

We've built a 13% share each for Nykaa Fashion (AUTC basis) of the potential consumer cohort by FY27/42

In mn	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY32	FY37	FY42
Relevant Population (mn)	245	254	265	275	286	297	356	417	483
-Aged 15-45 (assumed @ 50%; mn)	122	127	132	138	143	149	178	208	242
-Potential Online Fashion shoppers within age 15-45 years (mn)	38	41	45	48	52	56	79	106	139
-Nykaa's Fashion AUTC (mn)	2	3	4	5	7	9	23	31	32
Nykaa's Fashion AUTC (As % of Relevant TAM)	1	2	3	4	5	6	13	15	13



# SKU analysis and channel checks

- Our SKU analysis/channel checks suggest that while horizontals such as Amazon and Flipkart display a much wider assortment of BPC SKUs, their assortment relevance and product discovery remain cumbersome for consumers.
- While Nykaa remains the preferred destination for BPC, our channel checks suggest Myntra has been aggressively expanding its BPC catalogue over the past 12 months. Within key categories, given its marketplace model, Myntra now houses more SKUs. However, Nykaa seems better curated to optimise revenue/SKU. This arbitrage is gradually reducing as Myntra continues to onboard more relevant brands. Tata Cliq and AJIO have some ground to cover in terms of investment in their tech stack to improve assortment relevance in BPC.
- Pricing differential is minimal across relevant platforms in BPC).
- Interactions across value chain suggest that marketplace can work well for longtail brands, while for top brands, the inventory model is preferred but preferred sellers can be a plausible alternative for Myntra to compete with Nykaa.
- Myntra's fulfilment center footprint is denser than Nykaa's; hence, its ability to deliver basket purchases efficiently is better than Nykaa's (currently) but Nykaa has been improving on this front too with its regional fulfilment center strategy.

Total SKUs	Nykaa BPC	Myntra	Flipkart	Amazon	Tata Cliq	Ajio
Makeup						
Face	3228	4362	13111	14221	1435	900
Eyes	3786	3173	12124	10949	1182	708
Lips	2249	7021	15337	19000	2696	1573
Nails	1126	6841	10379	16000	2276	931
Tools and accessories	2130	765	4783	22927	856	0
Skincare						
Moisturizer	4441	8892	14224	13412	2642	944
Cleansers	3301	8102	2014	19501	1249	0
Toner	1021	561	2627	4420	250	0
Below INR 500	Nykaa BPC	Myntra	Flipkart	Amazon	Tata Cliq	Ajio
Makeup						
Face	966	1889	7739	6000	395	431
Eyes	1256	1703	7798	7000	461	283
Lips	798	4242	9071	10000	1414	766
Nails	806	3530	5981	10000	1908	931
Tools and accessories	1038	405	3516	7102	547	0
Skincare						
Moisturizer	1423	3876	6822	6000	1059	256
Cleansers	1703	5243	1055	9795	804	0
Toner	332	375	1713	3000	122	0
INR 500-1000	Nykaa BPC	Myntra	Flipkart	Amazon	Tata Cliq	Ajio
Makeup	Nykaa Di C	Wiyittia	тпркан	Amazon	Tata City	Ajio
Face	989	1397	3820	2461	676	194
Eyes	914	819	2812	1246	534	282
Lips	773	1936	4713	5000	1117	731
Nails	251	2482	2187	2000	259	0
Tools and accessories Skincare	584	248	478	5171	118	0
	1445	2001	4170	2000	750	415
Moisturizer	1445	2981 1941	4163	3000	759 254	417
Cleansers	779		476	4341		0
Toner	253	88	567	703	60	0



INR 1000-2000	Nykaa BPC	Myntra	Flipkart	Amazon	Tata Cliq	Ajio
Makeup						
Face	664	609	1023	1340	277	172
Eyes	972	413	1074	1054	154	102
Lips	449	603	1120	2000	149	64
Nails	65	809	1720	1000	101	0
Tools and accessories	246	55	507	6140	103	0
Skincare						
Moisturizer	789	1404	2174	1616	535	248
Cleansers	546	749	344	1987	137	0
Toner	280	83	235	261	51	0

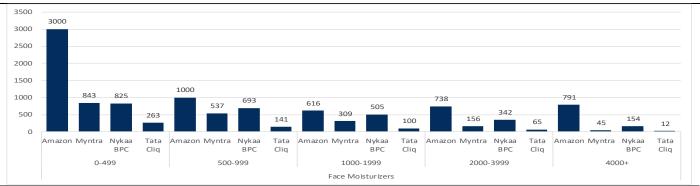
INR 2000-4000	Nykaa BPC	Myntra	Flipkart	Amazon	Tata Cliq	Ajio
Makeup						
Face	481	399	362	2107	86	80
Eyes	561	234	349	1035	32	36
Lips	211	240	299	1000	15	12
Nails	4	16	246	2000	7	0
Tools and accessories	178	41	185	2894	71	0
Skincare						
Moisturizer	523	485	452	1391	234	23
Cleansers	226	156	89	1716	52	0
Toner	128	15	78	222	17	0

Source: Companies, HSIE Research

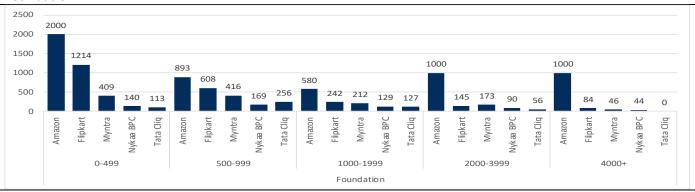
	Nykaa	Myntra	Tata Cliq	Ajio	Purple A	Amazon
Himalaya Purifying Neem Face Wash	183	164	183		157	176
L'Oreal Paris Revitalift Hyaluronic Acid Serum	799	699	849		769	649
Nivea rose and argan oil body lotion	361	284	340		299	216
Maybelline New York Fit Me Matte+Poreless Liquid Foundation With Clay	419	419	503	384	421	384
Maybelline New York Concealer	399	411	479	399	420	494
Maybelline New York Colossal Bold Eyeliner – Black	187	156	199	199	192	156
Lakme 9 To 5 Pure Rouge Blusher	500	440	522	260		425
Lakme Forever Matte Liquid Lip Colour	296	246	295	162	320	295
Total	3144	2819	3370	1404	2578	2795



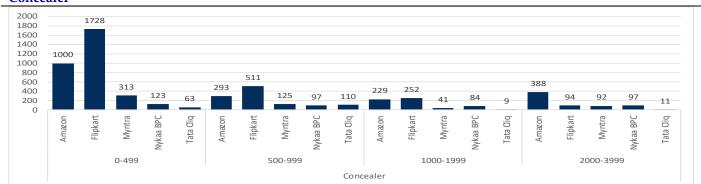
### **Face moisturizers**



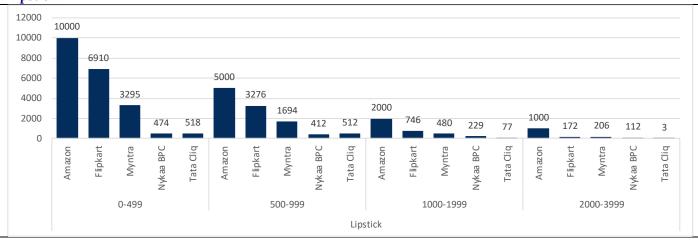
### **Foundation**



# Concealer

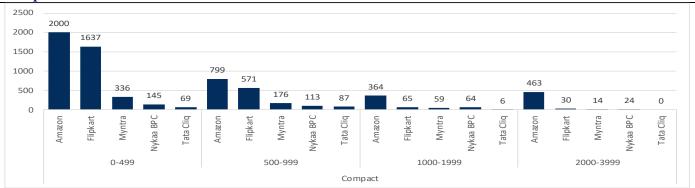


# Lipstick

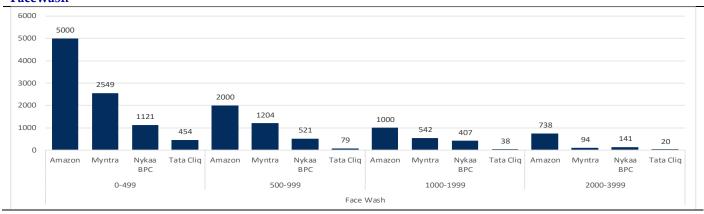




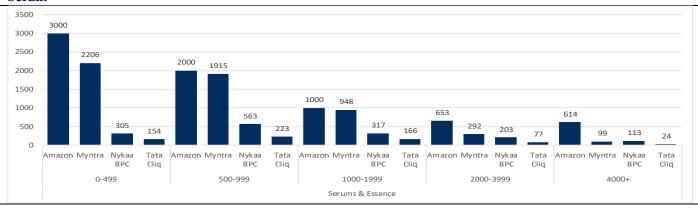
Compact



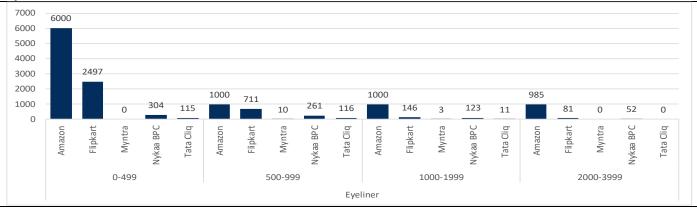
### **Facewash**



### Serum



# Eyeliner



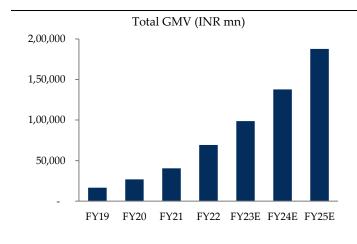


# Financial analysis

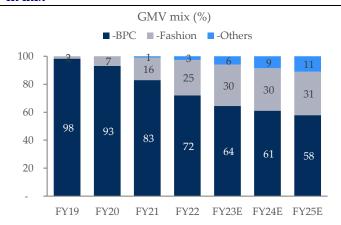
- We build in a GMV CAGR of 39% over FY22-25 to INR 187.8bn as fashion/other businesses (NykaaMAN, eB2B store) grow on a low base. We build in 30/48/123% GMV CAGR in BPC/fashion/others respectively. From an NSV perspective, we build in 31/47/116% (overall: 37%) CAGR for BPC/fashion/other segments respectively to INR 68.5/18.3/7.6bn.
- As discussed, in previous chapters, given that the purchase frequency and AoVs don't change non-linearly, AUTC is likely to remain the anchor growth variable across segments. On the back of this, we build in 35% revenue CAGR over FY22-25 (vs. 50% CAGR over FY19-22). BPC would continue to contribute the lion's share of incremental growth (75%+; INR41.5bn).
- We build in 28/41% CAGR in AUTC and 29/42% CAGR in orders over FY22-25.

Source: Companies, HSIE Research

Baking in 39% GMV CAGR over FY20-24...

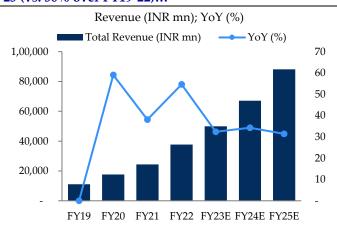


...with increasing salience of fashion/other businesses in mix



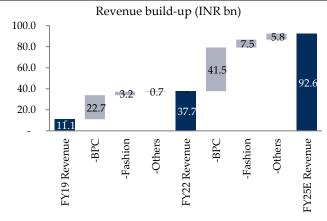
Source: Companies, HSIE Research

Expect revenue to clock 35% revenue CAGR over FY22-25 (vs. 50% over FY19-22)...



Source: Company, HSIE Research

...BPC to continue contributing the lion's share of incremental revenue build up (75%+; INR41.5bn)



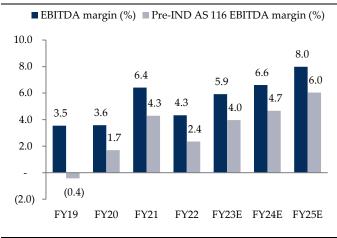


Key Performance Indicators	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	FY19- 22	FY19- 22
BPC									
AoV (INR)	1,433	1,448	1,963	1,864	1,814	1,868	1,924	9	1
AUTC (mn)	4	5	6	8	11	14	18	34	28
Orders (mn)	11	17	17	27	35	45	57	35	29
Fashion									
AoV (INR)	655	1,604	2,739	3,420	3,659	3,733	3,807	73	4
AUTC (mn)	-	0.1	0.6	1.8	2.6	3.7	5.0		41
Orders (mn)	0.4	1.1	2.4	5.2	7.8	11.0	15.0		42

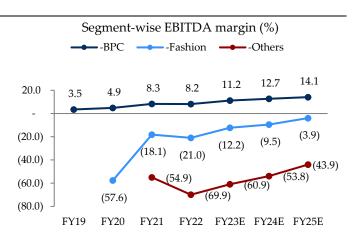
Source: Companies, HSIE Research

■ EBITDAM/Pre-IND AS 116 EBITDAM are expected to expand by ~370bps to 8/6% respectively as (1) BPC product margins improve from -1.4% to 5.6% courtesy higher private labels; (2) scale-led operating efficiencies; (3) fashion losses ebb (building in a break-even in FY26).

Baking in a 370bps EBITDAM improvement to 8% over FY22-25



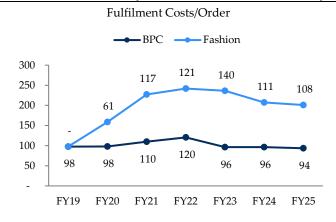
Nykaa: Segment-wise profitability



Source: Company, HSIE Research

Source: Company, HSIE Research

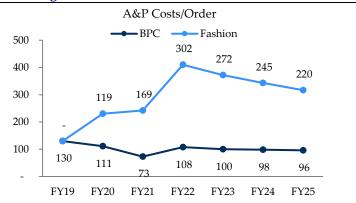
## Fulfilment costs likely to inch down as order density/fulfilment efficiency improves with more FFC additions

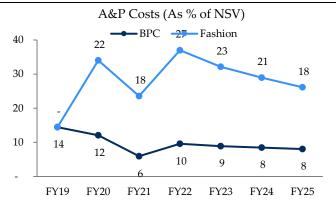


Fulfilment Costs (As % of NSV) - BPC - Fashion 25 11 11 12 12 20 15 10 11 11 11 9 9 8 5 8 FY19 FY20 FY21 FY22 FY23 FY24 FY25

Source: Company, HSIE Research

## Building in 4/10% reduction (CAGR) in A&P costs/order for BPC/fashion

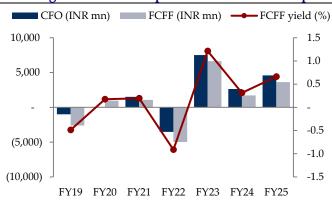


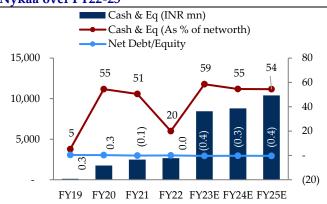


Source: Company, HSIE Research

Source: Company, HSIE Research

## Building a reasonable improvement in cash flow profile for Nykaa over FY22-25





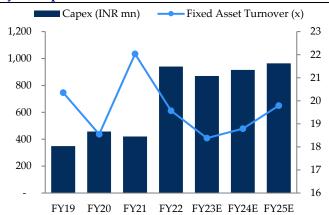
Source: Company, HSIE Research

Source: Company, HSIE Research

### Nykaa's cash conversion vs peers

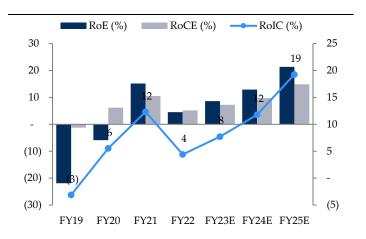
	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
Nykaa					
Inventory days	62	80	92	74	85
Receivables days	44	19	20	11	9
Payables days	52	60	65	47	35
Core CC Cycle	55	40	48	39	59
L'Oreal India					
Inventory days	32	33	31	44	
Receivables days	21	24	14	30	
Payables days	111	71	62	90	
Core CC Cycle	(58)	(14)	(17)	(15)	
Purplle					
Inventory days	22	-	-	-	
Receivables days	42	86	198	129	
Payables days	163	55	80	87	
Core CC Cycle	(99)	31	118	42	
MyGlamm Grp					
Inventory days	65	68	67	79	
Receivables days	62	146	170	250	
Payables days	81	104	122	14	
Core CC Cycle	45	110	115	314	
Myntra					
Inventory days	123	69	69	59	
Receivables days	60	90	64	62	
Payables days	175	87	95	89	
Core CC Cycle	9	72	38	32	

# Expect fixed asset turns (x) to rebound to FY20 levels by FY25 post a warehouse addition drive...



Source: Company, HSIE Research

## ...ditto for its return profile



Source: Company, HSIE Research

# Nykaa's capital allocation over FY18-22

Sources of funds (INR bn)	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	Total
Cash from operations (excl WC change)	(94)	287	847	1,771	1,110	3,921
Other income	-	1	1	36	166	203
Total	(94)	287	848	1,807	1,275	4,124
Application of funds (Rs bn)						
Working capital	445	1,284	829	405	5,371	8,333
Capex	144	1,618	(888)	437	1,448	2,759
Investments	-	2	739	897	4,746	6,383
Dividend	-	-	-	-	-	-
Borrowings	(777)	(1,426)	(1,752)	(232)	(2,478)	(6,664)
Equity raise	-	(7)	(5)	(6)	(8,727)	(8,745)
Others	83	(924)	1,027	484	1,214	1,883
Net change in cash	10	(260)	898	(176)	(297)	175
Total	(94)	287	848	1,807	1,275	4,124
Cumm. WC + Capex as % of sources of funds						269



**Key assumptions** 

	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
Total GMV (INR mn)	16,501	26,849	40,467	69,332	98,700	1,37,726	1,87,834
YoY (%)	-	63	51	71	42	40	36
-BPC	16,219	24,981	33,548	49,987	64,285	85,287	1,10,493
-Fashion	282	1,868	6,530	17,516	28,653	40,917	57,177
-Others	-	-	389	1,829	5,761	11,523	20,165
Total NSV (INR mn)	-	16,231	23,380	37,118	51,337	70,474	94,477
YoY (%)	=	=	44	59	38	37	34
-BPC	10,151	15,634	20,941	30,632	39,864	52,887	68,518
-Fashion	90	596	2,308	5,728	9,169	13,093	18,297
-Others	-	-	131	758	2,305	4,494	7,663
Total Revenue (INR mn)	11,114	17,675	24,409	37,739	51,426	69,757	92,564
YoY (%)	-	59	38	55	36	36	33
Consol. Take Rate (%)	67	66	60	54	52	51	49
-BPC	11,110	17,309	22,836	33,831	44,020	58,269	75,318
-Fashion	4	366	1,438	3,254	5,343	7,669	10,786
-Others	-	-	135	654	2,063	3,820	6,460
EBITDA (As % of NSV)							
-BPC	3.9	5.4	9.1	9.3	12.4	14.0	15.5
-Fashion		(35.3)	(11.3)	(11.9)	(7.1)	(5.5)	(2.3)
-Others			(56.6)	(60.3)	(54.5)	(45.8)	(37.0)
KPIs							
AUTC (mn)							
-BPC	3.5	5.3	5.6	8.4	11.0	14.1	17.6
-Fashion	-	0.1	0.6	1.8	2.6	3.7	5.0
Orders (mn)							
-BPC	11	17	17	27	35	45	57
-Fashion	0	1	2	5	8	11	15
AoV (INR)							
-BPC	1,433	1,448	1,963	1,864	1,814	1,868	1,924
-Fashion	655	1,604	2,739	3,420	3,659	3,733	3,807
FFC/Order							
-BPC	98	98	110	120	96	96	94
-Fashion	-	61	117	121	140	111	108
A&P/Order							
-BPC	130	111	73	108	100	98	96
-Fashion	-	119	169	302	272	245	220
Contribution/Order							
-BPC	182	220	314	277	294	310	330
-Fashion	-	30	136	68	107	170	206
EBITDA/Order							
-BPC	18	49	112	118	140	163	186
-Fashion	-	(185)	(86)	(131)	(130)	(115)	(79)



# **Valuation**

Our DCF-based target price of INR 800/sh for Nykaa (implying 126x Sep-24 P/E) assumes: (1) 10-year revenue CAGR: 25%; (2) EBITDA margin expansion of ~1,140bps over FY22-32E; (3) FY23-42 FCFF CAGR: 17% (FY22-32: 21%; FY32-42: 13%); (4) WACC: 10.3%; (5) terminal growth: 6%, 10-year cumulative FCFF/EBITDA conversion of ~73% over FY23-33E.

## DCF valuation (INR mn)

	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY28E	FY29E	FY30E	FY31E	FY32E	FY33E	FY38E	FY42E
Revenue	51,426	69,757	92,564	1,19,134	1,49,814	1,84,586	2,22,653	2,63,974	3,07,496	3,51,814	3,97,749	6,25,453	8,26,612
EBIT*(1-t)	1,205	1,937	3,593	5,887	8,807	12,980	17,518	22,751	28,751	35,378	42,187	79,438	1,07,833
Depreciation	532	668	795	911	1,012	1,098	1,193	1,321	1,441	1,554	1,685	2,184	2,719
Capex	(870)	(915)	(964)	(1,016)	(1,055)	(1,096)	(1,334)	(1,388)	(1,445)	(1,504)	(1,802)	(2,438)	(2,765)
As % of revenue	1.7	1.3	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3
Changes in WC (Winv)	4,760	(1,309)	(1,472)	(2,978)	(3,357)	(3,709)	(3,948)	(4,308)	(4,480)	(4,460)	(5,015)	(4,995)	(4,626)
As % of revenue	(9.3)	1.9	1.6	2.5	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.3	0.8	0.6
FCFF	5,627	381	1,952	2,804	5,407	9,273	13,429	18,375	24,267	30,969	37,054	74,189	1,03,162
FCFF margin (%)	10.9	0.5	2.1	2.4	3.6	5.0	6.0	7.0	7.9	8.8	9.3	11.9	12.5
YoY (%)	(206.6)	(93.2)	412.6	43.7	92.8	71.5	44.8	36.8	32.1	27.6	19.6	10.8	8.1
Interest (1-t)	(231)	(234)	(253)	(274)	(296)	(321)	(347)	(375)	(406)	(439)	(476)	(706)	(968)
Net Borrowings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FCFE	5,396	147	1,699	2,530	5,110	8,952	13,082	18,000	23,861	30,529	36,578	73,484	1,02,194
YoY (%)	(233.2)	(97.3)	1,057.9	48.9	102.0	75.2	46.1	37.6	32.6	27.9	19.8	10.8	8.1
EOP date	Mar-23	Mar-24	Mar-25	Mar-26	Mar-27	Mar-28	Mar-29	Mar-30	Mar-31	Mar-32	Mar-33	Mar-38	Mar-42
Years to DCF date	(0.5)	0.5	1.5	2.5	3.5	4.5	5.5	6.5	7.5	8.5	9.5	14.5	18.5
PV (FCFF)	5,910	363	1,685	2,195	3,839	5,968	7,838	9,725	11,646	13,474	14,619	17,942	16,865
Terminal Value													1,44,700

DCF Date	Sep-23
Kd	9.5
Kd*(1-t)	7.1
Ke	11.0
Net Debt (Mar-21E)	(5,060)
Debt/Equity	0.2
PV-Explicit Period	2,27,250
PV-Terminal Value	1,44,700
Enterprise Value (INR mn)	3,71,950
Equity Value (INR mn)	3,77,010
Equity value per share (INR)	800

Sep-24 Implied P/E (x)	126
Sep-24 Implied EV/EBITDA (x)	114
Sep-24 Implied EV/EBITDA (x)	81
Sep-24 Implied EV/Sales (x)	4.6
Sep-24 Implied EV/NSV (x)	4.5
Terminal growth rate (%)	6.0
WACC	10.3
Terminal FCF multiple (x)	
No. of shares (mn)	471.0
CMP	1,160
Upside/(Downside)	(31.0)

### **Sensitivity Analysis**

	<u></u>			WACC (%)		
		9.3	9.8	10.3	10.8	11.3
	5.0	806	750	701	657	618
Terminal	5.5	869	802	745	696	652
growth rate (%)	6.0	951	869	800	742	692
	6.5	1,063	955	870	800	741
	7.0	1,223	1,073	961	873	802



# Company profile

Nykaa is India's largest online beauty and cosmetics retailer. It was founded in 2012 by Falguni Nayar. Nykaa has a portfolio of beauty, personal care, and fashion products, including its owned brand products and international products. It also launched physical stores in 2014. The two business verticals it focused on are:

Nykaa: BPC

Nykaa Fashion: Apparel and accessories.

Nykaa Others: EB2B, Nykaa Man, and other growth verticals.

**Online channel:** Its online channels include mobile applications, websites and mobile sites. As of 31 March 2022, Nykaa had cumulative downloads of 72.5mn (47.3 mn in BPC and 25.2 mn in Fashion Verticals) across all mobile applications and, during FY22, 88.9% of online GMV came through mobile applications.

**Offline stores**: Nykaa opened its first physical store in 2014 and, as of 31 March 2022, has 105 physical stores across 49 cities. Its physical stores currently exist in three formats—Nykaa Luxe, Nykaa On Trend, and Nykaa Kiosks.

The company initially started with a focus on premium or luxury brands. Nykaa expanded its business by acquiring 20Dresses.com, a private women's styling platform in May 2019. It launched its first celebrity partnership brand, Kay Beauty. It also acquired the Indian fashion jewelry brand Pipa Bella and the Indian skincare brand Dot & Key in 2021. In 2022, Nykaa acquired an 18.51% stake in skincare beauty brand Earth Rhythm.

### **Key Risks**

Name	Description				
Retaining existing customer and maintaining AOV	The consumer base in BPC market is highly diverse. As a result, the needs and preferences vary. Consumer can be discount-driven, value sensitive, have different preferences and personal requirements, fashion styles or possess a strong preference for luxury high-end products. If the company fails to deliver relevant, engaging products it may fall behind in this important variable which could affect its business.				
Impact on margin and market share	Increasing competition from existing and new emerging companies in the BPC & fashion markets could lead to an increase in customer acquisition cost, which will impact margins or lead to market share loss. It will be a challenge to maintain margin with other emerging subsidiaries in its chain.				
Dependency on fashion segment	For the fashion segment, given its niche positioning, expectations of a significant scale-up are limited. The company believes Nykaa Fashion to be a game changer to its business over time. However, any substantial rise in losses from this division remains a risk.				
Limit in scalability	Nykaa's core business is its premium BPC and fashion market, focused on the premium segment range. For this business to scale up, it has to bring a diverse product portfolio for mass segment, which remains a question over time. This limits the scalability of the business.				



Key personnel

Name	Designation	Description
Falguni Nayar	Managing Director & CEO	Mrs. Nayar holds a post-graduate diploma in management from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. She has over 26 years of experience in e-commerce, investment banking and broking. Prior to founding Nykaa, she was associated with Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Ltd for 18 years, where she also served as a Managing Director. She has won many awards, including 'EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2019 – Start-up' by Ernst and Young and 'Businesswoman of the Year' at the Economic Times Awards for Corporate Excellence, 2019.
Anchit Nayar	Executive Director	Mr Nayar is an Executive Director of the Company since 1 July 2021. He also serves as the chairman and chief executive officer of Nykaa E-Retail. He holds a bachelor's degree from Columbia University. Anchit has previously served as the vice president of the Investment Banking Division at Morgan Stanley, New York. He is currently responsible for the beauty business and also serves as a member of the investor relations team. He joined FSN Brands in 2018 as the chief executive officer and has overseen the expansion of retail Nykaa stores. He was also the chief marketing officer of the Company for the period from May 31, 2020 to January 12, 2021.
Adwaita Nayar	Executive Director	Ms Nayar is an Executive Director of the company since 1 July 2021. She also serves as the chairperson and chief executive officer of Nykaa Fashion. She co-founded the company and has been involved in the areas of marketing, operations and product development. She holds a bachelor's degree in applied mathematics from the Yale University where she graduated Cum Laude and a master's degree in business administration with distinction from the Harvard Business School. Post her academic pursuits, she re-joined FSN Brands in the year 2017 as chief executive officer in FSN Brands to create and strengthen the offline retail footprint of 'Nykaa'. Since 2018, she has established the Nykaa Fashion's business and currently oversees nykaafashion.com as well as many of the company's owned & partner brands.
Arvind Agarwal	CFO	Mr. Agarwal holds a bachelor's degree in commerce from the Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur. He has completed the senior management programme from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. He is an associate member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. He is a qualified company secretary from the Institute of Company Secretaries of India. He has over 21 years of experience in various fields, including accounting, finance, regulatory and strategic planning. Previously, he was associated with Amazon Seller Service Private Limited, Vodafone India Limited, Tata Teleservices Limited, YOU Telecom and Adani Port Limited. He joined the company on 1 June, 2020 as the CFO.
Nihir Parikh	CEO - Nykaa Man	Mr. Parikh holds a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from University of Mumbai and a master's degree in business administration from INSEAD. He has over 11 years of experience in technology and e-commerce sector. Previously, he was associated with Genentech Inc, USA, and GE Healthcare Pte. Ltd. He has been associated with the company since 6 May 2015.
Reena Chhabra	CEO of Private Label Division	Mrs. Chhabra holds a bachelor's degree in arts (general) from Punjab University. She has more than 23 years of experience in the cosmetic industry and e-commerce sector. She was previously associated with Colorbar Cosmetics Private Limited, Hindustan Unilever Limited, Marico Industries Limited, Kodak India Limited, and Eli Lilly Ranbaxy Limited. She has been associated with FSN Brands since 9 May 2016.
Sanjay Suri	CTO, Nykaa E-Retail Pvt. Ltd	Mr. Suri holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics (Honours) from St. Stephens College, University of Delhi and a Master of Science degree in Computer Science from University of California. He has over 14 years of experience in the technology sector. Previously, he was associated with TriVium India Software Private Limited, Ibibo Web Private Limited, Oracle India Private Limited, Info Edge (India) Limited and Amazon Software Development Centre (Bangalore) Private Limited. He has been associated with Nykaa since 17 August 2016.
Shalini Raghavan	Chief Marketing Officer	Mrs. Raghavan holds a bachelor of arts in economics from the University of Madras and a post graduate diploma in management in marketing from Bhavan's SP Jain Institute of Management and Research, Mumbai. She has over 15 years of experience in the cosmetic industry, marketing and e-commerce. Previously, she was associated with L'Oreal India Private Limited, Hindustan Unilever Limited and Britannia Industries Limited. She has been associated with the Company since 12 January 2021.
Vikas Gupta	CEO of e- B2B business	Mr. Gupta holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Delhi and a post-graduate diploma in management from the Indian Institute of Management Society, Lucknow. He has over 23 years of experience in marketing sector. Previously, he was associated with Flipkart Internet Private Limited and Unilever Indonesia. He has been associated with Nykaa since 3 May 2021.
Gopal Asthana	Chief Business Officer of Nykaa Fashion	Mr. Asthana holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Rani Durgavati Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur and a post graduate in management from the Indian School of Business. He is a member of the Council of Chartered Financial Analysts. He has completed the course on 'Competitive Marketing Strategy & Corporate Development: Mergers and Acquisitions' from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. He has over 22 years of experience in retail and e-commerce. Previously, he has been associated with Future Retail Limited, Shoppers Stop Limited. He has been associated with Nykaa Fashion since 11 November 2019.



# **Annexure**

# **Key Milestones**

Year	Events
2012	Incorporation of FSN E-Commerce Ventures Private Limited.
2014	Opened its first physical store at T3 International Airport, New Delhi.
2045	Hosted the Nykaa.com Femina Beauty Awards.
2015	Launched makeup and beauty accessories brand 'Nykaa Cosmetics'.
2016	Estee Lauder Launched on Nykaa's platform.
2016	Launched naturally derived ingredients focused skincare brand 'Nykaa Naturals'.
	Huda beauty Launched exclusively on Nykaa for the first time in India.
2018	Launched 'Nykaa Fashion' as curated and managed marketplace.
	Entered into an agreement with Katrina Kaif to launch 'Kay Beauty'
	Launched beauty range 'Masaba by Nykaa' in collaboration with Masaba Gupta.
2019	Collaborated with Vogue India to present 'The Vogue x Nykaa Fashion: Power List 2019'
	Acquired the clothing brand '20 Dresses'.
2020	Launched own intimate wear brand 'Nykd by Nykaa'.
2020	Charlotte Tilbury Launched exclusively on Nykaa.
	Opened Nykaa Fashion Store in Ambience Mall, New Delhi.
2024	Acquired the jewellery brand 'Pipa Bella'.
2021	Launched first MBO Store for Nykaa Fashion.
	Launched 'The Global Store'.

# **Key subsidiaries**

Subsidiaries	Description
FSN Brands Marketing Private Limited	FSN Brands Marketing Pvt. Ltd. is engaged in beauty and cosmetics products retailing under the brand name Nykaa. It offers body lotions, skin cleansers, hair oils, body scrubs, aloe vera gels for skin, moisturizers, body scrubs, etc. The company was incorporated in 2015 and is based in Mumbai, Maharashtra. FSN Brands Marketing Pvt. Ltd. operates as a wholly-owned subsidiary of FSN E-Commerce Ventures Pvt. Ltd.
Nykaa E-Retail Private Limited	Nykaa E-Retail Pvt. Ltd. owns and operates an e-commerce platform nykaa.com for providing personal care products. Its products include makeup kits, skincare, hair products, appliances, personal care, natural, mom and baby, wellness, men's products and fragrances. It offers products of brands like Maybelline, Lakme, L'Oréal, Biotique, The Face Shop, Nivea, Olay, Kay, Neutrogena, Murad, etc. The company was incorporated in 2017 and is based in Mumbai, Maharashtra. Nykaa E-Retail Pvt. Ltd. operates as a subsidiary of FSN E-Commerce Ventures.
Nykaa-KK Beauty Private Limited	Nykaa-KK Beauty Pvt. Ltd. is engaged in the manufacturing and supplying of personal care products. The company offers products such as makeup, skin products, hair products, personal care, appliances, mom and baby, wellness, fragrance, natural and luxe. It also offers its products using its e-commerce platform. The company was incorporated in 2018 and is based in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
Nykaa Fashion Private Limited	Nykaa Fashion Pvt. Ltd. owns and operates an apparel retailer platform. It offers western wear, Indian wear, bags, shoes, jewellery, lingerie, accessories, kids, men, and luxe accessories. The company was incorporated in 2019 and it is based in Mumbai, Maharashtra. Nykaa Fashion Pvt. Ltd. operates as a subsidiary of Nykaa E-Retail Pvt. Ltd.
FSN Distribution Private Limited (w.e.f. 30 July 2021)	It is involved in other wholesale (including specialised wholesale not covered in any one of the previous categories and wholesale in a variety of goods without any particular specialisation).
FSN International Private Limited	It is involved in non-specialised retail trade in stores.
Dot and Key Wellness Pvt. Ltd.	Dot and Key Wellness Pvt. Ltd. (formerly known as Dot and Key Wellness LLP) is engaged in the manufacturing and retailing of personal care products. It offers skincare hydrating creams, sunscreen lotions, facial serums, skin hydration creams, etc. It also offers online retailing of its products. The company was founded in 2018 and is based in Kolkata, West Bengal. Dot and Key Wellness Pvt. Ltd. operates as a subsidiary of FSN E-Commerce Ventures Ltd.



# **Financials**

T	C	
Income	Statement	•
HICOHIC	Diatement	

Year End (March)	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
Net Revenues	5,560	11,114	17,675	24,409	37,739	51,426	69,757	92,564
Growth (%)		99.9	59.0	38.1	54.6	36.3	35.6	32.7
Material Expenses	3,808	6,603	10,142	14,926	21,300	28,863	38,885	51,285
A&P Expense	669	1,428	2,022	1,695	4,781	6,495	8,629	11,184
Fulfilment expenses	493	1,074	1,730	2,177	3,956	4,741	6,083	7,807
Employee Expense	388	1,173	1,956	2,330	3,259	4,491	6,093	8,050
Rent Expenses	31	24	66	83	106	145	279	370
Other Expenses	265	607	949	1,632	2,704	3,649	5,175	6,481
EBITDA	(94)	205	811	1,567	1,633	3,043	4,612	7,386
EBITDA Growth (%)		(317.3)	295.2	93.3	4.2	86.4	51.6	60.1
EBITDA Margin (%)	(1.7)	1.8	4.6	6.4	4.3	5.9	6.6	8.0
Depreciation	57	309	595	716	964	1,281	1,680	1,726
EBIT	(151)	(104)	215	851	668	1,762	2,932	5,660
Other Income (Including EO Items)	0	50	103	118	270	391	617	717
Interest	83	263	443	307	465	641	850	1,061
PBT	(234)	(317)	(124)	661	473	1,512	2,699	5,317
Total Tax	(57)	(72)	39	45	60	302	679	1,338
PAT before share of associate earnings	(177)	(245)	(163)	616	413	1,209	2,020	3,978
Share of associate earnings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RPAT	(177)	(245)	(163)	616	413	1,209	2,020	3,978
Exceptional Gain/(loss)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adjusted PAT	(177)	(245)	(163)	616	413	1,209	2,020	3,978
APAT Growth (%)		38.6	(33.4)	(477.3)	(33.0)	192.9	67.0	97.0
Adjusted EPS (Rs)	(0.4)	(0.5)	(0.3)	1.3	0.9	2.6	4.3	8.4
EPS Growth (%)		38.6	(33.4)	(477.3)	(33.0)	192.9	67.0	97.0

Source: Company, HSIE Research

# **Balance Sheet**

Year End (March)	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
SOURCES OF FUNDS								
Share Capital - Equity	95	142	146	151	474	474	474	474
Reserves	(161)	2,163	3,076	4,749	12,925	14,134	16,154	20,133
Total Shareholders' Funds	(66)	2,306	3,221	4,899	13,399	14,608	16,628	20,607
Minority Interest	-	5	7	8	56	56	56	56
Long Term Debt	347	1	2	17	9	9	9	9
Short Term Debt	679	2,254	2,673	1,858	3,321	3,321	3,321	3,321
Total Debt	1,026	2,256	2,675	1,875	3,330	3,330	3,330	3,330
Lease Liabilities	-	848	1,450	1,452	2,596	4,450	6,304	8,159
Net Deferred Taxes	-	-	3	247	22	22	22	22
Other Non-current Liabilities & Provns	-	275	471	850	2,889	2,889	2,889	2,889
TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDS	960	5,690	7,827	9,332	22,292	25,356	29,230	35,063
APPLICATION OF FUNDS								
Net Block	203	535	841	921	2,032	2,370	2,616	2,785
CWIP	-	3	8	20	98	98	98	98
Other Non-current Assets	57	1,489	2,097	2,274	4,342	6,108	7,875	9,641
Total Non-current Assets	260	2,028	2,946	3,215	6,471	8,576	10,589	12,524
Inventories	946	2,446	4,453	4,981	8,756	11,227	14,656	18,941
Debtors	677	579	984	766	945	1,570	1,919	2,547
Other Current Assets	303	1,202	1,067	1,568	7,617	4,837	5,568	6,070
Cash & Equivalents	17	1,502	1,794	2,490	2,670	8,390	8,942	11,367
Total Current Assets	1,943	5,729	8,299	9,805	19,989	26,025	31,085	38,924
Creditors	787	1,818	3,133	3,162	3,621	8,454	11,371	14,962
Other Current Liabilities & Provns	455	249	285	526	548	791	1,072	1,423
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	1,242	2,067	3,418	3,688	4,168	9,244	12,444	16,386
Net Current Assets	701	3,662	4,881	6,117	15,821	16,780	18,641	22,539
TOTAL APPLICATION OF FUNDS	960	5,690	7,827	9,332	22,292	25,356	29,230	35,063
Source: Company HSIF Research								



# **Cash Flow Statement**

Year ending March	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
Reported PBT	(234)	(317)	(124)	753	473	1,512	2,699	5,317
Non-operating & EO Items	0	32	(24)	172	58	(391)	(617)	(717)
Interest Expenses	83	263	443	307	465	641	850	1,061
Depreciation	57	309	595	671	835	1,281	1,680	1,726
Working Capital Change	(445)	(1,284)	(786)	(273)	(4,649)	4,760	(1,309)	(1,472)
Tax Paid	-	-	(43)	(132)	(722)	(302)	(679)	(1,338)
OPERATING CASH FLOW (a)	(539)	(997)	62	1,498	(3,540)	7,501	2,624	4,576
Capex	(144)	(1,618)	888	(437)	(1,448)	(870)	(915)	(964)
Free Cash Flow (FCF)	(683)	(2,615)	949	1,062	(4,988)	6,631	1,709	3,612
Investments	-	(2)	(739)	(897)	(4,746)	-	-	-
Non-operating Income	0	1	1	36	166	391	617	717
INVESTING CASH FLOW (b)	(144)	(1,620)	149	(1,297)	(6,028)	(479)	(298)	(246)
Debt Issuance/(Repaid)	693	2,562	1,153	46	1,195	(641)	(850)	(1,061)
FCFE	10	(54)	2,103	1,107	(3,793)	5,990	859	2,552
Share Capital Issuance	-	7	5	6	8,727	-	-	-
Dividend	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	(211)	(471)	(429)	(652)	-	-	-
FINANCING CASH FLOW (c)	693	2,357	687	(377)	9,270	(641)	(850)	(1,061)
NET CASH FLOW (a+b+c)	10	(260)	898	(176)	(297)	6,381	1,476	3,269
EO Items, Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Closing Cash & Equivalents	17	119	1,756	2,477	2,670	8,390	8,942	11,367

Source: Company, HSIE Research

# **Key Ratios**

	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
PROFITABILITY (%)								
GPM	31.5	40.6	42.6	38.9	43.6	43.9	44.3	44.6
EBITDA Margin	(1.7)	1.8	4.6	6.4	4.3	5.9	6.6	8.0
EBIT Margin	(2.7)	(0.9)	1.2	3.5	1.8	3.4	4.2	6.1
APAT Margin	(3.2)	(2.2)	(0.9)	2.5	1.1	2.4	2.9	4.3
RoE	(784.4)	(21.9)	(5.9)	15.2	4.5	8.6	12.9	21.4
RoIC (or Core RoCE)	(17.6)	(3.1)	5.5	12.3	4.4	7.7	11.8	19.3
RoCE	(17.3)	(1.3)	6.2	10.5	5.2	7.2	9.7	14.8
EFFICIENCY								
Tax Rate (%)	24.4	22.6	(31.5)	6.8	12.7	20.0	25.2	25.2
Total Asset Turnover (x)	5.9	2.7	2.9	3.6	1.9	3.0	3.4	3.9
Fixed Asset Turnover (x)	43.3	20.4	18.6	22.0	19.6	18.4	18.8	19.8
Inventory (days)	62.1	80.3	92.0	74.5	84.7	79.7	76.7	74.7
Debtors (days)	44.4	19.0	20.3	11.5	9.1	11.1	10.0	10.0
Other Current Assets (days)	19.9	39.5	22.0	23.4	73.7	34.3	29.1	23.9
Payables (days)	51.7	59.7	64.7	47.3	35.0	60.0	59.5	59.0
Other Current Liab & Provns (days)	29.9	8.2	5.9	7.9	5.3	5.6	5.6	5.6
Cash Conversion Cycle (days)	44.9	70.9	63.7	54.2	127.2	59.6	50.8	44.1
Net D/E (x)	(15.3)	0.3	0.3	(0.1)	0.0	(0.3)	(0.3)	(0.4)
Interest Coverage (x)	(1.8)	(0.4)	0.5	2.8	1.4	2.7	3.4	5.3
PER SHARE DATA (Rs)								
EPS	(0.4)	(0.5)	(0.3)	1.3	0.9	2.6	4.3	8.4
CEPS	-0.2	0.2	1.0	2.9	2.9	5.3	7.9	12.1
Dividend	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Book Value	(0.2)	5.4	7.1	10.6	28.4	31.0	35.3	43.7
VALUATION								
P/E (x)	(3,017)	(2,178)	(3,270)	867	1,294	442	265	134
P/BV(x)	(7,292)	209	159	107	40	37	32	26
EV/EBITDA (x)	(5,668.2)	2,608.3	660.0	341.5	327.7	175.8	116.0	72.4
EV/Revenues (x)	95.2	47.6	29.9	21.7	14.0	10.3	7.6	5.7
OCF/EV (%)	(0.1)	(0.2)	0.0	0.3	(0.7)	1.4	0.5	0.9
FCF/EV (%)	(0.1)	(0.5)	0.2	0.2	(0.9)	1.2	0.3	0.7
FCFE/Mkt Cap (%)	0.0	(0.0)	0.4	0.2	(0.7)	1.1	0.2	0.5
Dividend Yield (%)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Source: Company, HSIE Research, NOTE: EBITDAM	(%) are on post IND-	AS 116 basi	S					



# 1 Yr Price Movement



# **Rating Criteria**

BUY: >+15% return potential
ADD: +5% to +15% return potential
REDUCE: -10% to +5% return potential
SELL: >10% Downside return potential



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