

An Analytical study of Financial Ratios and their effect in EPS on Cement Companies in India

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ABSTRACT

The cement industry has a massive contribution to India's GDP and infrastructure development. Due to the demand of cement, new companies from outside also started functioning in our country, but these industries face several problems. Companies are closed or merged due to a lack of financial sustainability and capital structure problems. The study is based on the effect of capital structure on shareholder's value. In this study as a researcher, it has been tried to study and find out the relation of ROA, ROE, leverage ratios, and correlation with EPS. The sample size is five companies from the BSE list (Bombay Stock Exchange), and the last five years of data are studied. As the cement industry is capital-centric, this study will help the industry understand the facts that fulfill the financial objectives.

Keywords: Financial sustainability, Leverage, Return on asset, Return on equity.

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INTRODUCTION

Long-term capital decision-making is a very important factor in business decision-making. The capital budgeting procedure is based on long-term investment, which helps determine at what level the company can generate maximum funds at a minimum rate with maximum profit level? Capital budgeting theories also give a brief idea in how much period company gets a return. The capital structure decision helps to identify that how much debt a company has tolerated. The companies arrange long-term capital from two sources: (1) Share capital (2) Debt Capital. In 1958, Miller-Modigliani wrote that firm's value is unaffected due to capital structure decisions. They also suggested that if firms pay the taxes then they can adopt 100% debt finance strategies.

Firm's value in the market is uncertain and volatile. Overture of debt capital can change the market for equity in a different way. Every firm has its proportion of debt ratio that affects the value of firms adversely or favorably even the firm of the same industry level has different proportionate of the debt-equity mix.

After MM approach in 1958, David Durant studied the concept of capital structure and gave two approaches related to capital structure first is the Net Income (NI) Approach, and other is Net Operating Income. In NI

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approach firm can lower its cost of capital which increases the value of the firm. The assumption in this approach is that debt does not affect investors' minds at the time of investment. The second approach was Net Operating Income Approach, in this approach weightage average cost of capital of debt and equity is unvarying for any degree of leverage. Therefore, no optimum level of capital structure.

LITERATURE REVIEW

According to Lim (2012), the way firms generate the money to finance its business operations and how it uses these financing options that he choose to its balance sheet are referred to the firm's capital structure. It symbolizes the total capital in terms of equity -debt blend to finance a firm's operations.

According to Umar (2012), equity and debt are the main financing options used by all firms.

San and Hang (2011) extended that firms' overall operational growth by financing its assets from various sources is the firm's capital structure.

Mehmet and Eda (2009) tested whether aggregate leverages level of the sector and leverages level of sector leader are effective on capital structure decision of selected firms and sector listed in ISE. There was a dependence on behavioral finance as a supplementary approach to traditional finance to capital structure.

Boodho¹ (2009) identified that there has always been disagreement among finance scholars when it comes to the subject of capital structure. So far, researchers have not yet reached an agreement on the optimal capital structure of firms by concurrently dealing with the agency problems.

Iyer and Agarwal (2007) recognized that industry dynamics inhibit optimal capital structure with a single objective of increasing the firm's value. Strebuleav (2007) also found that higher business risk, bankruptcy cost, and lower tax advantage diminish optimal leverage.

Dasgupta and Hilary (2006) resolute on credit ratings and analyst follows up as the influencing factors determining capital structure adjustment, contributing to cost and ultimately the firm's value.

Fakher et al. (2005) provided further substantiation of the capital structure theories about a developing country and examined the impact of the capital market by market's impact a capital structure questions concerning the Libyan business environment.

Keshar and Baral (2004) examined the determinants of capital structure size, business risk, growth rate, dividend payout, debt services capacity, and operating leverage of Nepal Stock Exchange Ltd companies. Eight variables on multiple regression models have been used to determine the influence of defined explanatory variables on capital structure.

Fama Eugene F. (1998) explained the two internal rates of return for the non-financial sector. The return on the cost of their investment and on the cost delivered on the investment outlays. The return on the value is an overall cost of capital i.e return on the investment required by the capital market. The estimate of the corporate cost of capital for 1950–96 is 10.72.

Hutchinson Robert W. (1995) argued that a greater emphasis might usefully be placed on the cost of capital dimension in the future research into small business financing. He has also suggested that the

objective of an owner-manager is to control the firm, the interdependent investment, and financing strategies may be chosen to control the cost of capital of small firms.

Singal and Mittal (1993) identified that asset mix, business risk, growth rate, earning rate, industry class, debt services capacity, and corporate size are the important factors of shareholders' wealth maximization.

Asquith and Mullin (1986); Baker and Wurgler (2002); Jung, Kim, and Stulz (1996); Mickelson and Partch (1989); and Marsh (1982) recognized that firms have a preference to issue equity rather than debt when stock prices are high.

Venkatesan (1983) researched the determinants of financial leverage by analyzing the relationship between seven different variables and the financial structure of the firms. The variables included industry group, size, operating leverage, debt coverage, cash flow process, business risk, and growth rate. Industry influence has been examined on the grouping of firms in various leverage segments and he found a statistical association between industry class and leverage, but the relationship could not be significant and conclusive. The impact of the independent variables on the dependent variable was tested in 2 samples classification, viz. intra-industry with the use of multiple regression analysis and inter-industry with the use of multiple regression analysis. In summation, only the debt coverage ratio was found to be the important variable that significantly affects the firms' financial structure.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Method

Descriptive

Data Collection Methods

The data required for this analysis is secondary in nature which is collected from the official websites of companies, journals, and articles published by the various research organization.

Sampling Technique

Convenience Sampling

Sample Size

There are approx. 20 major cement companies listed in the Bombay Stock Exchange. The researcher selected only 5 companies for study as a sample. The study is done for 5 years 2012–2017 based on market capitalization.



Objectives of Research

- To identify the optimum capital structure of cement companies.
- To analyze the effect of leverage on shareholders wealth.

Statistical Tools

The general form of the panel data model can be specified more compactly as follows:

$$Y_{it} = \alpha + \beta X_{it} + u_{it}$$

The subscript "i" represents the cross-sectional dimension and t denotes the time-series dimension. The left-hand variable Y_{it} represents the dependent variable in the

model, and X_{it} contains the set of independent variables in the estimation model, is taken to be constant overtime 't' and specific to the individual cross-sectional unit 'i'.

$$EPS = \beta_0 + \beta_1 ER + \beta_2 DR + \beta_3 LR + \epsilon$$

Where;

EPS = Earnings per share

$\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3$ = Model coefficients

ER = Equity ratio (total equity divided by total asset).

DR = Debt ratio (total long-term debt divided by total asset)

LR = Leverage Ratio which debt to equity

E = Error term

Table 1: Descriptive statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation	Variance
ER	5	.52	.97	.6920	.17079	.029
DR	5	.00	.12	.0496	.05046	.003
LR	5	.00	.29	.1170	.12814	.016
EPS	5	1.80	27.80	12.8280	11.50817	132.438
Valid N (listwise)	5					

Standard deviations of ER, DR, and LR are 0.17, 0.05, and 0.12, respectively. Mean of ER, DR, LR are 0.69, 0.04, 0.11 respectively. The lowest point of Equity Ratio is 0.52 to 0.97.

Table 2: Correlation

		EPS	ER	DR	LR
EPS	Pearson Correlation	1	-.539	-.023	.059
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.349	.970	.924
	Sum of Squares and Cross-products	529.752	-4.236	-.054	.350
	Covariance	132.438	-1.059	-.013	.088
	N	5	5	5	5
ER	Pearson Correlation	-.539	1	-.511	-.556
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.349		.379	.330
	Sum of Squares and Cross-products	-4.236	.117	-.018	-.049
	Covariance	-1.059	.029	-.004	-.012
	N	5	5	5	5
DR	Pearson Correlation	-.023	-.511	1	.989**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.970	.379		.001
	Sum of Squares and Cross-products	-.054	-.018	.010	.026
	Covariance	-.013	-.004	.003	.006
	N	5	5	5	5
LR	Pearson Correlation	.059	-.556	.989**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.924	.330	.001	
	Sum of Squares and Cross-products	.350	-.049	.026	.066
	Covariance	.088	-.012	.006	.016
	N	5	5	5	5

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Hypotheses

The following hypotheses have been developed for testing.

- **H₁**: There is a negative relationship between the equity ratio and earnings per share.
- **H₂**: There is a positive relationship between the earning per share and debt ratio
- **H₃**: There is a positive relationship between the debt to equity ratio and earnings per share.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

In Table 1 it is identified that the standard deviation of EPS is 11.5 which is high itself, so it is concluded that EPS of cement companies varies in nature. Similarly, variance is 132.438. EPS ranges from 1.80 per share to 27.80 per share.

The correlation Matrix in table2 shows that EPS has a positive correlation with Leverage Ratio 0.059, this is not a big figure, but it is positive, which means a change in leverage will change in EPS. The correlation with EPS with ER is -0.539 and EPS with DR is -0.023, with ER and DR EPS have a negative correlation.

Regression Model Analysis

Multi regression analysis is based on independent and dependent variable EPS (dependent), and ER, DR, LR are the independent variable. R square value is 0.516 which denotes about 51.6% of observed unpredictability in EPS can be explained by the differences in the independent variables. The other 48.4% variance in EPS depends on other factors. Further, negative beta coefficient ER(-.579), DR(-2.688) reflect that if equity ratio and debt ratio both increase, then EPS will increase; on the other hand beta coefficient is positive for leverage ratio (2.396) means an increase in LR will increase in EPS.

Hypothesis Test

<i>Hypothesis</i>	<i>Beta Coefficient</i>	<i>Result</i>
H1	-.579	ACCEPT
H2	-2.688	REJECT
H3	2.396	ACCEPT

Table 3: Model Summary

<i>Model</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>R Square</i>	<i>Adjusted R Square</i>	<i>Std. Error of the Estimate</i>
1	.718 ^a	.516	-.935	16.00939

a. Predictors: (Constant), LR, ER, DR

Table 4: ANOVA^a

<i>Model</i>		<i>Sum of Squares</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>Mean Square</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Sig.</i>
1	Regression	273.451	3	91.150	.356	.808 ^b
	Residual	256.300	1	256.300		
	Total	529.752	4			

a. Dependent Variable: EPS

b. Predictors: (Constant), LR, ER, DR

Table 5: Coefficients

<i>Model</i>		<i>Unstandardized Coefficients</i>		<i>Standardized Coefficients</i>		<i>Sig.</i>
		<i>B</i>	<i>Std. Error</i>	<i>Beta</i>	<i>t</i>	
1	(Constant)	45.036	46.276		.973	.509
	ER	-38.983	59.568	-.579	-.654	.631
	DR	-612.987	1130.931	-2.688	-.542	.684
	LR	215.146	460.816	2.396	.467	.722

a. Dependent Variable: EPS



CONCLUSION

This research paper is based on the relationship between different financial ratios and these ratios with Earning Per Share. The analysis is based on cement companies in India. The author found that leverage is a very important factor that positively affects the EPS. There is a negative correlation between ER and EPS; DR and EPS, while a positive correlation between LR and EPS. Shareholder's wealth is the most critical factor in today's world.

While testing the hypothesis, H1 and H3 are accepted while H2 is rejected. This shows that when we increase the financial leverage in our capital structure, it will help to increase the shareholder's value. The result of this research does match with the result of Srinivasan N (2013) research report. Further research on this topic will help the industries to analyze the importance of optimum leverage.

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