



9<sup>th</sup> November 2017

**Press Release**

**THE INDIA CEMENTS LIMITED**

**UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR THE II QUARTER AND**

**I HALF YEAR ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017**

The performance of the company can be considered to be satisfactory given the backdrop of very tough market conditions, severe competition and increase in input cost. While the economy is yet to get over the impact of the roll out of GST from July'17, the regulatory conditions of RERA together with the latent effect of the demonetisation had its toll on the construction and reality sector. Added to this, the severe shortage in the availability of river sand in Tamil Nadu also contributed its mite for the poor demand during the period under review.

While there are no official figures available about the cement industry, production, etc. as per the information published by DIPP, the low consumption saga of cement continued with negative growth of around 2% in the first half of this year on an all India basis. As earlier mentioned, with a huge capacity over hang, the cement industry in south continued to reel under pressure with a lower capacity utilisation. With the backdrop of negative growth of 3% in the market, the selling prices of cement in the south during the quarter was also subject to fluctuation resulting in the NPR going down by 4%.

## **Company Performance- Highlights of performance II Quarter:**

The financial statement for the II quarter and for the half year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017 include that those of the merged entities of Trinetra Cement Ltd. and Trishul Concrete Products Ltd. However, the figures for the corresponding quarter of the previous financial year and half year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September'16 do not consider those of the merged entities and they are not strictly comparable.

- The overall volume during the quarter including exports was 27.01 lakh tons.
- As already mentioned, the net plant realization had taken a hit of 4% as compared to the first quarter of this year on a sequential basis.
- The usage of petcoke was maintained at 81% for the half year in the overall fuel mix but the price of Petcoke had gone up steeply resulting in increased power and fuel cost.
- The higher input cost and lower NPR had resulted in a lower EBIDTA of Rs.188 crores for the quarter.
- The interest and other charges were at Rs. 89 crores for the quarter and depreciation at Rs.66 crores resulting in a profit before tax of Rs.36 crores for the quarter. For the half year, profit before tax was Rs.77 crores.

- The provision for taxation by way of current/deferred tax was at Rs.12.5 crores for the quarter resulting in a profit after tax of Rs.24 crores.

The above results were recorded by the Board of directors at the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

### **OUTLOOK:**

Global agencies have predicted a revival in the economic growth after the GDP growth slumped to 5.7% in the I quarter of this year. The reports of normal rainfall during the south west monsoon together with the forecast of good rainfall during the north east monsoon augur well for the revival of the rural economy.

The recently announced mega road building programme to construct 34,800 km of highways is also expected to stimulate the economy and give a fillip to cement consumption in the coming years. It is also hoped that the situation of shortage of river sand availability in Tamil Nadu will sooner or later ease out paving way for growth in the construction industry.