

August 18, 2025

To,
The Manager (Listing),
The BSE Limited
Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers,
Dalal Street,
Mumbai – 400 001
Script Code: 532683

To,
The Manager (Listing),
National Stock Exchange of India Limited
"Exchange Plaza", C-1, Block – G,
Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E)
Mumbai – 400 051
Script Code: AIAENG

Dear Sir/Madam,

Sub: Transcript of the Investors' Conference Call held on August 13, 2025

Pursuant to Regulations 30 and 46(2)(oa) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, please find enclosed herewith the Transcript of Conference Call held between the Company and Investors on Wednesday, August 13, 2025 to discuss the Unaudited Financial Results and performance of the Company for the Quarter ended 30th June, 2025.

The aforesaid transcript is also being hosted on the website of the Company, www.aiaengineering.com in accordance with the Regulation 46 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.

Kindly take the same on record.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,
For AIA Engineering Limited



S. N. Jetheliya Company Secretary

Encl.: As above

CIN: L29259GJ1991PLC015182

An ISO 9001 Certified Company

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"AIA Engineering Limited Q1 FY '26 Earnings Conference Call" August 13, 2025

MANAGEMENT: MR. SANJAY MAJMUDAR - NON-EXECUTIVE, NON-INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR - AIA ENGINEERING LIMITED MR. KUNAL SHAH – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – CORPORATE AFFAIRS – AIA ENGINEERING LIMITED

Moderator:

Ladies and gentlemen, good day, and welcome to AIA Engineering Limited Q1 FY '26 Earnings Conference Call. As a reminder, all participant lines will be in the listen-only mode



and there will be an opportunity for you to ask questions after the presentation concludes. Should you need assistance during this conference call, please signal an operator by pressing star then zero on your telephone. Please note that this conference is being recorded.

I now hand the conference over to the management. Thank you, and over to you, sir.

Kunal Shah:

Thank you so much, moderator. A very warm welcome to everyone. This is Kunal. And as always, I've got Sanjay bhai on the call here with me, and both of us will walk you through the results for the first quarter of financial year '25-'26 and a broad update on the business. I will start with headline numbers for the business for this quarter and then we'll get into Q&A.

We produced 59,500 tons, and we sold 60,156 tons in the quarter. This is flat as compared to first quarter last year. And from a sales standpoint and compares to 68,000 tons that we did in the fourth quarter last year.

This translates to about INR1,026 crores of revenue and a realization of about INR170 per kilo. We've got INR12.93 crores of other operating income, which includes export benefits and another INR108 crores of non-operating income and all of that translating to an EBITDA of about INR420.39 crores at 40.46% EBITDA and a profit after tax of INR305 crores. That compares to INR259 crores of PAT in first quarter last year and INR285 crores in the sequential fourth quarter of last year.

Moving on our other income of INR108 crores includes INR88 crores of treasury income, which is up from INR73 crores from first quarter last year and INR73 crores of fourth quarter last year. There is a INR19 crores foreign exchange income, both combined taking the non-operating other income portion to INR108 crores.

Working capital largely continues on track. There's a slight increase in finished goods. It's flat -- it's broadly flat. Raw material has slightly reduced. Receivable remains flat. So overall, working capital in line with every quarter.

From a tonnage standpoint, again, flat number is comparable to first quarter, 36,000-odd in mining and 23,000-odd in non-mining, which is cement and utilities for a total of 60,000 tons, almost in line with the first quarter last year. A 10,000-ton reduction in mining volume compared to fourth quarter and a slight increase in the non-mining portion.

Our net cash stands at INR4,083 crores. Our investment plan for this year, we've spoken about plants in China and Ghana. Both those plants are in -- we are looking to acquire land, we are applied for all sorts of permissions.

I think end of next quarter or the quarter within the next 2 quarters, we'll share more updates on, because it's our first time going out sort of India, and we are learning the procedures for both planned acquisition as well as various preproduction approvals and both appear to be a little long drawn than what we had originally estimated.



So for now, we continue with both the plants, and we'll share a little more light about what we are doing with that in next 1 or 2 quarters. Apart from that, we are continuing to make a small investment in renewable power.

We are at about 38 megawatts as of date, and we are adding another 60-odd megawatt, taking it to about 100 megawatt-plus and when all of it gets commissioned in next -- in this fiscal year, almost 55% of our power will come from green sources, from renewable sources. So we are very proud of that of not only achieving the green milestone for our energy consumption, but also helping us in reduced cost on that account.

We'll be doing in addition to that for the rest of the year, and I'm not still sharing the number for what I'll be spending for our plants outside of India as far as capex is concerned. But outside of that, we expect about INR50 crores of non-general maintenance, some land, some warehouse, all of that and about INR40 crores for the renewable -- balance part of the renewables.

So about INR100 crores spend in addition to anything that we spend on China and Ghana is a capital protection for this year. Lastly, one good news came this quarter was related to the Brazil sunset review where the department has reduced the CVD component.

The antidumping portion of it got discontinued because the total duty was 11.8% CVD and the antidumping portion, antidumping got terminated, and the CVD portion is now down from 6.5% to 2.9%. Total duty now on antidumping account is at 2.9%.

That's a big relief and validation of what we've been telling not only authorities in various countries, but also our customers that we absolutely follow fair pricing strategy and open pricing practices. And that's something that it's taken a lot of effort to put things in perspective to make sure that the case is heard appropriately.

And the same thing is what we're doing with other jurisdictions where there is some sort of conversation on the duty front. The U.S. antidumping stands at 9.8%, 10.07%, about 10%. But of course, there is a much larger from tariffs that we fall under the -- all of us will take 50% duty if it continues as it is.

To that extent, there is some uncertainty on the U.S. accounts, but we are in discussions with all our customers. As we speak, most part of our volume in U.S. continues. Customers want an alternate source for this product.

So beyond that, beyond customers telling us will continue for near term, we may not be able to share more commentary as we speak. We would rather wait and watch, see where this settles down and have a little better view on what happens to our U.S. business...

Sanjay Majmudar:

Just to add just to add this 50% duty that we are currently paying is nothing to do with the recent reciprocal tariff announced by the U.S. President, Mr. Trump. This was already applicable to us earlier under Section 232 from January, I think from February, initially 25% and then about one month ago increased to 50%.



So I mean just to clarify, this has nothing to do with the current new wave of tariffs, we just -because this we were anyway paying, customers are paying even as on today, this duty plus this 10-odd percent antidumping, which Kunal talked about and the supplies continue.

Kunal Shah:

Exactly. I think Sanjay bhai any other updates you want to share.

Sanjay Majmudar:

Sure, okay. Of course, pre-empting a common question that how do you look at this current scenario? Because we have been doing around 60,000-odd tons of sales, we did about 250,000 tons, 255,000 tons last year. What could be the outlook for this year, etcetera. Pre-empting those questions, I want to just make it very clear that as we had indicated even in the last call, we are absolutely clear and bullish on the prospects of conversion for the large number of mills that we are looking at from the forged to our high chrome solutions.

With this and tremendous work even in terms of re-strategizing our whole approach has gone into it. We are working with a very large number of mining customers right now at a fairly advanced stage of negotiation. And we do expect quite a bit of conversion-related news to start coming in the coming quarter.

Therefore, from a very clear-cut management standpoint, we are not at all worried and we do expect to return back to a decent level of volume growth from the next fiscal. Having said that, this process is taking a lot of time. And therefore, this year, we feel that we might still end up the current fiscal year with a near flat situation. However, maybe next one or two quarters, lot of things are happening, and we'll be able to give some clarity.

But as we speak, we are very clear. We don't see any structural issue. It's just a re-strategizing and now, again, going back on the track of normal growth, which we expect to start coming from next fiscal with complete clarity. This fiscal we want to wait and watch for maybe one or two quarters. But we are still -- our target is to see what growth we can achieve over last year, but we have no certainty or clarity, and therefore, we are not giving any specific growth guidance for this year.

I think with this, I'll request the moderator to open the house for Q&A.

Moderator:

Thank you. The first question comes from the line of Bhoomika Nair from DAM Capital. Please go ahead.

Bhoomika Nair:

Yes, you mentioned in the end that there would be kind of a flattish volume. I remember that in the previous call, we had mentioned about some growth and the benefits of the conversion efforts that we have taken to kind of start playing out sometime in this year, at least. So in...

Sanjay Majmudar:

I reiterated that, I'm sorry, I'm interrupting you. I said, we are not giving any specific guidance about the growth in this year and our targets. And I said that we'll probably come back to you by end of Q2, let us see. We have not said that nothing will happen, but lot of efforts are going on, and I wanted to clarify that 100% from next year, we are on track. This year we are waiting little bit more for a few outcomes.



Bhoomika Nair:

Okay. Okay. Fair point. From a U.S. perspective, given that there will be the 50% duty, do you

think our volumes will be at risk if it were to come to play?

Kunal Shah:

Can you repeat last part? I couldn't hear.

Bhoomika Nair:

I was saying that if the 50% tariff was to come into play as anticipated, assuming no relief on that aspect for a minute, would that mean that our volumes would get impacted out there on

the U.S. bit of volume?

Sanjay Majmudar:

No. So Bhoomika, as I clarified two things. One, this last round of 50% is reciprocal tariff and not sectoral. Sectoral tariff was in February, it was increased to 25%, the whole world knows. Correct.

Bhoomika Nair:

Yes, yes.

Sanjay Majmudar:

Today also my clients, my customers are paying 50% sectoral plus 10% CVD and they're continuing mine. Obviously, the negotiations around the corner, will this continue and whether a part of it you will bear or not. So that is a continuous dialogue, which our salespeople are doing. And therefore, our supply as we see continue to go a little halting, but they continue. Nobody has said we will not continue.

The people are also in the hope sooner rather than later there will be some -- we were noting of BTA happening. People were hopeful that in BTA the tariff will come to a reasonable level. As we all know, the whole world knows, this has now become a little political, more political rather than really economically, the rational decision-making process does not make any sense. But as we speak, people are saying, that's all I can say at this point in time.

Bhoomika Nair:

Okay. Fair point. Understood. So the other thing is in terms of our China and Ghana, you mentioned that there are -- it is taking a little longer than anticipated because of the approvals, etcetera, and land acquisitions as such. So what would be a reasonable time line to look at for -- if I understand correctly, China will be first operational followed by Ghana. What would be the right time line to look at for that plant to be operational?

Kunal Shah:

That's what I shared that our hope was to start with that initial land and approval this quarter, it looks like it's a little -- it's much longer drawn out than what we had imagined, right? It's our first time going in there, which is where it looks like we will -- I'll be able to share a plan, hopefully, next quarter or fair chance it goes to the quarter after that.

And which will be exactly what happened. I can't share 12 months from approval and the approval is maybe 15 months away, right? So just give us a quarter more, we'll share a little more idea actual our teams out there, lot of work is going on, so that work in progress is there.

Bhoomika Nair:

Okay. Fair point. Lastly, if I look at the margin profile this quarter has been quite healthy. So anything that you can call out in terms of what attributed to this margin being sharply up?

Sanjay Majmudar:

Okay. So Bhoomika, one, if you knock off the treasury income, gain of INR19-odd crores, we are talking about, about 29% to 30% operating margin, which I definitely agree that this is



slightly on the higher side, there are two factors. One tax provision annual 2% it will be more, in this quarter it is less point number one.

Point number two, there is a good, very good product mix that has also given us a tailwind. Now therefore, I would believe that on an operational margin this 29% or 30% cannot be read as a sustainable long term. Of course, we are talking of 23%, 24% as a minimum. I believe we want to stick to that as a very, very sustainable, it should be less than that. We are doing better. I believe we might do better, but let's stick it at that.

Bhumika Nair:

Okay. Fair point. I will come back in the queue then. Thank you so much and all the best.

Moderator:

Thank you. The next question comes from the line of Priyankar Biswas from JM Finance. Please go ahead.

Priyankar Biswas:

Thanks for the opportunity and my first question is again coming back to the -- from the previous questions like -- this very high level of pricing that we are seeing on -- I mean, almost like a INR170 per kg, do you expect that to sustain at least in a very near term, I mean compared to forged it seems to be a very high level of premium. So what is your take on it?

Kunal Shah:

Priyankar I think realization when we have always maintained, it is not just a margin reflector, it's also the product mix that we do in a quarter. You -- there are -- there is also the price pass-through with this quarter has seen freight reduction, some level of freight reduction, some level of raw material reduction.

So some of these costs have reduced, which will get passed on over a period. So two things have happened this quarter, price, product mix leading to a little higher realization and lower cost. And hence, you're seeing that price -- there is an abnormal margin this quarter, which we think will normalize over the next two quarters.

Priyankar Biswas:

Okay, understood. And also, if I may come back, like I remember in the previous calls, you used to highlight like significant opportunities in Latin America, particularly in copper. So what is our progress there currently? I mean what are the states or any prospects that we are looking for near term conversion?

Kunal Shah:

I think we are status quo there like Sanjay bhai was explaining the previous participant, our efforts are on. We are on it. We are making all efforts towards it. We remain excited and confident about it. We hope to get back to growth stage soon. There have been breakthroughs. We are hoping that, that culminates into something meaningful that we can speak about.

We have decided to speak about it after we get that breakthrough rather than positing it about and when and how because it's been deferred for some time. So we are hoping that it converts into a contract and a tangible order and hoping that gate opens up for further volume.

Priyankar Biswas:

Yes, I hope so as well, let's say, within the next couple of years maybe you see some volumes. And just last one question from my side. Previous year in FY '25, in some of the calls, you had mentioned that in certain mining geographies, there were some excess inventory that was there



of grinding media. So that kind of led to sort of a destocking thing. So is it behind us? So has those volumes kind of resumed?

Kunal Shah:

Yes, there are two, three different things that were happening, two customers going to a restocking, they're back to -- that volume looks to be back, that will normalize, yes.

Privankar Biswas:

That's all from my side.

Moderator:

Thank you. The next question comes from line of Devaan Shah from D.D Enterprise. Please go ahead.

Devaan Shah:

Sir, I'm an individual investor. I have some two, three minor queries only. Regarding the cash we are holding on the books, is it for Welcast because the Welcast buyback was not gone through. So any plan to like utilize the same cash, which we are holding on the books?

Sanjay Majmudar:

No, Devaan bhai, I think there is some confusion here. Welcast never had a new buyback, it was a delisting attempt, which was not successful. And that was a very, very insignificant amount actually. So this cash has been conserved for quite some time, considering the fact that we are very, very optimistic about the tremendous growth potential that the business has.

And therefore, given the fact that at any point in time some or the other opportunity could unfold, we are a bit conservative and in the past also we have said that once we believe that the business has all the endeavors that we are giving for growth they are sort of stabilized. We will look at options for reducing the level of cash.

But at this point in time, we agree we are admitting that we are maintaining a little higher level of cash that we want to do so more on a conservative basis given the potential that we have.

Devaan Shah:

Okay. So the other question is -- like can you just tell me like who is going to be over there for next 5 to 10 years for the management controlling because the owner, whose age is very much near to the like retirement or something like that. So is there any follow-on plan also is there like we are going to get it from the management or you're going to get it like professional management outside of the company. So any follow-up plans for that?

Sanjay Majmudar:

Please understand one thing. There is no question of any management outside of the company. We are, in fact, professionalizing this for over last 3, 4 years. There's a very proper succession plan strategy, which is under implementation. The idea is that the whole management and the organization should run quickly on professional ground and all the efforts are on.

So there's no question of any outsider coming and running, etcetera. But, yes, a proper succession plan is under implementation and it will be properly and formally implemented over a period of next 1, 1.5 to 2 years.

Devaan Shah:

Okay. That's all from my side. Thank you.

Moderator:

Thank you. The next question comes from the line of Varun Jain from Dolat Capital. Please go ahead.



Varun Jain:

So my first question was on power and fuel costs. So if I look at your power and fuel cost as a percentage of sales, from FY '20 it was close to 10% and then it has been falling, so FY '22, 9.2% and now FY '25, 7%. So as the renewable power mix increases, where do you think this will settle?

Sanjay Majmudar:

Renewable, see, at this point in time, we are, I think, about 35% -- 30% to 35% as the renewable level in terms of our actual credit that we are getting in terms of generation through wind and solar in our billing. We are investing about -- we are putting another 100 -- total 60-plus megawatts, which will take us to about 100 megawatts. So according to me, there should -- there is a very decent scope of further reduction. It should settle 7%, 7.5%.

Varun Jain:

Sir, 7% already in FY '25 only you reach. So it should go close to 5.5% or 6%, right, in the next two years?

Sanjay Majmudar:

Yes. It should reduce further. It will reduce further. There will definitely be savings and you can take around 6% to 6.5%, you're right.

Varun Jain:

Okay. And my next question was, so your -- in this quarter, the margins were very good. One of the reasons you told us was that product mix favoured realizations and the freight cost was low, but was there also a raw material cost impact, like, ferrochrome or alloys you got at a cheaper price?

Sanjay Majmudar:

As always versus 100% pass-through. So you are very right. In a given quarter, if the prices have gone down, but our sales realizations are as per the previous agreed level, there would be a different push up on the margin. However, in the next quarter, so I explained to Bhoomika one of the earlier participants that yes, there are two factors. One is the knockoff, this other income, treasury income, etcetera. So it around 30% at the operating level EBITDA, correct.

Now that is slightly higher than what we normally will do at about 27%-odd. That is what the run rate with which we have been generally reporting. There are two, one is our tax rate this quarter, if you have seen, it's about 20% against normally about 23%, 20.8%. So at PBT level -- PAT level you will see impact.

Second, there is a very clear-cut strong tailwind of the product mix. So the bigger castings as we call them, its dispatch comes more and they are very profitable. So therefore, there is a little bit of a push. And then as Kunal explained, there will be a pass-through effect, which will come in the next quarter, which will normalize. So if you see according to that, so we are okay. We should look at the normal level of margin only rather than extrapolating this.

Varun Jain:

Okay, sir. Got it. And my last question was, you have given some light on this, that you lost I think 30,000 tons of destocking volumes were lost. So you said there were some recoveries out of that 30,000 tons. How much have you recovered?

Kunal Shah:

But, 30,000 tons was not a destocking account. There was one customer where we lost some volume. It was -- I think we will not be able to break down every single customer that way. But the destocking that customer is back up, the volume is back up now. Then there was a 8,000 tons, 10,000 tons, I think, 7,000 tons, 8,000 tons, 10,000 tons difference on that account.



There were other customers who have reduced purchases on that account. I'm not sure what is the current level there. But the billing process changed related to that one customer that's back to regular invoicing. So that will reflect full year, will be the full potential, that reduction has been made.

Varun Jain: Okay, sir. Thank you and all the best.

Kunal Shah: Thank you.

Moderator: Thank you. The next question comes from the line of Bhavin from SBI Mutual Fund. Please

go ahead.

Bhavin: Hi. Good evening, Kunal. Good evening, Sanjay Bhai.

Kunal Shah: Yes, sir.

Sanjay Majmudar: Yes. Good evening.

Bhavin: Could you talk about the mill liners, we commissioned a plan, have you seen stabilization?

How is that ramping up and if you could also talk about, because that would have -- our strategy was to actually first get into the existing customers so that they know AIA, they know

the AIA qualities that cross-sell opportunity was one that would have helped us.

Kunal Shah: Correct. That's true. Beyond the mill liner, as you know, we've also -- the metal mill liner,

we've also added the rubber composite capability. So I think as we went into the space as we understood the overall offering. One is it has taken longer than what we imagined. But having

said that, it has -- this was our time where we have rightsized our offering.

We've done some amount of trials, right? Customer went back and tell your references of this ore, of this metal or for this size of the mill. So a lot of that was, who's going to give us the

first trial. Who's going to allow us a trial that allows us subsequent sale or subsequent size and

con -- ore configuration?

I think that's what has taken us time. I think, so if you -- Sanjay Bhai can speak more, but for today's Board meeting, for example, there was a 2-hour discussion just on the sharpness and the potential for the mill lining solution, right? How it's all coming together. And the solution

is for us to sell liners and grinding media together. So that's the customer we are looking at.

So, there were some customers where we had the chance to sell just lining, but we want to

keep the capacity available because we are fully committed and believe in the solution where disproportionate benefits can accrue by using our design material, our design and our material

of linings along with our grinding media. Both are in sync to actually deliver the full solution

that we are pitching to customers. We are hoping that we have good news to share soon.

Sanjay Majmudar: Just to add to what Kunal said, what we are bringing on table now is something very unique,

which very honestly mining industry has not seen before. And that solution has been already tried and tested in a couple of mines with excellent results. Based on that, we are now

approaching on a combination of a solution which -- where cost becomes, I would say,



secondary or tertiary. Primary, it is the grinding efficiency, the throughputs and how we are doing a combination of different types of liner designs, very unique, which increases the grinding efficiency and the overall benefits which a mine gets is unimaginable. I think that is what is giving us tremendous confidence. Very soon, we should have some very good news to share. That's all I can say at this point in time.

Bhavin: And what would be the utilization of the plant currently?

Kunal Shah: I think we have moved some of Odhav production also onto this plant. But the utilization of

the overall mill lining capacity would still be small. I don't think we will be crossing 30,000 tons. We will still be between 25,000 tons and 30,000 tons for the full year mill liners. And

capacity would be in addition in excess of 70,000 tons, 75,000 tons.

Sanjay Majmudar: 30,000 tons, so both...

Kunal Shah: I mean, Odhav and...

Sanjay Majmudar: It is a little lower than around 40% to 50%.

Kunal Shah: Less than 40%. Yes. Yes.

Sanjay Majmudar: Yes.

Bhavin: 75,000 tons is the capacity and utilization...

Kunal Shah: Yes. For some part of it is fungible, but I would say, we are doing between 25,000 tons and

30,000 tons of 75,000 tons capacity broadly.

Bhavin: Okay. And just to understand directionally how different are the realizations for the mill liners

versus the grinding media?

Kunal Shah: The selling price is, of course, a little more in middle liners, because the cost of the alloy is

different and there is a lot more subsequent effort, right? You need to do drawings, design, people need to travel for that, collect information, make wooden patents, then a sample piece gets made, then a finish rod, then they're post-treatment. So the whole host of investment into patents and the engineering work that needs to be done before and after the product is made, is significantly higher, the cost on us, right? So when you factor all of that, the selling price does go higher than grinding media. But our margin on the selling price, I think, is largely

comparable as a percent -- margin as a percentage is comparable.

Bhavin: Just trying to understand because if you see our weighted average, we've been doing \$1,600,

\$1,700 a ton. So I mean, just to get the differential in terms of realization?

Kunal Shah: But we also do vertical mill parts and that volume also shifts within vertical mill parts also, we

do like six or seven products. So prices vary from -- just to give you a sense from, let's say, INR180 to maybe INR400 a kilo, right? Exactly because we do machining on some parts. There are many other parts where metal dies have to be made or metal fabricated parts have to

be made for the wooden pattern.



So the investment vary and the processing on the material varies and the effort as preproduction varies. So that is where for us, it's sometimes difficult to break apart each piece and add up. And I understand that INR170 is a high figure. But like we said, that reflects a little bit of the higher dollar rupee and the product mix and the margin reflects some part of lower cost also.

Bhavin:

Sure. And when we were looking at the export data country-wise, there was a very sharp drop in the volumes to Australia from 37,000 to 40,000-odd we saw in '22, '23 to all about 15,000-odd us. If you could just help us understand the reason for sharp drop to Australia?

Sanjay Majmudar:

My request is, let us take this off-line.

Bhavin:

Okay. And the -- just last part when you said flattish volumes this year, there was some inventory drawdown that was their inventory correction by the customer, which was there about 8,000, 10,000 which we expect to normalize and there's some increase in the volumes that can happen from the mill liners as we see. And despite that, the flattish volume guidance, is that, I mean, we just want to understand.

Kunal Shah:

Bhavin Bhai, 8 or 10 also is flat for us. The idea is that we have to get to 30,000, 40,000 tons and a 10 or a 15 or a 20 is still not volume increase that excites us. I think Sanjay bhai is without having to nitpick into 5 or 7 or 12, he is just saying flat, saying it will vary your 10,000 tons, something else may go down, something else may come along. Overall this year as we look going forward with new contracts coming in later in the year, factoring all of that, it looks like it will be a flat year. And when you say flat, it will be between minus 5 and plus 15.

Sanjay Majmudar:

Yes, Yes. And I'm very clear I also say that by the end of fiscal quarter, we should have much better clarity on a few large contracts or assignments that we are working. So I think you kindly wait for a quarter more. I think we are working on so many other projects. And with this novel approach, we are getting fantastic results. So it's just a matter of time, very honestly.

That is why we said, otherwise, we would be not in a position to give at least this indication. But I think it was an exciting response that we are getting and hopefully, we should be absolutely on track in terms of normal growth from next year. And definitely, we are targeting some volume growth this year.

Bhavin:

Sure. Yes, thank you so much.

Moderator:

Thank you. The next question comes from the line of Amit Khetan from Laburnum Capital. Please go ahead.

Amit Khetan:

Hi, Sanjay Bhai and Kunal Bhai. So if I -- AIA faced challenges over the last 3, 4 years, right? But if we just look at the industry volumes over the last 5 years, specifically mining, would you have a sense of how much the high chrome industry mining has grown in absolute terms?

Kunal Shah:

High chrome is what our competitors are doing. So volumes in high chrome are largely limited to what both of us are doing, right? I don't know the number on the top of my head, but we'll just have to do that math. There is no new player for sales coming down. Exactly, not.



Amit Khetan:

No, but the competitor would have also gained some share from you, right, by way of in countries where there are duty structures. We are trying to understand how much is in place at the industry level.

Kunal Shah:

What I'm saying is if volume has moved between them to us or ask to them, the industry has remained flat and there has remained still some total of what both of us are doing. That's what we are seeing. So that has grown to expense we have, basically. If we have lost some volume, it's going to then generally, it would have gone to them or there's something the plant has shut or plant has reduced operation to whatever. So the high chrome share is what volume of both of us added up would reflect.

Amit Khetan:

Got it. So broadly over the last 5 years at an industry level has been very limited conversions. Is that what you're trying to see.

Kunal Shah:

Possibly. I mean, that's the total, whatever the math was to, yes.

Amit Khetan:

Okay. Okay. And secondly, when you talk about -- forget about this year, but let's say about on a normal year when you're talking about 25,000 to 30,000, 35,000 conversion, new addition in volumes, how much of that are you factoring in the new conversions? And how much is just a regain of old volume, which now because of...

Kunal Shah:

I think there will -- earth is that given our exposure -- see, we are not per se, a one trick pony. There is one customer, one geography, one product line, right? We are selling to more than 120 countries. We're doing cement and mining. Within mining, we're doing two or three old types. So given all of that, there will always be macro. What we are learning is an always a macro factor that will keep coming along in, putting some headwinds that we need to figure out and work through. So what we are seeing is when we are seeing growth, when we are talking about growth, it is all new conversions from forged to chrome.

Now some volume that's gone away, it will come back. That is basic arithmetic between us and the competitor whatever the macro situation may be. We are not considering that when we're talking about growth coming back, all the growth figures that we want to hopefully share soon.

Sanjay Majmudar:

So just to add, it's a fact that over last few years, you might not have seen a great amount of conversion. This is a function of two, three things. One, to the efficacy of our solution is universally accepted by the customer. There is always a great deal of resistance on their part in converting due to a wide variety of reasons. So what we decided that we must make it so potent that we leave -- that the customer would definitely fall for it. So there is a local factor, there is a local competition.

Today, I'm saying that now with the mining liner related solution plus the DP-related benefit that we are offering, plus a very unique type of grinding media solution that we have got as a package it becomes so compelling that we have started getting very good results. A couple of projects have shown extremely encouraging results and the clients says right now, they are in the process of negotiating some significantly large higher volume of orders, that has given us confidence that we have now approached many mines.



So what is happening is that we have also climbed up the learning curve in terms of our capability and our potential to break into mining based on efficiencies rather than cost. Mining industry, each mine is typically INR50,000 crores kind of a company. For them small volumes or small savings are not relevant. What is relevant is if we offer something which is a game changer, that is where the whole conversion happens. I think we have climbed up to manage curve and it's just a matter of time. We would start seeing definitely better traction in the coming quarters.

Amit Khetan: Got it. Got it. Thank you. That's very helpful.

Moderator: Thank you. As there are no further questions from the participants, I now hand the conference

over to management for closing comments. Thank you, and over to you, sir.

Kunal Shah: Thank you so much. As always, Sanjay bhai and I remain available offline to clarify or speak

on any other questions. Thank you so much, and have a great evening, everyone. Thanks.

Sanjay Majmudar: Thank you.

Moderator: Thank you. On behalf of AIA Engineering Limited, that concludes this conference. Thank you

for joining us, and you may now disconnect your lines. Thank you.