FRIDAY - AUGUST 1 - 2025

Safeguard duty boosts ArcelorMittal JV profits

ROAD AHEAD. Management maintains its bullish stance on India

Abhishek Law New Delhi

India remains a key focus market for global steel giant ArcelorMittal, with the company witnessing a 2.8 per cent rise in sales from its India JV with Nippon Steel to \$1.5 billion in Q2CY25 (April-June), up from \$1.4 billion in the January-March

The EBITDA for the JV, AMNS India, jumped sharply to \$200 million in Q2CY25, up nearly 100 per cent over \$101 million in Q1CY25, primarily due to an increase in average steel prices, supported by safeguard measures introduced during the quarter.

"Steel prices recovered following the introduction of a 12 per cent steel import safeguard duty in April," the company " informed investors.

Production improved 8 per cent-odd to 1,827 kilo tonnes (kt) in the April-June period compared to 1,684 kt in the January-March period.

"EBITDA during Q2 2025 improved significantly to \$200 million compared to \$101 million in Q1 2025,



driven primarily by higher steel selling prices," the company said in its global filings. However, compared to Q2CY24, there was a 16 per cent drop in EBITDA. The EBITDA in the year-ago period stood at \$237 million. The dip in the share of profit from AM/NS India dipped primarily due to lower shipment volumes, down 5.7 per cent.

The management has maintained its bullish stance on India, which it describes as a "structurally highgrowth market" with supportive demand drivers, including infrastructure push and rising per capita steel consumption.

"ArcelorMittal has investments in various joint ventures and associate entities globally....and considers AMNS India (60 per cent equity interest) to be of particular strategic importance," the company told investors.

ANDHRA EXPANSION

The proposed greenfield plant in Andhra Pradesh is moving ahead on schedule. The joint venture has acquired approximately 2,200 acres at Rajayyapeta in Anakapalli district, where a 7.3 million tonne per annum (mtpa) steel plant is coming up in Phase I.

The project entails a capital outlay of ₹55,964 crore (\$670 million) and is expected to be commissioned by January 2029.

Phase II will see an additional 10.5 mtpa capacity, taking total investments to ₹1.35 lakh crore (\$1.6 billion)

A 1-GW hybrid renewable energy project—solar, wind, and hydro—has commenced supply to the Hazira steel plant. Once fully commissioned, it is expected to reduce carbon emissions by 1.5 mtpa and generate \$100 million in incremental EBITDA.

At Hazira, expansion from 9 mtpa to 15 mtpa continues as planned.