Ashiana Housing Ltd — FY 2024 Annual Report Analysis

Annual Report Analysis (Consolidated)

Investor Snapshot

#	Analytical point	Sentiment
1	**Dominant niche player in Senior Living and Kid Centric Homes, leveraging a service-led model to command a 10-15% pricing premium.**	—
2	**Revenue surged 130% YoY to □944 Cr driven by project completions, with average realizations jumping 34% to □6,811/sq. ft.**	—
3	**ROCE improved significantly from 4% to 11%, reflecting enhanced capital efficiency and successful project liquidations.**	—
4	**PAT grew 194% to □83 Cr, though earnings quality is tempered by □16.37 Cr in capitalized interest and □6.76 Cr in legacy asset write-offs.**	—
5	**Strong balance sheet deleveraging with Debt/Equity improving to 0.19x following a □36 Cr debt reduction.**	—
6	**Exceptional cash generation with CFO of □212 Cr (2.5x PAT), underpinned by a massive □1,251 Cr in customer advances.**	—
7	***Execution risk persists as sales bookings (26.4 Lsft) continue to outpace construction progress (20.7 Lsft).***	—
8	***Earnings quality is masked by aggressive interest capitalization, resulting in a 54x P&L interest coverage that exceeds cash reality.***	—
9	***Governance friction identified via 38% KMP pay hikes (12.5% of PAT) and persistent title deed deficiencies for the Saket office.***	—
10	***Regulatory and asset risks are rising, evidenced by a 20x surge in VAT disputes to 8.15 Cr and irrecoverable balance write-offs.***	—
11	**Outlook remains positive with 1.35x revenue visibility from advances and successful geographic de-risking into Pune and Gurugram.**	—
12	**Investment View: ACCUMULATE; monitor Equivalent Area Constructed (EAC) floor of 18 Lsft and potential Bhiwadi land acquisition hurdles.**	—

1. Business overview

- **Business Segments:** Ashiana Housing Ltd (AHL) has transitioned into a niche specialist focusing on **Senior Living (SL)** and Kid Centric Homes (KCH). It is ranked #1 in India for Senior Living for the 8th consecutive year, operating a CCRC (Continuing Care Retirement Community) model.
- **Revenue Drivers:** Primary growth is driven by a **34% YoY surge in average realization** (from □5,080 to □6,811 per sq. ft.), reflecting pricing power in niche segments. Real Estate Completed Units contribute 89.72% of total operations.
- **Cost Drivers:** Construction material consumption (28.35% of revenue) and PRW (Piece Rated Work) charges are key costs. PRW charges increased by 72.62% YoY, signaling labor-intensive finishing stages.
- **Industry Position:** AHL operates as a service-led lifestyle provider rather than a traditional developer, allowing for a **10-15% pricing premium** in the Senior Living segment.

- **Expansion Plans:** Actively de-risking from the Bhiwadi/Rajasthan cluster. **Gurugram** is the new growth engine. Aggressive scouting is underway in Bengaluru, Panvel, and Pune.
- **Capacity & Execution:** Equivalent Area Constructed (EAC) rose to **20.68 Lsft** (up from 16.73 Lsft). Management is targeting 25 Lsft of new launches for FY25.
- **Geographical Presence:** Strong presence in North India (Bhiwadi, Gurugram, Jaipur) with strategic entry into the Western market via *Ashiana Amodh* in Pune.
- **Acquisitions & Pipeline:** Land advances for future projects doubled to □**90.49 Cr**, indicating aggressive pipeline building. Total potential visibility stands at 170-180 Lsft with an estimated booking value of □11,000 - □12,000 Cr.

2. Management commentary & outlook

- Management has explicitly pivoted toward capital efficiency with a long-term target of **15% post-tax ROE**.
- The strategy involves increasing use of **Asset-Light Models** (JDAs) to reduce upfront land costs and improve returns.
- Continued partnership with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) provides institutional validation and access to lower-cost patient capital.
- The demand environment is described as robust, particularly in the "Elite" category in Gurugram, where *Ashiana Amarah* phases saw rapid sell-outs.
- Management identifies **middle-management bandwidth** as the primary bottleneck for multi-city execution, rather than capital or land.
- A "Launch Heavy" FY25 is planned, focusing on maintaining current realization levels while scaling execution to match sales velocity.
- The company is shifting from a construction-centric model to a **service-oriented real estate manager** to protect its niche moat.
- A □**55 Cr buyback** at □301/share was completed, signaling management's confidence in the intrinsic value of the business.
- Management Tone: Management is exhibiting **Strategic Aggression tempered by Operational Realism.** They are leaning into their niche moats (SL/KCH) to drive ROE, but the simultaneous push for higher promoter pay and the persistent (though narrowing) execution gap suggests that the transition from a family-run developer to a professionalized pan-India player is still in its middle innings. ## 3. Financial analysis

3.1 Financial statements

P&L statement (□Cr)

Line item	Mar 2024	Mar 2023
Sales	944	410
Sales Growth %	130.37	84.76
Expenses	847	379
Material Cost %	22	-35
Raw material cost	187	136
Change in inventory	17	-279
Manufacturing Cost %	55	104
Employee Cost %	7	13
Other Cost %	6	11
Operating Profit	97	30
OPM %	10	7
Other Income	23	16
Exceptional items	4.98	1.01
Other income normal	17.74	14.49
Interest	2	3
Depreciation	9	8
Profit before tax	108	34
Tax %	23	19
Net Profit	83	28
Minority share	0	0
Exceptional items AT	4	1
Profit excl Excep	80	27
Profit for PE	80	27
Profit for EPS	83	28
Profit Growth %	194	962
EPS (□)	8.30	2.72
Dividend Payout %	18	18

Balance sheet (□Cr)

Line item	Mar 2024	Mar 2023
Equity Capital	20	20
Reserves	750	739
Borrowings	148	184
Long term Borrowings	128	165
Short term Borrowings	19	17
Lease Liabilities	1	2
Other Borrowings	0	0
Other Liabilities	1,484	1,256
Non controlling int	0	0
Trade Payables	53	37
Advance from Customers	1,251	1,077
Other liability items	180	142
Total Liabilities	2,402	2,200
Fixed Assets	101	74
Land	1.02	1.02
Building	23.21	24.98
Plant Machinery	66.67	42.04
Equipments	0	0
Computers	6.72	5.79
Furniture n fittings	6.83	5.33
Vehicles	6.32	5.45
Intangible Assets	0.87	0.87
Other fixed assets	34.03	31
Gross Block	145.67	116.48
Accumulated Depreciation	44.31	42.55
CWIP	0	3
Investments	108	101
Other Assets	2,192	2,022
Inventories	1,526	1,529
Trade receivables	40	33
Receivables over 6m	16.42	15.82
Receivables under 6m	26.40	21.02
Prov for Doubtful	-2.77	-3.81
Cash Equivalents	231	156
Loans n Advances	25	3
Other asset items	370	302

Line item	Mar 2024	Mar 2023
Total Assets	2,402	2,200

Cash flow statement (□Cr)

Line item	Mar 2024	Mar 2023
Cash from Operating Activity	212	12
Profit from operations	114	53
Receivables	-11	-9
Inventory	3	-282
Payables	18	10
Other WC items	110	246
Working capital changes	120	-35
Direct taxes	-22	-7
Other operating items	0	0
Exceptional CF items	0	0
Cash from Investing Activity	-10	32
Fixed assets purchased	-32	-16
Fixed assets sold	2	1
Investments purchased	0	0
Investments sold	16	36
Investment income	6	6
Interest received	7	5
Other investing items	-9	0
Cash from Financing Activity	-128	-14
Proceeds from shares	0	0
Proceeds from borrowings	0	20
Repayment of borrowings	-34	0
Interest paid fin	-18	-28
Dividends paid	-5	-5
Financial liabilities	-1	-2
Other financing items	-69	0
Net Cash Flow	75	29

Key ratios

Line item	Mar 2024	Mar 2023
Debtor Days	15	29
Inventory Days	2,736	0
Days Payable	95	0
Cash Conversion Cycle	2,656	29
Working Capital Days	190	517
ROCE %	11	4

3.2 Financial analysis summary

- **Revenue** surged by 130.37% to □944.00 Cr, primarily driven by Real Estate Completed Units which contributed □841.73 Cr; this growth is linked to the "point in time" recognition policy where income is only booked upon possession.
- **Operating Profit** margins improved to 10.00% from 7.00% YoY, as Revenue growth significantly outpaced the 15.60% increase in general employee salaries, although Employee Cost % dropped from 13.00% to 7.00% due to massive top-line scaling.
- **Advance from Customers** reached □1,251.00 Cr on the Balance Sheet, representing 1.35x current Revenue and providing high future earnings visibility, which simultaneously fueled a massive CFO of □212.00 Cr compared to just □12.00 Cr in the previous year.
- **Finance Cost** appearing on the P&L Statement at □2.00 Cr is significantly understated relative to the actual cash Interest paid fin of □18.00 Cr in the Cash Flow Statement, because □16.37 Cr of interest was capitalized into land costs, masking the true debt servicing burden.
- **Inventory** remained stagnant at □1,526.00 Cr, but internal composition shifted as "Future Projects - Land" decreased by □68.33 Cr while "Work-in-progress - Land" increased by □89.12 Cr, signaling active conversion of the land bank into developable projects.
- **Trade Receivables** growth of 32.46% (to □40.00 Cr) was well below Revenue growth, leading to an improvement in Debtor Days from 29 to 15, reflecting efficient collections under the "pay-before-possession" model.
- **Bad Debts/Write-offs** saw a concerning spike to □6.76 Cr from □0.23 Cr, which, when linked to the □16.42 Cr in Receivables over 6m, suggests a deterioration in the quality of legacy assets despite strong current collections.
- **Total Debt** decreased to □148.00 Cr from □184.00 Cr, with the company pivoting toward project-specific Unsecured Debentures (□129.25 Cr) which aligns repayments with project cash surpluses rather than fixed bank schedules.
- **ROCE** improved sharply to 11.00% from 4.00% as the company successfully liquidated Inventory and recognized profits from completed cycles, while the Debt/Equity ratio strengthened to 0.19, well within the management's 0.30 ceiling.
- **Capex** of □32.00 Cr in the Cash Flow Statement was directed toward a 58% increase in Plant & Machinery (to □66.67 Cr), supporting the scaling of construction activities, while CWIP was fully cleared to 0.00 Cr.
- **Other Liabilities** spiked by 132% to □34.65 Cr, driven by a surge in VAT Disputes to □8.15 Cr and statutory dues, representing growing regulatory and non-operational financial risks that could impact future Net Profit.
- **Other Assets** include □90.49 Cr in Land Advances (up 100% YoY), indicating aggressive business development, while Statutory Charges Recoverable (GST credits) decreased to □20.13 Cr.

- **Other Income** of ₹23.00 Cr contributed 21% of Profit before tax, with ₹5.05 Cr coming from non-core investment sales and ₹3.53 Cr from fair value gains, slightly diluting the quality of core operational earnings.
- **Net Worth** (Reserves) grew to ₹750.00 Cr, supported by a PAT of ₹83.00 Cr, while the company maintained a Dividend Payout of 18.00%.
- Ashiana Housing demonstrated a high-growth year characterized by massive **Revenue** recognition from project completions and exceptional CFO generation from customer advances, allowing for simultaneous debt reduction and aggressive land pipeline expansion while maintaining a conservative 0.19 Debt/Equity profile.

3.3 Contingent liabilities & commitments

- **VAT Disputes:** Surged 20x to **₹8.15 Cr** (from ₹0.38 Cr), representing a high-severity regulatory risk.
- **GST & Service Tax:** **₹3.39 Cr** (down from ₹4.95 Cr).
- **Provident Fund:** **₹2.36 Cr** (static).
- **Bank Guarantees:** **₹11.70 Cr** for operational requirements.
- **Capital Commitments:** **₹8.40 Cr** (up from ₹2.80 Cr).
- **Land Acquisition:** 15.02 hectares in Bhiwadi under Rajasthan Govt acquisition; currently stayed by High Court but remains a long-term asset risk.
- **Structural Defect Liability:** 5-year liability under RERA for all projects; no specific provision made.

3.9 Earnings quality & forensic checks

#	Check	Impact	Status	Notes detail
1	PAT vs CFO trend	Profit ↑ — cash generation exceeds accounting profit; customer advances of □1,251 Cr drive CFO.	—	Revenue recognized at "point in time" (possession) while cash is collected upfront as advances.
2	Receivables & channel-stuffing signal	Revenue ↑ — efficient collections; receivables + inventory flat while revenue surged 130% YoY.	—	Receivables growth (32%) significantly lags revenue growth (133%), indicating high-quality sales.
3	Revenue timing	Revenue ↑ — high visibility; customer advances of □1,251 Cr represent 1.3x current revenue.	—	Conservative "Point in Time" recognition policy prevents front-loading of profits before project completion.
4	Revenue from related parties %	Neutral — low dependency; no single customer or related party exceeds 10% revenue.	—	Related party transactions primarily involve JV funding and cost recovery, not core revenue.
5	Inventory vs revenue growth	Profit ↑ — inventory liquidation; flat inventory levels despite 130% sales growth improves turnover.	—	Mix shift: Future project land dropped □68 Cr while WIP-Land increased □89 Cr.
6	Inventory valuation method change	Neutral — consistent policy; valuation at lower of cost or NRV remains unchanged.	—	Auditor highlights inventory valuation as a critical estimate due to management subjectivity.
7	Exceptional items in operating profit	Profit ↑ — non-core boost; □4.98 Cr exceptional gain inflates PBT by approximately 4.6%.	—	Exceptional items are excluded from "Profit for PE" calculation to reflect core performance (P&L Table).
8	Depreciation rate vs useful life policy	Profit ↑ — lower charges; useful lives differ from Schedule II based on technical evaluation.	—	Management uses discretionary rates for certain PPE items, though impact is currently immaterial.
9	Provision reversals boosting PAT	Profit ↓ — asset quality risk; □6.76 Cr write-off indicates sudden deterioration of balances.	—	Write-offs partially offset by □4.31 Cr provision charge; suggests previous asset overstatement.
10	Tax rate consistency + cash tax vs P&L tax	Profit ↑ — tax efficiency; effective rate of 22.6% sits below statutory 25.17% rate.	—	Lower rate driven by tax-exempt income and reversal of deferred tax on losses.
11	CWIP age and stalling projects	Neutral — minimal exposure; CWIP reduced to zero as projects moved to WIP.	—	Successful conversion of capital work-in-progress into active project development inventory (Balance Sheet).
12	Deferred tax asset recognition adequacy	Profit ↑ — non-cash gain; reversal of □12.51 Cr DTA signals utilization of losses.	—	Recognition based on "reasonable certainty" of future profits, now validated by current year performance.
13	RPT quantum and trend	Neutral — JV support; □9.08 Cr loan to Kairav Developers JV for general purposes.	—	KMP remuneration spiked 41%, outpacing general employee salary growth of 15.6%.
14	Dividend paid vs FCF adequacy	Neutral — sustainable payout; □5 Cr dividend well covered by □170 Cr Free Cash Flow.	—	Dividend payout remains stable at 18% despite the massive surge in reported profitability (P&L Table).
15	Interest Capitalization Masking	Profit ↑ — deferred expense; □16.37 Cr of interest capitalized into inventory rather than expensed.	—	Masks true interest coverage; P&L coverage of 54x is artificially high.
16	Title Deed Deficiency	Neutral — asset ownership risk; Saket Office title not in company name.	—	Pending ground rent dues by the developer to the DDA.
17	Other Income Quality		—	

#	Check	Impact	Status	Notes detail
		Profit ↑ — non-core contribution; 21% of PBT from non-operational sources.		Includes ₹5.05 Cr profit on sale of investments and ₹3.53 Cr fair value gains.

4. Management & governance

A. Auditor report & key audit matters

- **Audit Opinion:** Unqualified. The auditor confirms the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view in conformity with Ind AS.
- **KAM 1: Revenue Recognition:** Auditor focused on the "Point in Time" method under Ind AS 115. The risk involves the timing of revenue recognition upon possession or offer of possession. Auditor verified the "Offer of Possession" letters and ensured revenue is only recognized when control is transferred.
- **KAM 2: Inventory Valuation:** Auditor reviewed the Net Realizable Value (NRV) of ₹1,526.29 Cr. The concern is the subjectivity of management estimates regarding future selling prices and costs to complete. Auditor performed sensitivity analysis on these estimates.
- **KAM 3: Expected Credit Loss (ECL):** Auditor evaluated the adequacy of the ₹2.77 Cr provision against trade receivables, especially following a ₹6.76 Cr write-off of irrecoverable balances.
- **Auditor Change:** M/s. B. Chhawchharia & Co. continues their 5-year term (appointed Sept 2022).
- **Auditor Fees:** Total fees paid to statutory auditors: ₹0.53 Cr.

B. Related party transactions

Party	Relationship	Nature	Amount (₹ Cr)	Concern
KMP Remuneration	Management	Compensation	10.37 Cr	38.45% YoY increase; outpaces general employee growth.
Kairav Developers Ltd	Joint Venture	Loan Provided	9.08 Cr	New unsecured funding to JV for "General Purpose".
Kairav Developers Ltd	Joint Venture	Investment in NCDs	11.70 Cr	Capital support for JV projects.
OPG Realtors Ltd	Other Related Party	Rent & Purchases	0.79 Cr	Recurring transactions with entity controlled by KMPs.
Joint Ventures	JVs	Establishment Charges	0.56 Cr	Recovery of costs; decreased from 1.22 Cr in FY23.

- **RPT Risk Checks:**
  - % of Revenue: 3.44% (Acceptable).
  - % of CFO: 15.33% (Acceptable, significantly improved from 178% in FY23).
- **Red Flag Filters:**
  - ***Loan to JV:*** The ₹9.08 Cr loan to Kairav Developers for "General Purpose" signals potential cash redirection to support capital-intensive JV projects.
  - ***Title Deed Deficiency:*** Note 23.J reveals the title deed for the Saket Office (₹1.95 Cr) is still not in the company's name due to pending dues by the developer to the DDA.

C. Shareholding

Shareholding pattern	Mar 2024	Mar 2023
Promoter	61.22%	61.22%
FII	4.54%	4.54%
DII	14.86%	14.86%
Public	19.38%	19.38%

- **Pledged Shares:** 0.00% of promoter holding is pledged.

D. Board composition + KMP compensation

- **Total Directors:** 8 | **Independent:** 62.50% | **Women Directors:** 2.
- **KMP Compensation:**
  - **Vishal Gupta (MD):** □2.54 Cr (+38.8%)
  - **Ankur Gupta (Jt MD):** □2.54 Cr (+38.8%)
  - **Varun Gupta (WTD):** □2.54 Cr (+38.8%)
  - **Vikash Dugar (CFO):** □1.83 Cr (+42.97%)
- **Family Analysis:** The three Gupta brothers have identical compensation. Special Resolutions were passed to increase basic salary to □12.50 Lakhs/month each (□1.50 Cr base p.a.) effective April 2024. Total KMP pay (□10.37 Cr) grew 38.45%, trailing the 223% EBITDA growth but outpacing the 15.6% general employee hike.

F. Capital allocation & capex

Action	FY current (□Cr)	FY prior (□Cr)	% of CFO	Signal
Dividends	15.08 Cr	5.00 Cr	7.11%	—
Capex (Fixed Assets)	32.00 Cr	16.00 Cr	15.09%	—
Net Debt Change	-36.00 Cr	10.00 Cr	-16.98%	—
Working Capital Investment	120.00 Cr	35.00 Cr	56.60%	—

- **CFO Coverage of Capex:** Ratio is **6.63x**. CFO (□212.00 Cr) easily covers Capex (□32.00 Cr).
- **Nature of Capex:** Primarily **Plant & Machinery (□66.67 Cr gross block)**, which increased by 58.5%, supporting the 23.6% increase in Equivalent Area Constructed (EAC).
- **Deployment Efficiency:** Revenue grew 130% while Fixed Asset Capex doubled, indicating high deployment efficiency as projects hit handover stages.
- **Key Takeaway:** The company has transitioned to a cash-harvesting phase. **Debt repayment of □36.00 Cr** and a 3x increase in dividends signal a shift toward returning value to shareholders.

H. Risks

- **VAT Disputes:** High Impact. Pending litigation surged 20x to **□8.15 Cr**; potential cash outflow.
- **Title Deed Deficiency:** Medium Impact. Saket office title not in company name; **□1.95 Cr** asset ownership risk.
- **Land Acquisition:** Medium Impact. **15.02 hectares** in Bhiwadi under govt acquisition; impacts future pipeline.

- **Inventory Valuation:** Medium Impact. Subjective NRV estimates for ₹**1,526 Cr** inventory; 1% error = ₹15 Cr PBT impact.
- **Interest Capitalization Masking:** Medium Impact. ₹**16.44 Cr** capitalized into inventory masks true interest coverage and inflates current profits.
- **Asset Quality Deterioration:** Medium Impact. Sudden ₹**6.76 Cr** write-off suggests historical overstatement of financial assets.

5. Scorecard & verdict

Part a: scorecard

Dimension	Rating (1–5)	Delta	Key evidence	One-line rationale
Business quality	5	→	34% realization jump; #1 in Senior Living 8 years.	Strong niche moat with significant pricing power and scalable service-led model.
Financial health	5	↑	D/E 0.19x; CFO ₹212 Cr > PAT ₹83 Cr.	Exceptional cash generation and low leverage provide high financial flexibility.
Earnings quality	3	→	CFO > PAT; but ₹16.4 Cr interest capitalized + ₹6.7 Cr write-off.	High cash quality offset by aggressive interest capitalization and legacy asset write-offs.
Management & governance	3	↓	KMP pay hike 38%; Saket title deed pending.	Strong operational execution offset by high family compensation and minor governance lapses.
Capital allocation & earnings visibility	5	↑	Advances ₹1,251 Cr; ROCE 11% from 4%.	Massive revenue backlog and disciplined debt reduction with improving return profile.

Business positives (for this company this year) * **Exceptional Cash Generation:** CFO of ₹**212 Cr** is 2.5x PAT, driven by ₹1,251 Cr in customer advances. * **Pricing Power:** Average realization surged **34% YoY** to ₹6,811/sq. ft., reflecting the strength of the Senior Living/KCH brand. * **De-leveraging:** Total debt reduced by ₹**36 Cr**, bringing Debt/Equity down to a conservative 0.19x. * **Inventory Liquidation:** Inventory remained flat despite a **130% revenue surge**, indicating efficient asset turnover. * **Market Expansion:** Successful entry into the Pune market and rapid sell-out of Gurugram projects de-risks regional concentration.

Business negatives / concerns (for this company this year) * **Governance Friction:** KMP compensation for the three promoter brothers grew **38.45%**, significantly outpacing general employee hikes. * **Interest Masking:** ₹**16.37 Cr** of interest was capitalized, making the P&L interest coverage (54x) appear much stronger than the cash reality. * **Asset Quality Flags:** A sudden ₹**6.76 Cr** write-off of irrecoverable balances suggests previous overstatement of legacy assets. * **Regulatory Risk:** VAT disputes surged 20x to ₹**8.15 Cr**, representing a significant potential cash outflow. * **Title Deficiency:** The title deed for the ₹**1.95 Cr** Saket Office remains pending due to developer dues, a persistent governance lapse.

Overall scorecard summary Ashiana Housing is in a robust financial position, characterized by "cash-harvesting" from its successful niche pivot into Senior Living and Kid Centric Homes. The company's financial strength is top-tier, with a 0.19x D/E and massive customer advances providing 1.3x revenue visibility. However, earnings quality is slightly clouded by aggressive interest capitalization and legacy write-offs, while governance remains a "monitor" item due to high promoter compensation and minor administrative lapses. Overall, the business is on an **improving trajectory** as it successfully "up-tiers" its brand and scales its asset-light expansion.

Part b: governance check matrix

#	Check	Status
1	Audit opinion clean?	—
2	Promoter pledge = 0?	—
3	KMP pay < 5% of PAT?	—
4	RPT quantum < 5% of revenue?	—
5	Board > 50% independent?	—
6	At least 1 woman director?	—
7	No statutory dues outstanding?	—
8	No fraud reported?	—
9	Audit trail enabled?	—
10	Frequent Auditor change	—

Final line: "Total: 8/10 — Governance Rating: 3"

Part c: investor verdict

Thesis: AHL is a niche-moat specialist successfully transitioning to a high-realization, asset-light model with massive cash-flow visibility. **Overall stance:** ACCUMULATE **Rationale:** Strong pricing power and □1,251 Cr revenue backlog outweigh family-centric governance concerns. **Re-evaluate when:** Equivalent Area Constructed (EAC) falls below 15 Lsft or Debt/Equity exceeds 0.5x. **BULL CASE:** Successful Bengaluru entry and realization hitting □8,000/sq. ft. could drive ROE toward 20%. **BEAR CASE:** Execution delays in Gurugram or adverse ruling on the □8.15 Cr VAT dispute and Bhiwadi land acquisition. **Key monitorable:** Equivalent Area Constructed (EAC): 20.68 Lsft → Watch for < 18 Lsft.

7. Year-over-year analysis

7.1 Changes

Metric / theme	Summary a status	Summary b status	Forensic takeaway
Capital Allocation	Aggressive land banking and WIP build-up (□663 Cr) consuming all operational cash.	Shift to "cash-harvesting" with □36 Cr debt reduction and a □55 Cr share buyback.	Management has pivoted from aggressive inventory accumulation to capital return and deleveraging as projects reach the handover stage.
Margin Trajectory	OPM at 7% with margins inflated by an 83% surge in deferred selling expenses (□79.52 Cr).	OPM improved to 10% driven by a 34% surge in average realization to □6,811/sq. ft.	Realized pricing power in Senior Living is now driving genuine margin expansion, reducing the relative impact of aggressive expense deferrals.
Working Capital	Strained; CFO (□12 Cr) significantly lagged PAT (□28 Cr) due to heavy inventory reinvestment.	Robust; CFO (□212 Cr) is 2.5x PAT, fueled by customer advances reaching □1,251 Cr.	The business has successfully transitioned from a cash-consumptive construction phase to a high-liquidity phase where upfront collections dwarf accounting profits.
Management Tone	Focused on "operational realism" and acknowledging execution/labor bottlenecks.	Focused on "strategic aggression" with a long-term 15% post-tax ROE target and asset-light expansion.	The narrative has shifted from defensive execution management to an aggressive, return-on-equity-led growth strategy.

7.2 Persistent patterns

- **Systemic Interest Capitalization** remains a core accounting trait, with significant finance costs (□24.57 Cr in Summary A; □16.37 Cr in Summary B) buried in inventory to mask the true P&L interest burden.
- **Aggressive KMP Compensation** persists as a governance friction point, with promoter pay hikes (50% in Summary A; 38% in Summary B) consistently outstripping broader employee salary trends.
- **The Negative Working Capital Model** continues to be the primary engine of the balance sheet, using massive customer advances (exceeding □1,000 Cr) as interest-free float to fund operations.
- **Specific Asset Ownership Risks** remain unresolved, particularly the Saket Office title deed discrepancy and the stalled Marine Plaza project, signaling a lack of urgency in clearing legacy administrative hurdles.
- **High Brand Equity and Pricing Power** are sustained through the niche Senior Living and Kid Centric models, evidenced by the consistent ability to command premiums and maintain high referral-led sales.
- **Conservative External Leverage** is a structural constant, with the company maintaining a Debt/Equity ratio below 0.25x and preferring project-specific unsecured debentures over traditional bank debt.
- **The Execution-Sales Gap** remains a recurring risk, as the area booked consistently outpaces the Equivalent Area Constructed (EAC), maintaining pressure on the delivery pipeline. No material persistent pattern identified.