HUME CEMENT INDUSTRIES BERHAD [198001008443 (62227-X)]

Key Pertinent Questions and Answers at the 44th Annual General Meeting of HUME CEMENT INDUSTRIES BERHAD held at the Auditorium, Ground Floor, Menara Hong Leong, No. 6 Jalan Damanlela, Bukit Damansara, 50490 Kuala Lumpur on Thursday, 7 November 2024 at 10.30 a.m.

1. What was the market share of Hume Cement and Hume Concrete?

Hume Cement market share for FY24 was approximately 16%. The market share of pre-cast Concrete was not easy to be determined as there are too many market players in this market.

2. What was the Cement's gross margin?

Cement's gross margin was above 30%.

3. Is the Company expected to perform better in FY2025?

We expect FY2025 to be satisfactory.

4. The government recently announced the minimum wage and increase of the foreign worker levy, what impact will these changes have on the Group and how many foreign workers does the Group currently employ?

The Group is still assessing the impact of these changes. Considering the size of foreign workers in the organisation, we believe the impact may not be very substantial. The Group will also carry out various initiatives to mitigate the potential impact.

5. What is the remaining useful life of limestone quarry for Gopeng Plant?

The expected operational lifespan is around 40 years.

6. What is the current ASP compared with the previous quarter?

The current ASP is slightly lower compared to the last quarter.

7. What is the current production volume compared with the previous quarter?

The current market demand is softer and hence lower production volume compared to the last quarter.

8. What was the Hume Cement's capacity utilisation?

Hume Cement's average capacity utilisation for FY24 was approximately 70%.

9. What was the contribution of the Concrete business, and what is the progress on the disposal of this business?

Concrete segment has less weightage to the overall Group's financial result. The sale process is still ongoing.

10. When will the Group recognise the gain on disposal of Prai's land?

The Group announced the completion of Prai's land sale in October'2024. The financial impact is expected to be captured in second quarter ending 31 December 2024 as per accounting standards.

11. What is the Group dividend policy?

The Group is regularly reviewing dividend payment by considering various factors.