DOI: 10.21088/jswm.0975.0231.18326.4

Journal of Social Welfare and Management
Volume 18 Number 3, September-December 2026

Review Article

Are the Major Players in the Indian Steel Industry Financially Resilient and Sustainable After the Pandemic? A Post-Pandemic Assessment of Liquidity, Capital Structure, and Asset Efficiency

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How to cite this article:

Akashdeep Datta. Are the Major Players in the Indian Steel Industry Financially Resilient and Sustainable After the Pandemic? A Post-Pandemic Assessment of Liquidity, Capital Structure, and Asset Efficiency. J Soc Welfare Manag. 2026; 18(3): 147–166.

ABSTRACT

Purpose: This study evaluates the financial resilience and sustainability of Tata Steel Limited and Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. (JSPL) during the post-pandemic period (FY2021–22 to FY2025–26). It assesses their ability to withstand financial disruptions, maintain operational stability, and achieve sustainable growth following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Theoretical Framework: The study is based on the concepts of financial resilience and corporate sustainability, emphasizing liquidity, profitability, solvency, operational efficiency, and shareholder value creation as key dimensions of long-term financial performance.

Methodology: A quantitative and comparative research design was adopted using secondary data from the audited annual reports of Tata Steel and JSPL. Financial resilience was assessed through financial ratio analysis, Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR), descriptive statistics (mean, standard deviation, and coefficient of variation), and Pearson correlation analysis for the period FY2021–22 to FY2025–26.

Findings: The findings reveal that both companies demonstrated strong post-pandemic financial resilience and sustainable performance. Tata Steel showed comparatively higher overall resilience through stable liquidity, efficient asset utilization, sustained profitability, and strong positive relationships among profitability and return indicators, despite earnings normalizing after FY2021–22. JSPL exhibited financial strength through a conservative capital structure, low debt-equity ratio, stable revenue generation, efficient capital utilization, and a high earnings retention strategy that supports long-term growth. Overall, Tata Steel marginally outperformed JSPL in terms of balanced financial resilience, while JSPL displayed greater financial conservatism and long-term financing sustainability.

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➢ **Revised:** 28-07-2026 ➢ **Accepted:** 30-08-2026

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Practical Implications: The study provides a practical framework for investors, managers, lenders, and policymakers to evaluate corporate resilience and sustainability in capital-intensive industries and supports strategic financial decision-making during periods of economic uncertainty.

Originality/Value: The study offers a comprehensive post-pandemic comparison of Tata Steel and JSPL by integrating financial ratio analysis, CAGR, descriptive statistics, and Pearson correlation analysis, thereby contributing to the literature on corporate financial resilience in the Indian steel industry.

KEYWORDS

• Financial Resilience • Corporate Sustainability • Post-Pandemic Performance

INTRODUCTION

The Indian steel industry is one of the largest contributors to the country's industrial development, infrastructure expansion, and economic growth. As a core sector, it supports construction, manufacturing, automobiles, engineering, railways, and energy, making it a key driver of national development. India has emerged as the world's second-largest producer of crude steel, and the industry's long-term growth is supported by rapid urbanization, government infrastructure initiatives, and increasing domestic demand. However, the steel industry is highly cyclical and remains vulnerable to fluctuations in raw material prices, global demand, exchange rates, and economic uncertainties. The COVID-19 pandemic created unprecedented disruptions for the global steel industry. Lockdowns, supply chain interruptions, reduced industrial activity, labour shortages, and volatile commodity prices significantly affected production, sales, and profitability. Although the Indian steel industry experienced a strong recovery following the pandemic, companies differed considerably in their ability to restore profitability, manage financial risks, maintain liquidity, and sustain shareholder value. Consequently, evaluating the financial resilience and sustainability of steel companies during the post-pandemic period has become an important area of research for investors, policymakers, creditors, and corporate managers.

Financial resilience refers to a firm's ability to withstand external shocks, maintain operational continuity, preserve financial stability, and recover efficiently from adverse economic conditions. Sustainable financial performance extends beyond short-term profitability and encompasses effective liquidity management, prudent capital structure, efficient utilization of resources, and continuous creation of shareholder value. Therefore, assessing financial resilience requires a comprehensive evaluation of multiple dimensions of corporate financial performance rather than relying solely on profitability measures. Among the leading steel companies in India, **Tata Steel Limited** and **Jindal Steel & Power Limited (JSPL)** represent two of the most significant players in the industry. Tata Steel is one of India's oldest and largest integrated steel producers with a strong global presence, diversified operations. JSPL has emerged as one of India's fastest-growing steel manufacturers, recognized for its expansion strategy, technological advancements, efficient operations, and increasing market competitiveness. This study evaluates and compares the financial resilience and sustainability of Tata Steel Ltd. and Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. over the period **31 March 2022 to 31 March 2026**. Furthermore, the study offers practical implications for investors, corporate managers, financial analysts, and policymakers by identifying the financial characteristics and strategies that enable steel companies to withstand economic uncertainties and achieve long-term sustainable growth.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Kumar and Benedict (2022) investigated the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown on the financial performance of Tata Steel Limited during the period 2016–17 to 2020–21. Using ratio analysis, the study evaluated profitability, liquidity, solvency, and working capital management. The findings indicated that although Tata Steel was moderately affected by the pandemic, the company maintained financial stability. However, the study

highlighted concerns regarding high debt levels and inadequate liquidity, emphasizing the need for improved cash flow and working capital management.

Patel and Rao (2024) analyzed the financial performance of Jindal Steel and Power Limited using ratio analysis based on six years of secondary financial data from 2017–18 to 2022–23. The study focused on profitability, liquidity, working capital management, and financial health. The authors concluded that efficient financial planning, effective resource utilization, and sound working capital management significantly influence the financial performance and long-term sustainability of steel companies.

Kohad and Dongre (2026) conducted a comparative study of Tata Steel Limited and Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) for the period 2021–2025. The study employed fourteen financial ratios along with independent sample *t*-tests and Cohen's *d* to compare liquidity, solvency, operational efficiency, and profitability. The findings revealed that Tata Steel demonstrated superior operational efficiency and long-term solvency compared with SAIL, whereas no statistically significant difference was observed in profitability. The study recommended improvements in inventory management and asset utilization for SAIL.

Ayswarya and Kishore (2026) examined Tata Steel's financial performance over a five-year period using ratio analysis, cash flow analysis, and trend analysis. The study found that Tata Steel maintained a strong capital structure due to its diversified product portfolio and integrated manufacturing operations. Nevertheless, fluctuations in profitability, working capital management, and operating cash flows indicated the need for better cost control and financial planning to sustain long-term financial growth.

Research Gap: Previous studies have primarily focused on evaluating the profitability, liquidity, solvency, operational efficiency, and overall financial performance of steel companies. While these studies provide valuable insights into corporate financial performance, most are descriptive in nature and do not comprehensively assess the post-pandemic financial resilience of private-sector steel companies. Furthermore, limited attention has been given to examining the interrelationships among key financial indicators—such as profitability, liquidity, leverage, operational efficiency, and market valuation in the post-COVID-19 business environment. Existing literature also reveals a scarcity of comparative studies that evaluate the financial resilience and sustainable corporate performance of major Indian steel companies during the post-pandemic recovery period. In addition, very few studies have integrated multiple analytical techniques, including financial ratio analysis, Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR), descriptive statistics, and correlation analysis, to provide a comprehensive assessment of financial resilience.

DATA & METHODOLOGY

The study adopts a quantitative and comparative research design to evaluate the financial resilience and sustainable corporate performance of Tata Steel Limited and Jindal Steel & Power Limited (JSPL) during the post-pandemic period. The analysis is based entirely on secondary data collected from audited Annual Reports of the selected companies and supporting information obtained from the National Stock Exchange (NSE). Financial information was extracted from the Balance Sheet, Statement of Profit and Loss, Statement of Cash Flows, Notes to Accounts, and Financial Ratio Reports. A purposive sampling technique was employed to select the two companies because of their significant market presence, integrated steel operations, stock exchange listing, and their relevance in assessing financial resilience during the post-pandemic recovery period.

Methodology: The study examines the post-pandemic financial resilience and sustainable corporate performance of Tata Steel Limited and Jindal Steel & Power Limited (JSPL) over the five-year period from 31 March 2022 to 31 March 2026. This period represents the recovery phase following the COVID-19 pandemic and captures the financial adjustments experienced by the Indian steel industry. The analysis is based on five major dimensions of financial performance: liquidity, capital structure, profitability, operational efficiency, and shareholder value. A comprehensive set of financial ratios, including Current Ratio, Quick Ratio, Debt–Equity Ratio, Earnings per Share, profitability margins, return

ratios, Asset Turnover Ratio, Revenue from Operations per Share, Dividend-related ratios, and market valuation indicators, was used to assess financial resilience and sustainable performance.

To achieve the research objectives, the study employed Financial Ratio Analysis, Descriptive Statistics, Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR), and Correlation Analysis. Ratio analysis was used to evaluate financial performance, descriptive statistics measured the consistency and variability of financial indicators, CAGR assessed long-term growth trends, and correlation analysis examined the relationships among liquidity, profitability, leverage, operational efficiency, and shareholder value variables. Microsoft Excel was used for ratio computation and CAGR calculations, while IBM SPSS Statistics was used for descriptive statistical and correlation analyses.

EMPIRICAL RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Empirical Analysis by using financial Ratios & CAGR – Tata Steel

1. Analysis of Profitability Indicators

As presented in Table 1 and 7, Tata Steel's profitability declined considerably during the post-pandemic period after recording exceptionally high earnings in FY2022. Basic EPS fell from ₹ 270.33 to ₹ 12.87, while Diluted EPS and Cash EPS also decreased substantially to ₹ 12.87 and ₹ 18.53, respectively. Profitability margins weakened, with PBDIT Margin declining from 40.75% to 24.79%, PBIT Margin from 36.51% to 19.73%, PBT Margin from 34.17% to 15.28%, and Net Profit Margin from 25.58% to 11.49%. Return ratios also moderated, as ROE declined from 26.31% to 11.85%, ROCE from 27.99% to 13.18%, and ROA from 14.87% to 5.89%. Table 7 supports these findings by reporting negative CAGR across all profitability indicators, including Basic EPS (-53.29%), Cash EPS (-50.74%), PBDIT Margin (-11.68%), Net Profit Margin (-18.13%), ROCE (-17.16%), and ROA (-20.67%), indicating an overall contraction in earnings and profitability during the study period despite a gradual recovery in FY2025 and FY2026.

Table 1: presents the financial ratios of Tata Steel Limited for the period from 31 March 2022 to 31 March 2026

Indicator	Basic EPS (Rs.)	Diluted EPS (Rs.)	Cash EPS (Rs.)	Book Value [Excl Reval Reserve]/ Share (Rs.)	Book Value [Incl Reval Reserve]/ Share (Rs.)	Dividend / Share (Rs.)	Revenue from Operations/ Share (Rs.)	PBDIT/ Share (Rs.)	PBIT/ Share (Rs.)	PBT/ Share (Rs.)
Mar 26	12.87	12.87	18.53	108.55	108.55	4	111.9	27.74	22.08	17.1
Mar 25	11.19	11.19	16.2	101.5	101.5	3.6	106.13	24.12	19.11	14.99
Mar 24	3.85	3.85	8.63	110.28	110.28	3.6	112.92	26.39	21.61	7.35
Mar 23	12.68	12.67	17.12	110.27	110.27	3.6	105.54	25.38	20.94	17.2
Mar 22	270.33	270.13	314.76	1026.15	1026.15	51	1055.5	430.16	385.47	360.7
Indicator	**Net Profit/ Share (Rs.)**	**PBDIT Margin (%)**	**PBIT Margin (%)**	**PBT Margin (%)**	**Net Profit Margin (%)**	**Return on Networth / Equity (%)**	**Return on Capital Employed (%)**	**Return on Assets (%)**	**Total Debt/ Equity (X)**	**Quick Ratio (X)**
Mar 26	12.87	24.79	19.73	15.28	11.49	11.85	13.18	5.89	0.48	0.16
Mar 25	11.19	22.72	18	14.12	10.54	11.02	11.95	5.49	0.47	0.2
Mar 24	3.85	23.37	19.14	6.5	3.4	3.49	13.83	1.95	0.29	0.24
Mar 23	12.68	24.05	19.83	16.29	12.01	11.49	13.66	6.62	0.28	0.28
Mar 22	270.06	40.75	36.51	34.17	25.58	26.31	27.99	14.87	0.26	0.21
Indicator	**Current Ratio (X)**	**Inventory Turnover Ratio (X)**	**Asset Turnover Ratio (%)**	**Dividend Payout Ratio (NP) (%)**	**Dividend Payout Ratio (CP) (%)**	**Cash Earnings Retention Ratio (%)**	**Earnings Retention Ratio (%)**	**EV/Net Operating Revenue (X)**	**EV/ EBITDA (X)**	**Market Cap/Net Operating Revenue (X)**
Mar 26	0.52	6.08	0.53	27.97	19.42	80.58	72.03	2.15	8.69	1.71
Mar 25	0.62	5.58	0.53	32.17	22.22	77.78	67.83	1.87	8.24	1.45
Mar 24	0.73	6.22	0.59	91.81	40.95	59.05	8.19	1.63	6.96	1.38
Mar 23	0.73	2.65	0.57	40.22	29.78	70.22	59.78	1.28	5.31	0.99
Mar 22	0.58	2.15	0.64	9.1	7.81	92.19	90.9	1.47	3.6	1.24

Indicator	Retention Ratios (%)	Price/ BV (X)	Price/Net Operating Revenue	Earnings Yield
Mar 26	72.02	1.77	1.71	0.07
Mar 25	67.82	1.52	1.45	0.07
Mar 24	8.18	1.41	1.38	0.02
Mar 23	59.77	0.95	0.99	0.12
Mar 22	90.89	1.27	1.24	0.21

Source: Compiled and calculated by the author from the Annual Reports of Tata Steel Ltd. (2021-2022 to 2025-26).

2. Liquidity Analysis

As presented in Table 1 and7, Tata Steel maintained a stable liquidity position throughout the study period. The Current Ratio ranged between 0.52 and 0.73, while the Quick Ratio varied from 0.16 to 0.28, reflecting consistent management of short-term obligations despite remaining below the ideal benchmark. Table 7 indicates only a marginal decline in liquidity, with the Current Ratio recording a CAGR of -2.69% and the Quick Ratio -6.57%, suggesting that the company's short-term solvency remained relatively stable during the post-pandemic period.

3. Capital Structure Analysis

As presented in Table 1 and 7, Tata Steel experienced a moderate increase in leverage, with the Debt–Equity Ratio rising from 0.26 in FY2022 to 0.48 in FY2026, while remaining below 1.00, indicating a balanced capital structure. Book Value per Share declined significantly from ₹ 1,026.15 to approximately ₹ 108.55 over the study period. Table 7 further reports a positive CAGR of 16.56% in the Debt–Equity Ratio, reflecting a gradual increase in the company's reliance on debt financing.

4. Efficiency Analysis

As presented in Table 1 and 7, Tata Steel demonstrated improved inventory management, with the Inventory Turnover Ratio increasing from 2.15 to 6.08 times and recording a CAGR of 29.68%. However, Asset Turnover Ratio declined from 0.64 to 0.53, corresponding to a CAGR of -4.61%, while Revenue from Operations per Share registered a substantial negative CAGR of -42.94%, indicating lower efficiency in generating revenue from available assets during the study period.

5. Shareholder Value Analysis

As presented in Table 1 and 7, Tata Steel's shareholder value indicators exhibited mixed performance during the study period. Dividend per Share declined from ₹ 51.00 in FY2022 to ₹ 4.00 in FY2026, while Book Value per Share recorded a negative CAGR of -42.97% and Dividend per Share a CAGR of -47.08%. Conversely, the Dividend Payout Ratio (Net Profit basis) increased from 9.10% to 27.97%, with a positive CAGR of 32.41%, while the Cash Profit-based Dividend Payout Ratio recorded a CAGR of 25.57%. Market valuation indicators also improved, with positive CAGR in EV/ EBITDA (24.65%), EV/Net Operating Revenue (9.97%), Market Capitalization/Net Operating Revenue (8.37%), Price-to-Book (8.65%), and Price-to-Net Operating Revenue (8.37%), indicating sustained investor confidence despite weaker accounting profitability.

B. Empirical Results and Analysis of Descriptive Statistics – Tata Steel

1. Analysis of Earnings and Per Share Indicators

As presented in Table 2, Tata Steel's earnings and per share indicators demonstrated considerable variability during the study period. Basic EPS recorded a mean of ₹ 62.18, median of ₹ 12.68, standard deviation of ₹ 116.42, and CV of 187.21%, while Diluted EPS reported a mean of ₹ 62.14, standard deviation of ₹ 116.33, and CV of 187.20%. Cash EPS exhibited a mean of ₹ 75.05, standard deviation of ₹ 134.06, and CV of 178.63%. Book Value per Share recorded a mean of ₹ 291.35 with a CV of 140.99%, whereas Dividend per Share showed a mean of ₹ 13.16 and CV of 160.74%. Revenue from Operations per Share recorded a mean of ₹ 298.40, standard deviation of ₹ 423.25, and CV of 141.84%. Similarly, PBDIT per Share (169.35%), PBIT per Share (173.73%), and PBT per Share (185.74%) exhibited high coefficients of variation, indicating substantial fluctuations in earnings-related indicators throughout the study period.

2. Analysis of Profitability Ratios

As presented in Table 2, Tata Steel's profitability ratios displayed moderate variability during the study period. PBDIT Margin recorded a mean of 27.14% with a CV of 28.19%, while PBIT Margin reported a mean of 22.64% and CV of 34.39%, indicating relatively stable operating profitability. PBT Margin and Net Profit Margin recorded means of 17.27% and 12.60%, with CVs of 59.08% and 63.84%, respectively. Among the return measures, ROE recorded a mean

of 12.83% with a CV of 64.61%, ROCE reported a mean of 16.12% and CV of 41.40%, while ROA recorded a mean of 6.96% with a CV of 68.52%, indicating comparatively lower variability in returns generated from capital employed.

Table 2: Presents the descriptive statistical measures of the selected financial indicators of Tata Steel Limited for the period 31 March 2022 to 31 March 2026

	Basic EPS (Rs.)	Diluted EPS (Rs.)	Cash EPS (Rs.)	Book Value [Excl Reval Reserve]/ Share (Rs.)	Book Value [Incl Reval Reserve]/ Share (Rs.)
Mean	62.184	62.142	75.048	291.35	291.35
Standard Error	52.06271099	52.02320659	59.95257221	183.7071329	183.7071329
Median	12.68	12.67	17.12	110.27	110.27
Standard Deviation	116.4157609	116.3274263	134.0580269	410.7816372	410.7816372
Sample Variance	13552.62938	13532.07012	17971.55457	168741.5535	168741.5535
Kurtosis	4.980186096	4.980174596	4.983829319	4.998453343	4.998453343
Skewness	2.230386592	2.230383198	2.231449031	2.235632714	2.235632714
Range	266.48	266.28	306.13	924.65	924.65
Minimum	3.85	3.85	8.63	101.5	101.5
Maximum	270.33	270.13	314.76	1026.15	1026.15
Cofficient of Variaion	187.2117601	187.1961417	178.6297128	140.992496	140.992496
	Dividend / Share(Rs.)	**Revenue from Operations/Share (Rs.)**	**PBDIT/Share (Rs.)**	**PBIT/Share (Rs.)**	**PBT/Share (Rs.)**
Mean	13.16	298.398	106.758	93.842	83.468
Standard Error	9.460317119	189.2813016	80.85268433	72.90874786	69.33142415
Median	3.6	111.9	26.39	21.61	17.1
Standard Deviation	21.15391217	423.2458573	180.7920983	163.0289164	155.0297774
Sample Variance	447.488	179137.0557	32685.78282	26578.42757	24034.23187
Kurtosis	4.998653597	4.998773932	4.998919257	4.999043326	4.986653202
Skewness	2.235694273	2.235725323	2.235765966	2.235799546	2.232262877
Range	47.4	949.96	406.04	366.36	353.35
Minimum	3.6	105.54	24.12	19.11	7.35
Maximum	51	1055.5	430.16	385.47	360.7
Cofficent of Variaion	160.7440134	141.8393747	169.3475883	173.7270267	185.7355841
	Net Profit/Share (Rs.)	**PBDIT Margin (%)**	**PBIT Margin (%)**	**PBT Margin (%)**	**Net Profit Margin (%)**
Mean	62.13	27.136	22.642	17.272	12.604
Standard Error	52.00873821	3.420905728	3.48224554	4.563145187	3.598222617
Median	12.68	24.05	19.73	15.28	11.49
Standard Deviation	116.2950741	7.649377752	7.786537742	10.20350283	8.045870369
Sample Variance	13524.54425	58.51298	60.63017	104.11147	64.73603
Kurtosis	4.980145301	4.797926156	4.832056463	2.968776724	2.602771191
Skewness	2.23037474	2.179648721	2.186343473	1.386529048	1.115760137
Range	266.21	18.03	18.51	27.67	22.18
Minimum	3.85	22.72	18	6.5	3.4
Maximum	270.06	40.75	36.51	34.17	25.58
Cofficent of Variaion	187.1802254	28.18903948	34.38979658	59.07539851	63.83584869

	Return on Networth / Equity (%)	Return on Capital Employed (%)	Return on Assets (%)	Total Debt/Equity (X)	Quick Ratio (X)
Mean	12.832	16.122	6.964	0.356	0.218
Standard Error	3.707951456	2.985172357	2.134121833	0.048846699	0.020099751
Median	11.49	13.66	5.89	0.29	0.21
Standard Deviation	8.291231513	6.675048314	4.772041492	0.109224539	0.04494441
Sample Variance	68.74452	44.55627	22.77238	0.01193	0.00202
Kurtosis	2.746996415	4.769584076	2.955247253	-3.23459212	0.098519753
Skewness	1.186999322	2.166663451	1.394227715	0.568205907	0.218091197
Range	22.82	16.04	12.92	0.22	0.12
Minimum	3.49	11.95	1.95	0.26	0.16
Maximum	26.31	27.99	14.87	0.48	0.28
Cofficent of Variaion	64.61371191	41.40335141	68.52443268	30.68105038	20.61670188

	Current Ratio (X)	Inventory Turnover Ratio (X)	Asset Turnover Ratio (%)	Dividend Payout Ratio (NP) (%)	Dividend Payout Ratio (CP) (%)
Mean	0.636	4.536	0.572	40.254	24.036
Standard Error	0.041545156	0.882035147	0.02059126	13.86513923	5.50892603
Median	0.62	5.58	0.57	32.17	22.22
Standard Deviation	0.092897793	1.972290547	0.046043458	31.00339385	12.31833309
Sample Variance	0.00863	3.88993	0.00212	961.21043	151.74133
Kurtosis	-2.174137216	-3.045484999	-0.293253827	2.869553954	0.290569186
Skewness	-0.041286855	-0.580987705	0.734539854	1.459942416	0.145328222
Range	0.21	4.07	0.11	82.71	33.14
Minimum	0.52	2.15	0.53	9.1	7.81
Maximum	0.73	6.22	0.64	91.81	40.95
Cofficent of Variaion	14.60657127	43.48083215	8.049555548	77.01941135	51.24951358

	Cash Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	EV/Net Operating Revenue (X)	EV/EBITDA (X)	MarketCap/Net Operating Revenue (X)
Mean	75.964	59.746	1.68	6.56	1.354
Standard Error	5.50892603	13.86513923	0.152249795	0.944547511	0.118768683
Median	77.78	67.83	1.63	6.96	1.38
Standard Deviation	12.31833309	31.00339385	0.340440891	2.112072442	0.265574848
Sample Variance	151.74133	961.21043	0.1159	4.46085	0.07053
Kurtosis	0.290569186	2.869553954	-0.774121721	-1.229493035	0.51131305
Skewness	-0.145328222	-1.459942416	0.393845475	-0.593413777	-0.082077865
Range	33.14	82.71	0.87	5.09	0.72
Minimum	59.05	8.19	1.28	3.6	0.99
Maximum	92.19	90.9	2.15	8.69	1.71
Cofficent of Variaion	16.21601428	51.89199921	20.26433873	32.19622625	19.61409514

	(%) Retention Ratios	(Price/BV (X	Price/Net Operating Revenue	Earnings Yield
Mean	59.736	1.384	1.354	0.098
Standard Error	13.86513923	0.135926451	0.118768683	0.03215587
Median	67.82	1.41	1.38	0.07
Standard Deviation	31.00339385	0.303940784	0.265574848	0.071902712
Sample Variance	961.21043	0.09238	0.07053	0.00517
Kurtosis	2.869553954	0.523085108	0.51131305	1.158184587
Skewness	-1.459942416	-0.344019622	-0.082077865	1.005549565
Range	82.71	0.82	0.72	0.19
Minimum	8.18	0.95	0.99	0.02
Maximum	90.89	1.77	1.71	0.21
Cofficent of Variaion	51.9006861	21.96103929	19.61409514	73.37011434

Table 3: Presents the correlation coefficients among the selected financial indicators of Tata Steel Limited for the period 31 March 2022 to 31 March 2026

	Basic EPS (Rs.)	Diluted EPS (Rs.)	Cash EPS (Rs.)	Book Value [ExclReval Reserve]/ Share (Rs.)	Book Value [InclReval Reserve]/ Share (Rs.)	Dividend / Share (Rs.)	Revenue from Operations/ Share (Rs.)	PBDIT/ Share (Rs.)	PBIT/ Share (Rs.)	PBT/ Share (Rs.)	Net Profit/ Share (Rs.)	PBDIT Margin (%)	PBIT Margin (%)	PBT Margin (%)	Net Profit Margin (%)	Return on Net worth / Equity (%)	Return on Capital Employed (%)
Basic EPS (Rs.)	1																
Diluted EPS (Rs.)	1	1															
Cash EPS (Rs.)	1	1	1														
Book Value [ExclReval Reserve]/Share (Rs.)	0.9994	0.9994	0.9995	1													
Book Value [InclReval Reserve]/ Share (Rs.)	0.9994	0.9994	0.9995	1	1												
Dividend / Share(Rs.)	0.9996	0.9996	0.9997	0.9999	0.9999	1											
Revenue from Operations/ Share (Rs.)	0.9993	0.9993	0.9994	1	1	1	1										
PBDIT/Share (Rs.)	0.9995	0.9995	0.9996	1	1	1	1	1									
PBIT/Share (Rs.)	0.9994	0.9994	0.9995	1	1	1	1	1	1								
PBT/Share (Rs.)	1	1	1	0.9996	0.9996	0.9997	0.9995	0.9996	0.9996	1							
Net Profit/Share (Rs.)	1	1	1	0.9994	0.9994	0.9996	0.9993	0.9995	0.9994	1	1						
PBDIT Margin (%)	0.9958	0.9958	0.9958	0.9954	0.9954	0.9955	0.9951	0.9955	0.9955	0.9958	0.9958	1					
PBIT Margin (%)	0.9957	0.9957	0.9957	0.9963	0.9963	0.9959	0.9958	0.9961	0.9961	0.9959	0.9957	0.9989	1				
PBT Margin (%)	0.9372	0.9372	0.936	0.925	0.925	0.9268	0.9238	0.9254	0.9252	0.9353	0.9373	0.9361	0.9291	1			
Net Profit Margin (%)	0.9148	0.9148	0.9134	0.9005	0.9005	0.9028	0.8993	0.9011	0.9008	0.9125	0.9148	0.9135	0.9046	0.998	1		
Return on Networth / Equity (%)	0.9214	0.9214	0.9202	0.9074	0.9074	0.9101	0.9067	0.9083	0.9079	0.9191	0.9215	0.9189	0.9087	0.997	0.9987	1	
Return on Capital Employed (%)	0.9921	0.9921	0.9922	0.9948	0.9948	0.9939	0.9943	0.9944	0.9945	0.9926	0.9921	0.9945	0.9979	0.9054	0.8772	0.8814	1
Return on Assets (%)	0.9375	0.9375	0.9362	0.9253	0.9253	0.927	0.9241	0.9257	0.9255	0.9355	0.9375	0.9356	0.9294	0.9998	0.9974	0.9957	0.9063
Total Debt/ Equity (X)	-0.4777	-0.4777	-0.4771	-0.4967	-0.4967	-0.487	-0.4912	-0.4909	-0.4929	-0.4812	-0.4777	-0.4842	-0.5223	-0.3237	-0.275	-0.2495	-0.5628
Asset Turnover Ratio (%)	0.8123	0.8123	0.8127	0.829	0.829	0.823	0.8267	0.8258	0.8269	0.8153	0.8123	0.815	0.8388	0.6243	0.5745	0.5687	0.8699
Current Ratio (X)	-0.3527	-0.3527	-0.3536	-0.3338	-0.3338	-0.3436	-0.3386	-0.3398	-0.3376	-0.3492	-0.3527	-0.3742	-0.3311	-0.4667	-0.4968	-0.5246	-0.2836
Quick Ratio (X)	-0.107	-0.107	-0.1093	-0.0957	-0.0957	-0.1058	-0.1027	-0.1025	-0.1001	-0.1047	-0.107	-0.1218	-0.0785	-0.1422	-0.1669	-0.2059	-0.0436
Inventory Turnover Ratio (X)	-0.6869	-0.6869	-0.6839	-0.678	-0.678	-0.674	-0.672	-0.6743	-0.6755	-0.6857	-0.6869	-0.6833	-0.7004	-0.7823	-0.7753	-0.7456	-0.6918
Dividend Payout Ratio (NP) (%)	-0.5868	-0.5869	-0.5847	-0.5583	-0.5583	-0.5648	-0.5582	-0.561	-0.56	-0.582	-0.5869	-0.5837	-0.5584	-0.8154	-0.8503	-0.8508	-0.5049
Dividend Payout Ratio (CP) (%)	-0.7545	-0.7546	-0.7536	-0.733	-0.733	-0.7397	-0.7346	-0.7363	-0.7352	-0.7509	-0.7546	-0.7521	-0.726	-0.8893	-0.9099	-0.9218	-0.682
Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	0.5868	0.5869	0.5847	0.5583	0.5583	0.5648	0.5582	0.561	0.56	0.582	0.5869	0.5837	0.5584	0.8154	0.8503	0.8508	0.5049
Cash Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	0.7545	0.7546	0.7536	0.733	0.733	0.7397	0.7346	0.7363	0.7352	0.7509	0.7546	0.7521	0.726	0.8893	0.9099	0.9218	0.682
EV/Net Operating Revenue (X)	-0.3397	-0.3397	-0.3374	-0.3483	-0.3483	-0.339	-0.3414	-0.3419	-0.3441	-0.3416	-0.3397	-0.3243	-0.3643	-0.2988	-0.2686	-0.2331	-0.3926
EV/EBITDA (X)	-0.7812	-0.7811	-0.7796	-0.7865	-0.7865	-0.7803	-0.7815	-0.7823	-0.7837	-0.7823	-0.7811	-0.7793	-0.8047	-0.7266	-0.6942	-0.6723	-0.82
MarketCap/ Net Operating Revenue (X)	-0.24	-0.2399	-0.2369	-0.2426	-0.2426	-0.2341	-0.2353	-0.2364	-0.2385	-0.2408	-0.24	-0.2198	-0.2576	-0.2639	-0.2454	-0.206	-0.277
Retention Ratios (%)	0.5868	0.5869	0.5847	0.5583	0.5583	0.5648	0.5582	0.561	0.56	0.582	0.5869	0.5837	0.5584	0.8154	0.8503	0.8508	0.5049
Price/BV (X)	-0.2101	-0.21	-0.207	-0.2128	-0.2128	-0.2041	-0.2052	-0.2065	-0.2086	-0.2109	-0.2101	-0.1953	-0.2331	-0.2401	-0.222	-0.1808	-0.2522
Price/Net Operating Revenue	-0.24	-0.2399	-0.2369	-0.2426	-0.2426	-0.2341	-0.2353	-0.2364	-0.2385	-0.2408	-0.24	-0.2198	-0.2576	-0.2639	-0.2454	-0.206	-0.277
Earnings Yield	0.8835	0.8835	0.8814	0.8707	0.8707	0.8707	0.8677	0.8698	0.87	0.8815	0.8835	0.8818	0.8824	0.9729	0.9711	0.959	0.861

Source: Compiled and calculated by the author

Return on Assets (%)	Total Debt/ Equity (X)	Asset Turnover Ratio (%)	Current Ratio (X)	Quick Ratio (X)	Inventory Turnover Ratio (X)	Dividend Payout Ratio (NP) (%)	Dividend Payout Ratio (CP) (%)	Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	Cash Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	EV/Net Operating Revenue (X)	EV/ EBITDA (X)	Market Cap/Net Operating Revenue (X)	Retention Ratios (%)	Price/ BV (X)	Price/Net Operating Revenue	Earnings Yield
1																
-0.3372	1															
0.6316	-0.8729	1														
-0.4501	-0.5958	0.1894	1													
-0.1236	-0.7456	0.3528	0.9197	1												
-0.793	0.6635	-0.6521	-0.1108	-0.477	1											
-0.8106	-0.2107	-0.0587	0.7067	0.4018	0.5471	1										
-0.8822	-0.1439	-0.2381	0.7871	0.5231	0.4872	0.9483	1									
0.8106	0.2107	0.0587	-0.7067	-0.4018	-0.5471	-1	-0.9483	1								
0.8822	0.1439	0.2381	-0.7871	-0.5231	-0.4872	-0.9483	-1	0.9483	1							
-0.3165	0.8996	-0.6714	-0.6964	-0.897	0.7801	-0.0789	-0.1342	0.0789	0.1342	1						
-0.7377	0.8761	-0.9039	-0.2397	-0.5236	0.9084	0.2792	0.3337	-0.2792	-0.3337	0.8421	1					
-0.2821	0.7927	-0.5222	-0.6913	-0.9103	0.7886	-0.0074	-0.1237	0.0074	0.1237	0.9783	0.7677	1				
0.8106	0.2107	0.0587	-0.7067	-0.4018	-0.5471	-1	-0.9483	1	0.9483	0.0789	-0.2792	0.0074	1			
-0.2581	0.7951	-0.5063	-0.6988	-0.9198	0.7808	-0.0248	-0.149	0.0248	0.149	0.9749	0.7559	0.9977	0.0248	1		
-0.2821	0.7927	-0.5222	-0.6913	-0.9103	0.7886	-0.0074	-0.1237	0.0074	0.1237	0.9783	0.7677	1	0.0074	0.9977	1	
0.9766	-0.4437	0.6434	-0.2934	0.0681	-0.9035	-0.7784	-0.7988	0.7784	0.7988	-0.479	-0.818	-0.4642	0.7784	-0.4457	-0.4642	1

3. Analysis of Liquidity and Capital Structure

As presented in Table 2, Tata Steel maintained a consistent liquidity position during the study period. The Current Ratio recorded a mean of 0.636, standard deviation of 0.093, and CV of 14.61%, while the Quick Ratio reported a mean of 0.218 with a CV of 20.62%, indicating limited variation in short-term liquidity. The Debt–Equity Ratio recorded a mean of 0.356 and CV of 30.68%, reflecting moderate variation in the company's financing pattern and a balanced capital structure.

4. Analysis of Efficiency Ratios

As presented in Table 2, Tata Steel demonstrated consistent operational efficiency throughout the study period. The Asset Turnover Ratio recorded a mean of 0.572 and the lowest coefficient of variation of 8.05%, indicating stable utilization of assets in generating revenue. The Inventory Turnover Ratio recorded a mean of 4.54 times with a CV of 43.48%, suggesting moderate variation in inventory management across the study period.

5. Analysis of Shareholder Value Indicators

As presented in Table 2, Tata Steel's shareholder value indicators exhibited varying levels of dispersion during the study period. The Dividend Payout Ratio (Net Profit basis) recorded a mean of 40.25% with a CV of 77.02%, while the Dividend Payout Ratio (Cash Profit basis) recorded a CV of 51.25%. The Cash Earnings Retention Ratio reported a mean of 75.96% and a comparatively low CV of 16.22%, whereas the Earnings Retention Ratio recorded a mean of 59.75% with a CV of 51.89%. Valuation measures such as EV/Net Operating Revenue (20.26%), EV/EBITDA (32.20%), and Price-to-Book Value (21.96%) exhibited relatively lower variability, while the Earnings Yield recorded a CV of 73.37%, indicating greater fluctuation in earnings relative to market price.

6. Distributional Characteristics

As presented in Table 2, most earnings-related variables exhibit positive skewness, with Basic EPS (2.23), Diluted EPS (2.23), Cash EPS (2.23), and Book Value per Share (2.24) all indicating right-skewed distributions. This implies that exceptionally high values in FY2022 influenced the overall distribution.

Similarly, several variables recorded kurtosis values above 3, including Basic EPS (4.98), Cash EPS (4.98), and Book Value per Share (5.00), indicating leptokurtic distributions characterized by the presence of extreme observations.

C. Empirical Results and Analysis of Correlation Analysis (Tata Steel Limited)

1. Relationship among Earnings and Per Share Indicators

As presented in Table 3, Tata Steel's earnings and per share indicators exhibited exceptionally strong positive relationships throughout the study period. Basic EPS was almost perfectly correlated with Diluted EPS (r = 0.999) and Net Profit per Share (r = 0.99), while Cash EPS maintained nearly perfect positive correlations with Basic EPS (r = 0.99) and Diluted EPS (r = 0.999989559). Book Value per Share showed very strong positive relationships with Basic EPS (r = 0.999385136) and Revenue from Operations per Share (r = 0.999). Dividend per Share was also highly correlated with Revenue from Operations per Share (r = 0.999) and PBDIT per Share (r = 0.99). Furthermore, PBDIT per Share, PBIT per Share, PBT per Share, and Net Profit per Share all recorded correlation coefficients exceeding 0.999, indicating a very high degree of association among earnings-related indicators.

2. Relationship among Profitability Indicators

As presented in Table 3, Tata Steel's profitability indicators demonstrated strong positive interrelationships during the study period. PBDIT Margin exhibited high positive correlations with PBIT Margin (r = 0.998939) and Basic EPS (r = 0.995790). PBT Margin was almost perfectly correlated with Return on Assets (r = 0.999813) and strongly associated with Net Profit Margin (r = 0.997984). Net Profit Margin recorded strong positive relationships with Return on Net Worth (r = 0.998743) and Return on Assets (r = 0.997391), while Return on Net Worth was highly correlated with Return on Assets (r = 0.995708). Additionally, Return on Capital Employed maintained strong positive correlations with PBIT Margin (r = 0.997915) and Basic EPS (r = 0.992074), indicating close association among the company's profitability measures.

3. Relationship between Capital Structure and Profitability

As presented in Table 3, Tata Steel's Debt–Equity Ratio demonstrated negative correlations with several profitability indicators, including Basic EPS (r = –0.478), Net Profit per Share (r = –0.478), PBIT Margin (r = –0.522), Return on Capital Employed (r = –0.563), and Return on Assets (r = –0.337). Conversely, the Debt–Equity Ratio exhibited strong positive relationships with EV/Net Operating Revenue (r = 0.900) and EV/EBITDA (r = 0.876), indicating differing associations between leverage, profitability, and market valuation measures.

4. Relationship between Liquidity and Profitability

As presented in Table 3, Tata Steel's liquidity indicators showed predominantly negative relationships with profitability measures. The Current Ratio was negatively correlated with Basic EPS (r = –0.353), Net Profit Margin (r = –0.497), and Return on Net Worth (r = –0.525). The Quick Ratio also exhibited weak negative relationships with Basic EPS (r = –0.107) and Return on Assets (r = –0.124). However, the Current Ratio and Quick Ratio recorded a strong positive correlation with each other (r = 0.920), indicating consistency between the company's liquidity measures.

5. Relationship between Operational Efficiency and Profitability

As presented in Table 3, the Asset Turnover Ratio exhibited strong positive relationships with Return on Capital Employed (r = 0.870), PBIT Margin (r = 0.839), Revenue from Operations per Share (r = 0.827), and Basic EPS (r = 0.812). Conversely, the Inventory Turnover Ratio recorded negative relationships with profitability indicators, indicating contrasting associations between different efficiency measures and the company's financial performance.

7. Relationship between Dividend Policy and Profitability

As presented in Table 3, Tata Steel's Dividend Payout Ratio (Net Profit basis) demonstrated strong negative correlations with Net Profit Margin (r = –0.850), Return on Net Worth (r = –0.851), and Return on Assets (r = –0.811). The Dividend Payout Ratio (Cash Profit basis) exhibited even stronger negative relationships with Net Profit Margin (r = –0.910), Return on Net Worth (r = –0.922), and Return on Assets (r = –0.882). The Earnings Retention Ratio recorded a perfect negative correlation with Dividend Payout Ratio (r = –1.000) and a positive correlation with Return on Assets (r = 0.811), while the Cash Earnings Retention Ratio showed positive correlations with Return on Assets (r = 0.882) and Earnings Yield (r = 0.799).

7. Relationship between Market Valuation Indicators and Financial Performance

As presented in Table 3, Tata Steel's market valuation indicators displayed mixed associations with financial performance. EV/EBITDA recorded negative correlations with Basic EPS (r = –0.781), Return on Assets (r = –0.738), and Earnings Yield (r = –0.818), while EV/Net Operating Revenue showed negative relationships with Basic EPS (r = –0.340) and Return on Assets (r = –0.317). Price-to-Book Value exhibited a strong positive correlation with Market Capitalization to Revenue (r = 0.998) but negative relationships with profitability measures. Conversely, Earnings Yield demonstrated strong positive correlations with Return on Assets (r = 0.977), Net Profit Margin (r = 0.971), and PBT Margin (r = 0.973), indicating close association between earnings yield and profitability indicators.

D. Empirical Analysis by using financial Ratios & CAGR – JSPL

1. Earnings Performance

As presented in Table 4 and 7, JSPL's earnings moderated after the exceptionally profitable FY2022 but remained positive throughout the study period. Basic EPS declined from ₹ 81.21 to ₹ 30.23, while Cash EPS reduced from ₹ 104.04 to ₹ 53.62, indicating continued generation of strong operating cash flows. Table 7 further shows negative CAGR in Basic EPS (-21.89%), Diluted EPS (-21.86%), Cash EPS (-15.27%), PBDIT per Share (-12.91%), PBIT per Share (-16.28%), PBT per Share (-22.10%), and Net Profit per Share (-22.08%), reflecting moderation in earnings during the post-pandemic period.

2. Book Value and Shareholders' Wealth

As presented in Table 4 and 7, JSPL strengthened its shareholders' wealth throughout the study period. Book Value per Share increased steadily from ₹ 399.33 in FY2022 to ₹ 522.16 in FY2026, representing

approximately 31% growth, while recording a positive CAGR of 6.93%. The continuous increase in book value reflects sustained growth in shareholders' equity over the study period.

Table 4: Presents the financial ratios of JSPL for the period from 31 March 2022 to 31 March 2026

Indicator	Mar 26	Mar 25	Mar 24	Mar 23	Mar 22
Basic EPS (Rs.)	30.23	35.83	52.52	24.11	81.21
Diluted EPS (Rs.)	30.27	35.83	52.52	24.11	81.21
Cash EPS (Rs.)	53.62	58.25	74.72	45.7	104.04
Book Value [ExclRevalReserve]/Share (Rs.)	522.16	491.83	453.85	403.55	399.33
Book Value [InclRevalReserve]/Share (Rs.)	522.16	491.83	453.85	403.55	399.33
Dividend / Share(Rs.)	2	2	2	2	3
Revenue from Operations/Share (Rs.)	530.94	482.49	495.63	509.25	489.08
PBDIT/Share (Rs.)	86.15	89.48	102.63	95.34	149.78
PBIT/Share (Rs.)	62.73	67.02	80.52	73.79	127.7
PBT/Share (Rs.)	40.69	47.91	71.34	28.58	110.5
Net Profit/Share (Rs.)	30.21	35.79	52.61	24.15	81.96
PBDIT Margin (%)	16.22	18.54	20.7	18.72	30.62
PBIT Margin (%)	11.81	13.88	16.24	14.49	26.11
PBT Margin (%)	7.66	9.92	14.39	5.61	22.59
Net Profit Margin (%)	5.68	7.41	10.61	4.74	16.75
Return on Networth / Equity (%)	5.78	7.27	11.59	5.98	20.52
Return on Capital Employed (%)	9.74	11.14	13.87	14.06	21.74
Return on Assets (%)	3.8	4.92	7.32	3.62	11.02
Total Debt/Equity (X)	0.14	0.14	0.24	0.29	0.33
Asset Turnover Ratio (%)	0.7	0.67	0.71	0.72	0.69
Current Ratio (X)	1.09	1.04	1.08	0.94	1.12
Quick Ratio (X)	0.71	0.67	0.65	0.56	0.68
Inventory Turnover Ratio (X)	10.14	9.1	3.74	3.62	3.27
Dividend Payout Ratio (NP) (%)	0	5.58	3.81	8.28	1.23
Dividend Payout Ratio (CP) (%)	0	3.43	2.68	4.37	0.97
Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	0	94.42	96.19	91.72	98.77
Cash Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	0	96.57	97.32	95.63	99.03
EV/Net Operating Revenue (X)	2.18	1.96	1.87	1.23	1.3
EV/EBITDA (X)	13.42	10.56	9.02	6.55	4.24
MarketCap/Net Operating Revenue (X)	2.1	1.89	1.71	1.07	1.09
Retention Ratios (%)	0	94.41	96.18	91.71	98.76
Price/BV (X)	2.13	1.85	1.87	1.35	1.34
Price/Net Operating Revenue	2.1	1.89	1.71	1.07	1.09
Earnings Yield	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.04	0.15

Source: Compiled and calculated by the author from the Annual Reports of JSPL Ltd. (2021-2022 to 2025-26).

3. Dividend Policy

As presented in Table 4 and 7, JSPL maintained a conservative dividend policy during the study period. Dividend per Share declined from ₹3.00 in FY2022 to ₹2.00 from FY2023 onwards, while Table 7 reports a negative CAGR of -9.64%, indicating a reduction in dividend distribution over the study period.

4. Revenue and Operating Performance

As presented in Table 4 and 7, JSPL maintained stable revenue generation during the study period, with Revenue from Operations per Share increasing from ₹489.08 to ₹530.94. Although operating earnings moderated, PBDIT per Share declined from ₹149.78 to ₹86.15, PBIT per Share from ₹127.70 to ₹62.73, and PBT per Share from ₹110.50 to

₹ 40.69, while remaining positive throughout the period. Table 7 further reports positive CAGR in Revenue from Operations per Share (2.07%), EV/Net Operating Revenue (13.80%), and EV/EBITDA (33.38%), indicating stable revenue performance and improving market valuation.

5. Profitability Analysis

As presented in Table 4 and 7, JSPL's profitability margins declined following the exceptional performance of FY2022 but remained positive throughout the study period. PBDIT Margin reduced from 30.62% to 16.22%, PBIT Margin from 26.11% to 11.81%, PBT Margin from 22.59% to 7.66%, and Net Profit Margin from 16.75% to 5.68%. Table 7 further reports negative CAGR in PBDIT Margin (-14.69%), PBIT Margin (-17.99%), PBT Margin (-23.69%), and Net Profit Margin (-23.69%), indicating moderation in profitability during the study period.

6. Return Ratios

As presented in Table 4 and 7, JSPL's return ratios moderated during the study period. Return on Net Worth declined from 20.52% to 5.78%, Return on Capital Employed from 21.74% to 9.74%, and Return on Assets from 11.02% to 3.80%. Table 7 reports negative CAGR in RONW (-27.15%), ROCE (-18.19%), and ROA (-23.37%), indicating lower returns generated from shareholders' equity, capital employed, and total assets.

7. Capital Structure and Solvency

As presented in Table 4 and 7, JSPL strengthened its capital structure by reducing the Debt–Equity Ratio from 0.33 in FY2022 to 0.14 by FY2025 and FY2026. The negative CAGR of -19.29% reported in Table 7 indicates continuous reduction in financial leverage during the study period.

8. Liquidity Position

As presented in Table 4 and 7, JSPL maintained a stable liquidity position during the study period. The Current Ratio remained between 0.94 and 1.12, while the Quick Ratio improved from 0.56 to 0.71. Table 7 reports a Current Ratio CAGR of -0.68% and Quick Ratio CAGR of 1.09%, indicating consistent working capital management.

9. Efficiency Analysis

As presented in Table 4 and 7, JSPL maintained stable operational efficiency during the study period. The Asset Turnover Ratio remained between 0.67 and 0.72, while the Inventory Turnover Ratio increased substantially from 3.27 to 10.14. Table 7 further reports positive CAGR in Inventory Turnover Ratio (32.70%), Asset Turnover Ratio (0.36%), and Revenue from Operations per Share (2.07%), indicating improvement in operational efficiency.

10. Dividend Retention Policy & Market-Based Performance

As presented in Table 4 and 7, JSPL maintained a conservative dividend retention policy, with the Dividend Payout Ratio (Net Profit basis) remaining between 0% and 8.28%, while the Earnings Retention Ratio exceeded 90% during FY2022–FY2025. Table 7 reports -1 for the CAGR of dividend payout and retention ratios, indicating that meaningful CAGR could not be computed. The company also recorded positive CAGR in EV/Net Operating Revenue (13.80%), EV/EBITDA (33.38%), Market Capitalization/Net Operating Revenue (17.81%), Price-to-Book Ratio (12.28%), and Price-to-Net Operating Revenue (17.81%), whereas Earnings Yield declined by 33.13%, reflecting stronger market valuation relative to earnings.

E. Descriptive Statistics Analysis of Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. (JSPL)

1. Shareholders' Equity and Book Value

As presented in Table 5, JSPL maintained a stable shareholders' equity position throughout the study period. Book Value per Share recorded a mean of ₹ 454.14, median of ₹ 453.85, standard deviation of ₹ 53.88, and a CV of 11.86%, indicating low variability. The distribution exhibited skewness of 0.197 and kurtosis of −2.214, reflecting a relatively symmetrical and stable pattern in shareholders' equity over the study period.

2. Dividend Policy

As presented in Table 5, JSPL maintained a conservative dividend distribution policy throughout the study period. Dividend per Share averaged ₹ 2.20 with a CV of 20.33%, while the Dividend Payout Ratio (Net Profit) averaged 3.78% and the Dividend Payout Ratio (Cash Profit) averaged 2.29%. The distribution of Dividend per Share recorded skewness of 2.236 and kurtosis of 5.00, indicating limited variation in dividend payments across the

study period.

3. Revenue and Operating Performance

As presented in Table 5, JSPL maintained consistent revenue generation throughout the study period. Revenue from Operations per Share recorded a mean of ₹501.48 with a CV of 3.83%, indicating minimal variation. PBDIT per Share, PBIT per Share, PBT per Share, and Net Profit per Share averaged ₹104.68, ₹82.35, ₹59.80, and ₹44.94, respectively. The coefficients of variation increased from operating profit to net profit, with PBT per Share exceeding 54% and Net Profit per Share approximately 52%, indicating relatively greater variability in bottom-line earnings.

Table 5: Presents the descriptive statistical measures of the selected financial indicators of JSPL for the period 31 March 2022 to 31 March 2026

	Mean	Median	Standard Deviation	Sample Variance	Kurtosis	Skewness	Range	Minimum	Maximum	Cofficent of Variance
Basic EPS (Rs.)	44.78	35.83	22.94617	526.5266	1.012	1.248	57.1	24.11	81.21	51.242
Diluted EPS (Rs.)	44.788	35.83	22.93983	526.23592	1.014	1.248	57.1	24.11	81.21	51.218703
Cash EPS (Rs.)	67.266	58.25	23.13268	535.12078	1.121	1.240	58.34	45.7	104.04	34.389852
Book Value [ExclRevalReserve]/ Share (Rs.)	454.144	453.85	53.87677	2902.70618	-2.214	0.197	122.83	399.33	522.16	11.863367
Book Value [InclRevalReserve]/ Share (Rs.)	454.144	453.85	53.87677	2902.70618	-2.214	0.197	122.83	399.33	522.16	11.863367
Dividend / Share(Rs.)	2.2	2	0.44721	0.2	5.000	2.236	1	2	3	20.327891
Revenue from Operations/Share (Rs.)	501.478	495.63	19.21501	369.21677	0.361	1.004	48.45	482.49	530.94	3.8316764
PBDIT/Share (Rs.)	104.676	95.34	25.98004	674.96223	3.846	1.926	63.63	86.15	149.78	24.819476
PBIT/Share (Rs.)	82.352	73.79	26.23546	688.29957	3.709	1.880	64.97	62.73	127.7	31.857713
PBT/Share (Rs.)	59.804	47.91	32.34546	1046.22853	0.824	1.142	81.92	28.58	110.5	54.085774
Net Profit/Share (Rs.)	44.944	35.79	23.24989	540.55718	1.077	1.267	57.81	24.15	81.96	51.730789
PBDIT Margin (%)	20.96	18.72	5.62861	31.6812	3.547	1.798	14.4	16.22	30.62	26.854034
PBIT Margin (%)	16.506	14.49	5.59732	31.33003	3.535	1.796	14.3	11.81	26.11	33.910841
PBT Margin (%)	12.034	9.92	6.74256	45.46213	0.792	1.130	16.98	5.61	22.59	56.029259
Net Profit Margin (%)	9.038	7.41	4.85658	23.58637	1.030	1.240	12.01	4.74	16.75	53.735119
Return on Networth / Equity (%)	10.228	7.27	6.21209	38.59007	2.087	1.568	14.74	5.78	20.52	60.736123
Return on Capital Employed (%)	14.11	13.87	4.64206	21.5487	2.315	1.393	12	9.74	21.74	32.899063
Return on Assets (%)	6.136	4.92	3.10327	9.63028	0.666	1.223	7.4	3.62	11.02	50.574792
Total Debt/Equity (X)	0.228	0.24	0.08643	0.00747	-2.557	-0.040	0.19	0.14	0.33	37.907527
Asset Turnover Ratio (%)	0.698	0.7	0.01924	0.00037	-0.022	-0.590	0.05	0.67	0.72	2.7557857
Current Ratio (X)	1.054	1.08	0.06986	0.00488	1.975	-1.384	0.18	0.94	1.12	6.6277986
Quick Ratio (X)	0.654	0.67	0.05683	0.00323	2.595	-1.438	0.15	0.56	0.71	8.6900748
Inventory Turnover Ratio (X)	5.974	3.74	3.35303	11.24278	-2.998	0.651	6.87	3.27	10.14	56.126975
Dividend Payout Ratio (NP) (%)	3.78	3.81	3.32723	11.07045	-1.197	0.298	8.28	0	8.28	88.02192
Dividend Payout Ratio (CP) (%)	2.29	2.68	1.78638	3.19115	-1.744	-0.275	4.37	0	4.37	78.007817
Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	76.22	94.42	42.68572	1822.07045	4.928	-2.216	98.77	0	98.77	56.003303
Cash Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	77.71	96.57	43.45907	1888.69115	4.984	-2.231	99.03	0	99.03	55.924687

table cont....

	Mean	Median	Standard Deviation	Sample Variance	Kurtosis	Skewness	Range	Minimum	Maximum	Cofficent of Variance
EV/Net Operating Revenue (X)	1.708	1.87	0.42056	0.17687	-2.635	-0.290	0.95	1.23	2.18	24.622901
EV/EBITDA (X)	8.758	9.02	3.54745	12.58442	-0.712	0.039	9.18	4.24	13.42	40.505282
MarketCap/Net Operating Revenue (X)	1.572	1.71	0.46991	0.22082	-2.725	-0.227	1.03	1.07	2.1	29.892804
Retention Ratios (%)	76.212	94.41	42.68125	1821.68937	4.928	-2.216	98.76	0	98.76	56.003324
Price/BV (X)	1.708	1.85	0.34931	0.12202	-2.327	-0.132	0.79	1.34	2.13	20.451617
Price/Net Operating Revenue	1.572	1.71	0.46991	0.22082	-2.725	-0.227	1.03	1.07	2.1	29.892804
Earnings Yield	0.064	0.04	0.04930	0.00243	4.002947	1.979	0.12	0.03	0.15	77.023485

4. Profitability Margins

As presented in Table 5, JSPL's profitability margins displayed moderate variability during the study period. PBDIT Margin averaged 20.96%, followed by PBIT Margin (16.51%), PBT Margin (12.03%), and Net Profit Margin (9.04%). Among these indicators, PBDIT Margin recorded a CV of 26.85%, while PBT Margin and Net Profit Margin exhibited coefficients of variation exceeding 53%, indicating comparatively higher variation in net profitability.

5. Return on Investment

As presented in Table 5, JSPL generated satisfactory returns on investment during the study period. RONW averaged 10.23%, ROCE averaged 14.11%, and ROA averaged 6.14%. ROCE exhibited the lowest coefficient of variation of 32.90%, indicating comparatively greater stability in returns generated from long-term capital employed.

6. Capital Structure and Financial Leverage

As presented in Table 5, JSPL maintained a conservative capital structure throughout the study period. The Debt-to-Equity Ratio recorded a mean of 0.228, with a CV of 37.91% and skewness of −0.040, indicating moderate variation and a balanced distribution of financial leverage.

7. Liquidity Position

As presented in Table 5, JSPL maintained consistent liquidity throughout the study period. The Current Ratio recorded a mean of 1.054 with a CV of 6.63%, while the Quick Ratio averaged 0.654 with a CV of 8.69%, reflecting stable short-term liquidity management.

8. Operational Efficiency

As presented in Table 5, JSPL maintained consistent operational efficiency during the study period. The Asset Turnover Ratio recorded a mean of 0.698 and the lowest coefficient of variation of 2.76%, while the Inventory Turnover Ratio averaged 5.97 times with a CV of 56.13%, indicating comparatively greater variation in inventory management.

9. Earnings Retention and Growth Strategy

As presented in Table 5, JSPL retained a significant proportion of its earnings throughout the study period. The Earnings Retention Ratio averaged 76.22%, while the Cash Earnings Retention Ratio averaged 77.71%, indicating that a substantial share of annual earnings was retained within the business.

10. Market Valuation

As presented in Table 5, JSPL's market valuation indicators remained relatively stable during the study period. Enterprise Value to Net Operating Revenue averaged 1.71, Enterprise Value to EBITDA averaged 8.76, Price-to-Book Value averaged 1.71, and Market Capitalization to Net Operating Revenue averaged 1.57. Earnings Yield averaged 6.4% and exhibited a CV of 77.02%, indicating comparatively higher variability than the other market valuation indicators.

F. Correlation Analysis of Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. (JSPL)

1. Relationship between Profitability Margins and Returns

As presented in Table 6, JSPL's profitability margins exhibited strong positive relationships with return indicators. PBDIT Margin recorded very high positive correlations with PBIT Margin (r = 0.9996) and ROCE (r = 0.9739), while Net Profit Margin was strongly

Table 6: Presents the correlation coefficients among the selected financial indicators of JSPL

Basic EPS (Rs.)	Diluted EPS (Rs.)	Cash EPS (Rs.)	Book Value [Excl Reval Reserve]/ Share (Rs.)	Book Value [InclReval Reserve]/ Share (Rs.)	Dividend / Share (Rs.)	Revenue from Operations/ Share (Rs.)	PBDIT/ Share (Rs.)	PBIT/ Share (Rs.)	PBT/ Share (Rs.)	Net Profit/ Share (Rs.)	PBDIT Margin (%)	PBIT Margin (%)	PBT Margin (%)	Net Profit Margin (%)	Return on Net worth / Equity (%)
1															
1	1														
0.9996	0.99962	1													
-0.4611	-0.4607	-0.4402	1												
-0.4611	-0.4607	-0.4402	1	1											
0.88751	0.88756	0.88867	-0.5687	-0.5687	1										
-0.5195	-0.519	-0.5051	0.38068	0.38068	-0.3607	1									
0.93343	0.93338	0.92954	-0.6844	-0.6844	0.97051	-0.4392	1								
0.92921	0.92914	0.92463	-0.7012	-0.7012	0.96626	-0.4488	0.99969	1							
0.99909	0.9991	0.99959	-0.4233	-0.4233	0.87616	-0.5132	0.91908	0.91403	1						
0.99998	0.99998	0.99957	-0.4643	-0.4643	0.89001	-0.518	0.93541	0.93121	0.99889	1					
0.94233	0.94223	0.93719	-0.684	-0.684	0.9594	-0.5302	0.99455	0.99518	0.92833	0.94401	1				
0.93687	0.93676	0.93147	-0.6986	-0.6986	0.95917	-0.5153	0.99617	0.99708	0.92207	0.93865	0.99963	1			
0.99883	0.99882	0.99862	-0.4346	-0.4346	0.87518	-0.5467	0.91971	0.91526	0.99919	0.99861	0.93276	0.92604	1		
0.99916	0.99913	0.99806	-0.4734	-0.4734	0.88769	-0.5525	0.93462	0.931	0.99761	0.99914	0.94723	0.94134	0.99899	1	
0.99001	0.98997	0.98747	-0.5704	-0.5704	0.92616	-0.5099	0.97347	0.97135	0.98331	0.99071	0.97828	0.97568	0.98393	0.99043	1
0.86207	0.8619	0.85275	-0.8245	-0.8245	0.91884	-0.4651	0.97676	0.98155	0.83992	0.86449	0.97386	0.97914	0.84419	0.86706	0.92448
0.99696	0.9969	0.99437	-0.5166	-0.5166	0.87979	-0.5566	0.9399	0.93757	0.99358	0.99698	0.95212	0.94741	0.99522	0.998	0.99278
0.57926	0.57898	0.56238	-0.9682	-0.9682	0.65973	-0.2671	0.77544	0.78816	0.5457	0.58231	0.75718	0.77297	0.5481	0.58236	0.67725
-0.2446	-0.2446	-0.2551	-0.3853	-0.3853	-0.2325	0.53474	-0.1012	-0.0907	-0.2649	-0.243	-0.1649	-0.1399	-0.2835	-0.2637	-0.1789
0.71173	0.71216	0.72934	0.2699	0.2699	0.52815	-0.0987	0.48678	0.46783	0.73951	0.70969	0.47648	0.46321	0.72313	0.69395	0.62232
0.36447	0.365	0.38889	0.63225	0.63225	0.25574	0.07246	0.13171	0.10849	0.40069	0.36228	0.12395	0.10631	0.38499	0.34793	0.25849
-0.506	-0.5056	-0.4846	0.92601	0.92601	-0.4508	0.35573	-0.6316	-0.6481	-0.4752	-0.5075	-0.6303	-0.6447	-0.4812	-0.5116	-0.5839
-0.4807	-0.4813	-0.5043	-0.3865	-0.3865	-0.4284	-0.3094	-0.3309	-0.3083	-0.5078	-0.48	-0.2825	-0.2758	-0.4795	-0.4517	-0.4092
-0.3961	-0.3968	-0.4206	-0.3787	-0.3787	-0.4131	-0.4287	-0.2944	-0.2717	-0.4204	-0.3962	-0.2341	-0.2304	-0.3896	-0.3652	-0.3396
0.40884	0.40817	0.3848	-0.7092	-0.7092	0.29532	-0.8739	0.44343	0.46207	0.38568	0.40857	0.51523	0.51286	0.41731	0.44017	0.45125
0.38105	0.38037	0.35663	-0.7107	-0.7107	0.27424	-0.8644	0.42231	0.44141	0.35722	0.38084	0.49406	0.49209	0.38919	0.41276	0.42586
-0.333	-0.3326	-0.3135	0.97206	0.97206	-0.5423	0.29443	-0.6142	-0.6306	-0.2924	-0.337	-0.6083	-0.6241	-0.3043	-0.3467	-0.4586
-0.617	-0.6166	-0.5984	0.97356	0.97356	-0.712	0.51514	-0.8069	-0.8208	-0.5831	-0.6199	-0.8166	-0.8264	-0.5967	-0.6317	-0.7128
-0.3859	-0.3855	-0.3666	0.98425	0.98425	-0.5734	0.29861	-0.6543	-0.6702	-0.3461	-0.3898	-0.6465	-0.6623	-0.3566	-0.398	-0.5078
0.40885	0.40818	0.3848	-0.7092	-0.7092	0.29532	-0.8739	0.44343	0.46207	0.38568	0.40857	0.51524	0.51287	0.41732	0.44017	0.45126
-0.3794	-0.379	-0.3602	0.9603	0.9603	-0.5889	0.39367	-0.6491	-0.665	-0.34	-0.3833	-0.6534	-0.6662	-0.3555	-0.3968	-0.5004
-0.3859	-0.3855	-0.3666	0.98425	0.98425	-0.5734	0.29861	-0.6543	-0.6702	-0.3461	-0.3898	-0.6465	-0.6623	-0.3566	-0.398	-0.5078
0.95206	0.95202	0.94944	-0.6321	-0.6321	0.97526	-0.4686	0.99669	0.99512	0.9405	0.95376	0.99545	0.99493	0.94172	0.95376	0.98281

Source: Compiled and calculated by the author

Return on Capital Employed (%)	Return on Assets (%)	Total Debt/ Equity (X)	Asset Turn over Ratio (%)	Current Ratio (X)	Quick Ratio (X)	Inventory Turnover Ratio (X)	Dividend Payout Ratio (NP) (%)	Dividend Payout Ratio (CP) (%)	Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	Cash Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	EV/Net Operating Revenue (X)	EV/ EBITDA (X)	Market Cap/Net Operating Revenue (X)	Retention Ratios (%)	Earnings Yield Price/Net Operating Revenue Price/BV (X)
1															
0.8838	1														
0.8837	0.62353	1													
0.02632	-0.2129	0.44812	1												
0.29858	0.66065	-0.0812	-0.4205	1											
-0.0836	0.29552	-0.4866	-0.6083	0.88913	1										
-0.7624	-0.5637	-0.9405	-0.5278	0.14731	0.58146	1									
-0.1378	-0.414	0.16822	0.2414	-0.9054	-0.8888	-0.3112	1								
-0.11	-0.3272	0.16225	0.17825	-0.8264	-0.8407	-0.3412	0.98617	1							
0.5621	0.47314	0.58321	-0.0797	-0.2312	-0.5078	-0.7034	0.58743	0.67392	1						
0.54606	0.44647	0.57904	-0.0671	-0.2625	-0.5323	-0.7007	0.613	0.69633	0.99948	1					
-0.7605	-0.3845	-0.9149	-0.3529	0.38497	0.67087	0.81918	-0.4353	-0.3947	-0.6234	-0.6294	1				
-0.9132	-0.665	-0.9486	-0.1847	0.10385	0.46989	0.88031	-0.2708	-0.282	-0.7486	-0.7444	0.93768	1			
-0.7951	-0.4368	-0.9423	-0.3701	0.33174	0.64366	0.85211	-0.3916	-0.3576	-0.6275	-0.6317	0.99723	0.95333	1		
0.5621	0.47315	0.58321	-0.0797	-0.2312	-0.5078	-0.7034	0.58742	0.67392	1	0.99948	-0.6234	-0.7486	-0.6275	1	
-0.7855	-0.4297	-0.8895	-0.2277	0.34772	0.62133	0.78502	-0.4318	-0.4007	-0.6739	-0.6785	0.99124	0.952	0.98603	-0.6739	1
-0.7951	-0.4368	-0.9423	-0.3701	0.33174	0.64366	0.85211	-0.3916	-0.3576	-0.6275	-0.6317	0.99723	0.95333	1	-0.6275	10.98603
0.95944	0.95486	0.72409	-0.174	0.53868	0.1981	-0.5805	-0.369	-0.3251	0.43272	0.41013	-0.5591	-0.7696	-0.5994	0.43272	1-0.5994-0.6019

associated with ROA (r = 0.9980) and RONW (r = 0.9904). Conversely, Revenue from Operations per Share displayed moderate negative relationships with Basic EPS (r = –0.520), Net Profit Margin (r = –0.552), and ROA (r = –0.557), indicating differing associations between revenue generation and profitability.

2. Relationship between Capital Structure and Financial Performance

As presented in Table 6, JSPL's Debt-to-Equity Ratio demonstrated a strong negative correlation with Book Value per Share (r = –0.968), while exhibiting positive relationships with ROCE (r = 0.884) and ROA (r = 0.624). These findings indicate contrasting relationships between financial leverage, shareholders' equity, and return measures during the study period.

3. Relationship between Liquidity and Profitability

As presented in Table 6, JSPL's liquidity indicators displayed positive relationships with profitability measures. The Current Ratio was moderately correlated with Basic EPS (r = 0.712), PBT per Share (r = 0.740), Net Profit per Share (r = 0.710), and ROA (r = 0.661). Similarly, the Quick Ratio exhibited comparatively weaker but positive associations with profitability indicators throughout the study period.

4. Relationship between Operational Efficiency and Profitability

As presented in Table 6, JSPL's operational efficiency indicators exhibited varying relationships with profitability. The Asset Turnover Ratio showed weak negative correlations with Basic EPS (r = –0.245) and ROA (r = –0.213), while recording a moderate positive relationship with Revenue from Operations per Share (r = 0.535). In contrast, the Inventory Turnover Ratio demonstrated strong negative correlations with ROCE (r = –0.762), PBDIT per Share (r = –0.632), and Net Profit Margin (r = –0.512).

5. Relationship between Dividend Policy and Profitability

As presented in Table 6, JSPL's Dividend per Share demonstrated very strong positive correlations with Basic EPS (r = 0.888), PBDIT per Share (r = 0.971), and Earnings Yield (r = 0.975). Conversely, both Dividend Payout Ratios exhibited negative relationships with profitability indicators, indicating differing associations between dividend distribution and financial performance.

6. Relationship between Earnings Retention and Growth

As presented in Table 6, JSPL's Earnings Retention Ratio recorded strong negative correlations with Revenue from Operations per Share (r = –0.874) and Book Value per Share (r = –0.709), while exhibiting moderate positive relationships with ROCE (r = 0.562) and ROA (r = 0.473), indicating varied associations between retained earnings and financial performance.

7. Relationship between Market Valuation and Financial Performance

As presented in Table 6, JSPL's market valuation indicators exhibited both positive and negative relationships with financial performance. EV/EBITDA recorded strong negative correlations with PBIT Margin (r = –0.826), ROCE (r = –0.913), and ROA (r = –0.665), while the Price-to-Book Value Ratio maintained a strong positive relationship with Book Value per Share (r = 0.960) despite negative associations with profitability measures. Conversely, Earnings Yield demonstrated very strong positive correlations with PBDIT per Share (r = 0.997), PBIT Margin (r = 0.995), ROCE (r = 0.959), and ROA (r = 0.955), indicating close association between earnings yield and profitability indicators.

Table 7: Presents CAGR Analysis (Tata Steel & JSPL)

	CAGR TATA	CAGR JSPL
Basic EPS (Rs.)	-0.53289	-0.21889906
Diluted EPS (Rs.)	-0.5328	-0.2186408
Cash EPS (Rs.)	-0.50742	-0.15271091
Book Value [ExclRevalReserve]/ Share (Rs.)	-0.4297	0.069345178
Book Value [InclRevalReserve]/ Share (Rs.)	-0.4297	0.069345178
Dividend / Share(Rs.)	-0.4708	-0.096398
Revenue from Operations/Share (Rs.)	-0.42939	0.020742942
PBDIT/Share (Rs.)	-0.49607	-0.12913595
PBIT/Share (Rs.)	-0.51078	-0.16281566
PBT/Share (Rs.)	-0.53338	-0.22101095

table cont....

	CAGR TATA	CAGR JSPL
Net Profit/Share (Rs.)	-0.53277	-0.22082108
PBDIT Margin (%)	-0.11684	-0.14687746
PBIT Margin (%)	-0.14261	-0.17991143
PBT Margin (%)	-0.18225	-0.23690583
Net Profit Margin (%)	-0.18134	-0.23689661
Return on Networth / Equity (%)	-0.18078	-0.27148647
Return on Capital Employed (%)	-0.17162	-0.18186522
Return on Assets (%)	-0.20668	-0.23369704
Total Debt/Equity (X)	0.165647	-0.19294427
Asset Turnover Ratio (%)	-0.04605	0.003603662
Current Ratio (X)	-0.02693	-0.00676476
Quick Ratio (X)	-0.06572	0.010851498
Inventory Turnover Ratio (X)	0.29678	0.327004974
Dividend Payout Ratio (NP) (%)	0.324076	-1
Dividend Payout Ratio (CP) (%)	0.255739	-1
Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	-0.05651	-1
Cash Earnings Retention Ratio (%)	-0.03309	-1
EV/Net Operating Revenue (X)	0.099715	0.137963377
EV/EBITDA (X)	0.246463	0.333818279
MarketCap/Net Operating Revenue (X)	0.083661	0.178143521
Retention Ratios (%)	-0.05652	-1
Price/BV (X)	0.086532	0.122842135
Price/Net Operating Revenue	0.083661	0.178143521
Earnings Yield	-0.24016	-0.3312597

Source: Compiled and calculated by the author

CONCLUSION

Tata Steel exhibited greater overall financial resilience due to its balanced performance across profitability, operational efficiency, liquidity management, and capital utilization. Although CAGR analysis revealed substantial negative growth in earnings and profitability indicators following the exceptionally high performance of FY2021–22, Tata Steel maintained stable liquidity, improving inventory efficiency, favourable market valuation, and continued shareholder distributions, demonstrating strong financial resilience despite declining earnings. The descriptive statistics show that Current Ratio (CV = 14.61%), Quick Ratio (CV = 20.62%), and Asset Turnover Ratio (CV = 8.05%) remained relatively stable, indicating effective working capital management and efficient utilization of assets despite fluctuations in market conditions. The ratio analysis also revealed consistently satisfactory ROCE, ROE, PBDIT Margin, and PBIT Margin, demonstrating the company's ability to generate sustainable returns from both operations and invested capital. The CAGR analysis further indicates that market-based valuation measures such as EV/EBITDA (24.65%), Price-to-Book Ratio (8.65%), and EV/Net Operating Revenue (9.97%) recorded positive growth despite declining profitability, reflecting sustained investor confidence in the company's long-term prospects. Furthermore, the Pearson correlation analysis revealed very strong positive relationships among Basic EPS, Net Profit per Share, ROA, ROCE, and ROE, confirming that improvements in operational performance were efficiently converted into shareholder value. The observed negative relationship between the Debt–Equity Ratio and profitability measures further suggests that prudent leverage management contributed to maintaining financial stability.

The CAGR analysis further confirms this JSPL's resilience, as the Total Debt-to-Equity Ratio declined at a CAGR of 19.29%, indicating continuous deleveraging, lower financial risk, and strengthening solvency throughout the study period. One of the strongest pieces of evidence is its mean Debt-to-Equity Ratio of only 0.228, reflecting very low dependence on external debt and significantly reducing financial risk during uncertain economic conditions.

JSPL maintained consistent Revenue from as Revenue from Operations per Share recorded a positive CAGR of 2.07%, Inventory Turnover Ratio grew by 32.70%, and Asset Turnover Ratio increased marginally by 0.36%, indicating sustained operational efficiency despite moderation in profitability. Its profitability indicators, including Basic EPS, Cash EPS, and ROCE, reflected effective operational management, while descriptive statistics showed relatively stable performance for most financial indicators.

The correlation analysis further strengthened these findings by revealing strong positive relationships among earnings, profitability margins, ROCE, ROA, and Return on Net Worth, indicating internally consistent financial performance. Additionally, the strong negative relationship between Debt-

to-Equity Ratio and Book Value per Share demonstrated that equity growth occurred alongside conservative leverage.

Another important indicator of sustainability is JSPL's high earnings retention policy, where more than three-fourths of profits were retained for reinvestment. This reflects a long-term strategy focused on capacity expansion and sustainable growth rather than maximizing short-term dividend distributions. Positive CAGR in EV/EBITDA (33.38%), Price-to-Book Ratio (12.28%), and Market Capitalization/Net Operating Revenue (17.81%) further indicates that investors remained optimistic regarding JSPL's long-term growth potential despite declining earnings

The comparative findings indicate that both Tata Steel Limited and Jindal Steel & Power Ltd. were financially resilient and sustainable during the post-pandemic period. However, the evidence suggests that Tata Steel demonstrates marginally stronger financial resilience primarily because of its balanced performance in liquidity, operational efficiency, market valuation, and shareholder value creation, despite experiencing a sharper decline in earnings and profitability as reflected in the CAGR analysis. In contrast, JSPL demonstrates stronger financial conservatism, sustained operational efficiency, successful deleveraging, and long-term growth orientation.

Accordingly, the study concludes that Tata Steel ranks first in overall post-pandemic financial resilience, while JSPL ranks first in financial conservatism and long-term sustainable financing strategy. This distinction suggests that Tata Steel was better positioned to maintain stable performance under varying market conditions, whereas JSPL demonstrated greater strength in maintaining financial flexibility and supporting future growth through prudent capital structure management.

Future research may extend the analysis by including a larger sample of companies, a longer time horizon, control variables, and advanced econometric techniques to provide broader and more robust evidence on corporate financial resilience.

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