

‘Cement sector to remain buoyant on robust demand’

GROWTH IN DOMESTIC cement demand is expected to be at 7% in FY19 and around 8% in FY20, driven by housing, primarily rural housing and affordable housing and improved focus on infrastructure segments like roads, Metro and irrigation projects, rating agency Icra said last week. The agency estimated around 15-18 MTPA capacity getting added in FY19-20. “The domestic cement capacity utilisation is expected to remain moderate at around 70% in FY20 despite an estimated demand growth of 7-8% in FY19-20 due to capacity overhang,” it said.