Bharat Heavy Electricals | BUY

Behemoth to Live On

With the opening up of 60GW of opportunities amidst limited competition, BHEL is poised for the next cycle of growth and performance, a situation previously seen during the first decade of the 2000s. The concurrent emergence of non-thermal power opportunities (pumped-hydro, nuclear, spares) and gradual scaling up of the industry business kills the commonly held view of zero-terminal value of the thermal business and its implications for the company. Changing our valuation methodology to SOTP-based considering the tapering of thermal business beyond 2030 and industry business – following growth in the non-power business – we expect the company to deliver Revenue/EBITDA/PAT CAGR of 35%/127%/145% over FY23-26E supported by healthy ordering, improving execution and the benefit of operating leverage. We maintain a BUY rating on the stock with an SOTP-based TP of INR 225, indicating a potential upside of 15% from current levels.

- How big and real are the current opportunities? The demand for power in India continues to grow (7MFY24: energy/peak, 8.5%/12.7%) significantly higher than all earlier growth rates (FY05-15/FY15-20: energy/peak, (6.1%/5.4%)/(3.9%/4.4%)). Amidst this, supplies remain constrained, leading to a rebalancing of energy strategy between energy security and sustainability. Presently 27GW of thermal power projects are under construction, 12GW have been bid out, 19GW are under clearances and another 30GW are at the planning stage with a target of adding 88GW by FY32.
- Is BHEL the only player in the market? In the earlier cycle, in addition to BHEL, other manufacturers had a combined capacity of 9-11GW. However, in the recent bids (2x800 MW NTPC Singrauli-III, 3x800 MW NLC Talabira STPS, 1x800 MW DBCR TPP Ext, Yamunanagar, Haryana), BHEL is the only bidder as per the industry sources.
- What is the best-case scenario for capacity addition? India will need to add 6-7GW of capacities every year for a net addition of 87,910MW of power generation capacity by FY32. BHEL commissioned a maximum of 12,215 MW of thermal power projects in FY16.
- What is the visibility of improvement in margins? The company has INR 70-80bn of fixed expenses, constituting the cost of manpower, part of miscellaneous expenses and others. With increasing execution rate, we believe that the high operating leverage and limited competition will improve EBIT margin in the power business from FY25 onwards from 8% in FY23 to 18%/ 21% in FY26/ FY29 like it did in the earlier cycle (22%/ 25%/ 24% in FY06/ FY08/ FY10).
- Is the terminal value of the power sector zero? By 2030, 50GW of thermal capacities will exceed their design life requiring retirement/ replacement/ major R&M. Further, scalable opportunities in non-thermal power pumped-hydro power (akin to hydropower, where BHEL has around 45% market share); nuclear power (48% market share; likely to play an active role in Small & Modular Reactor technology) and spares & services (to grow at least 2x by FY30) are likely to significantly compensate gradual tapering of thermal opportunities.
- When will the account receivables moderate and cash position improve? Trade receivables/ contract assets were at INR 74.93bn/INR 301bn as of 30th Sep'23 vs. INR 65.44bn/INR 297bn as on 31st Mar'23. With the commissioning of 20GW of under-construction projects in the next 12-18 months, we believe stress on receivables will ease Mar'25 onwards. The decrease in debtor days along with better payment terms (minimum 10% advance) will translate into 44% CAGR in the cash balance during FY23-26 vs. -10% CAGR during the preceding 5 years.

Financial Summary					(INR mn)
Y/E March	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Net Sales	2,01,533	2,21,363	2,53,944	3,39,231	5,65,657
Sales Growth (%)	23.7	9.8	14.7	33.6	66.7
EBITDA	7,377	7,166	1,638	19,740	83,335
EBITDA Margin (%)	3.5	3.1	0.6	5.6	14.3
Adjusted Net Profit	4,635	4,774	613	16,310	69,835
Diluted EPS (INR)	1.3	1.4	0.2	4.7	20.1
Diluted EPS Growth (%)	0.0	3.0	-87.2	2,561.0	328.2
ROIC (%)	1.8	1.8	-0.4	7.7	39.5
ROE (%)	1.7	1.8	0.2	5.9	22.9
P/E (x)	146.5	142.2	1,107.8	41.6	9.7
P/B (x)	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.1
EV/EBITDA (x)	88.8	93.0	369.3	28.8	6.2
Dividend Yield (%)	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.7	3.1

Source: Company data, JM Financial. Note: Valuations as of 04/Jan/2024



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Recommendation and Price Target	
Current Reco.	BUY
Previous Reco.	BUY
Current Price Target (12M)	225
Upside/(Downside)	15.3%
Previous Price Target	165
Change	36.3%

Key Data – BHEL IN	
Current Market Price	INR195
Market cap (bn)	INR679.2/US\$8.2
Free Float	27%
Shares in issue (mn)	3,482.1
Diluted share (mn)	3,482.1
3-mon avg daily val (mn)	INR5,297.9/US\$63.7
52-week range	205/66
Sensex/Nifty	71,848/21,659
INR/US\$	83.2

Price Performance	1M	6M	12M
Absolute	12.1	124.5	146.3
Relative*	7.4	104.6	107.9

* To the BSE Sensex

Related report

Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd: Steam blowing, again

JM Financial Research is also available on: Bloomberg - JMFR <GO>, Thomson Publisher & Reuters, S&P Capital IQ, FactSet and Visible Alpha

Please see Appendix I at the end of this report for Important Disclosures and Disclaimers and Research Analyst Certification.

Behemoth to Live On

How big and real are the current opportunities?

The demand for power in India continues to grow (7MFY24: energy/peak, 8.5%/12.7%); it is significantly higher than all earlier growth rates (FY05-15/FY15-20: energy/peak, (6.1%/5.4%)/(3.9%/4.4%)) and the generation target set by Ministry of Power (7.2% YoY). Amidst this, supplies remain constrained. The capacity addition (actual generation, more so) from renewables is below expectations (target/actual) and likely to take more time to scale up and address the grid-reliability challenges (% curtailment from IEA), compelling the government to refocus on rebuilding thermal capacities.

Technology (MW)	Existing generation capacity Under construction		Capacity addition anticipated by FY32
Thermal (coal, gas, diesel)	239,073	27,180 +	87,910
		12GW under bidding +	
		19GW under clearances	
Hydropower	46,880	18,034	42,014
Nuclear	7,480	8,000	12,200
Renewable	132,699	78,935	3,22,000
Total	426,132	1,32,148.5	4,64,124

Source: MoP, CEA, MNRE, JM Financial

Presently 27,180MW of thermal capacity is under construction, 12GW has been bid, 19GW is under clearances and another 30GW is at the conceptualisation stage with a target of adding 87,910MW by FY32.

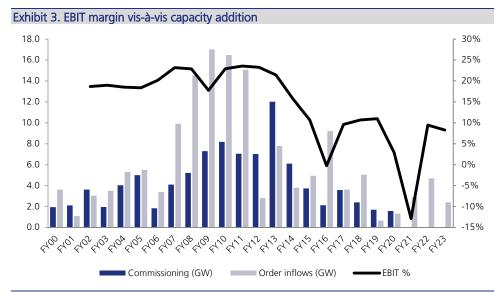
Project status	al power proj Total capacity	Projects
Under bidding	11,160 MW	2x800 MW NTPC Singrauli-III
onder bidding	11,100 1111	1x800 MW NTPC Sipta-III
		3x800 MW NLC Talabira STPS
		1x800 MW DBCR TPP Ext, Yamunanagar, Har
		2x660 MW DVC Raghunathpur
		2x800 MW DVC Koderma
		1x660 MW Amarkantak, MP
		1x660 MW Satpura TPP, MP
		2x660 MW NLC Neyveli TPS-II 2nd Expn, Cuddalore
Under clearances	17,140 MW	1x800 MW NTPC Darlipali-II
		1x800 MW DVC Durgapur
		3x800 MW NTPC Meja-II
		1x800 MW NLC Talabira STPS
		2x660 MW Korba, CG
		2x660 MW OPGC Extn, IB Valley Stage-III, Odisha
		2x800 MW UPRVUNL, Obra-D TPS
		2x800 MW UPRVUNL, Anpara-D TPS
		3x660 MW NTPC Nabinagar TPS
		1x800 MW Singareni, Telangana
		2x660 MW Koradi, Mah
		3x800 MW NTPC Telangana Ph-II
Under planning	10,360 MW	2x800 MW MBPP Sundergarh TPS
		2x800 MW KTPCL Godhna TPS
		1x660 MW SJVNL Buxar Extn.
		1x660 MW Chandrapur, Mah
		1x800 MW Ukai, Guj
		2x660 MW Chhabra, Raj
		1x800 MW Kalisindh, Raj
		1x660 MW SECL Amarkantak
		2x800 MW MCL Sundargarh
More to come as per GOI's plan	22,070 MW	Under process

Is BHEL the only player in the market?

In the earlier cycle, in addition to BHEL, Alstom Bharat Forge, BGR Energy, Dossan HI, JSW-Toshiba, L&T-MHI, and Thermax-B&W were active in the Indian market with a combined manufacturing capacity of 9-11GW. But because of its scale and depth in manufacturing, BHEL used to command 70-80% market share. However, in the recent bids (2x800 MW NTPC Singrauli-III, 3x800 MW NLC Talabira STPS, 1x800 MW DBCR TPP Ext, Yamunanagar, Haryana), BHEL is the only bidder as per the industry sources. It is understood that the government is in discussion with some of the dormant industry players to execute a few projects, given the urgency of capacity addition before the general elections in 2029. Going forward, 1-2 industry players might enter the fray. Nevertheless, we believe BHEL will continue to garner a minimum 70% market share in the current cycle.

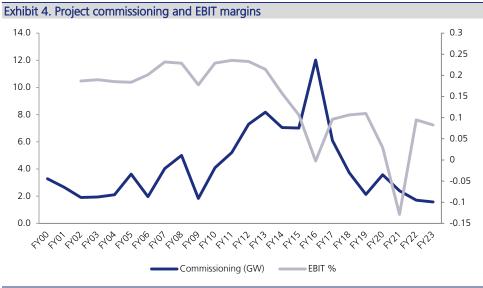
What is the best-case scenario for capacity addition?

- Ministry of Power has targeted to add 87,910MW of power generation capacity by FY32 out of which 27,180MW of projects are under construction and likely to be commissioned by FY26. So, India will need to add around 6-7GW of capacities every year up to FY32.
- Given the complexities of a thermal power project, typically it takes little less than 5 years from conception of the project to commission it, with execution peaking in the third year. As observed during the last 2 decades, the performance of the company improved gradually in the sequence of order inflows, margin improvement and project commissioning. BHEL commissioned a maximum of 12,215MW of thermal power projects in FY16 with the best-ever EBIT margin of 23.3% in FY12.



Source: Company, JM Financial

The company has INR 70bn-80bn of fixed expenses, constituting cost of manpower, part of miscellaneous expenses and others. With increasing execution rate, we believe that the high operating leverage and limited competition will improve EBIT margin in the power business FY25 onwards – from 8% in FY23 to 18% and 21% in FY26 and FY29 – just as it did in the earlier cycle, i.e., 22%, 25% & 24% in FY06, FY08 and FY10.



Source: Company, JM Financial

Is the terminal value of the power sector zero?

- Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in Jan'23 and Jul'23 issued an advisory to all the thermal power utilities not to retire or repurpose their coal-based power stations before 2030 and ensure the availability of thermal units after carrying out R&M activities, if required, keeping in view the expected energy demand scenario and availability of capacity.
- By 2030, coal-fired power plants with capacities of more than 50GW will be exceeding their design life of 25 years and will be under consideration for retirement/ replacement. In a scenario of no new coal-fired plants, progressive replacement or major R&M (renovation and modernisation) of these capacities will be required to maintain the generation level that will exist in 2030.
- Further, scalable opportunities emerging in non-thermal power pumped hydro power (akin to hydropower, where BHEL has around 45% market share in electro-mechanical equipment); nuclear power (48% market share on the secondary side; likely to play an active role in bringing Small & Modular Reactor technology to India) and spares & services (high margin stable business likely to grow at least 2x by FY30) – are likely to partially compensate for the gradual tapering of thermal opportunities.

When will the account receivables see moderation?

- The trade receivables were at INR 74.93bn as of 30th Sep'23 (INR 65.44bn as of 31st Mar'23) and Contract Assets stood at INR 301bn as of 30th Sep'23 (INR 297bn as of 31st Mar'23).
- Contract assets (deferred debts and unbilled revenue) represent the amount not yet due for payment as per contract terms / agreed schedule with customers. The same will be contractually due on completion of related activities/milestones. Thus, contract assets mainly include event-based milestone-related payments, viz., payments due on obtaining material receipt certificates, project-related finished goods ready for dispatch, etc.
- The increase in receivables during recent years is mainly on account of skewed payment terms in contracts (e.g., 3x800MW Patratu) under execution, which resulted in a higher

accumulation of deferred debts that are payable on completion of intermediate and final milestones.

 Currently, 20GW of projects are under construction by BHEL, which are likely to be commissioned in the next 12-18 months, giving us the confidence that the stress on receivables will ease from Mar'25 onwards.

Exhibit 5. Thermal power projects under construction							
Project	MW	Overall progress (% completion)	Likely trial run				
Telangana TPP, St-I, Unit- 1&2 (2x800 MW)	1,600	Almost completed	Unit-1 commissioned/ Unit-2 soon				
North Karanpura TPP, Unit- 2&3 (2x660 MW)	1,320	Unit-2 - 92%/ Unit-3 - 81%	Unit-1 - Nov'23/ Unit-2 - Jun'24				
Patratu TPP, Unit- 1, 2 & 3 (3x800 MW)	2,400	Unit-1 - 67%/ Unit—2 - 64%/ Unit—3 - 48%	Unit 1 - Jul'24/ Unit 2 - Dec'24/ Unit 3 - Mar'25				
Talcher TPP, St-III, Unit- 1 & 2 (2x660 MW)	1,320	Recently started	Unit-1 - Nov'26/ Unit-2 - May'27				
Khurja STPP, Unit- 1 & 2 (2x660 MW)	1,320	Unit-1 - 73%/ Unit-2 - 63%	Unit 1 - Feb'24/ Unit 2 - Aug'24				
N. Chennai STPP, Stage-III, Unit-1 (1x800 MW)	800	Unit 1 – 94%	Expected anytime				
Ennore SEZ STPP, Unit- 1 & 2 (2x660 MW)	1,320	Unit-1 - 65%/ Unit-2 - 66%	Unit 1 - Apr'25/ Unit 2 - Jul'25				
Udangudi STPP, Unit- 1&2 (2x660 MW)	1,320	Unit-1 - 72%/ Unit-2 - 69%	Unit 1 - Sep'24/ Unit 2 - Jan'25				
Jawaharpur STPP, Unit- 1 & 2 (2x660 MW)	1,320	Unit-1 - 91%/ Unit-2 - 86%,	Unit-1 - Sep'23/ Unit - 2 - Jan'24				
Obra-C TPP, Unit- 1 & 2 (2x660 MW)	1,320	Unit 1 - 90%/ Unit 2 - 75%	Unit-1 - Sep'23/ Unit -2 - Apr'24				
Panki TPP Ext., Unit- 1 (1x660 MW)	660	Unit-1 - 79%	Unit-1 - Sep'24				
Dr. Narla Tata Rao TPS, Unit- 8 (1x800 MW)	800	Unit- 8 - 86%	Unit 8 - Jul'23				
Yadadri TPP, Unit- 1,2,3,4&5 (5x800 MW)	4,000	Various units 80-90%	All units in FY25				
Bhusawal SCTPP, Unit- 1 (1x660 MW)	660	Unit-1 - 90%	Dec'23				
Sagardighi TPP, St-III, Unit- 1 (1x660 MW)	660	Unit-1 - 53%	Jan'25				

Source: CEA, Industry, JM Financial

Valuation

Exhibit 6. SOTP valuation							
Particulars	Rationale	Multiple (x)	Equity Value (INR mn)	Value per Share			
Power	DCF	-	5,02,513	144			
Industry	P/E multiple on FY26 EPS	40	2,80,760	81			
Total			7,83,273	225			

Source: Company, JM Financial

Financial Tables (Consolidated)

Income Statement					(INR mn)
Y/E March	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Net Sales	2,01,533	2,21,363	2,53,944	3,39,231	5,65,657
Sales Growth	23.7%	9.8%	14.7%	33.6%	66.7%
Other Operating Income	10,577	12,286	12,901	14,191	15,610
Total Revenue	2,12,110	2,33,649	2,66,845	3,53,422	5,81,267
Cost of Goods Sold/Op. Exp	1,47,938	1,63,007	1,86,903	2,40,854	3,78,990
Personnel Cost	55,168	57,006	58,146	59,891	62,286
Other Expenses	0	0	0	0	C
EBITDA	7,377	7,166	1,638	19,740	83,335
EBITDA Margin	3.5%	3.1%	0.6%	5.6%	14.3%
EBITDA Growth	0.0%	-2.9%	-77.1%	1,105.5%	322.2%
Depn. & Amort.	3,141	2,603	2,726	2,861	3,009
EBIT	4,237	4,562	-1,088	16,880	80,327
Other Income	3,678	5,447	5,991	6,590	7,249
Finance Cost	3,547	5,214	4,164	3,820	3,438
PBT before Excep. & Forex	4,368	4,794	738	19,650	84,138
Excep. & Forex Inc./Loss(-)	0	0	0	0	C
PBT	4,368	4,794	738	19,650	84,138
Taxes	-267	21	126	3,341	14,304
Extraordinary Inc./Loss(-)	0	0	0	0	C
Assoc. Profit/Min. Int.(-)	0	0	0	0	C
Reported Net Profit	4,635	4,774	613	16,310	69,835
Adjusted Net Profit	4,635	4,774	613	16,310	69,835
Net Margin	2.2%	2.0%	0.2%	4.6%	12.0%
Diluted Share Cap. (mn)	3,482.1	3,482.1	3,482.1	3,482.1	3,482.1
Diluted EPS (INR)	1.3	1.4	0.2	4.7	20.1
Diluted EPS Growth	0.0%	3.0%	-87.2%	2,561.0%	328.2%
Total Dividend + Tax	1,393	1,393	184	4,893	20,950
Dividend Per Share (INR)	0.4	0.4	0.1	1.4	6.0

Balance Sheet					(INR mn)
Y/E March	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Shareholders' Fund	2,65,066	2,68,280	2,68,709	2,80,126	3,29,010
Share Capital	6,964	6,964	6,964	6,964	6,964
Reserves & Surplus	2,58,102	2,61,316	2,61,745	2,73,162	3,22,046
Preference Share Capital	0	0	0	0	C
Minority Interest	0	0	0	0	C
Total Loans	47,450	53,850	50,260	45,234	40,711
Def. Tax Liab. / Assets (-)	-35,301	-34,226	-34,226	-34,226	-34,226
Total - Equity & Liab.	2,77,215	2,87,904	2,84,743	2,91,134	3,35,495
Net Fixed Assets	27,587	27,533	27,998	28,648	29,500
Gross Fixed Assets	63,309	66,210	69,401	72,911	76,772
Intangible Assets	87	93	93	93	93
Less: Depn. & Amort.	39,946	42,122	44,848	47,709	50,717
Capital WIP	4,223	3,446	3,446	3,446	3,446
Investments	0	0	0	0	C
Current Assets	4,99,464	5,31,846	5,81,147	6,71,019	9,16,694
Inventories	65,602	67,559	73,839	97,796	1,60,844
Sundry Debtors	3,31,686	3,62,839	3,43,609	3,67,946	4,77,753
Cash & Bank Balances	71,537	66,426	1,24,581	1,55,709	2,02,000
Loans & Advances	2,983	3,622	4,386	5,810	9,555
Other Current Assets	27,656	31,400	34,732	43,758	66,542
Current Liab. & Prov.	2,49,922	2,71,568	3,24,495	4,08,625	6,10,792
Current Liabilities	1,20,942	1,46,957	1,71,444	2,18,614	3,42,752
Provisions & Others	1,28,980	1,24,611	1,53,051	1,90,011	2,68,040
Net Current Assets	2,49,542	2,60,278	2,56,652	2,62,394	3,05,902
Total – Assets	2,77,215	2,87,904	2,84,743	2,91,134	3,35,495

Source: Company, JM Financial

Source: Company, JM Financial

Cash Flow Statement					(INR mn)
Y/E March	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Profit before Tax	4,370	4,496	738	19,650	84,138
Depn. & Amort.	3,141	2,514	2,726	2,861	3,009
Net Interest Exp. / Inc. (-)	3,547	5,214	4,164	3,820	3,438
Inc (-) / Dec in WCap.	5,861	-11,059	62,781	26,387	3,782
Others	-14,405	-9,685	-5,991	-6,590	-7,249
Taxes Paid	4,089	1,104	-126	-3,341	-14,304
Operating Cash Flow	6,603	-7,416	64,293	42,787	72,814
Capex	-2,243	-1,806	-3,191	-3,510	-3,861
Free Cash Flow	4,360	-9,222	61,102	39,277	68,953
Inc (-) / Dec in Investments	-3,573	254	-1,000	-1,000	-1,000
Others	1,060	16,357	5,991	6,590	7,249
Investing Cash Flow	-4,756	14,805	1,800	2,080	2,388
Inc / Dec (-) in Capital	0	0	0	0	0
Dividend + Tax thereon	-2,039	-1,392	-184	-4,893	-20,950
Inc / Dec (-) in Loans	-240	5,902	-3,590	-5,026	-4,523
Others	4,955	-17,011	-4,164	-3,820	-3,438
Financing Cash Flow	2,676	-12,500	-7,938	-13,739	-28,912
Inc / Dec (-) in Cash	4,522	-5,111	58,155	31,128	46,291
Opening Cash Balance	67,015	71,537	66,426	1,24,581	1,55,709
Closing Cash Balance	71,537	66,426	1,24,581	1,55,709	2,02,000

Source: Company, JM Financial

Dupont Analysis					
Y/E March	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
Net Margin	2.2%	2.0%	0.2%	4.6%	12.0%
Asset Turnover (x)	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.7
Leverage Factor (x)	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.7
RoE	1.7%	1.8%	0.2%	5.9%	22.9%

Y/E March	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E	FY26E
BV/Share (INR)	76.1	77.0	77.2	80.4	94.5
ROIC	1.8%	1.8%	-0.4%	7.7%	39.5%
ROE	1.7%	1.8%	0.2%	5.9%	22.9%
Net Debt/Equity (x)	-0.1	0.0	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5
P/E (x)	146.5	142.2	1,107.8	41.6	9.7
P/B (x)	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.1
EV/EBITDA (x)	88.8	93.0	369.3	28.8	6.2
EV/Sales (x)	3.1	2.9	2.3	1.6	0.9
Debtor days	571	567	470	380	300
Inventory days	113	106	101	101	101
Creditor days	176	195	200	211	232

Source: Company, JM Financial

Bharat Heavy Electricals

History of Recommendation and Target Price				
Recommendation	Target Price	% Chg.		
Buy	165			
Buy	165	0.0		
	Recommendation Buy	Recommendation Target Price Buy 165		



APPENDIX I

JM Financial Institutional Securities Limited

Corporate Identity Number: U67100MH2017PLC296081

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Definition of ratings		
Rating	Meaning	
Buy	Total expected returns of more than 10% for stocks with market capitalisation in excess of INR 200 billion and REITs* and more than 15% for all other stocks, over the next twelve months. Total expected return includes dividend yields.	
Hold	Price expected to move in the range of 10% downside to 10% upside from the current market price for stocks with market capitalisation in excess of INR 200 billion and REITs* and in the range of 10% downside to 15% upside from the current market price for all other stocks, over the next twelve months.	
Sell	Price expected to move downwards by more than 10% from the current market price over the next twelve months.	

* REITs refers to Real Estate Investment Trusts.

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