NCC | BUY

JM FINANCIAL

Weak quarter; Maintains guidance on all fronts

NCC's adjusted PAT declined by 26% YoY to INR 1.6bn and was sharply below JMFe of INR 2.37bn (consensus: INR 2.44bn) due to lower revenue/margins and higher interest costs. Gross debt reduced marginally from INR 18.2bn in June-24 to INR 17.3bn in Sept-24 (Sept-23: INR 14.7bn). NCC has received INR 2.2bn from AP government in 2Q25 and outstanding receivables stand at INR 4.5bn as on Sept-24. Also, AP orders worth INR 50bn which were stalled earlier (not part of current order backlog) could come back as NCC is in talks with the AP government which would further boost the order backlog. NCC has maintained its revenue guidance of 15%+ growth with EBITDA margins of 9.5-10% (closer to lower end of guidance) along with order inflows guidance of INR 200-220bn for FY25E (YTD inflows + L1: INR 180bn). We have cut FY25/26E EPS by 4%/2% factoring lower execution. NCC's standalone order backlog stood at INR 480bn (2.5x TTM revenues) as on Sept-24. Maintain Buy with revised price target of INR 365 (EPC business valued at 17x Sept-26 core EPS).

- Earnings sharply below JMFe due to lower execution/margins: NCC's revenue remained flat YoY at INR 44.5bn and was below JMFe of INR 52bn impacted by lower JJM execution and extended monsoon. EBITDA declined sharply by 16% YoY to INR 4bn (JMFe: INR 4.9bn). EBITDA margins contracted sharply by 170bps YoY to 9% (JMFe: 9.5%) due to lower gross margins (15.2% in 2Q25 vs. 15.7% in 2Q24) and higher employee costs. Interest costs grew by 7% YoY to INR 1.65bn (JMFe: INR 1.55bn) due to higher average debt levels during the guarter.
- Bid pipeline robust; guidance maintained on all fronts: NCC received strong order inflows of INR 87bn in YTD and is L1 in orders of INR 92bn. Standalone order backlog stood at INR 480bn (2.5x TTM revenues). NCC's bid pipeline stands strong at INR 2.1tn driven by Buildings, Transportation, Water and Electrical verticals. NCC maintained its guidance of 15% revenue growth with EBITDA margins at 9.5-10% (closer to lower end of range) and order inflows of INR 200-220bn.
- AP recoveries picks up pace; received part proceeds of Vizag sale: NCC has received INR 2.2bn from AP government in 2Q25 and outstanding receivables stand at INR 4.5bn as on Sept-24. In Vizag deal, out of equity portion of INR 2bn, NCC has received INR 1.9bn till date. Outstanding loan of c.INR 3.8bn is expected to be received over next two years. NCC has seen good progress in Bihar smart meter project while Maharashtra smart meter project has been moving slowly as the government has deferred the project and NCC expects to pick up pace post elections.
- Business on strong footing: NCC has survived adverse business cycles and is showing marked improvement in operations and working capital management. Also, faster recovery of AP receivables and part receipt of Vizag deal proceeds will further strengthen the balance sheet. We expect robust revenue/EPS CAGR of 16%/23% over FY24-27E. Also, we expect RoE/RoCE to rebound from 12.7%/ 12.6% in FY24 to 16.3%/15.5% in FY27E led by strong growth and improved balance sheet. Stock is currently trading at 16.6x/13.5x FY26/27E core EPS. We value NCC at 17x Sept-26E core EPS (ex of other income) to arrive at a revised SoTP based price target of INR 365. Maintain BUY.

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We acknowledge the support of **Parth Thakkar** in the preparation of this report

Recommendation and Price Target	
Current Reco.	BUY
Previous Reco.	BUY
Current Price Target (12M)	365
Upside/(Downside)	15.5%
Previous Price Target	370
Change	-1.3%

Key Data – NJCC IN	
Current Market Price	INR316
Market cap (bn)	INR198.6/US\$2.4
Free Float	78%
Shares in issue (mn)	627.9
Diluted share (mn)	627.9
3-mon avg daily val (mn)	INR1,103.2/US\$13.1
52-week range	365/147
Sensex/Nifty	79,542/24,199
INR/US\$	84.4

Price Performance			
%	1M	6M	12M
Absolute	6.4	31.0	112.5
Relative*	8.4	21.1	73.5

* To the BSE Sensex

Financial Summary					(INR mn)
Y/E March	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Net Sales	1,33,513	1,85,138	2,12,909	2,46,974	2,86,490
Sales Growth (%)	34.5	38.7	15.0	16.0	16.0
EBITDA	13,425	18,475	20,521	25,187	29,504
EBITDA Margin (%)	10.1	10.0	9.6	10.2	10.3
Adjusted Net Profit	5,692	8,372	10,165	12,899	15,620
Diluted EPS (INR)	9.2	13.3	16.2	20.5	24.9
Diluted EPS Growth (%)	61.5	45.0	21.4	26.9	21.1
ROIC (%)	9.7	13.2	14.2	15.3	16.1
ROE (%)	9.4	12.7	14.0	15.6	16.3
P/E (x)	8.2	12.1	19.5	15.4	12.7
P/B (x)	0.7	1.5	2.6	2.2	1.9
EV/EBITDA (x)	3.8	5.5	9.9	7.9	6.6
Dividend Yield (%)	2.9	1.4	0.7	0.7	0.7

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.

Exhibit 1. Quarterly s	tandalone re	sults									
In INR mn	2QFY24	3QFY24	4QFY24	FY24	1QFY25	2QFY25	2QFY25E V	ariance (%)	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Net sales	44,826	47,469	54,460	185,138	47,133	44,450	52,000	-14.5%	212,909	246,974	286,490
EBIDTA	4,779	4,793	5,097	18,475	4,396	4,012	4,940	-18.8%	20,521	25,187	29,504
EBIDTA Margin (%)	10.7	10.1	9.4	10.0	9.3	9.0	9.5		9.6	10.2	10.3
Other Income	285	263	417	1,241	341	351	320	9.5%	1,395	1,226	1,246
Interest	1,538	1,548	1,543	5,951	1,532	1,645	1,550	6.2%	6,155	6,685	7,152
Depreciation	525	528	518	2,092	531	539	545	-1.2%	2,177	2,490	2,724
PBT	3,001	2,980	3,453	11,673	2,674	2,178	3,165	-31.2%	13,584	17,238	20,873
Tax	819	852	1,014	3,301	667	573	797	-28.1%	3,419	4,339	5,254
Recurring PAT	2,182	2,128	2,439	8,372	2,007	1,606	2,368	-32.2%	10,165	12,899	15,620
Extra-ordinary items	(1,492)	-	(566)	(2,058)	-	-	-		-	-	-
Reported PAT	690	2,128	1,874	6,315	2,007	1,606	2,368	-32.2%	10,165	12,899	15,620
YoY growth (%)											
Net sales	49.2	43.3	35.6	38.7	22.8	(0.8)			15.0	16.0	16.0
EBITDA	65.6	37.4	20.3	37.6	15.5	(16.1)			11.1	22.7	17.1
Other income	(13.2)	(54.2)	34.6	(18.5)	23.0	23.2			12.4	(12.1)	1.6
Interest	25.7	12.3	9.1	16.7	15.8	7.0			3.4	8.6	7.0
Depreciation	7.2	3.8	(1.1)	4.7	2.0	2.6			4.1	14.4	9.4
PBT	99.9	37.0	32.3	48.7	19.4	(27.4)			16.4	26.9	21.1
Recurring PAT	79.4	42.0	37.3	47.1	23.7	(26.4)			21.4	26.9	21.1
Reported PAT	(43.2)	42.0	5.5	10.9	23.7	132.5			61.0	26.9	21.1

Source: Company, JM Financial

Exhibit 2. Quarterly co	onsolidated re	sults				
In INR mn	2QFY24	3QFY24	4QFY24	FY24	1QFY25	2QFY25
Net sales	49,190	52,601	64,849	210,444	55,280	51,960
EBIDTA	5,031	5,054	5,505	19,683	4,779	4,430
EBIDTA Margin (%)	10.2	9.6	8.5	9.4	8.6	8.5
Other Income	268	277	452	1,260	304	284
Interest	1,535	1,559	1,531	5,948	1,552	1,667
Depreciation	532	535	524	2,119	537	545
PBT	3,232	3,237	3,902	12,876	2,994	2,501
PAT	2,343	2,295	2,708	9,169	2,222	1,745
Minority interest	(92)	(103)	4	(297)	(126)	(118)
Profit from associates	14	14	5	53	4	3
Consolidated PAT	2,266	2,207	2,717	8,924	2,099	1,630
Extra-ordinary items	(1,492)	-	(325)	(1,817)	-	-
Reported PAT	773	2,207	2,392	7,107	2,099	1,630

Source: Company, JM Financial

Exhibit 3. Change in estimates									
	FY:	25E	0/ -1	FY.	26E	0/ -h-	FY:	27E	0/ -b-
INR mn	New	Old	% chg New Old % c	% chg	New	Old	% chg		
Net Sales	212,909	218,463	(2.5)	246,974	251,232	(1.7)	286,490	288,917	(0.8)
EBITDA	20,521	21,185	(3.1)	25,187	25,619	(1.7)	29,504	29,750	(0.8)
EBITDA margin (%)	9.6	9.7		10.2	10.2		10.3	10.3	
Adj. PAT	10,165	10,611	(4.2)	12,899	13,189	(2.2)	15,620	15,719	(0.6)
Diluted EPS	16.2	16.9	(4.2)	20.5	21.0	(2.2)	24.9	25.0	(0.6)

Source: Company, JM Financial

Exhibit 4. Key Assumptions							
Key asumptions	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	
Order inflows (INR mn)	99,220	227,320	234,490	220,000	260,000	315,000	
EBITDA Margins	10.0	10.1	10.0	9.6	10.2	10.3	
NWC days*	153	119	86	100	95	95	
Capex (INR mn)	1,744	3,760	2,864	2,500	3,000	3,250	

Source: Company, JM Financial; *: ex-free cash & Loans & Advances to subsidiaries

Exhibit 5. Order bac	klog and order i	inflow trend				
In INR mn	2QFY24	3QFY24	4QFY24	FY24	1QFY25	2QFY25
Consolidated						
Order backlog	617,960	574,400	575,360	575,360	526,260	523,700
Order booking	122,890	7,960	60,440	272,830	4,080	47,600
Standalone						
Order backlog	540,640	501,540	518,430	518,430	476,250	480,280
Order booking	84,550	7,960	60,440	234,490	4,080	47,600
Book -to- bill (x)	3.5	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.5	2.5
% growth YoY						
Order backlog	44.1	25.8	13.1	13.1	(5.1)	(11.2)
Order booking	217.7	(85.5)	(40.3)	3.2	(95.0)	(43.7)

Source: Company, JM Financial

Exhibit 6. Computation	of core earnir	ngs				
INR mn	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
PBT	4,624	7,850	11,673	13,584	17,238	20,873
Other income	1,082	1,523	1,241	1,395	1,226	1,246
PBT ex other income	3,542	6,327	10,432	12,189	16,012	19,627
Core PAT	2,660	4,735	7,482	9,121	11,982	14,687
Core EPS	4.4	7.5	11.9	14.5	19.1	23.4
Core PE	17.7	10.0	13.6	21.8	16.6	13.5

Source: Company, JM Financial

Exhibit 7. SoTP based price target of INR 365									
Business (INR mn)	Basis of valuation	Valuation driver	Equity value	Share (%)	INR/share				
EPC business	17x Sept-26 Core PAT	13,334	226,683	100%	361				
MDO business (51% share)	10x FY24 PAT	532	5320	51%	4				
Target Price					365				

Source: Company, JM Financial; *: Core PAT = [(PBT less of other income)*(1-tax rate)]

Key conference call takeaways

■ FY25 guidance maintained: Revenue: 15% YoY growth (1H25: +10%); EBITDA margins: 9.5-10% but closer to lower end (1H25: 9.2%); Order inflow: INR 200-220bn (YTD + L1: c. INR 180bn)

- Bid pipeline robust at INR 2.1tn driven by Buildings, Transportation, Water and Electrical verticals.
- AP receivables update: NCC received INR 2.2bn in 2Q25. Current receivables stand at INR 4.5bn (Capital city projects: INR 1.5bn; running projects: INR 3bn).
- Vizag deal update: Out of equity portion of INR 2bn, NCC has received INR 1.9bn. NCC's outstanding loan of c.INR 3.8bn is expected to be received over the next two years.
- JJM execution: NCC has won JJM projects of INR 170bn till date in UP. Outstanding backlog is c.INR 55bn which is to be executed largely by Jun-25. Execution in 1H25 was lower than expected at INR 23bn impacted by heavy monsoon.

Financial Tables (Standalone)

Income Statement					(INR mn)
Y/E March	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Net Sales	1,33,513	1,85,138	2,12,909	2,46,974	2,86,490
Sales Growth	34.5%	38.7%	15.0%	16.0%	16.0%
Other Operating Income	0	0	0	0	0
Total Revenue	1,33,513	1,85,138	2,12,909	2,46,974	2,86,490
Cost of Goods Sold/Op. Exp	1,11,816	1,57,244	1,81,058	2,08,644	2,41,740
Personnel Cost	5,204	6,409	7,498	8,698	10,089
Other Expenses	3,068	3,010	3,832	4,446	5,157
EBITDA	13,425	18,475	20,521	25,187	29,504
EBITDA Margin	10.1%	10.0%	9.6%	10.2%	10.3%
EBITDA Growth	34.8%	37.6%	11.1%	22.7%	17.1%
Depn. & Amort.	1,998	2,092	2,177	2,490	2,724
EBIT	11,427	16,383	18,344	22,697	26,779
Other Income	1,523	1,241	1,395	1,226	1,246
Finance Cost	5,100	5,951	6,155	6,685	7,152
PBT before Excep. & Forex	7,850	11,673	13,584	17,238	20,873
Excep. & Forex Inc./Loss(-)	0	0	0	0	0
PBT	7,850	11,673	13,584	17,238	20,873
Taxes	2,158	3,301	3,419	4,339	5,254
Extraordinary Inc./Loss(-)	0	-2,058	0	0	0
Assoc. Profit/Min. Int.(-)	0	0	0	0	0
Reported Net Profit	5,692	6,315	10,165	12,899	15,620
Adjusted Net Profit	5,692	8,372	10,165	12,899	15,620
Net Margin	4.3%	4.5%	4.8%	5.2%	5.5%
Diluted Share Cap. (mn)	618.9	627.9	627.9	627.9	627.9
Diluted EPS (INR)	9.2	13.3	16.2	20.5	24.9
Diluted EPS Growth	61.5%	45.0%	21.4%	26.9%	21.1%
Total Dividend + Tax	1,381	1,381	1,381	1,381	1,381
Dividend Per Share (INR)	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2

				(INR mn)
FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
63,219	68,127	76,911	88,429	1,02,667
1,256	1,256	1,256	1,256	1,256
61,963	66,871	75,655	87,173	1,01,411
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0
9,796	10,050	13,000	9,000	6,000
-475	-587	-587	-587	-587
72,539	77,590	89,324	96,842	1,08,080
14,075	14,847	15,169	15,679	16,205
29,008	29,202	31,702	34,702	37,952
0	0	0	0	0
15,080	14,754	16,931	19,422	22,146
147	399	399	399	399
8,745	10,334	10,334	10,834	11,834
1,32,701	1,47,593	1,75,124	1,98,324	2,27,608
10,778	14,338	23,916	24,359	27,472
29,451	27,911	32,802	37,215	43,170
6,456	10,441	7,806	8,884	9,072
3,717	3,688	2,688	2,688	2,688
82,298	91,216	1,07,913	1,25,179	1,45,207
82,982	95,183	1,11,303	1,27,995	1,47,566
48,227	61,170	70,773	81,577	94,522
34,755	34,013	40,531	46,418	53,044
49,719	52,410	63,821	70,329	80,042
72,539	77,590	89,324	96,842	1,08,080
	63,219 1,256 61,963 0 0 9,796 -475 72,539 14,075 29,008 0 15,080 147 8,745 1,32,701 10,778 29,451 6,456 3,717 82,298 82,982 48,227 34,755 49,719	63,219 68,127 1,256 1,256 61,963 66,871 0 0 0 9,796 10,050 -475 -587 72,539 77,590 14,075 14,847 29,008 29,202 0 0 15,080 14,754 147 399 8,745 10,334 1,32,701 1,47,593 10,778 14,338 29,451 27,911 6,456 10,441 3,717 3,688 82,298 91,216 82,982 95,183 48,227 61,170 34,755 34,013 49,719 52,410	63,219 68,127 76,911 1,256 1,256 61,963 66,871 75,655 0 0 0 0 9,796 10,050 13,000 -475 -587 -587 72,539 77,590 89,324 14,075 14,847 15,169 29,008 29,202 31,702 0 0 0 15,080 14,754 16,931 147 399 399 8,745 10,334 10,334 1,32,701 1,47,593 1,75,124 10,778 14,338 23,916 29,451 27,911 32,802 6,456 10,441 7,806 3,717 3,688 2,688 82,298 91,216 1,07,913 82,982 95,183 1,11,303 48,227 61,170 70,773 34,755 34,013 40,531 49,719 52,410 63,821	63,219 68,127 76,911 88,429 1,256 1,256 1,256 1,256 61,963 66,871 75,655 87,173 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 9,796 10,050 13,000 9,000 -475 -587 -587 -587 72,539 77,590 89,324 96,842 14,075 14,847 15,169 15,679 29,008 29,202 31,702 34,702 0 0 0 0 15,080 14,754 16,931 19,422 147 399 399 399 8,745 10,334 10,334 10,834 1,32,701 1,47,593 1,75,124 1,98,324 10,778 14,338 23,916 24,359 29,451 27,911 32,802 37,215 6,456 10,441 7,806 8,884 3,717 3,688

Source: Company, JM Financial

Source: Company, JM Financial

Cash Flow Statement				((INR mn)
Y/E March	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Profit before Tax	7,850	9,615	13,584	17,238	20,873
Depn. & Amort.	1,998	2,092	2,177	2,490	2,724
Net Interest Exp. / Inc. (-)	5,100	5,951	6,155	6,685	7,152
Inc (-) / Dec in WCap.	-1,058	1,265	-15,046	-5,431	-9,524
Others	0	0	0	0	0
Taxes Paid	-2,158	-3,301	-3,419	-4,339	-5,254
Operating Cash Flow	11,732	15,623	3,451	16,644	15,972
Capex	-3,760	-2,864	-2,500	-3,000	-3,250
Free Cash Flow	7,972	12,759	951	13,644	12,722
Inc (-) / Dec in Investments	483	-1,559	1,000	-500	-1,000
Others	-119	-137	0	0	0
Investing Cash Flow	-3,397	-4,560	-1,500	-3,500	-4,250
Inc / Dec (-) in Capital	1,062	0	0	0	0
Dividend + Tax thereon	-1,381	-1,381	-1,381	-1,381	-1,381
Inc / Dec (-) in Loans	-2,045	255	2,950	-4,000	-3,000
Others	-5,100	-5,951	-6,155	-6,685	-7,152
Financing Cash Flow	-7,464	-7,078	-4,586	-12,067	-11,533
Inc / Dec (-) in Cash	871	3,985	-2,635	1,077	188
Opening Cash Balance	5,585	6,456	10,441	7,806	8,884
Closing Cash Balance	6,456	10,441	7,806	8,884	9,072

Dupont Analysis					
Y/E March	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Net Margin	4.3%	4.5%	4.8%	5.2%	5.5%
Asset Turnover (x)	1.9	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.8
Leverage Factor (x)	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.1
RoE	9.4%	12.7%	14.0%	15.6%	16.3%

Key Ratios					
Y/E March	FY23A	FY24A	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
BV/Share (INR)	100.7	108.5	122.5	140.8	163.5
ROIC	9.7%	13.2%	14.2%	15.3%	16.1%
ROE	9.4%	12.7%	14.0%	15.6%	16.3%
Net Debt/Equity (x)	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
P/E (x)	8.2	12.1	19.5	15.4	12.7
P/B (x)	0.7	1.5	2.6	2.2	1.9
EV/EBITDA (x)	3.8	5.5	9.9	7.9	6.6
EV/Sales (x)	0.4	0.5	1.0	0.8	0.7
Debtor days	81	55	56	55	55
Inventory days	29	28	41	36	35
Creditor days	147	134	134	134	134

Source: Company, JM Financial

Source: Company, JM Financial

History of Recommendation and Target Price					
Date	Recommendation	Target Price	% Chg.		
20-Jul-23	Hold	150			
14-Aug-23	Hold	155	3.2		
17-Sep-23	Buy	180	16.0		
15-Nov-23	Buy	195	8.4		
9-Feb-24	Buy	250	27.8		
15-May-24	Buy	285	14.4		
6-Aug-24	Buy	370	29.8		

NCC 365 290 215 140 65 Nov-21 May-22 Nov-22 May-23 Nov-23 May-24 Nov-24 Target Price Price

APPENDIX I

JM Financial Institutional Securities Limited

Corporate Identity Number: U67100MH2017PLC296081

Member of BSE Ltd. and National Stock Exchange of India Ltd.

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Investment in securities market are subject to market risks. Read all the related documents carefully before investing.

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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