



Another strong quarter

 Q3 revenue (+43% YoY) a beat and PAT in line; on track for 18GW capacity addition over 3Y at projected Rs 750bn capex

Power

- Renewable energy monetisation likely by end-FY23; valuation multiple the key monitorable
- Under-recoveries targeted to halve next quarter; retain NTPC as top pick with unchanged TP of Rs 210

Strong results: NTPC reported robust standalone Q3FY23 revenue growth of 43% YoY to Rs 414bn (Rs 397bn including regulated income), beating our estimates, led by a 3% increase in units sold and a 1% rise in realisation. Higher revenue also included a one-time reversal of the regulatory deferral account. Standalone net profit stood at Rs 44.8bn (+8% YoY). Consolidated revenue was at Rs 446bn (+34% YoY) and net profit at Rs 48bn (+5%).

Operational performance flat: During the quarter, NTPC sold 73BU, an increase of 3% YoY. For 9MFY23, the company's PLF stood at 74.5% while the all-India average was at 63%. Coal consumption during Q3 was down 2.6% YoY to 54MT.

Lower under-recoveries: The company has brought fixed cost under-recovery down to Rs 6bn in 9MFY23 vs. Rs 6.9bn in 9MFY22, with a deeper reduction to Rs 3bn targeted in Q4FY23. We expect this to improve profitability and return ratios.

Steady growth in capacity addition: Installed capacity at the group level has increased by 3.1GW YoY and 630MW QoQ. The company indicated that it is on track to meet its previous guidance of adding 18GW of capacity over the next three years at a capex of ~Rs 750bn (12GW brownfield thermal, 4.8GW renewable and 1.2GW hydro). The company is also contemplating a foray into nuclear energy and aims to set up 4.2GW of nuclear capacity by 2035.

Maintain BUY: NTPC's strong Q3 print exceeded our revenue estimate and was in-line at the net profit level. Apart from near-term triggers, we believe the company is well placed to tap growth opportunities over the long term, mainly given its competitive, low-cost debt. NTPC remains our top pick in the utility space as the best transition play from the regulated (bulk thermal power) business to the green energy business. The stock is currently trading at 1x FY25E P/B. We maintain BUY with an unchanged SOTP-based TP of Rs 210, implying an FY25E P/B of 1.25x, based on improving ROE and transition to cleaner energy.

30 January 2023

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Key changes

	Target	Rating	
Ticke	er/Price	NTPC IN/Rs 166	
Mark	et cap	US\$ 19.8bn	
Free	float	49%	
3M A	DV	US\$ 22.8mn	
52wk	high/low	Rs 183/Rs 124	
Prom	noter/FPI/DII	51%/16%/33%	

Source: NSE | Price as of 27 Jan 2023

Key financials

	FY23E	FY24E
13,41,558	15,74,736	16,11,718
4,17,660	4,56,131	4,55,618
1,66,759	1,75,963	1,79,983
17.2	18.1	18.6
17.2	18.7	19.1
12.3	12.2	11.8
9.7	9.2	9.0
8.6	8.0	8.4
14.2	5.5	2.3
	4,17,660 1,66,759 17.2 17.2 12.3 9.7 8.6	1,66,7591,75,96317.218.117.218.712.312.29.79.28.68.0

Source: Company, Bloomberg, BOBCAPS Research

Stock performance



Source: NSE





Fig 1 – Quarterly performance

Particulars (Rs mn)	Q3FY23	Q3FY22	YoY (%)	Q2FY23	QoQ (%)
Revenue	3,96,770	2,88,077	37.7	4,18,273	(5.1)
EBITDA	1,15,057	90,048	27.8	1,03,338	11.3
EBITDA margin (%)	29.0	31.3	(226bps)	24.7	429bps
Depreciation	33,121	28,914	14.6	32,872	0.8
Interest	28,744	17,338	65.8	27,371	5.0
Other Income	7,383	9,723	(24.1)	7,958	(7.2)
Exceptional item	-	-	-	-	0.0
PBT	60,575	53,520	13.2	51,053	18.7
Tax	15,812	12,200	29.6	17,741	(10.9)
Reported PAT	44,763	41,320	8.3	33,312	34.4
Adjusted PAT	44,763	41,320	8.3	33,312	34.4
Adj. PAT margin (%)	11.3	14.3	(-306bps)	8.0	332bps
EPS (Rs)	6.4	4.4	45.8	2.6	146.2

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 2 – Actual vs. Estimates

Particulars (Rs mn)	Actual	Estimate	Variance (%)
Revenue	3,96,770	3,74,528	5.9
EBITDA	1,15,057	96,743	18.9
EBITDA margin (%)	29.0	25.8	317bps
Adjusted PAT	44,763	45,303	(1.2)

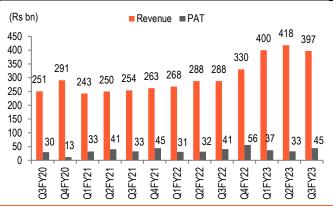
Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 3 – Energy sold



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Fig 4 – Operating performance



Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research



Earnings call highlights

- Management indicated that NTPC is on track to add 18GW of capacity over the next three years. This includes ~12GW of brownfield thermal energy, 4.8GW of renewable energy and 1.2GW of hydropower. Capex is planned at ~Rs 250bn each year for a total of Rs 750bn. Furthermore, ~42GW of additional capacity is in the planning stage, of which 36GW will comprise renewable energy.
- NTPC is foraying into nuclear energy and aims to set up 4.2GW of capacity by 2035.
- Monetisation of subsidiary NTPC Green Energy is on track, and management expects completion by end-FY23. Currently, 2GW is operational and 5GW is under construction.
- Fixed cost under-recovery has decreased slightly in 9MFY23 to Rs 6bn compared to Rs 7bn in the corresponding year-ago period. Management is targeting a sharp reduction to Rs 3bn by end-FY23.
- Subsidiary profit has dipped to Rs 13bn in Q3FY23 due to high gas prices in joint venture company Hindustan Urvarak & Rasaya (HURL). Owing to lower late payment surcharge, overall JV profit came in at Rs 4.8bn in Q3 compared to Rs 8.3bn in the corresponding period last year.
- Management believes peak power demand could cross 230GW in Q1FY24 but sees no risk to its coal supplies as yet.



Valuation methodology

Apart from near-term triggers, we believe NTPC is well placed to tap growth opportunities over the long term, mainly given its competitive, low-cost debt and cash-generating unit (CGU) status. The company remains our top pick in the utility space as the best transition play from the regulated (bulk thermal power) business to the green energy business.

NTPC aims to monetise its 7GW renewable energy portfolio by selling 10-20% stake in subsidiary NTPC Green Energy. The valuation for this transaction would be a key monitorable. Higher profit visibility post brownfield project commissioning in the regulated thermal business, implementation of flue gas desulphurisation (FGD) through FY22-FY25, and future growth potential in renewables give the company a strong advantage over other Indian power generation players, in our view.

The stock is currently trading at 1.0x FY25E P/B. We maintain BUY with an unchanged SOTP-based TP of Rs 210, implying an FY25E P/B of 1.25x, based on improving ROE and transition to cleaner energy.

Segment (Rs mn)	FY25E regulated equity (NTPC's share; Rs mn)	Stake (%)	ROE (%)	P/BV (x)	Equity Value (Rs mn)	Value/share (Rs)
Standalone	9,66,050	100	16.0	1.4	13,71,791	141
NEEPCO	54,122	100	12.5	1.2	64,946	7
Kanti Bijlee	13,411	100	14.0	1.2	16,094	2
Nabinagar	23,121	100	12.0	1.1	25,433	3
THDC	25,805	74	18.5	1.5	38,708	4
RGPPL	4,871	86	(11.5)	(1.2)	(5,845)	(1)
Patratu	6,495	74	5.0	0.7	4,546	0
BRBCL	20,620	74	13.5	1	20,620	2
Меја	18,022	50	7.5	0.8	14,418	1
APCL	12,989	50	22.0	1.8	23,381	2
NTECL	14,613	50	14.5	1.2	17,535	2
NTPC-SAIL	5,304	50	19.5	1.5	7,956	1
Maitree	-	50	15.5	1	-	0
Equity part-Standalone CWIP - post FY24E	1,05,919	-	-	0.3	31,776	3
NVVN	-	-	-	-	8,588	1
NTPC Renewable Energy Subsidiary	-	-	-	-	-	39
Add: Cash and equivalents	-	-	-	-	22,290	2
Total	-	-	-	-	-	210

Fig 5 – SOTP valuation

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research

Key risks

Key downside risks to our estimates are:

- delays in project execution,
- supply chain constraints in renewable energy modules, and
- adverse regulatory policies



Sector recommendation snapshot

Company	Ticker	Market Cap (US\$ bn)	Price (Rs)	Target (Rs)	Rating
CESC	CESC IN	1.2	73	108	BUY
NTPC	NTPC IN	19.8	166	210	BUY
Power Grid Corp	PWGR IN	18.8	219	251	HOLD
Tata Power	TPWR IN	7.9	202	271	BUY

Source: BOBCAPS Research, NSE | Price as of 27 Jan 2023



Financials

Income Statement					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Total revenue	11,34,343	13,41,558	15,74,736	16,11,718	16,94,008
EBITDA	3,58,770	4,17,660	4,56,131	4,55,618	4,84,116
Depreciation	(1,24,503)	(1,37,878)	(1,37,116)	(1,45,730)	(1,49,661)
EBIT	2,34,267	2,79,782	3,19,014	3,09,888	3,34,455
Net interest inc./(exp.)	(92,241)	(93,160)	(1,04,546)	(1,17,034)	(1,29,062)
Other inc./(exp.)	40,157	23,250	29,483	31,017	37,153
Exceptional items	(15,122)	0	0	0	0
EBT	1,67,061	2,09,873	2,43,951	2,23,872	2,42,546
Income taxes	(24,205)	(50,471)	(74,507)	(51,363)	(47,336)
Extraordinary items	0	0	0	0	0
Min. int./Inc. from assoc.	(3,228)	(7,357)	(6,519)	(7,474)	(8,535)
Reported net profit	1,46,083	1,66,759	1,75,963	1,79,983	2,03,745
Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Adjusted net profit	1,46,083	1,66,759	1,75,963	1,79,983	2,03,745

Balance Sheet					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs mn)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Accounts payables	88,064	1,13,620	1,21,834	1,23,773	1,31,642
Other current liabilities	4,05,317	2,95,666	2,39,824	2,78,263	2,70,978
Provisions	91,560	95,309	88,866	82,125	77,450
Debt funds	19,72,365	21,07,066	23,37,272	24,45,853	25,22,265
Other liabilities	1,74,971	1,99,770	2,54,968	2,97,439	3,34,495
Equity capital	96,967	96,967	96,967	96,967	96,967
Reserves & surplus	11,60,418	12,56,771	13,50,312	14,33,328	15,30,409
Shareholders' fund	12,57,385	13,53,737	14,47,278	15,30,294	16,27,376
Total liab. and equities	39,89,662	41,65,167	44,90,042	47,57,749	49,64,205
Cash and cash eq.	43,880	44,581	42,734	42,623	41,973
Accounts receivables	1,77,181	2,73,421	2,08,376	2,06,543	2,16,505
Inventories	98,096	1,01,393	1,50,114	1,52,522	1,62,341
Other current assets	2,44,018	1,62,552	1,59,794	1,64,322	1,72,780
Investments	1,05,893	1,06,262	1,16,652	1,28,097	1,40,688
Net fixed assets	20,25,980	22,43,438	26,48,847	29,97,720	32,55,966
CWIP	9,74,042	9,10,252	8,87,002	7,41,081	5,98,234
Intangible assets	7,490	6,803	5,846	5,846	5,846
Deferred tax assets, net	10,759	9,957	10,214	10,214	10,214
Other assets	3,02,324	3,06,508	2,60,463	3,08,781	3,59,659
Total assets	39,89,662	41,65,167	44,90,042	47,57,749	49,64,205

Cash Flows

FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
3,24,441	4,17,882	4,83,622	4,65,436	4,36,314
(2,32,820)	(2,43,309)	(5,18,318)	(3,48,682)	(2,65,060)
(4,921)	9,999	(10,389)	(11,446)	(12,590)
27,396	4,928	0	0	0
(2,10,345)	(2,28,382)	(5,28,707)	(3,60,128)	(2,77,651)
(27,638)	0	0	0	0
1,08,575	6,683	2,30,207	1,08,581	76,412
(1,33,644)	(1,27,329)	(1,04,546)	(1,17,034)	(1,29,062)
(57,784)	(71,069)	(82,422)	(96,967)	(1,06,663)
0	0	0	0	0
(1,10,491)	(1,91,716)	43,239	(1,05,420)	(1,59,314)
3,605	(2,216)	(1,846)	(111)	(650)
9,500	7,286	5,438	5,327	4,677
	3,24,441 (2,32,820) (4,921) 27,396 (2,10,345) (27,638) 1,08,575 (1,33,644) (57,784) 0 (1,10,491) 3,605	3,24,441 4,17,882 (2,32,820) (2,43,309) (4,921) 9,999 27,396 4,928 (2,10,345) (2,28,382) (27,638) 0 1,08,575 6,683 (1,33,644) (1,27,329) (57,784) (71,069) 0 0 (1,10,491) (1,91,716) 3,605 (2,216)	3,24,441 4,17,882 4,83,622 (2,32,820) (2,43,309) (5,18,318) (4,921) 9,999 (10,389) 27,396 4,928 0 (2,10,345) (2,28,382) (5,28,707) (27,638) 0 0 1,08,575 6,683 2,30,207 (1,33,644) (1,27,329) (1,04,546) (57,784) (71,069) (82,422) 0 0 0 (1,10,491) (1,91,716) 43,239 3,605 (2,216) (1,846)	3,24,441 4,17,882 4,83,622 4,65,436 (2,32,820) (2,43,309) (5,18,318) (3,48,682) (4,921) 9,999 (10,389) (11,446) 27,396 4,928 0 0 (2,10,345) (2,28,382) (5,28,707) (3,60,128) (27,638) 0 0 0 1,08,575 6,683 2,30,207 1,08,581 (1,33,644) (1,27,329) (1,04,546) (1,17,034) (57,784) (71,069) (82,422) (96,967) 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1,104,911) (1,91,716) 43,239 (1,05,420) 3,605 (2,216) (1,846) (111)

Per Share					
Y/E 31 Mar (Rs)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
Reported EPS	15.1	17.2	18.1	18.6	21.0
Adjusted EPS	15.1	17.2	18.1	18.6	21.0
Dividend per share	5.7	8.0	8.5	10.0	11.(
Book value per share	129.7	139.6	149.3	157.8	167.
Valuations Ratios					
Y/E 31 Mar (x)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25E
EV/Sales	3.1	2.7	2.3	2.4	2.4
EV/EBITDA	9.8	8.6	8.0	8.4	8.3
Adjusted P/E	11.0	9.7	9.2	9.0	7.
P/BV	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.
DuPont Analysis					
Y/E 31 Mar (%)	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25
Tax burden (Net profit/PBT)	87.4	79.5	72.1	80.4	84.
Interest burden (PBT/EBIT)	77.8	75.0	76.5	72.2	72.
EBIT margin (EBIT/Revenue)	20.7	20.9	20.3	19.2	19.
Asset turnover (Rev./Avg TA)	28.4	32.2	35.1	33.9	34.
Leverage (Avg TA/Avg Equity)	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.
Adjusted ROAE	12.7	12.3	12.2	11.8	12.
Ratio Analysis					
Y/E 31 Mar	FY21A	FY22A	FY23E	FY24E	FY25
YoY growth (%)					
Revenue	1.9	19.0	18.2	2.0	5.
EBITDA	7.7	18.6	11.8	(1.4)	7.
Adjusted EPS	25.8	14.2	5.5	2.3	13.
Profitability & Return ratios (%)					
EBITDA margin	31.6	31.1	29.0	28.3	28.
EBIT margin	20.7	20.9	20.3	19.2	19.
Adjusted profit margin	12.9	12.4	11.2	11.2	12.

Net interest coverage ratio	2.5	3.0	3.1
Adjusted debt/equity	1.6	1.6	1.6

11.6

7.3

56

31

28

0.6

1.1

12.3

8.1

73

27

30

0.6

1.4

12.2

8.4

48

34

28

0.6

1.6

11.8

7.8

46

34

28

0.5

1.4

2.6

1.6

Source: Company, BOBCAPS Research | Note: TA = Total Assets

Adjusted ROAE

Receivables

Inventory

Payables

Ratios (x)

Current ratio

Gross asset turnover

Working capital days (days)

ROCE

12.5

8.1

46

34

28

0.5

1.5

2.6

1.5



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BUY – Expected return >+15%

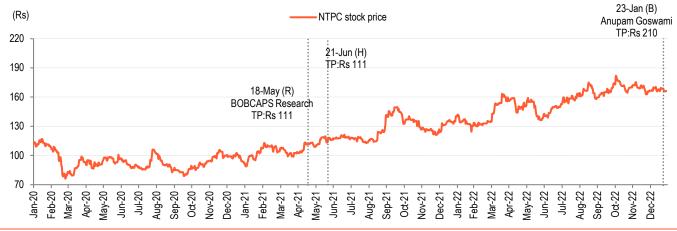
HOLD - Expected return from -6% to +15%

SELL - Expected return <-6%

Note: Recommendation structure changed with effect from 21 June 2021

Our recommendation scale does not factor in short-term stock price volatility related to market fluctuations. Thus, our recommendations may not always be strictly in line with the recommendation scale as shown above.

Ratings and Target Price (3-year history): NTPC (NTPC IN)



B - Buy, H - Hold, S - Sell, A - Add, R - Reduce

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