

CMP: ₹ 12<u>31</u>

Target: ₹ 1485 (21%) Target

Target Period: 12 months

June 10, 2021

Clarity on growth path ahead!

Tata Communication (TCom) in its investor day revisited (and revised some of) its strategic growth path. The core growth path remained same with steps like deeper engagement with key clients (along with dedicated team for remaining clients), revamped operating structure, transformation from product to platform and Focus on Fixed + Usage model for digital platforms. On the medium term financial targets, there were few upgrades with a) RoCE target of 25-30% (vs. 20% target earlier), b) EBITDA margin of 23-25% (earlier guidance: 22-25%), c) maintaining optimal debt (vs. debt reduction guidance earlier) and d) double digit data revenues target (same as before) with incremental margin buffer/cash being reinvested to drive growth.

Revamped operating structure; to expand offering...

TCom revamped its operating structure with three business segments names voice, data and others (subsidiaries for transformation services, white label ATM, rental arm) (details on page 2, 3). Also, traditional/growth segments within data has been renamed as Core Connectivity/ Digital Platforms and Services, respectively. Growth strategy will be driven by six platforms viz. a) cloud, edge & security b) net generation connectivity c) *NetFoundry* d) *MOVE* & IoT e) collaborations and f) voice. One key positive takeaway from the guidance bit has been explicit focus on driving revenue growth (the only muted piece in equation so far) with increased opex/capex into infra/ innovation as well as inorganic route to expand overall solutions offerings.

To reinvest incremental cashflows/margin buffer for growth

TCOM opted for narrower margin guidance of 23-25% with clear intention of utilising the margin growth buffer and incremental cash flows for investments into R&D/technology/ to drive the overall future growth. We now bake in 10.6% revenue CAGR in FY21-23E (vs. 9.3% earlier) in the overall data (including others) segment, driven by likely acceleration in growth from H2FY22 onwards. We expect overall margins to be muted at 25.2% in FY23 vs. 24.9% in FY21, in line with guidance.

Valuation & Outlook

The company's strategic growth plan, focused approach and structural improvement in data segment margins has driven multiple re-rating. While deal closures delays/some segmental impact due to Covid could have near term weakness in revenues, the demand outlook is robust with the company clearly focusing on reinvesting for growth and even outlining inorganic growth intentions. Furthermore, improved cash flow generation and improved return ratios bode well for TCom. Thus, we maintain **BUY** with a revised SoTP target price of ₹ 1485/share (earlier ₹ 1290/share), as we raise our data segment target multiple to 10x EV/EBITDA vs. 9x earlier.

TATA COMMUNICATIONS

Particulars	
Particulars	Amount
Market Capitalization	₹ 35076.4 Crore
Total Debt (FY21)	₹ 10001 Crore
Cash (FY21)	₹ 927.1 Crore
EV	₹ 46605.8 Crore
52 week H/L	1367/ 357
Equity capital (₹ crore)	285.0
Face value (₹)	10.0

Key Highlights

 Maintain BUY rating, valuing at ₹ 1485/share on SoTP basis

Key risk to our call

- Delay in revenues growth recovery could impact operating leverage benefits and earnings growth estimates, going ahead
- Turnaround in incubation segment will hold key for overall stepping up of margins in long term. Non-fructification of the same could long term impact growth potential

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Key Financial Summary						
(₹ Crore)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22E	FY23E	CAGR (FY21-23E)
Net Sales	16,525.0	17,068.0	17,100.1	17,892.8	19,615.9	7.1
EBITDA	2,744.9	3,289.0	4,260.6	4,365.8	4,943.2	7.7
PAT	(82.4)	(86.0)	1,250.6	1,360.8	1,715.7	17.1
P/E (x)	NM	NM	28.0	25.8	20.4	
Price / Book (x)	NM	NM	303.8	25.5	11.7	
EPS (₹)	(2.9)	(3.0)	43.9	47.7	60.2	
EV/EBITDA (x)	16.0	14.2	10.7	10.1	8.4	
RoCE (%)	7.3	10.6	20.7	20.5	23.7	
RoE (%)	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Company Update

Exhibit 1: Change	in estimates					
		FY22E			FY23E	
(₹ Crore)	Old	New	% Change	Old	New	% Change
Revenue	17,892.8	17,892.8	0.0	19,212.5	19,615.9	2.1
EBITDA	4,365.8	4,365.8	0.0	4,841.6	4,943.2	2.1
EBITDA Margin (%)	24.4	24.4	0 bps	25.2	25.2	0 bps
PAT	1,328.1	1,360.8	2.5	1,636.7	1,715.7	4.8
EPS (₹)	46.6	47.7	2.5	57.4	60.2	4.8

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Change in operating structure

The company undertook the change in reporting structure with an intention to simplify the same. Product level revenue segmentation has been discontinued and segmentation is now on the basis of customer proposition. **Key highlights were**

- Three business segments now vs. two earlier: Data, voice and others (subsidiaries for transformation services, white label ATM and rental arm which was under data segment)
- Under Data segment, traditional services would be renamed as Core Connectivity and growth services will be renamed as Digital Platforms and Services. Product grouping remains same except Content Delivery Network (CDN), which moves from Core Connectivity to Digital Platforms
- *MOVE, IoT and Netfoundry* would form a third sub-segment under Data viz. **Incubation** (vs. innovation earlier)

Exhibit 2: New reporting structure BEING FUTURE READY - NEW REPORTING STRUCTURE

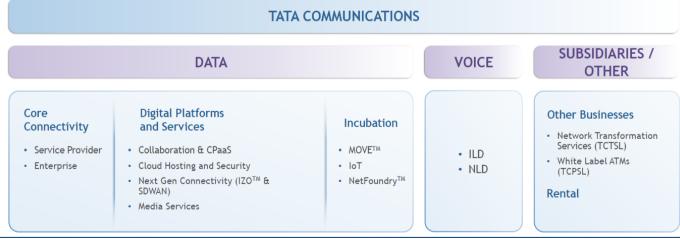


Exhibit 3: Comparative numbers with old structure

COMPARATIVE VIEW

TRADITIONAL SERV Amount in ₹, Cr; except r		
Particulars	Quarter Ended	Full En

Particulars		ended			
Particulars	Mar 2021	Dec 2020	Sep 2020	June 2020	Mar 2021
Gross Revenue	2,277	2,288	2,271	2,229	9,065
Net Revenue	1,882	1,871	1,853	1,802	7,407
EBITDA	970	981	1,016	941	3,908
EBITDA Margin	42.6%	42.9%	44.7%	42.2%	43.1%

GROWTH SERVICES atios

Particulars		Full Year Ended			
ruiticulurs	Mar 2021	Dec 2020	Sep 2020	June 2020	Mar 2021
Gross Revenue	774	806	903	923	3,406
Net Revenue	370	420	439	408	1,637
EBITDA	65	126	150	115	454
EBITDA Margin	8.4%	15.6%	16.6%	12.4%	13.3%

CORE CONNECTIVITY

Amount in ₹, Cr; except ratios

Destination					Full Year Ended
Particulars	Mar 2021	Dec 2020	Sep 2020	June 2020	Mar 2021
Gross Revenue	2,238	2,250	2,234	2,193	8,915
Net Revenue	1,858	1,845	1,829	1,779	7,311
EBITDA	976	984	1,017	946	3,923
EBITDA Margin	43.6%	43.7%	45.5%	43.1%	44.0%

DIGITAL PLATFORMS AND SERVICES

Amount in ₹, Cr; except ratios

Particulars		Quarter Ended					
	Mar 2021	Dec 2020	Sep 2020	June 2020	Mar 2021		
Gross Revenue	813	844	940	959	3,556		
Net Revenue	394	446	463	431	1,734		
EBITDA	59	122	147	109	437		
EBITDA Margin	7.3%	14.5%	15.6%	11.4%	12.3%		

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 4: Segmental breakup under new structure

SEGMENTAL BREAKUP

Particulars		Full Year Ended			
	Mar 2021	Dec 2020	Sep 2020	June 2020	Mar 2021
Service Provider (Wholesale)	40%	40%	39 %	41%	40%
Enterprise		60%	61%	59%	60%

CORE CONNECTIVITY -REVENUE SEGMENTATION

Amount in ₹, Cr; except ratios

Particulars		Full Year Ended			
i di cicatai ș	Mar 2021	Dec 2020	Sep 2020	June 2020	Mar 2021
Collaboration & CPaaS	44%	48%	53%	62%	52%
Cloud Hosting and Security	30%	26%	25%	20%	25%
Next Gen Connectivity (IZO TM & SDWAN)	16%	14%	13%	12%	13%
Media Services	11%	12%	9%	6%	9 %

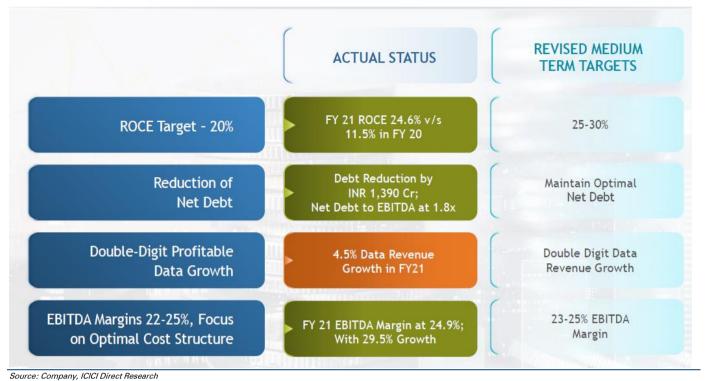
DIGITAL PLATFORMS AND SERVICES - REVENUE SEGMENTATION

Amount in ₹, Cr; except ratios

Company Update | Tata Communications

Exhibit 5: Medium term financial targets – Revisit and revision

HEALTHY BALANCE SHEET AND DOUBLE DIGIT PROFITABLE



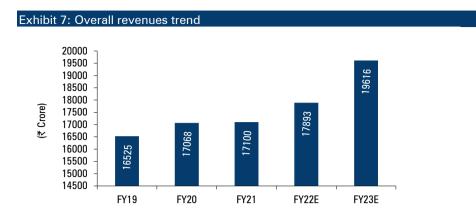
Other highlights:

- The company had earlier guided for 22-25% EBITDA margin range. TCom indicated that though FY21 reported margins were 24.9%, it includes benefit of various Covid related cost savings such as travelling, rentals costs, etc. Adjusted margins would have been lower by 100 bps. The management indicated that once things normalise, costs would rise. The company has narrowed their guidance range to 23-25% now. Incremental margin buffer will be spent on opex for R&D/technologies to drive growth ahead
- The company indicated that to attain double digit growth in data revenues, they would increase their investments from the current level to support that growth in the segment. The company thus guided for higher capex (yet range bound) from the normal run rate of US\$225-250 million on a yearly basis.

Valuations

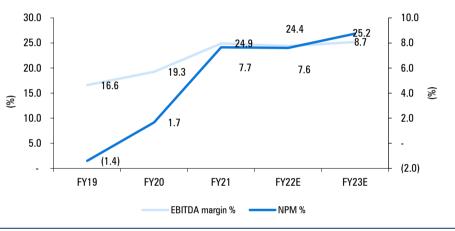
Particulars	FY23 EBITDA	EV/EBITDA	Amount (₹
raruculars	(₹ Crore)	(x)	Crore)
Voice Business Enterprise Value	148.2	2.0	296
Data Business Enterprise Value (incl. Rent & subsidiaries)	4,797.2	10.0	47,972
Data Centre - 26% stake (based on 20x EV/EBITDA)			1,820
Less: Net Debt (incl. Lease Liability)	-	-	6,502
Less:AGR liability	-	-	1,200
Equity Value of the business	-	-	42,386
No. of equity shares outstanding (crore)	-	-	28.5
Target Price	-	-	1,487
Rounded off Target Price	-	-	1,485

Financial story in charts

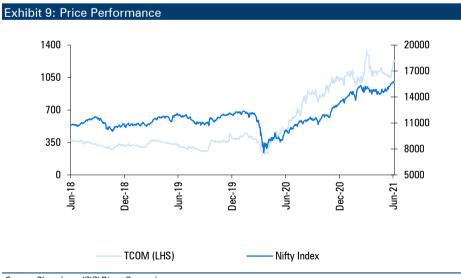


Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 8: EBITDA and NPM margins trend



Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research



Source: Bloomberg, ICICI Direct Research

Financial summary

Exhibit 10: Profit and los	s statemen	nt 🔄		₹ crore
(Year-end March)	FY20	FY21	FY22E	FY23E
Total operating Income	17068.0	17100.1	17892.8	19615.9
Growth (%)	3.3	0.2	4.6	9.6
Employee Expenses	3039.1	3049.1	3095.5	3393.5
Network costs	6777.6	6333.3	6817.2	7316.7
Administrative Expenses	3962.3	3457.2	3614.3	3962.4
Other Expenses	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Operating Expenditure	13779.0	12839.5	13527.0	14672.7
EBITDA	3289.0	4260.6	4365.8	4943.2
Growth (%)	19.8	29.5	2.5	13.2
Depreciation	2357.7	2313.9	2272.4	2432.4
Interest	470.7	420.2	355.2	318.2
Other Income	69.7	156.8	80.0	100.0
Exceptional Items	390.6	74.7	0.0	0.0
PBT	139.7	1608.6	1818.2	2292.6
Minority Interest	1.1	0.9	1.2	1.2
PAT from Associates	2.2	-2.1	2.0	2.0
Total Tax	226.7	354.9	458.2	577.7
PAT	-86.0	1250.6	1360.8	1715.7
Growth (%)	NM	NM	8.8	26.1
Adjusted PAT	283.9	1308.9	1360.8	1715.7
Growth (%)	NM	361.0	4.0	26.1
EPS (₹)	-3.0	43.9	47.7	60.2

Exhibit 11: Cash flow state	ement			₹ crore
(Year-end March)	FY20E	FY21	FY22E	FY23E
Profit after Tax	-86.0	1250.6	1360.8	1715.7
Add: Depreciation	2357.7	2313.9	2272.4	2432.4
Add: Interest Paid	470.7	420.2	355.2	318.2
(Inc)/dec in Current Assets	-516.6	736.7	-386.8	-398.8
Inc/(dec) in CL and Provisions	1218.2	-784.4	311.8	695.7
Others	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CF from operating activities	3444.1	3937.0	3913.5	4763.2
(Inc)/dec in Investments	-71.8	-670.3	-50.0	-50.0
(Inc)/dec in Fixed Assets	-2222.9	-1452.8	-1850.0	-1850.0
Others	-82.7	-773.9	-237.0	-239.
CF from investing activities	-2377.4	-2897.0	-2137.0	-2139.
Issue/(Buy back) of Equity	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Inc/(dec) in loan funds	471.7	-745.0	-799.9	-1200.0
Less:Interest Paid	-470.7	-420.2	-355.2	-318.2
Less: Dividend and dividend tax	-135.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Others	-874.9	143.2	-100.0	-100.0
CF from financing activities	-1009.6	-1022.0	-1255.1	-1618.2
Net Cash flow	57.0	18.0	521.3	1005.5
Opening Cash	852.1	909.1	927.1	1448.4
Closing Cash	909.1	927.1	1448.4	2453.9

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 12: Balance she				₹ crore	
(Year-end March)	FY20	FY21	FY22E	FY23E	
Liabilities					
Equity Capital	285.0	285.0	285.0	285.0	
Preference Share Capital	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Reserve and Surplus	-1,563.4	-169.5	1,091.3	2,706.9	
Total Shareholders funds	-1,278.4	115.5	1,376.3	2,991.9	
Total Debt	10,746.0	10,001.0	9,201.1	8,001.1	
Others	4,996.6	4,304.0	4,067.0	3,827.6	
Total Liabilities	14,464.2	14,420.5	14,644.5	14,820.7	
Assets					
Gross Block	36,977.0	36,790.4	38,640.4	40,490.4	
Less: Acc Depreciation	25,833.4	26,616.4	28,888.7	31,321.1	
Net Block	11,143.6	10,174.1	9,751.7	9,169.3	
Capital WIP	286.0	394.5	394.5	394.5	
Total Fixed Assets	11,429.6	10,568.5	10,146.1	9,563.8	
Investments	1,563.1	2,233.4	2,283.4	2,333.4	
Goodwill on Consolidation	91.8	110.3	110.3	110.3	
Inventory	73.0	34.4	36.0	39.5	
Debtors	3,228.9	2,607.7	2,941.3	3,224.5	
Loans and Advances	259.6	235.8	246.7	270.5	
Other Current Assets	929.6	876.5	917.1	1,005.4	
Cash	909.1	927.1	1,448.4	2,453.9	
Total Current Assets	5,400.2	4,681.5	5,589.6	6,993.9	
Creditors	3,845.0	3,239.5	3,382.5	3,708.2	
Provisions	726.0	688.1	718.5	787.7	
Other current liabilities	3,126.3	2,985.3	3,123.7	3,424.5	
Total Current Liabilities	7,697.3	6,912.9	7,224.6	7,920.4	
Net Current Assets	-2,297.1	-2,231.4	-1,635.1	-926.5	
Other non current assets	3,676.8	3,739.7	3,739.7	3,739.7	
Application of Funds	14,464.2	14,420.5	14,644.5	14,820.7	

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

(Year-end March)	FY20	FY21	FY22E	FY23E
Per share data (₹)				
EPS	-3.0	43.9	47.7	60.2
Adj. EPS	10.0	45.9	47.7	60.2
BV	-44.9	4.1	48.3	105.0
DPS	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cash Per Share	31.9	32.5	50.8	86.1
Operating Ratios (%)				
EBITDA Margin	19.3	24.9	24.4	25.2
PBT / Total Operating income	5.5	11.4	11.7	12.8
PAT Margin	1.7	7.7	7.6	8.7
Inventory days	1.6	0.7	0.7	0.7
Debtor days	69.0	55.7	60.0	60.0
Creditor days	82.2	69.1	69.0	69.0
Return Ratios (%)				
RoE	NM	NM	98.9	57.3
RoCE	10.6	20.7	20.5	23.7
RolC	7.8	17.8	19.4	24.5
Valuation Ratios (x)				
P/E	-408.1	28.0	25.8	20.4
ev / Ebitda	14.2	10.7	10.1	8.4
EV / Net Sales	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.1
Market Cap / Sales	2.1	2.1	2.0	1.8
Price to Book Value	-27.4	303.8	25.5	11.7
Solvency Ratios				
Net Debt/EBITDA	2.8	1.8	1.5	0.9
Debt / Equity	-8.4	86.6	6.7	2.7
Current Ratio	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Quick Ratio	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0

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