CMP: INR 844 Target Price: INR 1,055 🔺 25%

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India | Equity Research | Q1FY24 results review

24 July 2023

One 97 Communications

Financial Services

Well balanced quarter between growth, margin, credit quality and investments

One97 Communications' (Paytm) Q1FY24 results yielded three key trends: (1) increase in margins on payments; (2) lower take rates in financial services, but continued improvement in asset quality; and (3) increase in fixed costs. The overarching strategy of growth in payments and credit distribution (without FLDG) remains intact and will only likely be boosted by partner addition and improving penetration within the ecosystem. Positive levers can come from expansion of credit partners (likely to add 3-4 partners in FY24) as well as launch of co-branded RuPay credit card (May'23). Maintain **BUY** with a target price of INR 1,055 (unchanged) based on the DCF methodology.

We expect profits in FY25E. The positive cycle of customer growth, retention and cross-sell as shown by the company is going to build confidence and valuation multiples.

Improving profit outlook is being helped by a combination of growth and operating leverage (FY21-FY23 revenue CAGR has been 32% vs operating cost {ex-ESOP} CAGR of 21%). Customer onboarding, increase in use cases and new advanced tech platform are helping growth. Soundbox (launched 4G-enabled Soundbox 3.0 offering fastest real-time payment alerts) and large employee base to service merchants (average number of sales employees as of Jun'23 stood at 30,148 vs 19,781 as at Jun'22) are helping in retention and cross-selling. This is evident from growth in financial services revenue (up 3.5x YoY to INR 15bn in FY23 from INR 4.3bn in FY22 and to INR 5.2bn in Q1FY24). The ability to grow, retain and cross-sell along with a strong balance sheet (INR 84bn as of Jun'23) should give confidence to the investor in the wake of changes in possible payment landscape. Increasing monetisation of the UPI platform and introduction of credit card in UPI could lead to positive surprises ahead.

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Market Data

Market Cap (INR)	535bn
Market Cap (USD)	6,530mn
Bloomberg Code	PAYTM IN
Reuters Code	PAYT BO
52-week Range (INR)	915/438
Free Float (%)	30.0
ADTV-3M (mn) (USD)	41

Price Performance (%)	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	27.2	55.3	13.6
Relative to Sensex	11.8	10.3	20.4

ESG Disclosure	2021	2022	Change
ESG score	13.1	27.8	14.7
Environment	0.0	0.4	0.4
Social	3.2	15.1	11.9
Governance	36.1	67.8	31.7

Note - Score ranges from 0 - 100 with a higher score indicating higher ESG disclosures.

Source: Bloomberg, I-sec research

Earnings Revisions (%)	FY24E	FY25E
Revenue	4.9	(1.0)
EBITDA	22.4	(43.0)
EPS	16.4	(63.3)

Previous Reports

26-05-2023: <u>Company update</u> 08-05-2023: <u>Q4FY23 results review</u>

Financial Summary

Y/E March (INR mn)	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E
Net Revenue	49,742	79,903	1,12,631	1,36,887
Contribution	14,981	39,000	60,930	73,323
Contribution Margin	30.1	48.8	54.1	53.6
EBITDA	(23,402)	(16,315)	(5,624)	3,260
EBITDA Margin (%)	(47.0)	(20.0)	(4.9)	2.4
Net Profit	(23,964)	(17,765)	(7,954)	729
Diluted EPS (INR)	(34.4)	(26.1)	(11.7)	1.1
GMV (INR Bn)	8,520	13,300	19,920	26,398
Price/Sales	9.7	5.9	4.2	3.4
EV/EBITDA	(20.5)	(28.8)	(83.4)	143.9



Maintain BUY with an unchanged target price of INR 1,055

We have factored in ~41% CAGR in GMV between FY23-FY25E (registered 82% CAGR between FY21-FY23) and expect gross payment take rates to decline from 0.36% in FY23 to 0.33% in FY25E. Deducting the subscription and UPI incentive from the same, we expect the net payment rate to decline from 8bps in Q4FY23 to ~7bps each year in FY24E and FY25E (however, similar number in Q1FY24 was 9.7bps). This is expected to lead to 34% CAGR in net payment margin income between FY23-FY25E. We expect financial services income to increase 30% driven by ~40% growth in disbursement between FY23-FY25E, while we factor-in yields moderation from 4.4% in FY23 to 3.7% in FY25E. Cloud & commerce revenue is expected to witness 20% CAGR between FY23-FY25E vs 48% CAGR in FY21-FY23. We expect contribution margin to improve from 44.6% in FY23 to ~54% in FY25 (Q1FY24 contribution margin was ~56%). We estimate adjusted EBITDA of INR 10bn/15bn for FY24E/FY25E (Q1FY24 adjusted-EBITDA {ex-ESOP} was INR 840mn).

Key performance indicators remained strong in Q1FY24

Average monthly transaction users (MTU) in Q1FY24 stood at 92mn, up 28% YoY. The number of merchants paying subscription for payments device increased 16% QoQ to 7.9mn in Q1FY24. GMV increased 12% QoQ to INR 4.1trn in Q1FY24. Growth in total loans disbursed stood at 18% QoQ to INR 148bn in Q1FY24. Company maintains 1mn quarterly device addition target.

Net payment processing margin remains at higher end of guidance

Q1FY24 net payment margin yield increased 3bps to 0.16%. This includes subscription charges, excluding which it will be 9.7bps (there is no UPI incentive in Q1FY24).

Credit portfolio performance continues to improve

ECL percentage for post-paid loans has improved from 0.75-1% in Q4FY23 to 0.65-0.85% in Q1FY24. The conscious decision not to raise rates to prevent adverse selection will also aid in better asset quality.

- ECL percentage remained stable for personal/merchant loans at 4.5-5%/5-5.5% in Q1FY24.
- Average ticket-size for post-paid loans in Q1FY24 increased by 18.3% to INR 6,536 in Q1FY24. Average ticket-size for personal loans increased by 17.8% to INR 0.13mn while merchant loan ticket-size saw an increase of 18.6% to INR 0.19mn in Q1FY24.
- Value of post-paid loans increased by 18% QoQ in Q1FY24 to INR 80.3bn. Personal loans saw a QoQ growth of 17.8% QoQ in Q1FY24 and stood at INR 40.6bn while merchant loans grew 18.6% QoQ to INR 27.4bn in Q1FY24.

Credit penetration metrics remain very low; company to maintain a calibrated growth approach

Paytm's post-paid penetration stood at 4.5% of average MTU as of Q1FY24 vs the 4.3% seen in Q4FY23. Personal loan penetration increased from 0.9% of average MTU in Q4FY23 to 1.1 of average MTU in Q1FY24. Merchant loan penetration improved to 6.2% in Q1FY24 as against 5.3% in Q4FY23. Device penetration as percentage of total merchants stood at 22% in Q1FY24 vs 13/16/18/20% in Q1/2/3/4FY23, respectively.



Contribution margin improved to 56% despite no UPI incentive in Q1FY24 driven by net better payment take rate

Net payment margin increased from 0.08% Q4FY23 to 0.097% in Q1FY24 to driven by higher non-UPI payment mix. The payment processing charges were also lower due to interoperability. We factor-in margin of 54% going forward. Q1FY24 contribution stood at INR 13bn (56% contribution margin).

Monetisation of app traffic is on track for cloud/commerce segment

Cloud and commerce revenue grew 22% YoY to INR 4bn in Q1FY24. The commerce front, which includes travel, movie, entertainment ticketing, deals and gift vouchers, saw revenue growth of 12% to INR 1.56bn. Commerce GMV increased by 10% YoY to INR 25.4bn. Growth was lower on account of lower volume of events in the entertainment business, which resulted in lower take rates. On the cloud business front, which includes advertising, co-branded credit cards, marketing cloud, and loyalty business, revenue grew 29% YoY to INR 2.5bn on account of growth in credit card distribution and advertising business. There is a cross-sell opportunity in credit cards from the existing post-paid user base.

Indirect costs have sharply risen to INR 12.2bn in Q1FY24 from INR 10bn levels for four quarters in FY24

Going forward, we have estimated 19% CAGR between FY23-FY25E for indirect costs. Periodic investments will likely remain, but should be lower than revenue growth. Key factors behind the 16% QoQ increase in fixed costs include: (1) higher employee costs due to annual appraisals, (2) expansion of sales and technology teams, and (3) higher investment in marketing during IPL.

Increase in cash balance QoQ

Due to positive EBITDA before ESOP, improvement in working capital, and interest income, cash balance has increased to INR 84bn as of Q1FY24 compared to INR 83bn in FY23.

Key Risks

Key risks include regulatory changes, adverse credit quality in loan disbursals and higher than expected fixed costs.



Exhibit 1: Q1FY24 review (consolidated)

Income statement (INR mn)	Q1FY24	Q1FY23	% Change YoY	Q4FY23	% Change QoQ
Payment and financial services	19,180	13,460	42.5%	19,180	0.0%
Payment Service revenue	13,969	10,760	29.8%	14,420	-3.1%
- Payment services to consumers	5,540	5,190	6.7%	5,240	5.7%
- Payment services to merchants	8,429	5,570	51.3%	9,180	-8.2%
Financial Service revenue	5,211	2,700	93.0%	4,760	9.5%
Commerce and cloud services	4,050	3,316	22.1%	3,910	3.6%
-Commerce revenue	1,560	1,390	12.2%	1,680	-7.1%
-Cloud revenue	2,490	1,926	29.3%	2,230	11.7%
Other operating revenue	190	20		250	-24.0%
Revenue from operations	23,420	16,796	39.4%	23,340	0.3%
Payment processing charges	7,670	6,938	10.6%	7,800	-1.7%
Promotional cashbacks and incentives	850	1,430	-40.6%	780	9.0%
Other expenses	1,860	1,170	59.0%	1,930	-3.6%
Contribution Profit	13,040	7,258	79.7%	12,830	1.6%
Other Marketing & promotional expanses	1,803	1,751	3.0%	1,265	42.5%
Other Marketing & promotional expenses	7,300	5,527	32.1%	6,139	42.5%
Employee benefits expense excluding ESOP					
Software, cloud and data centre expenses	1,550	1,622	-4.4%	1,880	-17.6%
Other expense Adjusted EBITDA	1,553	1,107	40.3%	1,209	28.5%
	834	-2,749	130.3%	2,337	-64.3%
ESOP Expense	3,761	3,590	4.8%	3,630	3.6%
EBITDA	-2,927	-6,339	53.8%	-1,293	-126.4%
Depreciation and amortisation expense	1,591	972	63.7%	1,598	-0.4%
Finance costs	67	55	21.8%	71	-5.6%
Other income	1,226	1,020	20.2%	1,301	-5.8%
РВТ	-3,359	-6,346	47.1%	-1,661	-102.2%
Share of profit / (loss) of associates / joint ventures/Others	-181	-60	-201.7%	-23	-687.0%
Exceptional items	-	-		-	
Tax Expense	44	48	-8.3%	-7	-728.6%
РАТ	-3,584	-6,454	44.5%	-1,677	-113.7%
Ratios as %age of operating revenue					
Contribution margin	55.7%	43.2%	1246 bps	55.0%	70 bps
EBITDA margin	-12.5%	-37.7%	2524 bps	-5.5%	-696 bps
Adjusted EBITDA margin	3.6%	-16.4%	1992 bps	10.0%	-646 bps
PAT margin	-15.3%	-38.4%	2312 bps	-7.2%	-812 bps
Den mer ende heler medere	015/24	045/22		0.453/22	
Payment take rates	Q1FY24	Q1FY23	% Change YoY	Q4FY23	% Change QoQ
GMV (Rs bn)	4050	3000	35%	3620	11.9%
Payment service revenues	13,969	10,760	30%	12,600	10.9%
Number of devices	7.90	3.80	108%	6.80	16.2%
Subscription charges	2,370	1,140	108%	2,040	16.2%
Payment service revenues (ex subs revenues)	11,599	9,620	21%	10,560	9.8%
% OF GMV	0.29%	0.32%	-4 bps	0.29%	-1 bps
Payment processing charges	7,670	6,938	11%	7,800	-1.7%
% OF GMV	0.19%	0.23%	-5 bps	0.22%	-3 bps
Net payment margin	0.097%	0.09%	0 bps	0.076%	2 bps
Financial services	148450	55540	167%	125540	18.2%
Revenue from Financial services	5,211	2,700	93%	4,760	9.5%
Financial services take rate	3.51%	4.86%	-136 bps	3.79%	-29 bps
Ratios as %age of GMV	4.050		05.00/		4.4.00/
GMV (Rsbn)	4,050	3,000	35.0%	3,620	11.9%
Payment and financial services	0.47%	0.45%	2 bps	0.53%	-6 bps
- Payment services to consumers	0.14%	0.17%	-4 bps	0.14%	-1 bps
- Payment services to merchants	0.21%	0.19%	2 bps	0.25%	-5 bps
- Others including financial services revenue	0.13%	0.09%	3 bps	0.13%	-1 bps
Revenue from operations	0.6%	0.6%	1 bps	0.6%	-7 bps
Payment processing charges	0.19%	0.23%	-5 bps	0.22%	-3 bps
Marketing and promotional expenses	0.07%	0.11%	-5 bps	0.06%	0 bps
Contribution	0.32%	0.24%	8 bps	0.35%	-4 bps
EBITDA	-0.07%	-0.21%	13 bps	-0.04%	-4 bps
	-0.07 /0	0.2170		0.06%	-5 bps

Source: Company data, I-Sec research



Exhibit 2: Strong pick up and acceleration in lending business

	Q2FY22	Q3FY22	Q4FY22	Q1FY23	Q2FY23	Q3FY23	Q4FY23	Q1FY24
Total value of loans disbursed (INR mn)	12,570	21,810	35,530	55,540	73,130	99,580	1,25,540	1,48,450
Total no. of loans disbursed (mn)	2.8	4.4	6.5	8.5	9.2	10.5	11.9	12.8
Avg. ticket size (INR)	4,426	4,957	5,429	6,551	7,956	9,484	10,550	11,598
BNPL Loans								
BNPL Loans (Paytm postpaid) (INR mn)	7,380	11,900	21,830	33,830	40,500	52,020	67,940	80,390
No. of BNPL loans disbursed (mn)	2.8	4.3	6.4	8.3	8.9	10.1	11.5	12.3
Avg. ticket size (INR)	2,645	2,755	3,411	4,076	4,551	5,150	5,908	6,536
Instant personal Loans								
Instant personal loans (INR mn)	2,460	5,160	8,050	13,440	20,550	29,310	34,470	40,620
No. of instant personal loans disbursed (mn)	0.03	0.06	0.09	0.13	0.19	0.24	0.27	0.3
Avg. ticket size (INR)	84,828	86,000	87,500	1,01,818	1,08,158	1,22,125	1,27,667	1,35,400
Merchant Loans								
Merchant cash advance loans (INR mn)	2,730	4,740	5,650	8,270	12,080	18,250	23,130	27,440
No. of merchant loans disbursed (mn)	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.06	0.08	0.12	0.14	0.14
Avg. ticket size (INR)	1,18,696	1,35,429	1,48,684	1,37,833	1,51,000	1,52,083	1,65,214	1,96,000

Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 3: Penetration within Paytm universe remains very low

Penetration	Q1FY23	Q2FY23	Q3FY23	Q4FY23	Q1FY24
Postpaid Loans % of average MTU	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	4.30%	4.50%
Personal loans % of average MTU	0.50%	0.60%	0.80%	0.90%	1.10%
Merchant loans % of device merchants	4.00%	4.40%	5.20%	5.90%	6.20%
Device penetration % of total merchants	13%	16%	18%	20%	22%

Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 4: Net payments margin trend

INR mn	Q1FY23	Q2FY23	Q3FY23	Q4FY23	Q1FY24
GMV	30,00,000	32,00,000	35,00,000	36,00,000	40,50,000
Payment service revenues	10,760	11,730	11,530	13,090*	13,969
Number of devices (mn)	3.8	4.8	5.8	6.8	7.9
Subscription charges (number of device*INR 100*3months)	1,140	1,440	1,740	2,040	2,370
Payment service revenues (ex-subs revenues)	9,620	10,290	9,790	11,050	11,599
% OF GMV	0.32%	0.32%	0.28%	0.31%	0.29%
Payment processing charges	6,938	7,458	7,378	7,800	7,670
% OF GMV	0.23%	0.23%	0.21%	0.22%	0.19%
Net payment margin	0.09%	0.09%	0.07%	0.09%	0.10%

Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 5: Cash and cash equivalents trends

INR bn	Mar- 22	Jun- 22	Sep- 22	Dec- 22	Mar- 23
Cash and Bank Balances in Current Accounts (Net of Borrowings)	13	18	14	20	27
Fixed Deposits with banks	80	70	59	53	43
Current Investments (Mutual Funds, Treasury bills and Commercial papers)	-	7	19	17	12
Total Balances	93	94	92	90	83

Source: Company data, I-Sec research



Exhibit 6: Asset Quality of Loans distributed by Paytm

Bucket 1 resolution	Q4FY22	Q1FY23	Q2FY23	Q3FY23	Q4FY23	Q1FY24
Postpaid	82-85%	81-83%	81-83%	81-83%	82-84%	82% to 84%
Personal loans	89-92%	89-92%	89-92%	89-92%	88-92%	88% to 92%
Merchant loans	84-87%	84-87%	84-87%	84-87%	80-85%	78% to 83%
Recovery rate post 90+						
Postpaid	25-27%	25-27%	25-27%	25-27%	30-35%	30% to 35%
Personal loans	27-29%	27-29%	27-29%	27-29%	27-29%	27% to 29%
Merchant loans	31-33%	31-33%	31-33%	31-33%	30-35%	30% to 35%
ECL%						
Postpaid	1.1-1.3%	1.1-1.3%	1.1-1.3%	1.1-1.3%	0.75-1.0%	0.65%-0.85%
Personal loans	4.5-5%	4.5-5%	4.5-5%	4.5-5%	4.5-5%	4.5% - 5.0%
Merchant loans	5-5.5%	5-5.5%	5-5.5%	5-5.5%	5-5.5%	5.0% - 5.5%

Source: Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 7: Shareholding pattern

%	Dec'22	Mar'23	Jun'23
Promoters	0.0	0.0	0.0
Institutional investors	74.7	74.6	75.1
MFs and others	1.7	2.7	2.5
Fl/Banks	0.1	0.1	0.5
FIIs	72.9	71.8	72.1
Others	25.3	25.4	24.9



Source: Bloomberg, I-Sec research

Source: Bloomberg, I-Sec research



Financial Summary

Exhibit 9: Profit & Loss

(INR mn, year ending March)

	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E
Net Sales	49,742	79,903	1,12,631	1,36,887
Operating Expenses	38,383	55,315	66,554	70,063
EBITDA	(23,402)	(16,315)	(5,624)	3,260
EBITDA Margin (%)	(0.5)	(0.2)	0.0	0.0
Depreciation & Amortization	2,473	4,853	6,309	7,255
EBIT	(25,875)	(21,168)	(11,933)	(3,995)
Interest expenditure	394	233	245	257
Other Non-operating				
Income	-	-	-	-
Recurring PBT	(23,368)	(17,304)	(7,835)	923
Profit / (Loss) from Associates	(459)	(125)	(119)	(113)
Less: Taxes	113	336	-	81
PAT	(23,481)	(17,640)	(7,835)	842
Less: Minority Interest	-	-	-	-
Extraordinaries (Net)	(24)	-	-	-
Net Income (Reported)	(23,964)	(17,765)	(7,954)	729
Net Income (Adjusted)	(23,964)	(17,765)	(7,954)	729

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 10: Balance sheet

(INR mn, year ending March)

	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E
Total Current Assets	1,07,450	1,28,685	1,07,777	1,16,625
of which cash & cash eqv.	52,020	70,395	46,325	51,833
Total Current Liabilities & Provisions	33,325	44,869	49,983	55,660
Net Current Assets	74,125	83,816	57,794	60,964
Investments	12,295	26,971	18,112	19,008
Net Fixed Assets	8,663	11,248	16,334	19,419
ROU Assets	-	-	-	-
Capital Work-in-Progress	-	-	-	-
Total Intangible Assets	443	443	443	443
Other assets	51,065	12,311	50,156	56,121
Deferred Tax assets	-	-	-	-
Total Assets	1,46,591	1,34,789	1,42,839	1,55,955
Liabilities				
Borrowings	-	-	-	-
Deferred Tax Liability	-	-	-	-
provisions	-	-	-	-
other Liabilities	5,296	4,860	5,228	5,626
Equity Share Capital	649	634	640	647
Reserves & Surplus	1,40,867	1,29,522	1,37,214	1,49,924
Total Net Worth	1,41,516	1,30,156	1,37,854	1,50,570
Minority Interest	(221)	(227)	(243)	(241)
Total Liabilities	1,46,591	1,34,789	1,42,839	1,55,955

Source Company data, I-Sec research

Exhibit 11: Key ratios

(Year ending March)

	FY22A	FY23A	FY24E	FY25E
Growth Ratios (In %)				
Total revenue from	77.5	60.6	41.0	21.5
operations	77.5	00.0	11.0	21.5
Payment processing	43.7	7.4	37.5	28.6
charges Marketing and				
promotional expenses	60.6	25.8	23.8	(13.2)
Employee benefits				
expense	105.2	55.4	16.4	8.4
Software, cloud and data	42.0	38.8	12.0	10.0
centre expenses	42.9	38.8	12.0	10.0
Other expense	32.0	44.2	12.0	8.0
EBITDA	32.4	(30.3)	(65.5)	(158.0)
Adjusted EBITDA	(8.3)	(88.4)	(669.9)	52.4
EBIT	33.0	(18.2)	(43.6)	(66.5)
PBT	46.4	(26.0)	(54.7)	(111.8)
PAT	40.9	(25.9)	(55.2)	(109.2)
Contribution Profit	313.3	160.3	56.2	20.3
As a % of GMV				
GMV (RsBn)	8,520.0	13,300.0	19,920.6	26,398.0
Payment and financial	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
(Payment services to	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
consumers)	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
(Payment services to	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
merchants) (Others including financial				
services revenue)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Revenue from operations	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5
Revenue nom operations	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Margins (in %)				
Contribution margin	30.1	48.8	54.1	53.6
EBITDA margin	(47.0)	(20.4)	(5.0)	2.4
Adjusted EBITDA margin	(30.5)	(2.2)	8.9	11.1
PAT margin	(48.2)	(22.2)	(7.1)	0.5
ROE	(23.2)	(13.1)	(5.9)	0.5
Per Share Ratios				
EPS (Basic)	(36.9)	(28.0)	(12.4)	1.1
EPS (Diluted)	(34.4)	(26.1)	(11.7)	1.1
BVPS	203.6	191.7	203.0	221.8
EBITDA per share	(33.7)	(24.0)	(8.3)	4.8
Op. revenue per share	71.6	117.7	165.9	201.6

Source Company data, I-Sec research



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