

Rating Rationale

12 Dec 2022

Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (erstwhile Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust)

Brickwork Ratings reaffirms the ratings for the Tax-Free, Secured, Redeemable Non-Convertible Bonds issue up to Rs.2000.00 crore (subscribed amount Rs.41.32 crore) of Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority.

Facilities/	Amount (Rs. crore)			Rating*		
Instrument**	Previous	Present	Tenure	Previous (12 Nov 2021)	Present	
NCD/Bonds	Rs. 2000 crore (Subscribed Rs. 41.32 crore)	Rs. 2000 crore (Subscribed Rs. 41.32 crore)	Long Term	BWR AAA/ Stable (Reaffirmed)	BWR AAA/ Stable (Reaffirmed)	
Total	41.32	41.32	Rupees Forty One Crores and Thirty Two Lakhs Only			

^{*}Please refer to BWR website www.brickworkratings.com/ for the definition of the ratings

RATING ACTION/OUTLOOK

Brickwork Ratings (BWR) reaffirms the ratings of Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA or the Authority) considering factors such as JNPA's ownership by the Government of India (GoI), leadership position in the container cargo segment, healthy financial performance, optimum capacity utilization and well-planned port capacity addition and modernisation plans, along with infrastructure development in adjacent areas for economic growth. The rating is constrained by competition from ports with container cargo facilities and berthing facilities on the western coast of India.

The Authority's outlook is kept Stable, considering the healthy financial profile and availability of adequate funds in the form of term deposits or fixed deposits.

KEY COVENANTS OF THE INSTRUMENT/FACILITY RATED: The Central Board of Direct Taxes on 6 November 2012 authorized JNPA to raise an aggregating amount not exceeding Rs.2000 crore through the issue of secured, tax-free, redeemable non-convertible bonds. The Ministry of Shipping on 12 November 2012 sanctioned the issue of tax-free bonds by JNPA and conveyed the approval on 4 January 2013 for the issue of bonds of Rs.2000 crore. The bonds of Rs.41.32 crore were allotted on 26 March 2013. The bonds are secured by 1.75 hectares of land. A term deposit of Rs. 45 crore, having maturity on 21 March 2023 (few days prior to maturity of bonds) has already been created and set apart for meeting the redemption liability.

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^{**} Details of NCD/Bonds provided in Annexure - I



KEY RATING DRIVERS

Credit Strengths-:

• Experienced Promoters and Professional Management:

JNPA is 100% owned by the GoI controlled by the Ministry of Shipping, Ports and Waterways (MoPSW. It is the second largest container port in India and handled more than 56.84 mn TEUs in FY22. It is ranked 26th among the top 100 container ports in the world. Over the last three decades, JNPA has systematically evolved its operational efficiency and improved its capacity handling to transform itself into a port at par with global standards. Shri. Sanjay Sethi, IAS, and Shri. Unmesh Sharad Wagh, IRS, are JNPA's current chairman and deputy chairman, respectively. JNPA's authorities are appointed by the Ministry of Shipping, Ports and Waterways from various stakeholders of the government such as Customs, Railways, Forest, Coast Guard and Navy. The other Authority management members are also reputed members from the government's different departments. Further a consortium of JM Baxi and French Shipping Major CMA terminals has won the tender to operate Jawaharlal Nehru Port Container Terminal (JNPCT) terminal and shallow water berth with Coastal Terminal. Thus all 6 bulk terminals are now operated by private Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) Operators for which JNPA received pre-agreed royalty.

• **Robust Financial Performance**: Over the years, JNPA has witnessed a stable revenue stream on account of the BOT revenue sharing model and stable revenues from its own container terminals.

During FY22A, the total operating income improved to Rs. 2186.61 crore as against Rs 1921.19 crore as on FY21 (audited). The operating and net profitability margins were reported at 50.06% and 26.95%, respectively, during FY22 which included one time employee VRS-related expenses. The Authority has reported a satisfactory tangible net worth of Rs. 12225.68 crore as of FY22 (FY21: Rs. 11638.58 crore). During FY22, the Authority generated cash accruals of Rs. 667.67 crore. The cash and cash equivalents as on March 31, 2022 were Rs. 3202.67 crore (of which Rs.3,182.3 crore were as TDR with banks).

• Optimum Capacity Utilization:

The Authority's capacity utilization is optimum. During FY22, the Authority reported its owned terminal, JNPCT capacity utilization at 73.92% (76.00 MT) as compared to 60.62% (64.81 MT) in FY21. Further, total bulk container handled were 7,098,000 tonnes (FY21: 7,989,647 tonnes) and container traffic handled around 440,210 TEU's (FY21: 544,027 TEU's)

Continued port expansion, infrastructure development in adjacent areas: JNPA can
handle diverse cargo comprising containers and bulk cargo through three main container
terminals and Phase I of the fourth container terminal. Phase II of the fourth terminal is
scheduled to be completed by April 2025. The fourth container terminal at JNPA was
awarded to Bharat Mumbai Container Terminals Pvt. Ltd. (BMCTPL) in May 2014. It is



India's largest FDI project in the port sector, with an estimated investment of Rs.7,935 crore spread over eight years for two phases (Phase I Rs.4719 crore and Phase II Rs.3196 crore). As per the schedule, the work of Phase I was completed on December 22 2017, and it was put into operation. The commencement of Phase II of 30 MTPA capacity is expected to start in FY23. The project consists of two phases; each phase consists of 1 km of quay line, 16.5 m depth at berth, 12 quay cranes, 46 RTG yard cranes and 4 RMGC cranes for its rail yard generating a capacity of 2.4 mn TEUs

Credit Risks-:

• Competition from ports across western coast: Ports based on India's west coast that have container cargo facilities and berthing facilities for larger vessels provide competition to JNPA and constrain its growth in cargo volumes. However, the ongoing capacity expansion and modernisation of infrastructure will help it maintain or improve its market position by leveraging future trade growth opportunities.

ANALYTICAL APPROACH AND APPLICABLE RATING CRITERIA

To arrive at its ratings, BWR has relied on the standalone financials of the Authority. BWR has applied its rating methodology as detailed in the Rating Criteria (hyperlinks provided at the end of this rationale).

RATING SENSITIVITIES:

Going forward, the ability of the Authority to maintain the optimum capacity utilization, thereby improving its scale of operations as projected, and adequate generation of cash accruals to timely meet its debt obligations will remain key rating sensitivities.

• **Downward:** The ratings can move downward if there is substantial decline in the capacity utilization level due to a significant reduction in cargo movement, leading to degrowth in revenues and profitability.

LIQUIDITY: Strong

The Authority's liquidity position is considered to be strong driven by healthy cash accruals of Rs 667.67 crore during FY22 as against the principal debt obligations of USD 48.50 mn (approximately Rs. 388.00 crore). The Authority reported investments in fixed deposits of Rs. 3,182.3 crore as of 31 March 2022 (signed), and cash and cash equivalents of Rs. 20.34 crore. The rated bonds are due for redemption in March 2023, for which the Authority has already created a term deposit of Rs. 45 crore. For the ECB facilities, the debt obligations for FY23 and FY24 are at USD 52.20 Million and USD 207.30 Million respectively. BWR believes that the Authority will be generating adequate cash accruals for meeting debt obligations in the medium term.

About the Authority:

JNPA, at Navi Mumbai, is the second largest container port in India and has been a key enabler for EXIM trade growth in the country. Commissioned on 26 May 1989, JNPA occupies a prominent place among the most modern ports in India. Initially, it was planned to be a satellite



port to the Mumbai Port with the purpose of decongesting traffic. Over the last three decades, JNPA systematically evolved its operational efficiency and improved its capacity handling to transform itself into a port at par with global standards. The JNPA ecosystem consists of a full-fledged custom house, 34 Container Freight Stations (CFS) and connectivity to 52 Inland Container Depots (ICDs) across the country. Road connectivity is further being strengthened by the ongoing project of 6/8 lane-widened connectivity to NH-4 and NH-17.

The Central Government passed the Major Port Authority Act, 2021 in November 2021 replacing the earlier Major Port Authority Act, 1963. Thereafter vide gazette Notification, **Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust** changed its name to **Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA)** from 31st January 2022.

Till FY22, Authority operated its own terminal, JNPCT with an annual capacity of 1.5 mn TEUs. In June 2022, J M Baxi Ports and Logistics, in consortium with French container shipping major CMA Terminals, had bagged the tender to operate at the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) for 30 years.

KEY FINANCIAL INDICATORS

Key Parameters	Units	H1 FY23	FY22	FY21
Result Type			Signed	Audited
Operating Revenue	Rs. crore	1199.50	2186.61	1921.29
EBITDA	Rs.crore	706.10	1094.54	995.52
Net profit	Rs. crore	537.26	589.33	803.85
Tangible Net worth	Rs. crore	12762.81	12225.68	11638.58
Total Debt/Tangible Net worth	In Times	0.14	0.16	0.20
Current Ratio	In Times	1.99	2.01	2.15

NON COOPERATION WITH PREVIOUS CREDIT RATING AGENCY IF ANY: NIL



Rating History for the previous three years (Including withdrawal and suspended)

S.No	Instrument /Facility	Current Rating(2021)			Chronology of Rating History for the past 3 years (Rating assigned and press release date) along with outlook/watch, if applicable		
		Type (Long Term/ Short Term)	Amount (Rs. crore)	Rating	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2021	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2020	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2019
1	Bonds/NCDs	Long Term	Rs. 2000 crore (Subscribed Rs. 41.32 crore)	BWR AAA / Stable Reaffirmed	BWR AAA / Stable Reaffirmed (12-Nov-2021)	BWR AAA / Stable Reaffirmed (13-Nov-2020)	BWR AAA / Stable Reaffirmed (13-Nov-2019)
Total	Total 41.32			Rupees Forty One Crores and Thirty Two Lakhs Only.			

COMPLEXITY LEVELS OF THE INSTRUMENTS: Simple

BWR complexity levels are meant for educating investors. The BWR complexity levels are available at www.brickworkratings.com / download / ComplexityLevels.pdf. Investors' queries can be sent to info@brickworkratings.com.

Hyperlink/Reference to applicable Criteria

- General Criteria
- Approach to financial ratios
- Infrastructure sector
- Port Sector/Projects

For any other criteria obtain hyperlinks from the website.

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Annexure - I Instrument Details

Instrument	Issue Date	Amount (Rs. crore)	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	ISIN Particulars
Bonds/NCDs	26-Mar-2013	Rs. 2000 crore	6.82% (7.32%	25-Mar-2023	INE281G07053
		(Subscribed Rs.	for retail		
		41.32 crore)	subscribers)		

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