

Global Equity Research

India

Utilities

Sector Comment

UBS Investment Research

Power sector

UMPP re-bid possible

■ UMPP 1: Sasan project could be re-bid

According to media reports, this project may be re-bid due to charges of: a) misrepresentation of ownership at the time of the bid; and b) a change in the lead partner after the project was awarded. In our opinion, a re-bid can only be based on the charge of a change in ownership of the lead partners. We do not rule out a re-bid, but allotting the project to L2, Reliance Energy, seems unlikely.

■ UMPP 2: Tata Power's (TPC) bid for Mundhra depends on Bumi

The key assumptions underlying TPC's bid was a coal FOB price of US\$34/te and calorific value of 6,300kcal/kg. As per press reports, TPC has bid for Bumi Resources' coal assets. Given the already low estimated ROE (sub-15%) of the UMPP at a tariff of Rs2.26/Kwh, we think a bid >US\$1.1-1.2bn for coal prices >US\$34/te would be value-destroying.

■ UMPP 3: Only 2 out of 5 projects could take-off

Of the seven new projects in the pipeline, only two are likely to be bid out in the next four months: Krishnapatnam (imported coal) and Jharkhand (domestic coal). In our opinion, a maximum of two projects could be awarded in this calendar year.

■ We retain a Buy 2 on BHEL and Reliance Energy

TPC has underperformed recently because of press reports about the over-bid for Bumi, in our opinion. A coal contract for US\$34/te and a bid of less than US\$1.3bn could be positive news for the stock price, in our view. We recently upgraded REL to Buy 2 based on valuation gap and newsflow on new projects.

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UMPP 1: Sasan project could be re-bid

As per media reports, various parties have asked for a re-bid or allotment of the project to the second lowest bidder, Reliance Energy, based on: a) a change in ownership at Globeleq, Singapore, which was the lead partner in the project, to Lanco and Jindal Steel and Power (JSP); and b) alleged misrepresentation of financial data in order to qualify (ie, when Globeleq, Singapore, used the balance sheet of Globeleq, UK, to qualify for bidding).

In our opinion, the latter charge might be weak as the bids were evaluated by an expert committee and hence qualification might not be questioned at this stage. On the other hand, experts do not rule out a re-bid based on the second point.

While the bid conditions for the Sasan project put conditions on the shareholding structure of the lead partner for the project, it did not specify any restrictions on changes to ownership of the lead partner itself. Globeleq, Singapore, was the lead partner at the time of bid for the Sasan UMPP.

After the project was awarded to Lanco, Globeleq, UK, Globeleq's parent company expressed an interest in exiting its assets globally and the stake in its Singapore unit was bought by Lanco Infratech and Jindal Steel and Power (JSPL).

Furthermore, given the media interest and the political nature of the situation, we do not rule out re-bids for the same. However, we do not expect the project to be allotted to L2, Reliance Energy.

UMPP 2: TPC's bid for Mundhra depends on Bumi

As we highlighted in our 23 February 2007 report: *Tata Power: Reported bid price for Bumi looks high*, meeting ROE depends on attaining a coal FOB price of US\$34/te for coal at a calorific value of 6,300kcal/kg.

We estimate UMPP's ROE at 12-15% depending on the cost of equipment and fuel costs. Equipment costs are unlikely to be lower than the traditional Rs22m/MW benchmark and, given the strong thermal coal market, fuel cost savings are unlikely unless TPC secures long-term supply at a contracted price through Bumi.

As per our estimate, including the possibility of savings in fuel costs for the UMPP of US\$5-6/te, we estimate a bid level for Bumi at about US\$1.3bn could be value-accretive. Hence, with lower savings in fuel costs, which is a more likely scenario, we think a bid price of US\$1.1.-1.2bn would be value-accretive.

Table 1: Potential Bumi bid analysis

	US\$ m	Assumptions
Value of Bumi (30%)	795	For 12mtpa that will be used in UMPP, margins are US\$3-4/te after 2012 vs. normal margins of US\$10-15/te for the balance coal.
Savings in fuel costs over		UMPP fuel cost bid of US\$34-35/te vs. cost of coal from Bumi at
2012-2037 (discounted to now)	515	US\$28/te, inflation 4%, discounted by cost of debt of 11%
Total	1,310	

Source: UBS estimates

UMPP 3: Only 2 out of 5 projects could take-off

Of the seven new projects in the pipeline, only two are likely to be bid out in the next four months: Krishnapatnam (imported coal) and Jharkhand (domestic coal).

Table 2: Status of UMPP

Project	Status
Krishnapatnam (imported coal)	Bidding date 2 nd week April 2007
Jharkhand (domestic coal)	Bidding date-July 2007
Chennai (Cheyyur)	Site not identified
Orissa	Site not identified. Free power issue to be sorted out.
Chattisgarh	Site not identified. Free power issue to be sorted out.
Maharashtra	Site not identified. Likely ruled out.
Karnataka	Site not identified. Likely ruled out.

Source: Ministry of Power, UBS

We retain a Buy 2 on BHEL and Reliance Energy

Among stocks under our coverage exposed to the UMPP, we have Buy 2 ratings for BHEL and Reliance Energy and Neutral ratings for NTPC, TPC, Larsen and Toubro.

Table 3: Stocks exposed to UMPP

Stock	CMP (Rs), Rating	PT (Rs)	PT Derivation	UBS Remarks
BHEL	2,278, Buy 2	2,950	Based on DCF	Strong order book of 2.5x sales. However, execution worries and delays in orders could lead to underperformance in near term. Did not participate in the 1st UMPP. Unlikely to be a strong contender in new UMPPs unless pricing is sorted out. Order backlog and high visibility of profit growth of near 25% over next 2 years should sustain stock performance in a weak market.
Larsen & Toubro	1,616, Neutral 2	1,710	Based on: 1) EV/E of 13.5x for the core business; 2) LTIT at 15x; and 3) Ultratech at US\$100/te.	Strong order book of 1.7x sales. Exposure to power sector very minimal. Was a bidder in Mundhra UMPP. Was one of the highest bidders.
NTPC	145.5, Neutral 1	162	Based on DCF	Strong project pipeline even without the UMPP. Estimate addition to nearly 18,338MW in XI Plan. No immediate term trigger unless government gives mandate to NTPC to set up bulk power projects to enable technology transfer.
Reliance Energy	486, Buy 2	560	Based on sum-of-the-parts valuation	Net cash at Rs234/share is nearly 50% of the value. Mumbai business makes up rest of the value. Expect strong performance in the next round of UMPP bids.
Tata Power	511, Neutral 2	637	Based on sum-of-the-parts valuation	Won the Mundhra UMPP. Unlikely to bid for more UMPPs. Overhang of Bumi bid tempers stock price performance. We expect a bid outcome very soon. Any bid of US\$1.11.2bn and a firm coal contract could be value enhancing.

Source: UBS estimates

■ Statement of Risk

The main risks in the power sector are related to: a) fuel linkages; b) payment security; and c) tariff uncertainty. In addition, execution risks and equipment shortages are also hampering growth.

■ Analyst Certification

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UBS Investment Research: Global Equity Ratings Definitions and Allocations

UBS rating	Definition	UBS rating	Definition	Rating category	Coverage ¹	IB services ²
Buy 1	FSR is > 6% above the MRA, higher degree of predictability	Buy 2	FSR is > 6% above the MRA, lower degree of predictability	Buy	44%	36%
Neutral 1	FSR is between -6% and 6% of the MRA, higher degree of predictability	Neutral 2	FSR is between -6% and 6% of the MRA, lower degree of predictability	Hold/Neutral	43%	36%
Reduce 1	FSR is > 6% below the MRA, higher degree of predictability	Reduce 2	FSR is > 6% below the MRA, lower degree of predictability	Sell	13%	26%

^{1:} Percentage of companies under coverage globally within this rating category.

Source: UBS. Ratings allocations are as of 31 December 2006.

KEY DEFINITIONS

Forecast Stock Return (FSR) is defined as expected percentage price appreciation plus gross dividend yield over the next 12 months.

Market Return Assumption (MRA) is defined as the one-year local market interest rate plus 5% (a proxy for, and not a forecast of, the equity risk premium).

Predictability Level The predictability level indicates an analyst's conviction in the FSR. A predictability level of '1' means that the analyst's estimate of FSR is in the middle of a narrower, or smaller, range of possibilities. A predictability level of '2' means that the analyst's estimate of FSR is in the middle of a broader, or larger, range of possibilities.

Under Review (UR) Stocks may be flagged as UR by the analyst, indicating that the stock's price target and/or rating are subject to possible change in the near term, usually in response to an event that may affect the investment case or valuation.

EXCEPTIONS AND SPECIAL CASES

US Closed-End Fund ratings and definitions are: Buy: Higher stability of principal and higher stability of dividends; Neutral: Potential loss of principal, stability of dividend; Reduce: High potential for loss of principal and dividend risk.

UK and European Investment Fund ratings and definitions are: Buy: Positive on factors such as structure, management, performance record, discount; Neutral: Neutral on factors such as structure, management, performance record, discount; Reduce: Negative on factors such as structure, management, performance record, discount.

Core Banding Exceptions (CBE): Exceptions to the standard +/-6% bands may be granted by the Investment Review Committee (IRC). Factors considered by the IRC include the stock's volatility and the credit spread of the respective company's debt. As a result, stocks deemed to be very high or low risk may be subject to higher or lower bands as they relate to the rating. When such exceptions apply, they will be identified in the Companies Mentioned or Company Disclosure table in the relevant research piece.

^{2:} Percentage of companies within this rating category for which investment banking (IB) services were provided within the past 12 months.

Companies mentioned

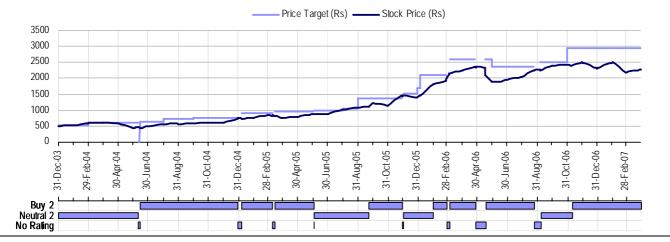
Company Name	Reuters	Rating	Price	Price date/time
Bharat Heavy Elec.	BHEL.BO	Buy 2	Rs2,278.90	29 Mar 2007 23:39 HKT
L&T	LART.BO	Neutral 2	Rs1,616.10	29 Mar 2007 23:39 HKT
NTPC	NTPC.BO	Neutral 1	Rs145.30	29 Mar 2007 23:39 HKT
Reliance Energy	RLEN.BO	Buy 2	Rs488.15	29 Mar 2007 23:39 HKT
Tata Power ⁵	TTPW.BO	Neutral 2	Rs511.50	29 Mar 2007 23:39 HKT

Source: UBS. HKT: Hong Kong time.

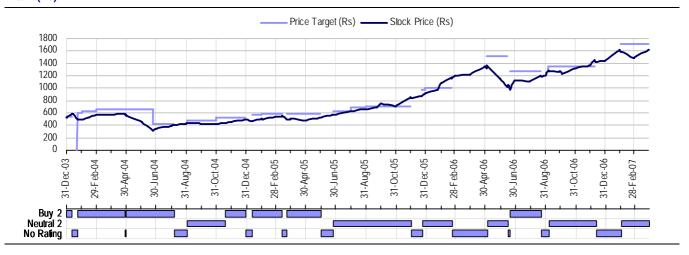
5. UBS AG, its affiliates or subsidiaries expect to receive or intend to seek compensation for investment banking services from this company/entity within the next three months.

Unless otherwise indicated, please refer to the Valuation and Risk sections within the body of this report.

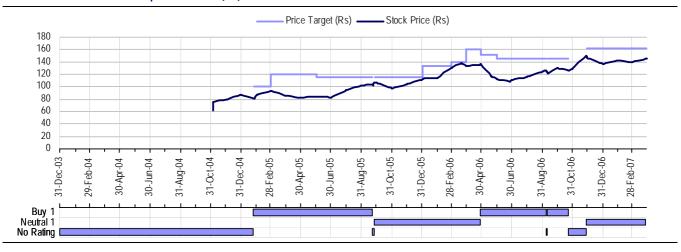
Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (Rs)



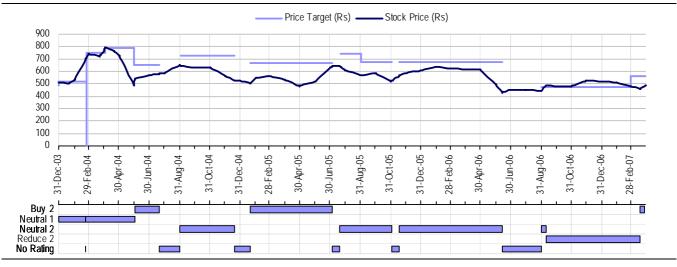
L & T (Rs)



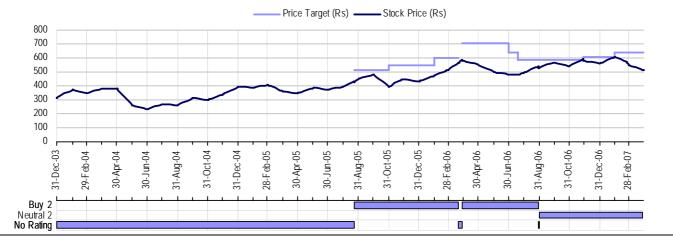
National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. (Rs)



Reliance Energy (Rs)



Tata Power (Rs)



Source: UBS; as of 29 March 2007.

Note: On September 9, 2006, UBS adopted new percentage band criteria for its rating system. (See 'UBS Investment Research: Global Equity Ratings Definitions and Allocations' table for details). Between October 13, 2003 and September 9, 2006 the percentage band criteria used in the rating system was 10%. Prior to October 13, 2003, the UBS ratings and their definitions were: Buy 1: Excess return potential >15%, smaller range around price target; Buy 2: Excess return potential >15%, larger range around price target; Neutral 1: Excess return potential between -15% and 15%, smaller range around price target; Neutral 2: Excess return potential between -15% and 15%, larger range around price target; Reduce 1: Excess return potential < -15%,

smaller range around price target; Reduce 2: Excess return potential < -15%, larger range around price target. Excess return is defined as the difference between the FSR and the one-year local market interest rate.

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