

April 26, 2024

Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Ltd – Update on the Entity

Summary of rating(s) outstanding

Instrument*	Previous Rated Amount (Rs. Crore)	Current Rated Amount (Rs. Crore)	Rating Outstanding	
Non-convertible bond programme	3,335.80	3,335.80	[ICRA]A-(CE) (Stable)	
Total	3,335.80	3,335.80		

^{*}Instrument details are provided in Annexure-1

Note: The (CE) suffix mentioned alongside the rating symbol indicates that the rated instrument/facility is backed by some form of explicit credit enhancement. This rating is specific to the rated instrument/facility, its terms and its structure and does not represent ICRA's opinion on the general credit quality of the entity concerned. The last row in the table above also captures ICRA's opinion on the rating without factoring in the explicit credit enhancement.

Rationale

The Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN) announced the bifurcation of Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited (TANGEDCO) into two separate entities for generation and distribution along with the formation of a new entity for the renewable energy business. As per the GoTN's order dated January 24, 2024, the current operations of TANGEDCO will be divided into two separate entities, i.e., Tamil Nadu Power Generation Corporation Limited (TNPGCL) as the thermal power generation entity and Tamil Nadu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (TNPDCL; through renaming of TANGEDCO) as the distribution entity. Furthermore, Tamil Nadu Green Energy Corporation Limited (TNGECL) will be incorporated through integrating the renewable wing of TANGEDECO and the merger of Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) with TNGECL. TANGEDCO will continue as the generating and distribution entity of the state till the commencement of business of the new entities. The bifurcation of the liabilities and assets of erstwhile TANGEDCO is under process.

This development shall be a credit neutral event for TANGEDCO as the rating assigned to its bond facility is based on the guarantee from the GoTN with a well-defined invocation and payment mechanism. Nonetheless, ICRA would continue to monitor the progress on this development and the key credit monitorable going forward will be the distribution of the rated GoTN guaranteed bonds amongst the proposed entities.

Please refer to the following link for the previous detailed rationale that captures key rating drivers and their description, the liquidity position and rating sensitivities: <u>Click here</u>

Analytical approach

Analytical Approach	Comments
	Corporate Credit Rating Methodology
Applicable rating methodologies	Power- Distribution
	Power - Thermal
Doront/Crown summert	The rated facilities of TANGEDCO are backed by an unconditional and irrevocable guarantee
Parent/Group support	from the GoTN
Consolidation/Standalone	The rating is based on the standalone financial profile of the company

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About the company

Under the reorganisation and transfer scheme of TNEB under the Tamil Nadu Electricity (Reorganization and Reforms) Transfer Scheme 2010 issued by the GoTN with effect from November 1, 2010, TNEB has been reorganised into TNEB Limited (the holding company), Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited (TANGEDCO) and Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited (TANTRANSCO). TANGEDCO is engaged in the business of generation and distribution of power in the entire state of Tamil Nadu as a regulated monopoly. As on March 31, 2023, TANGEDCO had an installed capacity of about 7,175 MW, which largely consisted of thermal power plants (~60%) and hydel capacity (~30%) apart from gas-based capacity and a few windmills. TANGEDCO also sources a significant portion of its requirement from central power sector utilities, such as National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC), Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited (NLCIL) and Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL), besides independent power producers in the state. Other sources from where power is purchased include captive generating units, co-generation units and windmills.

About the guarantor - GoTN

The GoTN's revenue receipt averaged a moderate ~10% of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) during FY2019-23. With a higher average revenue expenditure of 12.2% of GSDP during this five-year period, the GoTN's revenue deficit remained above 1.4% of GSDP. This compressed the state government's fiscal space for capital spending to below 2% of GSDP during FY2019-23. Accordingly, the GoTN was able to limit its fiscal deficit to the borrowing limits set by the GoI during FY2019-23. With sustained fiscal deficits and support extended to the power and civil supplies sector, the GoTN's leverage level (excluding GST compensation back-to-back loans) worsened to 30.7% of GSDP in FY2023 from 23.9% in FY2019.

Subsequently, the GoTN's revenue deficit and fiscal deficit are expected to widen to Rs. 44,907 crore and Rs. 94,060 crore, respectively, in the revised estimates (RE) for FY2024 from Rs. 36,215 crore and Rs. 81,886 crore, respectively, in FY2023. At 3.45% of GSDP, (as per the Medium-Term Fiscal Plan statement), the GoTN's fiscal deficit in FY2024 RE is expected to be within the net borrowing limit recommended by the 15th FC (including conditional borrowing related to power sector reforms) for that fiscal.

In the budget estimates (BE) for FY2025, the GoTN had forecast its revenue deficit to rise to Rs. 49,279 crore from the level projected in FY2024 RE. Along with a ~21% increase in capital spending and net lending in FY2025 BE relative to FY2024 RE, the GoTN's fiscal deficit is budgeted to rise to Rs. 1,08,690 crore in the same period. Nevertheless, as per the Medium-Term Fiscal Plan statement, the GoTN's fiscal deficit in FY2025 BE would remain under the net borrowing limit recommended by the 15th FC for this year (including conditional borrowing related to power sector reforms).

ICRA would analyse the GoTN's provisional actuals for FY2024 and FY2025 to assess the performance of their key fiscal indicators relative to FY2024 RE and FY2025 BE, respectively. The financial health of the GoTN's power sector entities and their impact on the state's finances would continue to be a key monitorable.

Key financial indicators (audited)

TANGEDCO Standalone	FY2022	FY2023
Operating income	70,447.4	82,399.9
PAT	-11954.6	-9192.3
OPBDIT/OI	3.4%	9.7%
PAT/OI	-17.0%	-11.2%
Total outside liabilities/Tangible net worth (times)	-3.1	-2.1
Total debt/OPBDIT (times)	65.4	20.6
Interest coverage (times)	0.2	0.6

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Source: Company, ICRA Research; All ratios as per ICRA's calculations; Amount in Rs. crore; PAT: Profit after tax; OPBDIT: Operating profit before depreciation, interest, taxes and amortisation

Key fiscal indicators of GoTN

	FY2023	FY2024 RE	FY2025 BE
Revenue Receipts*	2,42,029	2,70,737	2,96,796
Revenue Expenditure*	2,78,244	3,15,644	3,46,075
Revenue Balance	-36,215	-44,907	-49,279
Capital Outlay & Net Lending	45,713	49,156	59,415
Fiscal Balance	-81,886	-94,060	-1,08,690

^{*}Adjusted for double entries of interest on loans of departmental commercial undertakings (DCUs) Source: State Budget; ICRA Research

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable

Any other information: None

Rating history for past three years

		Current Rating (FY2025)			Chronology of Rating History for the past 3 years		
Instrument	Туре	Amount Rated (Rs. crore)	Amount outstanding as on Mar 31, 2023 (Rs. crore)	Date & Rating in	Date & Rating in FY2024	Date & Rating in FY2023	Date & Rating in FY2022
		(Apr 26, 2024	Jun 28, 2023	Jun 29, 2022	Jun 30, 2021
1 Bonds	Long- Term	3,335.80	2,266.04	[ICRA]A- (CE) (Stable)	[ICRA]A- (CE) (Stable)	[ICRA]A- (CE) (Stable)	[ICRA]A- (CE) (Stable)
2 Bonds	Long- Term	-	-	-	-	-	[ICRA]A- (CE) (Stable); withdrawn

Complexity level of the rated instrument

Instrument	Complexity Indicator	
Bonds	Simple	

The Complexity Indicator refers to the ease with which the returns associated with the rated instrument could be estimated. It does not indicate the risk related to the timely payments on the instrument, which is rather indicated by the instrument's credit rating. It also does not indicate the complexity associated with analyzing an entity's financial, business, industry risks or complexity related to the structural, transactional, or legal aspects. Details on the complexity levels of the instruments, is available on ICRA's website: Click Here

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Annexure-I: Instrument details

ISIN	Instrument Name	Date of Issuance / Sanction	Coupon Rate	Maturity	Amount Rated (Rs. crore)	Current Rating and Outlook
				30% - Feb 2022		5
INE340M08111	Bonds	February 2014	10.50%	30% - Feb 2023 40% - Feb 2024	633.50	[ICRA]A- (CE) (Stable)
				30% - Jul 2022		
INE340M08129	Bonds	June 2014	9.72%	30% - Jul 2023	1000.00	[ICRA]A- (CE) (Stable)
				40% - Jul 2024		
				30% - Dec 2022		
INE340M08137	Bonds	December 2014	9.20%	30% - Dec 2023	1000.00	[ICRA]A- (CE) (Stable)
				40% - Dec 2024		
			2 222/	30% - Jun 2023		(100.11. (00) (0.11.)
INE340M08145	Bonds	May 2015	9.00%	30% - Jun 2024	501.80	[ICRA]A- (CE) (Stable)
				40% - Jun 2025		
11150 401 4004 50		5.1 2046	40.000/	30% - Feb 2024	50.00	(IOD 414 (OF) (C) 11)
INE340M08152	Bonds	February 2016	10.00%	30% - Feb 2025 40% - Feb 2026	50.00	[ICRA]A- (CE) (Stable)
				30% - Feb 2026		
INE340M08160	Bonds	December 2016	9.70%	30% - Dec 2024 30% - Dec 2025	40.00	[ICBA]A (CE) (Stable)
114534014108100	DUITUS	December 2016	9.70%	40% - Dec 2025	40.00	[ICRA]A- (CE) (Stable)
				30% - Mar 2025		
INE340M08178	Bonds	March 2017	9.25%	30% - Mar 2026	73.10	[ICRA]A- (CE) (Stable)
	Donus	ivial Cit 2017	J.2J/0	40% - Mar 2027	75.10	[ICIVIJA (CL) (Stable)
Not placed	Bonds	-	-	-	37.40	[ICRA]A- (CE) (Stable)

Source: Company

Annexure-II: List of entities considered for consolidated analysis: Not Applicable



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