Press Release
THE BRAITHWAITE BURN AND JESSOP CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMI
September 10, 2025
Rating Reaffirmed

Product	Quantum (Rs. Cr)	Long Term Rating	Short Term Rating
Bank Loan Ratings	25.00	ACUITE A+ | Stable | Reaffirmed	-
Bank Loan Ratings	45.00	-	ACUITE A1+ | Reaffirmed
Total Outstanding Quantum (Rs. Cr)	70.00	-	-
Total Withdrawn Quantum (Rs. Cr)	0.00	-	-

Rating Rationale

Acuite has reaffirmed the long-term rating of **'ACUITE A+' (read as ACUITE A plus)**and the short-term rating of **'ACUITE A1+' (read as ACUITE A one plus)**on the Rs.70.00 crore bank facilities of The Braithwaite Burn and Jessop Construction Company Limited (TBBJCCL). The outlook is '**Stable'.**

Rating Rationale:

The reaffirmation of ratings for TBBJCCL reflects its status as a wholly owned Government of India undertaking and its robust financial risk profile, underscored by improved gearing of 0.26x in FY2025 (vs. 0.29x in FY2024), strong debt protection metrics (ICR: 67.76x; DSCR: 28.98x), and healthy net cash accruals of Rs.31.79 crore against the absence of major debt obligations. Despite a 26.92% decline in operating income to Rs.182.77 crore in FY2025 (from Rs.250.10 crore in FY2024) due to slower execution and delayed order allotments, the company exhibited strong operational resilience with EBITDA margin nearly doubling to 15.80% in FY 2025 from 7.86% in FY 2024, driven by cost optimization. PAT margin has also significantly improved to 16.74% in FY 2025 from 8.25% in FY 2024, mainly due to an increase in overall EBITDA and other income and also a decline in financial costs. Liquidity remains strong, supported by Rs.28.55 crore in cash and bank balance and Rs.91.14 crore in free bank deposits, alongside minimal fund-based bank limit utilization of just 2% for the 7 months ended July'25. Although working capital management remains moderate, the company's stable order book of Rs.497 crore (OB/OI: 2.73x) as of 30th June'25 and government-backed client base ensure medium-term revenue visibility and receivables stability. Acuité believes that TBBJCCL's technical expertise, strong public sector positioning, and long-standing relationships with Indian Railways will support stability, though diversification and timely contract conversion remain critical for sustained performance.

About the Company

The Braithwaite Burn and Jessop Construction Company Limited (TBBJCCL) was established in 1986 in Kolkata, West Bengal. Three engineering companies viz. Braithwaite & Company (Contributing 40%), Burn & Company Limited (Contributing 40%) and Jessop & Company Limited (Contributing 20%) came together with their long experience and floated a new company The Braithwaite Burn & Jessop Construction Company Limited (BBJ). In 1987 - BBJ became a 'Government company' consequent upon transfer of its entire shares to its erstwhile Holding company "Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited" (BBUNL) and became a wholly owned subsidiary of BBUNL. In 2015, by order of Department of Heavy Industry, Government of India, BBJ (as Transferee Company) has been merged with its holding company BBUNL (as Transferor Company) and the name has changed from 'Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited' to "The Braithwaite Burn and Jessop Construction Company Limited". Currently TBBJCCL enjoys a status of 100 % per cent government owned company. It is engaged in the business of construction engineering including fabrication work. TBBJCCL is engaged in construction & erection of Steel Bridges for Indian Railways as an Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) contractor. Additionally, BBJ also executes civil construction / Industrial structural Job on EPC / Project Management Consultancy (PMC). Mr. Rakesh Chhillar is the current Managing Director Of The Company.

Unsupported Rating
ACUITE BBB/ Stable

Analytical Approach

TBBJCCL being a wholly owned undertaking of the Government of India, the team has notched up the rating based on the nature of the relationship between the central government and TBBJCCL and importance of TBBJCCL for construction of steel bridges and other civil construction works in Pan India.

Key Rating Drivers

Strengths

Wholly owned undertaking of GoI:
TBBJCCL was incorporated in January 1935 for the construction of Howrah bridge over river Hooghly in Kolkata (West Bengal). In 1987 - TBBJCCL became a wholly owned subsidiary of Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited (BBUNL) which was also a 100 per cent Government company. Later in 2015 TBBJCCL was merged with its holding company BBUNL and the name of TBBJCCL was maintained. Currently TBBJCCL enjoys a status of 100 per cent government owned company. TBBJCCL over the years has constructed numerous major steel bridges for the Indian Railways like Prayagraj Rail Bridges, Rail bridge in J&K,Bramhaputra Bridge in Assam, Mahanadi Bridge in Odisha, Ganga Bridge at Mokemah in Bihar, Krishna Bridge in Andhra Pradesh and many more. In 1992 TBBJCCL successfully completed construction of The Second Hooghly Bridge (Vidyasagar Setu, Kolkata), the first long span cable stayed bridge of India. The company is one of few public sector companies having technical expertise and ability for successful construction of steel bridges for railways.

Decline in operations with significant improvement in margin:

TBBJCCL's performance is underpinned by its demonstrated operational resilience despite a 26.92% decline in operating income to Rs.182.77 crore in FY 2025 from Rs.250.10 crore in FY 2024, primarily due to execution delays and the non-receipt of a Rs.150 crore railway LOA. Notably, the company achieved a sharp improvement in EBITDA margin to 15.80% in FY 2025 from 7.86% in FY 2024, driven by effective cost control, inventory leverage, and reduced employee expenses. PAT margin also rose to 16.74% in FY 2025 from 8.25% in FY 2024, supported by higher EBITDA, increased interest income, and lower finance costs. With an outstanding order book of Rs.497 crore as on June'2025 and an OB/OI ratio of 2.73x, the company enjoys medium-term revenue visibility, especially given its 96% revenue exposure is to government clients like Indian Railways, which ensures strong receivables realization. Acuite believes that the Company will hinge on timely conversion of pending contracts and sustained margin performance.

Healthy Financial Risk Profile

TBBJCCL's financial risk profile remains robust and healthy in FY25, supported by a conservative capital structure and strong internal accruals, as evidenced by an improvement in the debt-equity ratio to 0.26x from 0.29x in FY24 and a rise in tangible net worth to Rs.263.74 crore in FY 2025 from Rs.237.22 crore in FY 2024. Total debt stood at Rs.67.81 crore, largely comprising a legacy Government of India loan of Rs.65.89 crore and Rs.1.92 crore in Zero Rated Debenture deposits under a structured repayment plan. Debt protection metrics remained strong, with Interest Coverage Ratio (ICR) at 67.76 times and Debt Service Coverage Ratio (DSCR) at 28.98 times in FY25. Liquidity has also strengthened, with Net Cash Accruals to Total Debt (NCA/TD) improving to 0.47x in FY 25 from 0.32x in FY 24, while TOL/TNW moderated to 2.12x in FY 25 from 2.23x in FY 24. With no major debt-funded capex planned, Acuité expects the company's financial risk profile to remain robust over the near term.

Weaknesses

Working Capital Management-Moderate

TBBJCCL's working capital profile in FY25 reflects elevated Gross Current Asset (GCA) days at 1148 day, up from 775 days in FY24, primarily due to stagnant loans and advances with interest receivable worth Rs.405.95 crore from BBUNL subsidiaries transferred post-merger, alongside unrealized revenue which shown as contract assets of Rs.54.95 crore. Inventory days rose modestly to 66 days in FY 2025 from 61 days in FY 2024, driven by work-in-progress, while debtor days increased to 40 days in FY 25 from 34 days in FY 24, with receivables typically cleared within 30–45 days. Accounts payable days surged to 188 days in FY 25 from 40 days in FY 2024, largely due to reduced procurement and aging creditors, including Rs.3.28 crore outstanding for over three years. Despite these shifts, the company's receivables are backed by a predominantly government client base, ensuring steady realization, and Acuité expects working capital requirements to remain stable over the medium term, with no significant changes in operating cycle dynamics.

Customer and Geographical Distribution

TBBJCCL's order book reflects moderate client and geographic concentration, with the top two clients, led by Northern Frontier Railways and Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVN), accounting for approximately 80% of total orders, and nearly 50% of project execution concentrated in Mizoram. While this focused engagement enables deeper operational alignment and efficient resource deployment, it also introduces execution risks due to Mizoram's challenging terrain, frequent monsoons, and dependency on timely substructure availability. Acuite believes that the company's strong relationship with Indian Railways and expertise in the company's strong relationship with Indian Railways, while diversification across regions is crucial for long-term operational stability.

Assessment of Adequacy of Credit Enhancement under various scenarios including stress scenarios (applicable for ratings factoring specified support considerations with or without the "CE" suffix)

For stress scenarios: Acuite expects that the Company will receive support from the Central Government from time to time in case of any liquidity pressure.

Rating Sensitivities

1. Movement in Topline and profitability
2. Timely execution of pending orders and securing new orders
3. Working capital management

Liquidity Position

Strong

The company's liquidity profile remains strong supported by robust net cash accruals of Rs.31.79 crore in FY 2025 and the absence of major debt repayment obligations. As of March 31, 2025, it maintained a healthy cash and bank balance of Rs.28.55 crore alongside substantial free bank deposits of Rs.91.14 crore. The current ratio improved to 1.33 times in FY 2025 from 1.28 times in FY 2024, indicating stronger short-term solvency. Furthermore, the average bank limit utilization (BLU) of fund-based facilities remained minimal at 2% for the seven months ending July 2025, while non-fund-based BLU averaged 63% for the six months ending June 2025. These indicators collectively reflect the company's prudent financial management and reinforce Acuité's view that liquidity is expected to remain strong over the medium term.

Outlook: Stable

Other Factors affecting Rating

None.

Key Financials

Particulars	Unit	FY 25 (Actual)	FY 24 (Actual)
Operating Income	Rs. Cr.	182.77	250.10
PAT	Rs. Cr.	30.60	20.63
PAT Margin	(%)	16.74	8.25
Total Debt/Tangible Net Worth	Times	0.26	0.29
PBDIT/Interest	Times	67.76	35.86

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA (if applicable)
Not Applicable.

Any other information
None.

Applicable Criteria
- Default Recognition :- https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-52.htm
- Infrastructure Sector: https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-51.htm
- Application Of Financial Ratios And Adjustments: https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-53.htm
- Group And Parent Support: https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-47.htm

Note on complexity levels of the rated instrument
In order to inform the investors about complexity of instruments, Acuité has categorized such instruments in three levels: Simple, Complex and Highly Complex. Acuite's categorisation of the instruments across the three categories is based on factors like variability of the returns to the investors, uncertainty in cash flow patterns, number of counterparties and general understanding of the instrument by the market. It has to be understood that complexity is different from credit risk and even an instrument categorized as 'Simple' can carry high levels of risk. For more details, please refer Rating Criteria "Complexity Level Of Financial Instruments" on www.acuite.in.

Rating History

Date	Name of Instruments/Facilities	Term	Amount (Rs. Cr)	Rating/Outlook
14 Jun 2024	Cash Credit	Long Term	25.00	ACUITE A+ | Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Bank Guarantee/Letter of Guarantee	Short Term	40.00	ACUITE A1+ (Reaffirmed)
	Bank Guarantee/Letter of Guarantee	Short Term	5.00	ACUITE A1+ (Assigned)
17 Mar 2023	Cash Credit	Long Term	15.00	ACUITE A+ | Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Bank Guarantee/Letter of Guarantee	Short Term	35.00	ACUITE A1+ (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Bank Guarantee	Short Term	15.00	ACUITE A1+ (Reaffirmed)
25 Mar 2022	Cash Credit	Long Term	3.00	ACUITE A+ | Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Bank Guarantee/Letter of Guarantee	Short Term	35.00	ACUITE A1+ (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Bank Guarantee	Short Term	27.00	ACUITE A1+ (Reaffirmed)

Annexure - Details of instruments rated

Lender's Name	ISIN	Facilities	Date Of Issuance	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	Quantum (Rs. Cr.)	Complexity Level	Rating
Canara Bank	Not avl. / Not appl.	Bank Guarantee/Letter of Guarantee	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	45.00	Simple	ACUITE A1+ | Reaffirmed
Canara Bank	Not avl. / Not appl.	Cash Credit	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	Not avl. / Not appl.	25.00	Simple	ACUITE A+ | Stable | Reaffirmed

***Annexure 2 - List of Entities (applicable for Consolidation or Parent / Group / Govt. Support)**

Sr.No.	Company Name
1	Government of India
2	The Braithwaite Burn And Jessop Construction Company Limited

Contacts

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About Acuité Ratings & Research

Acuité is a full-service Credit Rating Agency registered with the Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI). The company received RBI Accreditation as an External Credit Assessment Institution (ECAI) for Bank Loan Ratings under BASEL-II norms in the year 2012. Acuité has assigned ratings to various securities, debt instruments and bank facilities of entities spread across the country and across a wide cross section of industries. It has its Registered and Head Office in Kanjurmarg, Mumbai.

Note: None of the Directors on the Board of Acuité Ratings & Research Limited are members of any rating committee and therefore do not participate in discussions regarding the rating of any entity.