

**CMP - 97** 

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### **About the Company**

Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd., part of the Essel Group, is a leading Indian media company, incorporated on November 25, 1982. It transitioned to a public company in 2006. Zee operates across television broadcasting, offering a variety of channels in entertainment, news, movies, music, and regional languages. Its digital platform, ZEE5, provides diverse content, including TV shows, movies, and original series. Zee is also active in film production through its subsidiary, Zee Studios. With a presence in over 190 countries, Zee's notable brands include Zee TV, Zee Cinema, Zee News, and ZEE5. It is merging with Sony Pictures Networks India.

### Latest Q3 FY25 Update

- Revenue from Operations: Zee Entertainment reported a revenue of ₹2,128.6 crore, marking a 7.4% increase from ₹1,983.6 crore in Q3FY24.
- Net Profit: The company's net profit rose to ₹292.6 crore, up from ₹193.3 crore in the same quarter last year, reflecting a 51.3% year-on-year increase.
- EBITDA: The EBITDA for the quarter was ₹555.4 crore, a 12.6% increase from ₹493.4 crore in Q3FY24. EBITDA margins: +10 bps QoQ, +590 bps YoY.
- Advertising Revenue: Advertising revenue grew by 10.3% to ₹1,111.5 crore, driven by a recovery in the advertising market.
- Subscription Revenue: Subscription revenue increased by 4.5% to ₹1,017.1 crore, benefiting from a rise in domestic subscription income.
- Cash Flow from Operations (CFO): Zee Entertainment reported a positive cash flow from operations, reflecting its ability to generate cash from its core business activities. However, specific figures were not detailed in the search results.

### **Company Data**

| Enterprise Value (EV)     | ₹ 8,165 Cr. |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Market Cap.               | ₹ 9,014 Cr. |
| Total Debt                | ₹ 330 Cr.   |
| Cash Equivalents          | ₹1,179 Cr   |
| <b>Shares Outstanding</b> | 96 Crores   |
| Beta                      | 1.4         |
| EPS (TTM)                 | ₹ 5.25      |
| D/E Ratio                 | 0.03        |
| Div Yield                 | 1.03%       |

#### **Key Ratios**

| PE Ratio (TTM)    | 15.2  |
|-------------------|-------|
| Industry PE Ratio | 24.5  |
| PB Ratio          | 0.8   |
| PEG Ratio         | -0.47 |

#### **Price Performance**

| 3 months               | -24.8% |
|------------------------|--------|
| 6 months               | -31.1% |
| 1 Year                 | -39.6% |
| NIFTY50 1 Year Returns | 1.35%  |



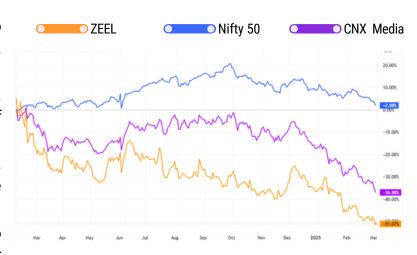


# Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd Entertainment



- Healthy profitability amidst challenging macro conditions.
- Advertising revenue: +4% QoQ, but -8% YoY due to consumption slowdown, particularly in urban areas.
- Subscription revenue: +8.2% YoY, supported by new channel tariff implementation.
- Music business (ZMC): #2 music channel, healthy profitability with selective growth.
- Costs & Efficiency: Operating costs: -10%
  YoY due to cost optimization, lower technology, and programming costs.
- Advertising and publicity expenses increased to support marketing and growth.

#### **Stock Performance**



One Year Performance

## **Management Commentary and View**

Zee Entertainment's performance reflects its strategic focus on enhancing content offerings, optimizing operational efficiency, and capitalizing on its growing digital platform, ZEE5. The company has made significant strides in strengthening its content portfolio, ensuring that both its television and digital platforms attract and retain a diverse audience. ZEE5, in particular, has been a key area of investment, with a focus on expanding its library of original and exclusive digital content to drive user engagement and boost subscription revenues.

In line with its digital expansion goals, Zee continues to invest in ZEE5 to solidify its position in the competitive OTT space. The proposed merger with Sony Pictures Networks India is expected to further enhance Zee's market position, offering significant synergies that will not only strengthen content offerings but also improve operational efficiencies. Globally, Zee continues to cater to international audiences by offering content in multiple languages, maintaining its expansive reach across over 190 countries. Operational efficiency and profitability remain central to Zee's strategy as it aims to maintain a competitive edge in the media and entertainment sector.

Q3 FY25 Impact Releases



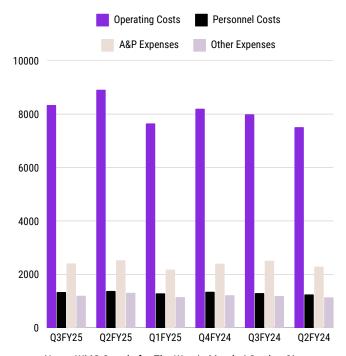


## **Shareholding Pattern (%)**

|                     | Dec-23   | Mar-24   | Jun-24   | Sep-24   | Dec-24   |
|---------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Promoters           | 3.99%    | 3.99%    | 3.99%    | 3.99%    | 3.99%    |
| FIIs                | 28.19%   | 19.18%   | 18.90%   | 18.52%   | 20.05%   |
| DIIs                | 43.42%   | 35.30%   | 22.27%   | 19.05%   | 17.87%   |
| Government          | 0.15%    | 0.15%    | 0.15%    | 0.15%    | 0.13%    |
| Public              | 24.24%   | 41.38%   | 54.67%   | 58.30%   | 57.96%   |
| No. of Shareholders | 4,08,518 | 6,27,625 | 6,03,271 | 6,78,849 | 6,82,596 |

### **Key Ratios**

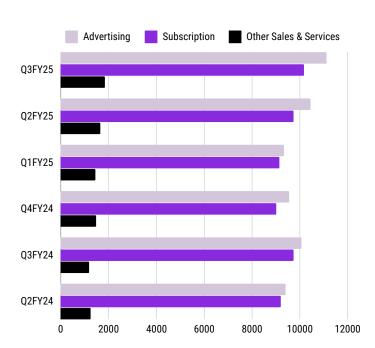
Below details are of their Operating costs, personnel cost, A& P expenses and Other expenses.



Note:- WMG Stands for The Westin Mumbai Garden City

Note: Zee Entertainment's cost structure highlights the importance of managing operating and A&P expenses to maintain profitability. The company's ability to control personnel costs while investing in advertising and promotion is crucial for driving revenue growth and maintaining market competitiveness.

Below details are of their advertsing, subscription and other sales & services



Note: - Zee Entertainment's revenue breakdown highlights the importance of both advertising and subscription income in its business model. The company's ability to maintain a stable subscription base while navigating fluctuations in advertising revenue is crucial for its financial performance.



# Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd Entertainment



# **Quarterly Summary**

| (INR Million)      | Q3 FY24 | Q2 FY25 | Q3 FY25 | QoQ  | YoY  |
|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|------|
| Operating          |         |         |         |      |      |
| Revenue            | 20,457  | 20,007  | 19,788  | -1%  | -3%  |
| Expenditure        | -18,367 | -16,797 | -16,604 | -1%  | -10% |
| EBITDA             | 2,090   | 3,210   | 3,184   | -1%  | 52%  |
| EBITDA Margin      | 10.20%  | 16.00%  | 16.10%  |      |      |
| Other Income       | 277     | 337     | 345     |      |      |
| Depreciation       | -761    | -732    | -658    |      |      |
| Finance cost       | -183    | -83     | -108    |      |      |
| Fair value through |         |         |         |      |      |
| P&L                | 0       | 22      | 23      |      |      |
| Exceptional        |         |         |         |      |      |
| Items/JV &         |         |         |         |      |      |
| Associate          | -602    | 110     | -808    |      |      |
| Profit Before      |         |         |         |      |      |
| Tax                | 821     | 2,864   | 1,978   | -31% | 141% |
| continuing op.     |         |         |         |      |      |
| Provision for Tax  | 288     | 769     | 342     |      |      |
| Profit after Tax   | 533     | 2,095   | 1,636   | -22% | 207% |
| continuing oper.   |         |         |         |      |      |
| Profit from        |         |         |         |      |      |
| discontinuing      |         |         |         |      |      |
| operations         | 52      | -1      | 0       |      |      |
| Profit for the     |         |         |         |      |      |
| period/year        | 585     | 2,094   | 1,636   | -22% | 180% |

# **Profit & Loss Statement**

| Particulars   | 9 month   | Year<br>ended |           |  |
|---|-----------|---------------|-----------|--|
|   | 31-Dec-24 | 31-Dec-23     | 31-Mar-24 |  |
| Revenue from operations   | 57,082.0  | 60,459.0      | 80,750.0  |  |
| Other income  | 1,612.0   | 988.0         | 1,123.0   |  |
| Total income  | 58,694.0  | 61,447.0      | 81,873.0  |  |
| Operational cost  | 31,751.0  | 36,538.0      | 49,055.0  |  |
| Employee benefits expense   | 5,943.0   | 6,496.0       | 8,795.0   |  |
| Finance costs   | 223.0     | 630.0         | 691.0     |  |
| Dep'n and amort.  | 1,634.0   | 1,664.0       | 2,227.0   |  |
| FV gain on financial<br>instruments at FV<br>through P&L                              | -234.0    | -214.0        | -285.0    |  |
| Advertisement and<br>publicity expenses   | 7,725.0   | 6,936.0       | 9,120.0   |  |
| Other expenses  | 3,555.0   | 3,484.0       | 4,827.0   |  |
| Total expenses  | 50,597.0  | 55,534.0      | 74,430.0  |  |
| Profit before<br>exceptional item<br>and taxes  | 8,097.0   | 5,913.0       | 7,443.0   |  |
| Exceptional items   | -1,061.0  | -2,852.0      | -3,129.0  |  |
| Profit before tax   | 7,036.0   | 3,061.0       | 4,314.0   |  |
| Current tax   | 1,727.0   | 1,731.0       | 1,759.0   |  |
| Deferred tax  | -149.0    | -844.0        | -460.0    |  |
| Total tax expense   | 1,578.0   | 887.0         | 1,299.0   |  |
| Profit for the period/year  | 5,458.0   | 2,174.0       | 3,015.0   |  |
| Re-measurement of<br>defined benefit<br>obligation                                    | 101.0     | -119.0        | -87.0     |  |
| Income-tax relating<br>to items that will<br>not be reclassified<br>to profit or loss | -25.0     | 30.0          | 22.0      |  |
| Total other<br>comprehensive<br>income/(loss)   | 76.0      | -89.0         | -65.0     |  |
| Total<br>comprehensive<br>income  | 5,534.0   | 2,085.0       | 2,950.0   |  |
|   |           |               |           |  |



# Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd Entertainment



## **Balance Sheet**

| Particulars                         | As at 30-<br>Sep-2024 | As at 31-<br>Mar-2024 | Particulars  | As at 30-<br>Sep-2024 | As at 31-<br>Mar-2024 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| I) Non-current assets               |                       |                       | A) Equity  |                       |                       |
| (a) Property, plant and equipment   | 4,178                 | 4,618                 | (a) Equity Share capital   | 961                   | 961                   |
| (b) Capital work-in-progress        | 114                   | 93                    | (b) Other equity   | 1,03,707              | 99,102                |
| (c) Investment property             | 487                   | 490                   | Total equity   | 1,04,668              | 1,00,063              |
| (d) Goodwill                        | 1,261                 | 1,261                 | B) Liabilities   |                       |                       |
| (e) Other Intangible assets         | 765                   | 1,064                 | I) Non-current liabilities   |                       |                       |
| (f) Financial Assets                |                       |                       | (a) Financial Liabilities  |                       |                       |
| (i) Investments                     | 8,457                 | 7,900                 | (i) Long term borrowings   | 1,533                 | 32                    |
| (ii) Other financial assets         | 1,107                 | 416                   | (ii) Lease liabilities   | 1,032                 | 1,489                 |
| (g) Income-tax assets (net)         | 3,224                 | 2,973                 | (b) Provisions   | 1,398                 | 1,497                 |
| (h) Deferred tax assets (net)       | 3,815                 | 3,781                 | Total non-current liabilities  | 3,963                 | 3,018                 |
| (i) Other non-current assets        | 35                    | 168                   | II) Current liabilities  |                       |                       |
| Total non-current assets            | 23,443                | 22,764                | (a) Financial liabilities  |                       |                       |
| II) Current assets                  |                       |                       | (i) Short term borrowings  | 19                    | 23                    |
| (a) Inventories                     | 61,818                | 65,841                | (ii) Lease liabilities   | 707                   | 643                   |
| (b) Financial assets                |                       |                       | (iii) Trade payables   |                       |                       |
|                                     |                       |                       | Total outstanding dues of micro enterprises and small enterprises    | 339                   | 774                   |
| (i) Investments                     | 6,022                 | -                     |  | 555                   | 774                   |
|                                     |                       |                       | Total outstanding dues of creditors other than micro enterprises and |                       |                       |
|                                     |                       |                       | small enterprises  | 12,163                | 14,205                |
| (ii) Trade receivables              | 15,898                | 15,819                | (iv) Other financial liabilities                                     | 1,479                 | 2,385                 |
| (iii) Cash and cash equivalents     | 6,402                 | 7,964                 | (iv) Other infalleral habilities                                     | 1,475                 | 2,303                 |
| (iv) Bank balances other than (iii) |                       |                       | (b) Other current liabilities  | 2,928                 | 4,153                 |
| above                               | 1,075                 | 80                    | (c) Provisions   | 128                   | 105                   |
| (v) Loans                           | -                     | -                     | (d) Income-tax liabilities (net)                                     | 191 -                 |                       |
| (vi) Other financial assets         | 3,622                 | 3,497                 | Total current liabilities  | 17,954                | 22,288                |
| (c) Other current assets            | 8,305                 | 8,595                 |  |                       |                       |
| Total current assets                | 1,03,142              | 1,01,796              | Total liabilities (I + II)   | 21,917                | 25,306                |
| asset classified as held for sale   | -                     | 809                   | Total equity and liabilities   |                       |                       |
| Total Assets (I + II + III)         | 1,26,585              | 1,25,369              | (A+B)  | 1,26,585              | 1,25,369              |



# Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd Entertainment



### **Cash Flow Statement**

| Particulars                  | Mar-20 | Mar-21 | Mar-22       | Mar-23 | Mar-24          |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|--------------|--------|-----------------|
| Cash from Operating Activity | 250    | 1,548  | 280          | 129    | 714             |
| Profit from operations       | 2,237  | 1,968  | 1,740        | 790    | 613             |
| Receivables                  | -29    | 293    | -127         | 163    | 71              |
| Inventory                    | -1,483 | -53    | -980         | -911   | 399             |
| Payables                     | -164   | -159   | 144          | 475    | -128            |
| Working capital changes      | -1,676 | 81     | -964         | -272   | 342             |
| Direct taxes                 | -311   | -501   | <b>-4</b> 97 | -389   | -240            |
| Cash from Investing Activity | 397    | -511   | 586          | -202   | <del>-4</del> 6 |
| Cash from Financing Activity | -1,062 | -541   | -715         | -408   | -274            |
| Net Cash Flow                | -415   | 496    | 150          | -481   | 395             |

### **Investor Outlook**

- Despite challenging macroeconomic conditions, Zee Entertainment maintained steady revenue growth, driven primarily by robust subscription revenues. The introduction of a new Reference Interconnect Offer (RIO) and competitive pricing further accelerated subscription growth. ZEE5 played a significant role in boosting subscriptions and improving margins, as the company strategically focused on digital expansion. The regional language segment, particularly Marathi, also performed well, though advertising revenues were impacted by slower industry growth and reduced FMCG spending during the festive season.
- Subscription revenues are expected to continue growing, with profitability staying a top priority. The company is also preparing for a busy movie calendar in Q4 FY25, which is expected to contribute to profitability.
- By FY26, Zee aims to achieve its EBITDA margin goals, while continuing to invest in content, especially in the Hindi film segment, despite recent challenges. Additionally, the company's focus on rural and international markets for advertising revenue offers promising opportunities for growth. Overall, Zee Entertainment's Q3FY25 results highlight its resilience in driving revenue and profitability growth, supported by a strong content strategy and improving market conditions.
- With an estimated EPS CAGR of 6% and a projected P/E of 20 in the next decade, Zee's stock is estimated to be valued between ₹135-140 per share. The company's emphasis on digital expansion, content creation, and strategic partnerships positions it well for future growth in an evolving media landscape.

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