

Sterling and Wilson Solar Ltd

Price Band: INR 775 – 780

Subscribe for Long Term

Sterling and Wilson Solar Ltd (SWSL), a subsidiary of Sharpoorji Pallonji, is among the largest global solar engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) solutions provider. SWSL also provides operations and maintenance (O&M) services, including for projects constructed by third-parties. SWSL has 205 commissioned and contracted solar power projects with an aggregate capacity of 6,870 MWp (Mar'19). The order book stood at INR38 bn (Mar'19).

Largest global solar EPC solutions provider: According to IHS Markit, SWSL was the largest solar EPC solutions provider in each of India, Africa and Middle East in 2018 with 16.6%, 36.6% and 40.4% market share, respectively. Additionally, solar energy is one of the fastest growing forms of renewable energy with an expected 20% CAGR over 2018-21. We believe the company's track-record, relationships with customers and suppliers, make it well positioned to benefit from this trend and expand operations. In FY19, SWSL reported a growth of 20% in revenues, 55% in EBITDA, and 42% in PAT.

Asset-light business model with negative working capital: SWSL operates a business model, under which customers are responsible for sourcing and acquiring real estate while the company leases equipment required for operations. Additionally, the company typically receives advances and has shorter debtor and inventory days (83 days for Mar'19) compared to 125 creditor days leading to negative working capital cycle.

Strong parentage and ability to leverage the Sharpooji Pallonji brand: The Sharooji Pallonji Group is a global conglomerate with over 150 years of experience as an EPC solutions provider in 6 major business areas across 45 countries. Before entering a new market, SWSL typically leverages from the parent's presence in that market to get a head start in establishing its operations. In addition, relationships with key stakeholders have helped them establish connections with major customers and leading subcontractors, lenders, designers and consultants.

Object of Issue: The issue is entirely an offer-for-sale (OFS) by the promoters of the company (40 mn shares), implying an issue size of INR31 bn and a postissue market capitalization of INR 125 bn (at the higher price band).

View: Based on FY19 consolidated numbers, the issue is priced at a P/E of 19.6x. The company is likely to benefit from i) being the largest global EPC contractor in an industry that is seeing a massive thrust towards renewable energy ii) an asset-light business model, and iii) strong parentage. However, considering the current market environment and absence of past comparable financials, investors can Subscribe only from a Long Term perspective.

Financials & Valuations (INR mn)

Y/E March	FY18*	FY19
Revenue	68,717	82,404
EBITDA	5,378	6,421
EBITDA Margin (%)	7.8%	7.8%
Adj. PAT	4,505	6,382
EPS (INR)	30.0	39.9
PE (x) (At higher price band)	26.0	19.6
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Source: Company RHP, MOFSL *For March 9, 2017 to March 31, 2018

ISSUE SUMMARY	
Issue Opens	6-Aug-19
Issue Closes	8-Aug-19
Offer Price (INR per share)	775-780
Face Value (INR)	1
Pre Issue Shares o/s (mn)	160.3
Offer for Sale (No of sh. mn)	40
Fresh Issue (mn)	-
^Issue Size (INR bn)	31.3
QIB	75%
Non-institutional	15%
Retail	10%
^ Issue Size (@INR780)	

POST ISSUE DETAILS	
Mcap @INR780/sh. (INR bn)	125
Shareholding pattern	
Promoters	75%
Non-Promoters	25%

Investors are advised to refer through disclosures made at the end of the Research Report.

About the Company

SWSL is the largest global pure-play, end-to-end solar EPC solutions provider. It provides EPC services primarily for utility-scale solar power projects with a focus on project design and engineering, and manage all aspects of project execution from conceptualizing to commissioning. It also provides O&M services, including for projects constructed by third-parties.

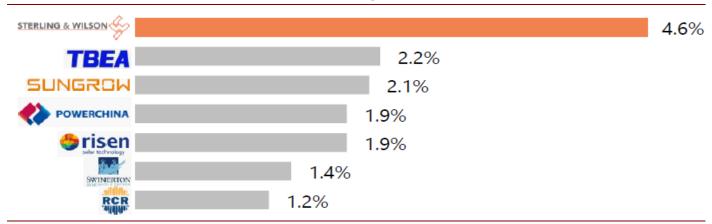
EPC Solutions:

- As on March 31, 2019, SWSL has commissioned and contracted 205 solar power projects with an aggregate capacity of 6,870 MWp
- Order book position: Rs.38bn as on March 31, 2019 and received letters of intent for Rs.39bn
- SWSL generally enters into fixed price EPC contracts and bills its customers according to contractually agreed
 milestones that reflect key stages of execution. The company also typically receives an advance payment from
 its customers at the time it enters into the EPC contract and adjusts the advance received against milestone
 payments.

O&M Services

- SWSL provides O&M services to its customers after solar power projects become operational. As on March 31, 2019, it has provided O&M services to 116 solar power projects in India, Middle East and North Africa, United Stated and Latin America and Rest of Africa, aggregating to 5,558 MWp.
- For FY18/19, the company generated revenues of Rs.437mn/Rs.936mn from these services, which accounted for 0.6%/1.1% of the total income respectively.

Exhibit 1: Market share (% of installations in 2018, according to IHS Markit)



Source: RHP, MOFSL

Exhibit 2: Diversified global operations

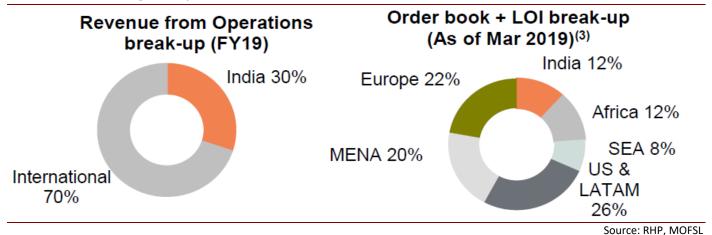
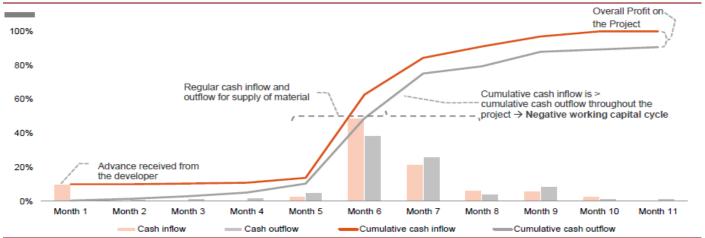


Exhibit 3: Illustration of working capital cycle for an EPC project



Source: RHP, MOFSL

Risk and concerns

- <u>Customer concentration risk:</u> The top-2 customers account for 37% of revenue, absence of which would have a material adverse effect on the company's business
- <u>Technological risk:</u> If solar photovoltaic and related technologies are regarded as unsuitable for widespread adoption, or if demand for solar power takes longer to develop pose a risk to business certainty
- Regulatory risk: As SWSL operates in 26 countries, its business is subject to diverse economic, regulatory and social and political conditions. This can result in operational disruptions, loss of assets and personnel and other indirect losses that could materially and adversely affect the business

Financial Analysis

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Income Statement		
Y/E March	FY18*	FY19
Net Sales	68,717	82,404
Growth (%)	NA	19.9
Total Expenditure	63,340	75,983
% of Sales	92.2	92.2
EBITDA	5,377	6,421
Margin (%)	7.8	7.8
Depreciation	32	78
EBIT	5,345	6,343
Int. and Finance Charges	186	847
Other Income	127	2,095
PBT	5,286	7,591
Tax	781	1,209
Tax Rate (%)	14.8	15.9
Reported PAT	4,505	6,382
Growth (%)		41.7
Margin (%)	10.5	19.6

^{*}For March 9, 2017 to March 31, 2018

Source: Company RHP, MOFSL

Balance Sheet		(INR mn)
Y/E March	FY18	FY19
Share Capital	160	160
Reserves	1,806	8,250
Net Worth	1,966	8,410
Minority Interest	-27	-35
Debt	1,897	22,364
Deferred tax (Net)	-110	-321
Total Capital Employed	3,726	30,418
Net Fixed Assets	241	314
Current Assets	48,850	53,282
Inventory	186	131
Debtors	18,215	19,002
Cash and Bank Balance	1,042	4,546
Loans and Advances & OCA	29,407	29,603
Current Liability & Provisions	45,367	23,180
Account Payables	37,398	19,125
Current Liabilities	7,334	2,784
Other long term liabilities	635	1,271
Net Current Assets	3,483	30,102
Appl. of Funds	3,726	30,418

Source: Company RHP, MOFSL

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Y/E March	FY18*	FY19
Basic (INR)		
EPS	30.0	39.8
Cash EPS	28.3	40.3
BV/Share	12.3	52.5
Valuation (x)		
P/E	27.8	19.6
Cash P/E	27.6	19.4
P/BV	63.6	14.9
EV/Sales	1.8	1.7
EV/EBITDA	23.4	22.2
Return Ratios (%)		
RoE	NA	123.0
RoCE	NA	41.0
Working Capital Ratios		
Asset Turnover (x)	36.9	4.8
Inventory (Days)	0	1
Debtor (Days)	48	82
Creditor (Days)	99	125
Leverage Ratio (x)		
Net Debt/Equity	0.4	2.1

^{*}For March 9, 2017 to March 31, 2018 Source: Company RHP, MOFSL

Consol. Cash Flow Statement	(INR mn)		
Y/E March	FY19		
OP/(Loss) before Tax	7,592		
Depreciation	78		
Interest & Finance Charges	845		
Direct Taxes Paid	-1,056		
(Inc)/Dec in WC	-13,382		
CF from Operations	-5,923		
Others	-1,310		
CF from Operating incl EO	-7,233		
(Inc)/Dec in FA	-99		
Free Cash Flow	-7,332		
(Pur)/Sale of Investments	-189		
Others	-9,000		
CF from Investments	-9,288		
Issue of Shares	0		
Inc/(Dec) in Debt	20,434		
Interest Paid	-712		
Dividend Paid	0		
Others	53		
CF from Fin. Activity	19,775		
Inc./Dec of Cash	3,254		

Source: Company RHP, MOFSL

Explanation of Investment Rating	
Investment Rating	Expected return (over 12-month)
BUY	>=15%
SELL	< - 10%
NEUTRAL	> - 10 % to 15%
UNDER REVIEW	Rating may undergo a change
NOT RATED	We have forward looking estimates for the stock but we refrain from assigning recommendation

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