SOS INDIA BFSI LTD

03 MAY 2017

Quarterly Update

Hold

Target Price: Rs 574

Q4FY17: Macro overhang persists

SQS India BFSI Ltd delivered a modest performance in Q4FY17, with earnings (PAT) coming in at Rs 4.4 Cr, down 58.8% Y-o-Y on account of decline in sales and higher other expenses. In Q4FY17, revenue of the company declined 20.3% Y-o-Y to Rs 57.5 Cr while other expenses increased 23.5% Y-o-Y to Rs 14.2 Cr, resulting in contraction in EBIDTA margin to 13.9% (down 900 bps). The company reported a forex loss of Rs 3.8 Cr in Q4FY17 as against Rs 2.4 Cr loss in Q3FY17 on account of depreciation of GBP and Euro. Company's European region's revenues were up 4.4% Q-o-Q/ down 16.8% Y-o-Y to Rs 32.6 Cr while North American region's revenues were down 12% Q-o-Q/50.5% Y-o-Y to ~Rs 5.5 Cr. Offshore business contributed 41% as against 38% in Q3FY17.

2018 is also likely to be a challenging year for Indian IT players due to macro overhangs. We revise our earnings estimates downward to Rs 30.2 Cr from previous estimates of Rs 34.9 Cr for FY18E. Reiterate **Hold** with a revised target price of Rs 574.

CMP : Rs 539 Potential Upside : 6.5%

MARKET DATA

No. of Shares : 1.1 cr

FV (Rs) : 10

Market Cap : Rs 604 cr

52-week High / Low : Rs 1240/ Rs 488
Avg. Daily vol. (6mth) : 22285 shares
Bloomberg Code : SQSI IN
Reuters Code : THIN.BO
BSE Code : 533121
NSE Code : SQSBFSI

Key Highlights

- Forex adjusted profit down 32.6% Y-o-Y: In Q4FY17, SQS India reported a forex loss of Rs 3.8 Cr as against a gain of Rs 0.6 Cr in Q4FY16. Adjusting forex loss/gain, adjusted profit of SQS India for Q4FY17 declined 32.6% Y-o-Y to Rs 6.9 Cr. SQS India's 25% revenues were realized in GBP (Great Britain Pound). Depreciation in USD, GBP and Euro against INR was reported at 2%, 15% and 8% respectively which resulted in forex loss for the company.
- EBIDTA Margin contracted due to higher other expenses and decline in revenue: In Q4FY17, other expenses increased to 24.7% of sales from 23.6% (% of sales)in Q3FY17. Revenue declined 5.5% Q-o-Q/ 20.3% Y-o-Y to Rs 57.5 Cr on account of ramping down of European region's projects.
- **Geographical revenue break- up**: In Q4FY17, Europe's contribution in overall revenues of the company has increased to 56.7% v/s 51.3% in Q3FY17 while contribution of Asia in total revenues has come down to 33.8% in Q4FY17 from 38.5% in Q3FY17.
- Onsite/offshore mix: In Q4FY17, contribution of offshore business increased from 38% in Q3FY17 for 41%. Offshore
 delivery has higher margins compared to onsite business but revenuesget impacted adversely if a project shifts from
 onsite to offshore.
- Client concentration: In Q4FY17, the company had10 clients in USD 0.5-1 mnrevenue,10 clients in USD 1-3 mn revenues and 1 client in more than USD 3 mn revenue bracket. Company's 88% business comes from repeat business.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Y/E	Sales	PAT	EPS	Change	P/E	RoE	RoCE	DPS
March	(Rs Cr)	(Rs Cr)	(Rs)	(%)	(x)	(%)	(%)	(Rs)
FY15	214	21.6	20.5	(28.0%)	26.3	18.4%	18.0%	24.0
FY16	264	36.9	35.0	70.5%	15.4	31.3%	30.5%	24.0
FY17E	260	23.1	21.9	(37.5%)	24.6	19.2%	19.3%	20.0
FY18E	295	30.2	28.7	31.1%	18.8	24.9%	24.9%	20.0

Source: Company and Axis Securities

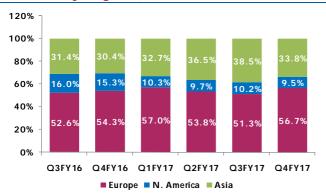
May-16 Sep-16 Jan-17 May-17
— SQS India BFSI — BSE_SENSEX

Akhand Pratap Singh akhand.singh@axissecurities.in

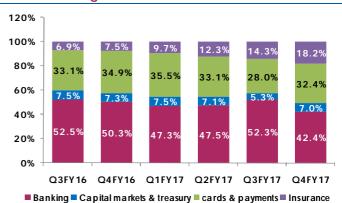




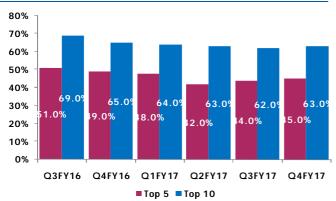
Revenue by Region (%)



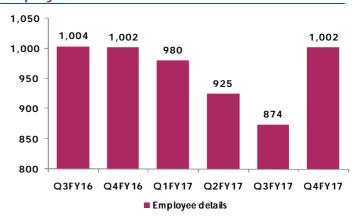
Revenue - Segmental



Client Concentration (%)

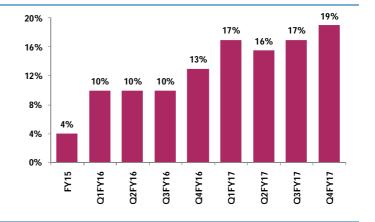


Employee Count



Revenue contribution from parent SQS AG

 Parent SQS AG's contribution in total revenues of SQS India increasing gradually:Parents' contribution in total revenues of SQS India hasincreased from 4% in FY15 to 19% in Q4FY17. According to SQS India management, contribution from parent in overall revenues can reach to 25% level going forward.



Source: Company





Key Challenges:

- Currency fluctuation: Around 50% billing is done in Euro & GBP and depreciation of these currencies against INR can adversely impact the earnings of SQS India.
- Brexit and US president's policies to adversely impact Indian IT players.

Quarterly Update

(Rs. Cr)	Q4FY17	Q4FY16	Y-o-Y % Chg	Q3FY17	QoQ % Chg	FY17E	FY18E	Y-o-Y % change
Net Sales	57.5	72.2	(20.3%)	61	(5.5%)	259.9	294.7	13.4%
Less:								
Personnel	35.4	44.2	(20.0%)	39	(9.6%)	159.3	172.0	8.0%
Other expenditure	14.2	11.5	23.5%	14	(1.4%)	59.9	69.6	16.1%
Total Expenditure	49.6	55.7	(11.0%)	54	(7.4%)	219.2	241.5	10.2%
EBIDTA	8.0	16.5	(51.6%)	7	7.8%	40.8	53.2	30.4%
Less: Depreciation	1.4	0.8	76.3%	2	(6.0%)	5.2	7.1	36.9%
Less: Interest	0.1	0.1	0.0%	0	NM	0.2	0.1	(50.0%)
Add: Other income	0.1	0.2	(50.0%)	0	0.0%	0.7	1.2	71.4%
Profit Before Extra-ordinary items and Tax	6.6	15.8	(58.4%)	6	9.5%	36.1	47.2	30.7%
Less: Total Tax	2.2	5.2	(57.7%)	2	0.0%	13.0	16.9	30.1%
Profit After Tax	4.4	10.6	(58.8%)	3.8	15.0%	23.1	30.2	31.1%

Source: Company, Axis Securities Ltd

NM: Not Meaningful





Disclosures:

The following Disclosures are being made in compliance with the SEBI Research Analyst Regulations 2014 (herein after referred to as the Regulations).

- 1. Axis Securities Ltd. (ASL) is a SEBI Registered Research Analyst having registration no. INH000000297. ASL, the Research Entity (RE) as defined in the Regulations, is engaged in the business of providing Stock broking services, Depository participant services & distribution of various financial products. ASL is a subsidiary company of Axis Bank Ltd. Axis Bank Ltd. is a listed public company and one of India's largest private sector bank and has its various subsidiaries engaged in businesses of Asset management, NBFC, Merchant Banking, Trusteeship, Venture Capital, Stock Broking, the details in respect of which are available on www.axisbank.com.
- 2. ASL is registered with the Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for its stock broking & Depository participant business activities and with the Association of Mutual Funds of India (AMFI) for distribution of financial products and also registered with IRDA as a corporate agent for insurance business activity.
- 3. ASL has no material adverse disciplinary history as on the date of publication of this report.
- 4. I/We, AkhandPratap Singh, MBA (Finance), author/s and the name/s subscribed to this report, hereby certify that all of the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my/our views about the subject issuer(s) or securities. I/We (Research Analyst) also certify that no part of my/our compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendation(s) or view(s) in this report. I/we or my/our relative or ASL does not have any financial interest in the subject company. Also I/we or my/our relative or ASL or its Associates may have beneficial ownership of 1% or more in the subject company at the end of the month immediately preceding the date of publication of the Research Report. Since associates of ASL are engaged in various financial service businesses, they might have financial interests or beneficial ownership in various companies including the subject company/companies mentioned in this report. I/we or my/our relative or ASL or its associate does not have any material conflict of interest. I/we have not served as director / officer, etc. in the subject company in the last 12-month period.

Any holding in stock - No

- 5. ASL has not received any compensation from the subject company in the past twelve months. ASL has not been engaged in market making activity for the subject company.
- 6. In the last 12-month period ending on the last day of the month immediately preceding the date of publication of this research report, ASL or any of its associates may have:
 - i. Received compensation for investment banking, merchant banking or stock broking services or for any other services from the subject company of this research report and / or;
 - ii. Managed or co-managed public offering of the securities from the subject company of this research report and / or;
 - iii. Received compensation for products or services other than investment banking, merchant banking or stock broking services from the subject company of this research report;

ASL or any of its associates have not received compensation or other benefits from the subject company of this research report or any other third-party in connection with this report.

Term& Conditions:

This report has been prepared by ASL and is meant for sole use by the recipient and not for circulation. The report and information contained herein is strictly confidential and may not be altered in any way, transmitted to, copied or distributed, in part or in whole, to any other person or to the media or reproduced in any form, without prior written consent of ASL. The report is based on the facts, figures and information that are considered true, correct, reliable and accurate. The intent of this report is not recommendatory in nature. The information is obtained from publicly available media or other sources believed to be reliable. Such information has not been independently verified and no guaranty, representation of warranty, express or implied, is made as to its accuracy, completeness or correctness. All such information and opinions are subject to change without notice. The report is prepared solely for informational purpose and does not constitute an offer document or solicitation of offer to buy or sell or subscribe for securities or other financial instruments for the clients. Though disseminated to all the customers simultaneously, not all customers may receive this report at the same time. ASL will not treat recipients as customers by virtue of their receiving this report.





DEFINITION OF RATINGS		
Ratings	Expected absolute returns over 12 months	
BUY	More than 10%	
HOLD	Between 10% and -10%	
SELL	Less than -10%	

Disclaimer:

Nothing in this report constitutes investment, legal, accounting and tax advice or a representation that any investment or strategy is suitable or appropriate to the recipient's specific circumstances. The securities and strategies discussed and opinions expressed, if any, in this report may not be suitable for all investors, who must make their own investment decisions, based on their own investment objectives, financial positions and needs of specific recipient.

This report may not be taken in substitution for the exercise of independent judgment by any recipient. Each recipient of this report should make such investigations as it deems necessary to arrive at an independent evaluation of an investment in the securities of companies referred to in this report (including the merits and risks involved), and should consult its own advisors to determine the merits and risks of such an investment. Certain transactions, including those involving futures, options and other derivatives as well as non-investment grade securities involve substantial risk and are not suitable for all investors. ASL, its directors, analysts or employees do not take any responsibility, financial or otherwise, of the losses or the damages sustained due to the investments made or any action taken on basis of this report, including but not restricted to, fluctuation in the prices of shares and bonds, changes in the currency rates, diminution in the NAVs, reduction in the dividend or income, etc. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Investors are advise necessarily a guide to future performance. Investors are advised to see Risk Disclosure Document to understand the risks associated before investing in the securities markets. Actual results may differ materially from those set forth in projections. Forward-looking statements are not predictions and may be subject to change without notice.

ASL and its affiliated companies, their directors and employees may: (a) from time to time, have long or short position(s) in, and buy or sell the securities of the company(ies) mentioned herein or (b) be engaged in any other transaction involving such securities or earn brokerage or other compensation or act as a market maker in the financial instruments of the company(ies) discussed herein or act as an advisor or investment banker, lender/borrower to such company(ies) or may have any other potential conflict of interests with respect to any recommendation and other related information and opinions. Each of these entities functions as a separate, distinct and independent of each other. The recipient should take this into account before interpreting this document.

ASL and / or its affiliates do and seek to do business including investment banking with companies covered in its research reports. As a result, the recipients of this report should be aware that ASL may have a potential conflict of interest that may affect the objectivity of this report. Compensation of Research Analysts is not based on any specific merchant banking, investment banking or brokerage service transactions. ASL may have issued other reports that are inconsistent with and reach different conclusion from the information presented in this report.

Neither this report nor any copy of it may be taken or transmitted into the United State (to U.S. Persons), Canada, or Japan or distributed, directly or indirectly, in the United States or Canada or distributed or redistributed in Japan or to any resident thereof. If this report is inadvertently sent or has reached any individual in such country, especially, USA, the same may be ignored and brought to the attention of the sender. This report is not directed or intended for distribution to, or use by, any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of or located in any locality, state, country or other jurisdiction, where such distribution, publication, availability or use would be contrary to law, regulation or which would subject ASL to any registration or licensing requirement within such jurisdiction. The securities described herein may or may not be eligible for sale in all jurisdictions or to certain category of investors.

The Disclosures of Interest Statement incorporated in this document is provided solely to enhance the transparency and should not be treated as endorsement of the views expressed in the report. The Company reserves the right to make modifications and alternations to this document as may be required from time to time without any prior notice. The views expressed are those of the analyst(s) and the Company may or may not subscribe to all the views expressed therein.

Copyright in this document vests with Axis Securities Limited.

Axis Securities Limited, Corporate office: Unit No. 2, Phoenix Market City, 15, LBS Road, Near Kamani Junction, Kurla (west), Mumbai-400070, Tel No. – 18002100808/022-61480808, Regd. off.- Axis House, 8th Floor, Wadia International Centre, PandurangBudhkarMarg, Worli, Mumbai – 400 025. Compliance Officer: AnandShaha, Email: compliance.officer@axisdirect.in, Tel No: 022-42671582.

