

Press Release

Gujarat State Investments Limited

December 04, 2019

Rating Assigned



Total Facilities Rated*	Rs.6000.00 Cr.
Long Term Rating	ACUITE AA (CE) / Outlook: Stable (Converted to Final)

* Refer Annexure for details

Rating Rationale

Acuite has converted its provisional rating on NCDs of Rs.6000 crore of **GUJARAT STATE INVESTMENT LIMITED (GSIL)** to final rating of '**ACUITE AA (CE)**' (read as **ACUITE double A (Credit Enhancement)**). The outlook is '**Stable**'.

About the company

Gujarat State Investments Limited (GSIL) was incorporated on January 29, 1988 and is wholly owned by Government of Gujarat (GoG). GSIL is the investment arm of GoG and has both quoted and unquoted investments. The company is managed by a Board which comprises senior bureaucrats from Government of Gujarat. Presently, Mr. Arvind Agarwal IAS (Additional Chief Secretary (Finance) to the Government of Gujarat) is the Chairman, and Mr. Milind Torawane IAS Secretary (Economic Affairs) to the Government of Gujarat) is the Managing Director. GSIL has applied to RBI for registering itself as a Core Investment Company (CIC). The rated Non-Convertible Debentures (NCDs) amounting to Rs.6000.00 Cr., issued by Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation (GSPC) are expected to be transferred to GSIL through the Novation method. The particulars of the NCDs are as below:

Instrument	Issue Date ^a	Amount (Rs in Crs)	Previous Coupon	Previous Maturity	Revised Coupon	Revised Maturity	ISIN	Interest Payable
NCD	28-May-19	1000	9.39%	21-Sep-20	9.39%	21-Sep-20	INE08EQ08015	Semi Annually
NCD	28-May-19	1000	9.45%	01-Oct-22	9.45%	01-Oct-22	INE08EQ08023	
NCD	28-May-19	1000	10.45%	28-Sep-22	9.45%	28-Sep-22	INE08EQ08049	
NCD	28-May-19	2000	9.03%	22-Mar-28	9.03%	22-Mar-28	INE08EQ08031	
NCD	28-May-19	1000	9.80%	22-Mar-73	9.45%	22-Mar-25	INE08EQ08056	
Total		6000						

^a GSIL has issued NCDs pursuant to the order of MCA on 28-May-2019

Standalone (Unsupported) Rating: **ACUITE AA-**

Analytical Approach

Acuite has considered the standalone financial and business risk profile of GSIL while also taking into account a strong support from Government of Gujarat (GoG) through state budgetary support for servicing of the rated NCDs in addition to the 100% ownership of GSIL.

Key Rating Drivers

Strengths

• Direct Support from GoG for servicing of NCDs

As per the Financial Realignment Plan of Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPC) which is approved by GoG and GSPC via Government Resolution (GR) dated 26 July, 2018 and the latter's board resolution dated 31 July, 2018 respectively, the NCDs amounting to Rs. 6000 Cr. has been transferred to GSIL. GSIL has executed the call option for the perpetuity NCDs and hence the maturity along with coupon rate has been revised. As per the GR, GoG will support GSIL for payment towards interest and principal repayment on the rated NCDs and necessary budgetary provision in the state budget for meeting these requirements in the coming years will be made by the Department of Energy & Petrochemicals. The rating assigned on the NCDs factors in such strong and direct support from the state

government.

Being a registered CIC, GSIL's revenues is highly dependent on the performance of the companies where in GSIL has invested. The revenue stream of GSIL is by way of dividends or interest received from the invested companies. Hence, the rating centrally factors in the support from GoG to GSIL for servicing the interest and principal repayment of the NCDs being transferred from GSPC. Acuite believes that the support from GoG to GSIL for the said debt servicing will be available in the form of grants or loans and advances made through state budgetary allocations in the subsequent years.

• **Strategic Importance of GSIL to Government of Gujarat**

GSIL, wholly owned by Government of Gujarat, is a holding company for various investments of Government of Gujarat. The company is now registered as a CIC by Reserve Bank of India (RBI). It has investments in several listed state PSUs like Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers Company Limited (GNVFC), Gujarat Alkalies & Chemicals Limited (GACL), and Gujarat State Fertilizers & Chemicals Company Limited (GSFCCL) to name a few. The Board of Directors of GSIL comprises senior bureaucrats from the state government. GSIL has an investment portfolio of Rs. 8000.13 Cr. as per the book value as on 31 March 2019. GSIL has earned dividends and interest income worth Rs.96.69 Cr. for FY2019 as against Rs.76.96 Cr. respectively in the previous year. Acuite believes that GSIL is of strategic importance to GoG given its investment portfolio of PSUs and its status as a funding vehicle for various investments and commitments of the state government.

• **Healthy fiscal profile of Government of Gujarat**

Gujarat has one of the strongest fiscal profiles among the states of India. It has demonstrated a strong ability to attract investments from foreign as well as domestic companies. The state's annual GDP growth from 2011-12 to 2017-18 at current prices averaged above 13 per cent. This growth has been supported by agricultural growth which is supported by crops such as cotton, and oilseeds among others. Gujarat state's GSDP accounts for ~7.6 per cent Nation's GDP. Gujarat is also one of the leading states in terms of industrial development with a contribution of 18.4 per cent to the country's industrial output. The revenue surplus as a percentage of GSDP for GoG stood at 0.50 per cent in FY18 (RE). The gross fiscal deficit to GSDP for the state stood at 1.7 per cent vis-à-vis the all-state average of 3.1 per cent for FY 18 (RE). The per capita income at current prices is estimated to be at Rs.1,11,782 for FY 2017-18. The state has attracted investments worth ~Rs.23,000 Cr. in form of FDI in FY2016-17. The total outstanding liabilities of GoG as a percentage of GSDP stood at 20.1 per cent as per revised estimates of FY18 which is relatively moderate as compared to the all-state average of 24.0 per cent. Gujarat is also one of the states which has shown significant progress in power sector reforms and has reduced the commercial losses in the power sector, thereby lowering the fiscal burden on the state.

Acuite believes that Government of Gujarat will maintain its fiscal profile in near to medium term given its fairly diversified economy and its economic infrastructure as compared to most of other states in India.

Weaknesses

• **Susceptibility to any changes in the fiscal profile of Gujarat**

GSIL's rating is driven by continued support from GoG. Hence the fiscal profile of Gujarat will be a key rating sensitivity factor influencing the rating. Any significant changes in the rating of GoG due to factors such as prolonged slowdown in industrial activities or challenges faced by Gujarat state in attracting investment due to factors such as socio-economic changes or other such events can have impact in its fiscal indicators. The influence of adverse macro-economic factors such as cutbacks in capex plans by corporates, and hardening of interest rates may impinge on the investment flows into the state in the near term thereby increasing the pressure on the Government to step up its expenditure plans. This in turn could impact its future fiscal profile & hence influence the rating on the instruments like GSIL's NCDs which are primarily driven by the rating of Government of Gujarat.

Further, timely budget allocation and timely receipt of revenue and capital grants from GoG for servicing the coupon and redemption of the NCDs is another rating sensitivity factor.

Rating Sensitivity

- Credit profile of GoG

Material Covenants

- None

Liquidity Position: Adequate

GSIL is expected to be supported by GoG in form of Grants and/or loans for debt servicing of NCDs that has been transferred to GSIL. As per the Government Resolution (GR) dated 26 July, 2018, Government of Gujarat (GoG) through state budgetary will support for servicing of the rated NCDs.

Outlook: Stable

Acuite believes that the outlook on GSIL will remain 'Stable' on account of strong support from GoG driven by both strategic importance and moral obligation. The outlook may be revised to 'Positive' in case of any improvement in the fiscal profile of the state government. Conversely, the outlook may be revised to 'Negative' in case of any deterioration in the fiscal risk profile of GoG and/or impeding its ability for timely budgetary provisions by the state.

About the Rated Entity - Key Financials of Gujarat State Investment Limited (GSIL)

	Unit	FY19 (Actual)	FY18 (Actual)	FY17 (Actual)
Total Assets	Rs. Cr.	8,237.85	1,893.42	2,024.28
Total Income	Rs. Cr.	96.69	76.96	65.19
PAT	Rs. Cr.	262.95	16.82	57.51
Net Worth	Rs. Cr.	1,793.64	1,530.69	1,513.88
Return on Average Assets (RoAA)	(%)	5.2	0.9	2.5
Return on Average Net Worth (RoNW)	(%)	15.8	1.1	3.4
Total Debt/Tangible Net Worth (Gearing)	Times	3.63	0.37	0.45
Gross NPA	(%)	NM	NM	NM
Net NPA	(%)	NM	NM	NM
Total Investment (Book Value)	Rs. Cr.	8,000.13	2,431.50	2,316.65

NM: Not Meaningful

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA (if applicable)

None

Any other information

None

Applicable Criteria

- Default Recognition - <https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-17.htm>
- Entities in Non-Banking Financing Entities - <https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-10.htm>
- State Government Support - <http://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-26.htm>
- Financial Ratios And Adjustments - <https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-20.htm>

Note on complexity levels of the rated instrument

<https://www.acuite.in/criteria-complexity-levels.htm>

Rating History (Upto last three years)

Date	Name of Instrument / Facilities	Term	Amount (Rs. Cr)	Ratings/Outlook
17-May-2019	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00^	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	2000.00	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)

	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00 [^]	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
22-Apr-2019	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00 [^]	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	2000.00	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00 [^]	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
31-Jan-2019	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00 [^]	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	2000.00	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00 [^]	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Reaffirmed)
31-Oct-2018	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Assigned)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Assigned)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00 [^]	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Assigned)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	2000.00	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Assigned)
	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	Long Term	1000.00 [^]	ACUITE Provisional AA / Stable (Assigned)

[^] If the call option is not exercised by the issuer, the interest rate shall be revised upwards by 200 bps thereafter any interest on Debenture shall be payable at such revised interest rate.

***Annexure – Details of instruments rated**

ISIN	Name of Facilities	Date of Issuance	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	Size of Issue (Rs. Cr.)	Rating / Outlook
INE08EQ08015	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	28-May-19	9.39%	21-Sep-20	1000.00	ACUITE AA (CE)/ Stable (Converted to Final from Provisional)
INE08EQ08023	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	28-May-19	9.45%	01-Oct-22	1000.00	ACUITE AA (CE)/ Stable (Converted to Final from Provisional)
INE08EQ08049	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	28-May-19	9.45%	28-Sep-22	1000.00	ACUITE AA (CE)/ Stable (Converted to Final from Provisional)
INE08EQ08031	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	28-May-19	9.03%	22-Mar-28	2000.00	ACUITE AA (CE)/ Stable (Converted to Final from Provisional)
INE08EQ08056	Unsecured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures	28-May-19	9.45%	22-Mar-25	1000.00	ACUITE AA (CE)/ Stable (Converted to Final from Provisional)

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About Acuité Ratings & Research:

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