

Press Release

Hindustan Tea Exporters (HTE)

January 16, 2020



Rating Update

Total Bank Facilities Rated*	Rs.20.00 Cr. #
Short Term Rating	ACUITE A4+ Issuer not co-operating*

#Refer Annexure for details

*The issuer did not co-operate; based on best available information.

Rating Rationale

Acuité has revised the short term rating of '**ACUITE A4+**' (**read as ACUITE A four plus**) on the Rs.20.00 crore bank facilities of Hindustan Tea Exporters. This rating is now an indicative rating and is based on best available information.

Hindustan Tea Exporters (HTE) is a Kolkata-based partnership firm engaged in the trading and export of tea. The firm is headed by Mr. Ali Abbas Shirazi, Mr. Harkisan Shah and Mr. Prafull Shah who possess over four decades of experience in the tea industry.

Non-cooperation by the issuer/borrower: Acuité has been requesting for data, information and undertakings from the rated entity for conducting surveillance & review of the rating. However, the issuer/borrower failed to submit such information before due date.

This rating is therefore being flagged as "Issuer not-cooperating", in line with prevailing SEBI regulations and Acuité's policies.

Applicable Criteria

- Default Recognition - <https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-52.htm>
- Trading Entities - <https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-61.htm>
- Financial Ratios And Adjustments - <https://www.acuite.in/view-rating-criteria-53.htm>

Limitation regarding information availability: The rating is based on information available from sources other than the issuer/borrower (in the absence of information provided by the issuer/borrower). Acuité endeavored to gather information about the entity / industry from the public domain. Therefore, Acuité cautions lenders and investors regarding the use of such information, on which the indicative credit rating is based.

About the Rated Entity- Key Financials

The rated entity has not shared the latest financial statements despite repeated attempts.

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

None

Any other information

Acuité is yet to receive the latest No Default Statement (NDS) from the rated entity, despite repeated requests and follow-ups.

Rating History (Up to last three years)

Date	Name of Instrument / Facilities	Term	Amount (Rs. Cr)	Ratings/Outlook
17-October-2018	Packing Credit	Long Term	14.00	ACUITE A4+ (Indicative)
	Proposed Short	Short Term	6.00	ACUITE A4+

	Term Loan			(Indicative)
25-September-2017	Packing Credit	Short Term	14.00	ACUITE A4+ (Reaffirmed)
	Proposed Short Term Loan	Short Term	6.00	ACUITE A4+ (Reaffirmed)
15-April-2016	Packing Credit	Short Term	15.50*	ACUITE A4+ (Upgraded)
	Bill Discounting	Short Term	2.00	ACUITE A4+ (Upgraded)
	Proposed Short Term Loan	Short Term	2.50	ACUITE A4+ (Upgraded)

*Includes sublimit of cash credit and export bill discounting maximum of Rs 15.00 Crore and Rs 12.00 Crore Respectively

*Annexure – Details of instruments rated

Name of the Facilities	Date of Issuance	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	Size of the Issue (Rs. Crore)	Ratings/Outlook
Packing Credit	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	14.00	ACUITE A4+ Issuer not co-operating*
Proposed Short Term Loan	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	6.00	ACUITE A4+ Issuer not co-operating*

*The issuer did not co-operate; based on best available information.

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About Acuité Ratings & Research:

Acuité Ratings & Research Limited (*Erstwhile SMERA Ratings Limited*) is a full-service Credit Rating Agency registered with the Securities and 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. Since then, it has assigned more than 6,000 credit 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 Mumbai.

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