

# **Shraddha Impex**

September 23, 2024

Facilities/Instruments	Amount (₹ crore)	Rating <sup>1</sup>	Rating Action
Long Term Bank Facilities	1.12 (Reduced from 1.30)	CARE B+; Stable	Reaffirmed
Short Term Bank Facilities	5.00	CARE A4	Reaffirmed

Details of instruments/facilities in Annexure-1.

## Rationale and key rating drivers

The ratings assigned to bank facilities of Shraddha Impex (SDI) continues to remain constrained on account of moderate scale of operations and profitability, moderate capital structure and debt coverage indicators during FY24 (provisional, FY refers to period April 01 to March 31) and vulnerability of margins to fluctuation in prices of agrocommodities and foreign exchange. The rating is further constrained on account of stretched liquidity and partnership nature of constitution. The ratings, however, derives strength from experience of partners in trading business.

# Rating sensitivities: Factors likely to lead to rating actions

## **Positive factors**

- Increase in scale of operations marked by Total Operating Income (TOI) above Rs.35 crore while maintaining PBILDT margin above 6%
- Improvement in liquidity marked by improvement in operating cycle by 40 days or more

### **Negative factors**

- Any further decline in scale of operations marked by TOI and decline in profitability marked by PBILDT margin below 4%
- Deterioration in capital structure marked by overall gearing ratio of higher than 3 times.
- Overall deterioration in liquidity profile marked by further elongation in operating cycle than current level.

### Analytical approach: Standalone

#### Outlook: Stable

CARE Ratings believes that firm will sustain its overall financial risk profile and continue to benefit from experience of promoters in trading business.

# **Detailed description of key rating drivers:**

### **Key weaknesses**

#### Moderate scale of operations and profitability

The scale of operations marked by TOI moderated at Rs.14.54 crore in FY24 as against Rs.18.34 crore in FY23 mainly on account of continued ban on sugar exports. SDI has reported TOI of ~Rs.6 crores in 5MFY25 through sale of imported metal scrap and plastic scrap. The profitability improved marked by PBILDT margin at 9.56% in FY24 as against 5.23% on account of decrease in material cost. Consequently, PAT margin improved and remained at 4.01% in FY24 as against 1% in FY23.

#### Moderate capital structure and debt coverage indicators

Capital structure of SDI improved marked by overall gearing of 0.95 times as on March 31, 2024, as against 2.37 times as on March 31, 2023, owing to lower debt outstanding as on balance sheet date. Debt coverage indicators improved although remained weak marked by TDGCA of 7.14 times during FY24 as against 50.52 times in FY23 due to increased GCA and reduced debt levels. Interest coverage ratio remained moderate at 2.39 times during FY24 as against 1.30 times during FY23.

### Vulnerability of margins to fluctuation in prices of agro-commodities and foreign exchange

The prices of agricultural commodities are volatile in nature and are linked to production in domestic market and global demand-supply situation. The prices of agro-commodities are also affected by the changes in government regulations and vagaries of weather. In FY23, the government of India imposed a ban in sugar exports which adversely impacted the operations of SDI as the firm only caters to the overseas market. In FY24, government remains consistent with ban on sugar exports to boost local supplies. SDI is exposed to risk arising out of fluctuations in foreign exchange rates however it is mitigated through active hedging policy. During FY24, SDI has forex loss of Rs.0.55 crore as against profit of Rs.0.39 crore in FY23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Complete definition of ratings assigned are available at <a href="https://www.careedge.in">www.careedge.in</a> and other CARE Ratings Limited's publications.



#### Partnership nature of constitution

Being a partnership firm, SDI is exposed to inherent risk of partners' capital being withdrawn at time of personal contingency, and firm being dissolved upon the death/retirement/insolvency of partners which may affect financial flexibility of the firm.

# **Key strengths**

## **Experienced partners**

Mr. Govind Singh Baghel and Mrs. Asha Singh Baghel, partners of the firm have an experience of more than 15 years in trading of agro commodities through this firm. They look after overall management of the firm. In addition to his agro trading business, Mr. Singh has been operating Alpine Public School in Indore since 1998. He is also a partner in Sai Steel, a partnership firm that manufactures ingots from raw steel.

# **Liquidity**: Stretched

The liquidity position of the firm remained stretched during FY24 marked by tightly matched cash accruals of Rs.0.59 crore as against debt repayment obligation of 0.43 crore arising in FY25. Average CC utilization remained low at below 10% for past 12 month ended August 2024 owing to lower operations. Operating cycle though improved, remained elongated at 108 days. Cash and bank balance remained low at Rs.0.74 crore as on March 31, 2024.

# **Applicable criteria**

Definition of Default
Liquidity Analysis of Non-financial sector entities
Rating Outlook and Rating Watch
Financial Ratios – Non financial Sector
Short Term Instruments
Wholesale Trading

# About the company and industry

### **Industry classification**

Macroeconomic indicator	Sector	Industry	Basic industry
Services	Services	Commercial Services & Supplies	Trading & Distributors

Shraddha Impex (SDI), established in 2003 as a partnership firm, was originally engaged in trading of fruits and vegetables like grapes, onion, garlic, tomatoes etc. Further, from FY16 onwards, the firm commenced export of various spices, herbs and agro products like sesame seeds, chickpeas, sugar, red and green chillies etc. However, since FY20 SDI is mainly engaged in exporting sugar to Colombo, Singapore, Malaysia, China, Indonesia, Qatar etc. It also imports metal and plastic scrap and sells domestically. The firm is a government recognized export house, managed by Mr. Govind Singh Baghel and Mrs. Asha Singh Baghel.

Brief Financials (₹ crore)	March 31, 2023 (A)	March 31, 2024 (P)
Total operating income	18.34	14.54
PBILDT	0.95	1.39
PAT	0.18	0.58*
Overall gearing (times)	2.37	0.95
Interest coverage (times)	1.30	2.39

A: Audited P: Provisional; Note: these are latest available financial results \*considering tax rate of 30%

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not Applicable

Any other information: Not Applicable

Rating history for last three years: Annexure-2

Detailed explanation of covenants of rated instrument / facility: Annexure-3



Complexity level of instruments rated: Annexure-4

Lender details: Annexure-5

# Annexure-1: Details of instruments/facilities

Name of the Instrument	ISIN	Date of Issuance (DD-MM- YYYY)	Coupon Rate (%)	Maturity Date (DD- MM-YYYY)	Size of the Issue (₹ crore)	Rating Assigned and Rating Outlook
Fund-based - LT-Working capital Term Loan		-	-	28-02-2027	1.12	CARE B+; Stable
Fund-based - ST-EPC/PSC		-	-	-	5.00	CARE A4

# Annexure-2: Rating history for last three years

		Current Ratings			Rating History			
Sr. No.	Name of the Instrument/Bank Facilities	Туре	Amount Outstanding (₹ crore)	Rating	Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2024- 2025	Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2023-2024	Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2022- 2023	Date(s) and Rating(s) assigned in 2021- 2022
1	Fund-based - ST- EPC/PSC	ST	5.00	CARE A4	-	1)CARE A4 (05-Sep-23) 2)CARE A4; ISSUER NOT COOPERATING* (16-Aug-23)	1)CARE A4+ (11-Jul- 22)	1)CARE A4 (23-Jul- 21)
2	Fund-based - LT- Working capital Term Loan	LT	1.12	CARE B+; Stable	-	1)CARE B+; Stable (05-Sep-23)	-	-

LT: Long term; ST: Short term; \*Issuer did not cooperate; based on best available information.

# Annexure-3: Detailed explanation of covenants of rated instruments/facilities: Not Applicable

# **Annexure-4: Complexity level of instruments rated**

Sr. No.	Name of the Instrument	Complexity Level
1	Fund-based - LT-Working capital Term Loan	Simple
2	Fund-based - ST-EPC/PSC	Simple

# **Annexure-5: Lender details**

To view the lender wise details of bank facilities please <u>click here</u>

**Note on complexity levels of rated instruments:** CARE Ratings has classified instruments rated by it based on complexity. Investors/market intermediaries/regulators or others are welcome to write to care@careedge.in for clarifications.



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#### About us:

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