

#### **Meritra Homes Private Limited**

March 12, 2025

Facilities/Instruments	Amount (₹ crore)	Rating <sup>1</sup>	Rating Action
Long Term Bank Facilities	28.19	CARE BB; Stable	Assigned

Details of instruments/facilities in Annexure-1.

# Rationale and key rating drivers

Rating assigned to the bank facilities of Meritra Homes Private Limited (MHPL) is constrained by relatively moderate scale of operations which is primarily confined to Ernakulam region, moderate construction progress across projects, execution risk associated with ongoing projects wherein dependence on customer advances is relatively high, inherent cyclicality and intense competition in the real estate industry. The ratings, however, derive strength from the experience of the promoters and long track record of operations, satisfactory sales velocity in the on-going projects.

# Rating sensitivities: Factors likely to lead to rating actions Positive Factors

• Timely launch and healthy execution from the upcoming projects resulting in sustained improvement in collections above ₹50 crore.

### **Negative Factors**

- · Any large delays in the scheduled completion and slowdown in the sales momentum of the on-going projects
- · Moderation in collections/ delay in realization of customer advances on sustained basis

## Analytical approach: Standalone

#### Outlook: Stable

The stable outlook reflects that the entity is likely to benefit from the experience of the promoters in the real estate sector to complete the ongoing and upcoming projects

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

### **Key weaknesses**

### Relatively moderate scale of operations

MHPL has nearly two decades years of experience in executing residential real estate projects in the Ernakulam region. However, the scale of operations as reflected in TOI continues to be moderate at ₹19.34 crore in FY24 (PY: ₹15.13 crore). All the ongoing projects are situated in and around Ernakulam region which exposes the company to regional concentration risk. Faster execution and healthy sales velocity across projects leading to increase in scale shall remain a key rating monitorable

#### Moderate construction progress and implementation risk

MHPL is currently executing four projects with total saleable area of 2.72 lakh square feet (lsf). The firm has achieved consolidated construction progress of 39% in ongoing projects as on November 30, 2024 which exposes MHPL to project implementation risk. Nevertheless, the project implementation risk is mitigated to some extent by the extensive experience of the promoters. Considering the gestation period of around three to four years for the completion, any volatility in the raw material prices will impact the cost of the projects. Going forward, the timely completion of the project remains critical from the credit perspective.

# Exposure to inherent risks and cyclicality in the real estate industry

The company is exposed to the cyclicality associated with real estate sector which has direct linkage with the general macroeconomic scenario, interest rates and level of disposable income available with individuals. In case of real estate companies, the profitability is highly dependent on property markets. This exposes these companies to the vagaries of property markets. A high interest rate scenario could discourage the consumers from borrowing to finance the real estate purchases and may depress the real estate market.

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



### **Key strengths**

### **Experienced promoters with long track record of operations**

MHPL incorporated in the year 2006 is promoted by T.N. Ravishankar and Kala Krishna Iyer. T.N. Ravishankar possesses a master's degree in management from the United Kingdom and has extensive experience of nearly two decades in residential and commercial real estate. Under his guidance, MHPL has executed 8 projects till date encompassing ~1.1 million square feet of saleable area. MHPL is a closely held company, with entire stake held by promoters. The promoters also provide financial assistance to the company on need basis.

### Comfortable sales velocity in the ongoing projects

MHPL has been marketing its projects under brand name 'Prime Meridian' and most of the projects are primarily in and around Ernakulam region. Sales velocity in ongoing projects has been satisfactory with 51% of the area sold as of November 30, 2024. Most projects are in prime localities in Ernakulam, which increase its saleability. Company has committed receivables of ₹59 crore from the sold units and the collections from the ongoing projects are also satisfactory and stood at ₹27.95 crore for past 12 months ended December 31, 2024. As the company is largely dependent on customer advances to fund the projects, its timely receipt will be crucial for project progress.

#### **Liquidity**: Stretched

The liquidity of the company is stretched as reflected by moderate sales momentum and collection efficiency. Cash and bank balance as on March 31, 2024, stood at ₹4.32 crore. The term loan repayment for the FY25 is around ₹3.79 crore which is expected to be met out of cash flows from the ongoing projects. Going forward, ability of the company to maintain the satisfactory and early sales booking in the recently launched and upcoming projects and maintaining collection efficiency is key for enhancing the cash flow position of the company.

**Assumptions/Covenants:** Not applicable

Environment, social, and governance (ESG) risks: Not applicable

# **Applicable criteria**

**Definition of Default** 

Liquidity Analysis of Non-financial sector entities

Rating Outlook and Rating Watch

Financial Ratios - Non financial Sector

Rating methodology for Real estate sector

# About the company and industry

### **Industry classification**

Macroeconomic indicator	Sector	Industry	Basic industry
Consumer Discretionary	Realty	Realty	Residential, Commercial
			Projects

MHPL is an Ernakulam-based company engaged in development of residential real estate projects, under the brand name 'Meridian Homes'. MHPL, promoted by Mr T N Ravishankar in the year 2005, specializes in development of luxury and premium villas. The company has completed over 8 projects encompassing  $\sim 1.1$  million square feet of saleable area.

Brief Financials (₹ crore)	March 31, 2023 (A)	March 31, 2024 (A)	9MFY25
Total operating income	15.13	19.34	23.44
PBILDT	2.58	2.99	3.19
PAT	0.31	0.33	0.81
Overall gearing (times)	2.25	2.11	NA
Interest coverage (times)	1.16	1.25	NA

A: Audited UA: Unaudited NA: Not available; Note: these are latest available financial results

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-Term Loan			-	March 2031	28.19	CARE BB; Stable

# Annexure-2: Rating history for last three years

	Name of the No. Instrument/Bank Facilities	Current Ratings			Rating History			
Sr. No.		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 - LT- Term Loan	LT	28.19	CARE BB; Stable				

LT: Long term

# 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-Term Loan	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.



#### Contact us

Media Contact

Mradul Mishra Director

**CARE Ratings Limited** Phone: +91-22-6754 3596

E-mail: mradul.mishra@careedge.in

**Relationship Contact** 

Pradeep Kumar V Senior Director

**CARE Ratings Limited** Phone: 044-28501001

E-mail: pradeep.kumar@careedge.in

**Analytical Contacts** 

Sandeep P Director

CARE Ratings Limited Phone: 044-28501002

E-mail: sandeep.prem@careedge.in

Ratheesh Kumar Associate Director **CARE Ratings Limited** Phone: 044-28501020

E-mail: ratheesh.kumar@careedge.in

Tharan Pravesh Analyst

**CARE Ratings Limited** 

E-mail: Tharan.pravesh@careedge.in

#### About us:

Established in 1993, CARE Ratings is one of the leading credit rating agencies in India. Registered under the Securities and Exchange Board of India, it has been acknowledged as an External Credit Assessment Institution by the RBI. With an equitable position in the Indian capital market, CARE Ratings provides a wide array of credit rating services that help corporates raise capital and enable investors to make informed decisions. With an established track record of rating companies over almost three decades, CARE Ratings follows a robust and transparent rating process that leverages its domain and analytical expertise, backed by the methodologies congruent with the international best practices. CARE Ratings has played a pivotal role in developing bank debt and capital market instruments, including commercial papers, corporate bonds and debentures, and structured credit.

#### Disclaimer:

The ratings issued by CARE Ratings are opinions on the likelihood of timely payment of the obligations under the rated instrument and are not recommendations to sanction, renew, disburse, or recall the concerned bank facilities or to buy, sell, or hold any security. These ratings do not convey suitability or price for the investor. The agency does not constitute an audit on the rated entity. CARE Ratings has based its ratings/outlook based on information obtained from reliable and credible sources. CARE Ratings does not, however, guarantee the accuracy, adequacy, or completeness of any information and is not responsible for any errors or omissions and the results obtained from the use of such information. Most entities whose bank facilities/instruments are rated by CARE Ratings have paid a credit rating fee, based on the amount and type of bank facilities/instruments. CARE Ratings or its subsidiaries/associates may also be involved with other commercial transactions with the entity. In case of partnership/proprietary concerns, the rating/outlook assigned by CARE Ratings is, inter-alia, based on the capital deployed by the partners/proprietors and the current financial strength of the firm. The ratings/outlook may change in case of withdrawal of capital, or the unsecured loans brought in by the partners/proprietors in addition to the financial performance and other relevant factors. CARE Ratings is not responsible for any errors and states that it has no financial liability whatsoever to the users of the ratings of CARE Ratings. The ratings of CARE Ratings do not factor in any rating-related trigger clauses as per the terms of the facilities/instruments, which may involve acceleration of payments in case of rating downgrades. However, if any such clauses are introduced and triggered, the ratings may see volatility and sharp downgrades.

For detailed Rationale Report and subscription information, please visit <a href="https://www.careedge.in">www.careedge.in</a>