

## Vasishta Constructions Private Limited

January 03, 2019

### Ratings

Facilities	Amount (Rs. crore)	Rating <sup>1</sup>	Rating Action
Long term Bank Facilities	39.31 (enhanced from 33.20)	<b>CARE BBB+; Stable (Triple B Plus; Outlook: Stable)</b>	Reaffirmed
Long-term/Short-term Bank Facilities	198.00 (enhanced from 145.00)	<b>CARE BBB+; Stable/CARE A3+ (Triple B Plus; Outlook: Stable/A Three Plus)</b>	Reaffirmed
<b>Total</b>	<b>237.31 (Rs. Two hundred and Thirty Seven crore and Thirty One lakh only)</b>		

*Details of instruments/facilities in Annexure-1*

### Detailed Rationale & Key Rating Drivers

The reaffirmation of ratings assigned to the long term and short term bank facilities of Vasishta Constructions Private Limited (VCPL) takes into account improved financial performance during FY18 (refers to the period April 1 to March 31) marked by growth in total operating income, stable profit levels and the profitability margins at the back of execution of high-value projects in hand, healthy growth in order book with majority of projects funded by Central Government authorities. The ratings continue to derive strength from experienced promoters, moderate liquidity and operating cycle, comfortable capital structure and stable industry outlook. The ratings are, however, constrained by moderate scale of operations, concentrated order book position and intense competition in civil construction sector due to fragmented nature of the industry.

The ability of the company to ensure timely execution of projects with recovery of contract proceeds in a timely manner and improve liquidity profile with effective management of working capital are the key rating sensitivities.

### Detailed description of the key rating drivers

#### Key Rating Strengths

**Experienced promoters:** Vasishta Constructions Private Limited (VCPL), promoted by Mr. M Naga Raju, has been operating in the infrastructure segment for about three decades with major focus on construction of roads & bridges. The promoters have over 25 years of experience the construction segment which has enabled VCPL to secure orders across various infrastructure segments in regions such as Bihar, Assam, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Uttarakhand and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

**Healthy growth in order book providing medium term visibility:** VCPL has a healthy order book position with orders in hand aggregating to Rs.1141.18 crore as on November 30, 2018 (as against Rs.895.65 crore as on November 30, 2017) providing revenue visibility for medium to long term. The confirmed order book position of the company translates to 3.18x of the gross billing for FY18. Majority of projects are backed by several funds i.e. Central Government Fund, National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) Fund and North-Eastern State Fund which reduces risk associated with realisation of payments.

**Increased total operating income and stable profit margins during FY18:** Total operating income of the company has increased over the last three financial years ended FY18. VCPL witnessed increase in total income of about 11% in FY18 over FY17 (from Rs.327.95 crore to Rs.359.34 crore) majorly led by increase in execution of orders in hand. Profit margins remain stable with PBILDT margin at 13.86% and PAT margin at 5.74%. Further, in H1FY19, total operating income increased by 2.10% to Rs.183.36 crore.

**Comfortable capital structure and debt coverage indicators:** VCPL has comfortable capital structure with debt to equity and overall gearing below unity as on March 31, 2018. Overall gearing of the company improved and remained comfortable at 0.48x as on March 31, 2018 (as compared to 0.56x as on March 31, 2017). Other debt coverage indicators; interest coverage ratio also improved and continues to remain comfortable in FY18.

**Moderate liquidity position and operating cycle:** Working capital cycle days of VCPL continues to remain moderate at 133 days (131 days in FY17) on account of high collection period which stood at 110 days (113 days in FY17). Average utilization of bank borrowings during last 12 months ending October 2018 has remained moderate at 69%. Further, as on March 31, 2018, the company had free cash balance of Rs.1.00 crore and the same stood at Rs.1.08 crore as on September 30, 2018.

<sup>1</sup>Complete definition of the ratings assigned are available at [www.careratings.com](http://www.careratings.com) and other CARE publications

**Stable industry outlook:** Construction & Infrastructure sector is a key driver for the Indian economy. The sector is highly responsible for propelling India's overall development and enjoys intense focus from Government for initiating policies that would ensure time-bound creation of world class infrastructure in the country.

#### Key Rating Weaknesses

**Concentrated order book:** The work orders of the company are spread across six states and one union territory. Though geographically diversified, order book is mainly concentrated in Andaman & Nicobar Islands (79%) followed by Bihar (11%).

**Intense competition in civil construction sector:** There are numerous fragmented & unorganized players operating in the segment which makes the civil construction space highly competitive. However, the promoters' long industry experience of more than two decades mitigates this risk to some extent.

**Analytical approach:** Standalone

#### Applicable Criteria

[Criteria on assigning Outlook to Credit Ratings](#)

[CARE's Policy on Default Recognition](#)

[Criteria for Short Term Instruments](#)

[Financial Ratios - Non-Financial Sector](#)

#### About the Company

Incorporated in October, 1991, Vasishtha Constructions Private Limited (VCPL) is engaged in construction activities spanning irrigation & flood control, roads & bridges, building & structures, etc. VCPL was promoted by Mr. M Naga Raju, Mr. M Sivarama Raju, Mr. M. S. K. Subba Raju and Mr. M Krishna Chaitanya. The promoters have around three decades of experience in executing civil contracts for government entities and private players in the aforesaid segments. As on November 30, 2018, VCPL had an outstanding order book of Rs.1141.18 crore.

Brief Financials (Rs. crore)	FY17 (A)	FY18 (A)
Total operating income	327.95	359.34
PBILDT	45.45	49.79
PAT	16.14	20.64
Overall gearing (times)	0.56	0.48
Interest coverage (times)	3.31	3.92

A: Audited

**Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA:** Not Applicable

**Any other information:** Not Applicable

**Rating History for last three years:** Please refer Annexure-2

**Note on complexity levels of the rated instrument:** CARE has classified instruments rated by it on the basis of complexity. This classification is available at [www.careratings.com](http://www.careratings.com). Investors/market intermediaries/regulators or others are welcome to write to [care@careratings.com](mailto:care@careratings.com) for any clarifications.

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#### About CARE Ratings:

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In case of partnership/proprietary concerns, the rating /outlook assigned by CARE is based on the capital deployed by the partners/proprietor and the financial strength of the firm at present. The rating/outlook may undergo change in case of withdrawal of capital or the unsecured loans brought in by the partners/proprietor in addition to the financial performance and other relevant factors.

**Annexure-1: Details of Instruments/Facilities**

Name of the Instrument	Date of Issuance	Coupon Rate	Maturity Date	Size of the Issue (Rs. crore)	Rating assigned along with Rating Outlook
Fund-based - LT-Cash Credit	-	-	-	31.00	CARE BBB+; Stable
Non-fund-based - LT/ ST-Bank Guarantees	-	-	-	198.00	CARE BBB+; Stable / CARE A3+
Fund-based - LT-Term Loan	-	-	September 2029	8.31	CARE BBB+; Stable

**Annexure-2: Rating History of last three years**

Sr. No.	Name of the Instrument/Bank Facilities	Current Ratings			Rating history			
		Type	Amount Outstanding (Rs. crore)	Rating	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2018-2019	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2017-2018	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2016-2017	Date(s) & Rating(s) assigned in 2015-2016
1.	Fund-based - LT-Cash Credit	LT	31.00	CARE BBB+; Stable	1)CARE BBB+; Stable (27-Dec-18)	1)CARE BBB; Stable (18-Dec-17)	1)CARE BBB- (04-Aug-16)	1)CARE BB (08-Jan-16) 2)CARE C (08-Oct-15) 3)CARE D (25-Aug-15)
2.	Non-fund-based - LT/ ST-Bank Guarantees	LT/ST	198.00	CARE BBB+; Stable / CARE A3+	1)CARE BBB+; Stable / CARE A3+ (27-Dec-18)	1)CARE BBB; Stable / CARE A3+ (18-Dec-17)	1)CARE BBB- / CARE A3 (04-Aug-16)	1)CARE BB / CARE A4 (08-Jan-16) 2)CARE C / CARE A4 (08-Oct-15) 3)CARE D / CARE D (25-Aug-15)
3.	Fund-based - LT-Working Capital Demand loan	LT	-	-	-	-	1)Withdrawn (04-Aug-16)	1)CARE BB (08-Jan-16) 2)CARE C (08-Oct-15) 3)CARE D (25-Aug-15)
4.	Fund-based - LT-Term Loan	LT	8.31	CARE BBB+; Stable	1)CARE BBB+; Stable (27-Dec-18)	1)CARE BBB; Stable (18-Dec-17)	1)CARE BBB- (04-Aug-16)	1)CARE BB (08-Jan-16) 2)CARE C (08-Oct-15) 3)CARE D (25-Aug-15)

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