PSP Projects (PSPPRO)

CMP: ₹ 598 Target: ₹ 710 (19%)

Target Period: 12 months

onths BUY

August 11, 2022

Mixed bag – weak execution but margin beat!

About the stock: Incorporated in 2008 by Prahladbhai Patel, PSP Projects (PSP) is one of the prominent contractors offering a diversified range of construction and allied services. Its focus remains on industrial, institutional, government, government residential and residential projects.

- PSP reported 34.3%, 31.2%, 31.3% CAGR in topline, EBITDA, PAT CAGR, respectively, during FY17-22
- Prudent management, net debt free, robust return ratios (RoCE: ~25+%)

Q1FY23 Results: PSP reported a mixed operational performance during Q1FY23.

- Revenue improved 8.8% YoY to ₹ 345.2 crore. The topline got impacted partly by slowed-down execution in UP-based projects due to labour issues
- PSP delivered elevated level of operating margin and was at 13.6% during Q1FY23 (up 123 bps YoY). Effectively, operating profit at ₹ 47.1 crore, was up 19.6% YoY
- PAT improved 13.6% YoY to ₹ 28.5 crore

What should investors do? PSP's share price has grown at ~14% CAGR over the past five years (from ₹ 308 in August 2017 to ₹ 598 levels in August 2022).

We maintain our BUY rating on the company

Target Price and Valuation: We value PSP at ₹ 710/share (14x FY24 P/E).

Key triggers for future price performance:

- PSP's pre-qualification for public projects would rise to ₹ 2,000+ crore with the completion of the Surat Diamond Bourse (SDB) project. Addition of big ticket sized project is expected to boost its overall order book position
- Diversification in select states offers a bigger opportunity pie
- Significant traction and orders for pre-cast facility is likely to bring incremental benefits and associated revenue
- Expect revenue, earning CAGR of 15.3%, 5.9%, respectively, in FY22-24E

Alternate Stock Idea: Besides PSP, we like PNC Infra in the EPC space.

- Strong execution, lean balance sheet and healthy order book
- BUY with a target price of ₹ 350/share



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Particulars	
Particular	Amount
Market Cap (₹ crore)	2,152.3
Debt (FY22) (₹ crore)	114.7
Cash (FY22) (₹ crore)	195.2
EV (₹ crore)	2,071.7
52 week H/L (₹)	672 / 406
Equity capital (₹ crore)	36.0
Face value (₹)	₹ 10

Shareholding pattern								
	Sep-21	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22				
Promoters	69.9	70.2	70.2	70.4				
DII	3.1	3.9	3.0	2.9				
Flls	1.3	1.7	1.8	1.9				
Other	25.7	24.2	25.1	24.8				



Key Risks

Key Risk: (i) Delay in execution of key projects; (ii) Significant increase in commodity prices

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Key Financial Summ	ary				<u> </u>			
(₹ Crore)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	5 Year CAGR (FY17-22)	FY23E	FY24E	2 Year CAGR (FY21-24E)
Net Sales	1,044.0	1,499.3	1,240.9	1,748.8	34.3	2,035.7	2,325.2	15.3
EBITDA	148.9	191.0	134.8	256.5	31.2	254.0	298.8	7.9
EBITDA Margin (%)	14.3	12.7	10.9	14.7		12.5	12.8	
Net Profit	90.2	129.3	80.8	162.4	31.3	153.0	182.1	5.9
EPS (₹)	25.1	35.9	22.4	45.1		42.5	50.6	
P/E (x)	23.9	16.7	26.6	13.3		14.1	11.8	
Price / Book (x)	5.8	4.7	4.0	3.1		2.7	2.2	
EV/EBITDA (x)	13.1	10.6	14.9	8.1		8.3	7.0	
RoCE (%)	37.6	35.9	20.7	31.0		24.9	24.9	
RoE (%)	24.3	28.3	15.5	23.7		18.9	19.0	

Key business highlight and outlook

Order book healthy, execution to pick up considerably

As on June 30, 2022, PSP's order book was healthy at ₹ 4,613 crore (2.4x book to TTM revenues) aided by ₹ 550 crore of order inflow secured during Q1FY23. Most of its older projects are in the execution/ mobilisation stage (excluding two EWS Housing projects in Bhiwandi and Pandharpur worth ~₹ 730 crore). Additionally, the company has secured orders worth ~₹ 450 crore post Q1FY23 - strengthening its order book position even further. Going forward, PSP has guided for overall inflows worth ₹ 2,200+ crore in FY23E (vs ₹ 1,802 crore of projects secured in FY22) to be backed by better opportunities coming from both - government and private clients, its expansion into different states, and improved eligibility of higher-ticket size projects. On the execution front, the company has guided for 25% YoY topline growth (to ₹ 2,200 crore), driven by its comfortable order book position, and pick-up in execution. However, on a conservative basis, we expect PSP to report revenue CAGR of 15.3% during FY22-24E with margin likely to hover at 12.5%.

Lean balance sheet, prudent working capital management ...

PSP has a lean balance sheet structure backed by its asset light model (no investments in metro and roads projects) and has a net cash positive position. While capex incurred towards pre-cast facility (₹ 109 crore) has increased the debt-level, to some extent, we do not expect a major swing in its net debt position further as incremental free cash flows would be sufficient for its working capital and capex requirement, going forward. Also, the company has exhibited prudent working cycle management, which was at 35 days at Q1FY23-end. We expect working capital cycle to hover in the same range, going ahead.

Key conference call takeaways

- Order inflows and pipeline: PSP has secured projects worth ~₹ 1,000 crore at YTD FY23 level (~70% contributed by institutional segment). Going forward, the company has indicated towards strong order pipeline of ~₹ 4,000 crore mostly spread across Maharashtra, Gujarat and Delhi. With these, the company is targeting orders worth ₹ 1,200+ crore during rest of FY23
- Update on major projects: Among major projects a) Surat Diamond Bourse project (valued at ~₹ 1,850 crore): completed and handed over to the clients, b) Medical college and Hospital project, Uttar Pradesh: faced severe labour problems as marriages season was at peak during April-May 2022 (labourers moved to their native places/or on leave to attend/perform wedding). Cumulative revenue generated from project was at ₹ 34 crore in Q1FY23, c) Sports Complex, Gujarat: work on project commenced and execution undergoing efficiently and d) Residential project located at Bhiwandi and Pandharpur, Maharashtra: still slow moving with authority trying to revive projects
- Opportunities from Central Vista Project: As per the management, the authority has tendered projects worth ₹ 6,500 crore till now. Hence, significant opportunities (to the tune of ₹ 12,000- 13,000 crore) are still pending and likely to come at bidding stage over next year
- Pre-cast facility: PSP has commissioned precast facility in Gujarat during December 2022 with the objective to provide sustainable building solutions and technological upgradation. Order from precast facility at Q1FY23-end was at ₹ 29.2 crore. Going forward, the management expects significant traction (₹ 200 crore worth of order from L&T at bidding pipeline)
- **Fixed price contracts**: Total ~45% of overall order book (mostly government jobs in Uttar Pradesh; excluding slow moving projects in Maharashtra) are fixed price contracts while rest of the projects have cost escalation clause. Softening of raw material prices to aid margin performance
- Margin: Conservatively, the company expects overall margins to hover in the range of 11-13% over the medium term depending on type, size and stage of projects. Margin for pre-cast facility are expected to be in line with EPC orders

- Competitive intensity: Competitive intensity in the projects valued at ₹ 200-300 crore is comparatively less than the competition at jobs valued at ₹ 500+crore
- Debt: Long term borrowing has increased from ₹ 34 crore at FY22-end to ₹ 50 crore at Q1FY23-end as the company availed loan of ₹ 20 crore from bank (at 7% interest rate) required for execution of Sports complex (Gujarat) rather than taking mobilisation advance from client (at 10%). Working capital loan remained steady at ~₹ 67 crore on a QoQ basis. The management expects working capital debt to hover in the range of ₹ 60-75 crore, going forward
- Working capital days: Working capital days at the end of Q1FY23 increased to 35 days (vs. 28 days at FY22-end) mainly due to increase in inventory (19 vs 17 days at FY22-end) and debtor days (70 vs. 65 at FY22 end). Creditor days remained steady at 54 days
- Capex: PSP incurred negligible capex of ₹ 3 crore during Q1FY23. Going forward, the company has guided for overall capex of ₹ 60-80 crore (3-4% of sales) during FY23E respectively.

PSP is set to enter the big league mainly backed by a) its rich construction experience, b) eligibility to bid for higher-ticket size project with improvement in prequalification criteria and c) geographical diversification. Additionally, the company is well placed for robust growth with healthy order book position, strong revenue visibility and decent margins. Healthy order inflows secured at YTDFY23 level and robust bidding pipeline brightens company's prospects. At the CMP, the company is currently trading at a valuation of 11.8x FY24E P/E. We maintain BUY recommendation with a revised target price of ₹ 710 (14x FY24E P/E) vs. ₹ 630 at 12.5x FY23 P/E, earlier.

Exhibit 1: Variance Analys	sis						
Particulars	Q1 FY23	Q1 FY23E	Q1 FY22	YoY (%)	Q4 FY22	QoQ (%)	Comments
Total Operating Income	345.2	374.5	317.4	8.8	555.3	-37.8	Topline growth impacted due to slowed-down execution in UP based projects
Consumption of raw materials	271.0	303.3	257.8	5.1	431.0	-37.1	
Employee benefit expenses	21.8	16.9	15.2	43.5	25.2	-13.7	
Other Expenses	5.4	7.5	5.0	7.9	10.9	-50.7	
EBITDA	47.1	46.8	39.4	19.6	88.1	-46.5	Margin was elevated with completion of certain projects
EBITDA Margin(%)	13.6	12.5	12.4	123 bps	15.9	-223 bps	
Other Income	5.6	6.0	3.8	48.1	5.4	3.6	
Depreciation	8.7	10.3	5.4	61.0	10.2	-14.6	
Interest	5.6	9.0	3.4	64.0	9.5	-40.9	
PBT	38.4	33.5	34.4	11.8	73.9	-48.0	
Taxes	9.9	8.4	9.3	6.9	20.1	-50.6	
PAT	28.5	25.1	25.1	13.6	53.8	-47.1	

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	F	/23E	F	Y24E		Comments
(₹ Crore)					Old	New	Old	New	% Change	
Revenue	1,044.0	1,499.3	1,240.9	1,748.8	2,035.7	2,035.7	2,325.2	2,325.2	0.0	
EBITDA	148.9	191.0	134.8	256.5	254.0	254.0	298.8	298.8	0.0	
EBITDA Margin (%)	14.3	12.7	10.9	14.7	12.5	12.5	12.8	12.8	0 bps	
PAT	90.2	129.3	80.8	162.4	153.0	153.0	182.1	182.1	0.0	
Diluted EPS (₹)	25.1	35.9	22.4	45.1	42.5	42.5	50.6	50.6	0.0	

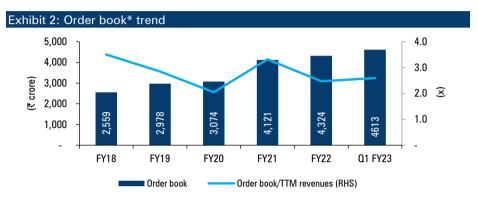
Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research



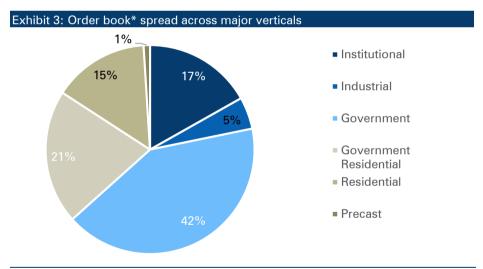
Company Analysis

Exhibit 1: Key project details				
Description Of Project	Location	Name of client		Order book Value (₹ crore)
Medical Colleges & Hospitals At 7 Locations	Uttar Pradesh	Public Works Department	1,491	1,314
High Rise Buildings cum Commercial units - EWS Housing Project under PMAY, Bhiwandi	Maharastra	Municipal Corporation	601	601
Sports Complex	Gujarat	Municipal Corporation	504	501
Residential Project	Gujarat	Private Developer	499	391
Construction of Steel plant'	Gujarat	Private Company	257	176
Residential Project	Gujarat	Private Company	252	252
Construction of Residential Buildings of PAC MahilaBattalion at Badaun, UP	Uttar Pradesh	Public Works Department	239	233

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

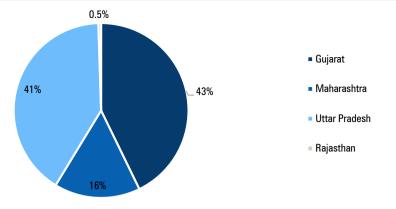


Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research; order book worth ₹ 4,613 crore at Q1FY23-end

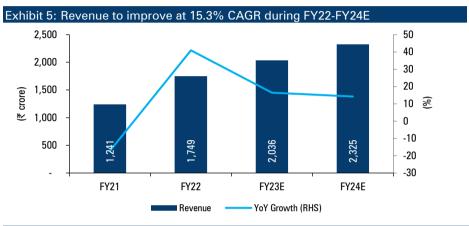


Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research; * order book worth ₹ 4,613 crore at Q1FY23-end

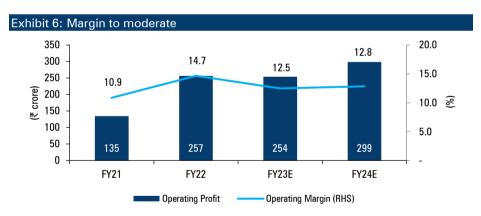
Exhibit 4: Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh contribute majority to order book*



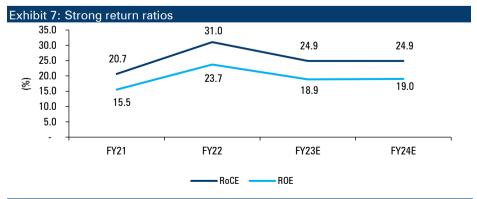
Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research; order book worth ₹ 4,613 crore at Q1FY23-end



Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research



Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research



Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Financial summary

Exhibit 8: Profit and lo	ss stateme	nt		₹ crore
Year-end March)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E
Net Sales	1,240.9	1,748.8	2,035.7	2,325.2
Growth (%)	(17.2)	40.9	16.4	14.
Raw Material Cost	1,040.2	1,391.3	1,663.1	1,885.
Employee Cost	50.9	72.3	92.1	110.
Other Expenditure	15.0	28.6	26.5	30.
Total Operating Expenditure	1,106.0	1,492.3	1,781.7	2,026.
EBITDA	134.8	256.5	254.0	298.8
Growth (%)	(29.4)	90.3	(1.0)	17.
Other income	16.9	21.3	22.6	24.
Depreciation	25.6	32.1	43.2	48.
EBIT	126.1	245.7	233.4	274.
Interest	14.7	26.4	28.9	31.
PBT	111.4	219.3	204.6	243.
Гах	27.9	56.9	51.6	61.
Rep. PAT	83.5	162.4	153.0	182.
Exceptional items				
Adj. Net Profit	83.5	162.4	153.0	182.
Growth (%)	(35.4)	94.4	(5.8)	19.
EPS (₹)	22.4	45.1	42.5	50.6

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 9: Cash flow statemei	nt		₹	crore
(₹ Crore)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E
Profit after Tax	80.8	162.4	153.0	182.1
Depreciation	25.6	32.1	43.2	48.1
Interest	14.7	26.4	28.9	31.4
Others	(20.3)	(21.4)	(22.6)	(24.1
Cash Flow before wc changes	100.8	199.4	202.4	237.4
Net Increase in Current Assets	32.9	(161.8)	(142.0)	(134.5
Net Increase in Current Liabilities	(55.9)	95.8	18.0	56.5
Net CF from operating activitie	77.8	133.4	78.5	159.4
Net purchase of Fixed Assets	(75.6)	(81.6)	(50.1)	(50.1
Others	38.3	(77.0)	(15.2)	(14.1
Net CF from Investing Activitie	(37.3)	(158.6)	(65.3)	(64.2
Proceeds from share capital	0.1	(1.3)	(0.0)	-
Proceeds/Repayment from Loan	6.1	33.7	20.3	19.6
Interest paid	(14.7)	(26.4)	(28.9)	(31.4
Others	-	(14.4)	(27.0)	(36.0
Net CF rom Financing Activitie	(8.5)	(8.4)	(35.6)	(47.8
Net Cash flow	32.0	(33.6)	(22.4)	47.4
Opening Cash and Cash Equivalent	196.7	228.8	195.2	172.8
Closing Cash & cash equivaler	228.8	195.2	172.8	220.2

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

xhibit 10: Balance sh	eet			₹ crore
(Year-end March)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E
Liabilities				
Equity capital	36.0	36.0	36.0	36.0
Reserves & Surplus	502.0	648.7	774.7	920.8
Networth	538.0	684.7	810.7	956.8
Loan Funds	81.0	114.7	135.0	154.5
Deferred Tax liability	(9.2)	(9.4)	(9.4)	(9.4
Other financial liabilities	0.8	1.5	1.8	2.2
Total Liabilities	610.6	791.5	938.2	1,104.2
Assets				
Net Block	116.2	207.4	214.3	216.4
Capital WIP	41.6	-	-	-
Non-current Investments	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.0
Othe non-current assets	131.4	229.8	267.5	305.5
Loans	-	-	-	
Inventories	89.2	80.6	111.5	127.4
Trade Receivables	222.0	311.8	384.8	465.0
Cash & Bank Balances	228.8	195.2	172.8	220.2
Loans & Advances	8.5	5.9	6.9	7.9
Other current assets	142.6	225.8	262.9	300.3
Total current assets	691.1	819.4	938.9	1,120.8
Total Current liabilities	370.6	465.7	483.4	539.5
Net Current Assets	320.5	353.7	455.5	581.3
Total Assets	610.6	791.5	938.2	1,104.2

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

Exhibit 11: Key ratios				
(Year-end March)	FY21	FY22	FY23E	FY24E
Per share data (₹)				
Reported EPS	22.4	45.1	42.5	50.6
Cash EPS	29.6	54.0	54.5	63.9
BV per share	149.4	190.2	225.2	265.8
Revenue per share	344.7	485.8	565.5	645.9
Cash Per Share	63.5	54.2	48.0	61.2
Operating Ratios (%)				
EBITDA Margin	10.9	14.7	12.5	12.8
EBIT/ Net Sales	8.8	12.8	10.4	10.8
PAT Margin	6.7	9.3	7.5	7.8
Inventory days	26.2	16.8	20.0	20.0
Debtor days	65.3	65.1	69.0	73.0
Creditor days	76.4	53.8	52.0	50.0
Return Ratios (%)				
RoE	15.5	23.7	18.9	19.0
RoCE	20.7	31.0	24.9	24.9
RoIC	32.2	37.7	27.6	28.4
Valuation Ratios (x)				
P/E	26.6	13.3	14.1	11.8
EV / EBITDA	14.9	8.1	8.3	7.0
EV / Net Sales	1.6	1.2	1.0	0.9
Price to Book Value	4.0	3.1	2.7	2.2
Solvency Ratios (x)				
Debt / EBITDA	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.5
Net Debt / Equity	(0.3)	(0.1)	(0.0)	(0.1)

Source: Company, ICICI Direct Research

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Buy: >15%

Hold: -5% to 15%;

Reduce: -15% to -5%;

Sell: <-15%



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