

February 09, 2026

## Development Consultants Private Limited: Ratings reaffirmed

### Summary of rating action

Instrument*	Previous rated amount (Rs. crore)	Current rated amount (Rs. crore)	Rating action
Long-term - Term loan	15.35	9.43	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable); Reaffirmed
Long-term - Cash credit	7.00	7.10	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable); Reaffirmed
Short-term - Non-fund based - Bank facilities	23.00	22.90	[ICRA]A2+; Reaffirmed
Long-term - Unallocated limits	4.09	0.57	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable); Reaffirmed
<b>Total</b>	<b>49.44</b>	<b>40.00</b>	

\*Instrument details are provided in Annexure I

### Rationale

The ratings reaffirmation factors in Development Consultants Private Limited's (DCPL) established track record and technical competence in the engineering and consulting domain, its diversified sectoral presence and a reputed client base. The company's outstanding order book (OB) stood at ~Rs. 156 crore as of September 2025, translating into an OB/OI ratio of 3.1 times of its operating income (OI) in FY2025, providing revenue visibility over the near to medium term. Order inflows were subdued in FY2025, primarily due to the slowdown associated with the General Elections in Q1 FY2025. The pace of order inflow has since improved, with order inflows of ~Rs. 72 crore recorded in 10M FY2026. ICRA also notes the strengthening of DCPL's liquidity position, reflected in free cash and liquid investments of ~Rs. 65 crore as on January 31, 2026, following the monetisation of the World Trade Centre (Kolkata) real estate asset during the fiscal. ICRA expects it to maintain a net cash surplus position over the medium term.

The ratings are, however, constrained by DCPL's moderate scale of operations with an OI of ~Rs. 51 crore in FY2025 and ~Rs. 40 crore in 9M FY2026 (provisional). The revenue growth over the next 12–15 months is expected to remain range-bound at 4–5%. Also, the company's order book exhibits moderate concentration, with the top three customers and top five projects accounting for ~42% and ~38% of the outstanding order book as on September 30, 2025, respectively. Additionally, the order mix is skewed toward the chemicals, minerals and power sectors, which together constitute ~68% of the unexecuted order book. New order inflows remain exposed to broader macroeconomic conditions and competition in the engineering consulting industry. Execution risk also remains, given that ~54% of the unexecuted order book was in the early stages of execution (less than 25% progress), and work had not commenced on ~28% of the orders as on September 30, 2025.

The rating is also constrained by DCPL's elevated working capital intensity (NWC/OI of 76% in FY2025), with receivables outstanding for more than one year equivalent to ~20% of the company's net worth as on March 31, 2025. Nevertheless, ICRA notes progress in collections of long-pending dues, evidenced by a decline in receivables over 365 days—from ~Rs. 20 crore in March 2025 to ~Rs. 11 crore in December 2025. The ratings factor in DCPL's exposure to foreign exchange risks, given the absence of a formal hedging policy and the significant share of revenues derived from overseas contracts.

The Stable outlook on the long-term rating reflects ICRA's expectation that despite modest revenue growth, the company will sustain its healthy financial profile, with moderate debt and strong liquidity.

## Key rating drivers and their description

### Credit strengths

**Established track record and reputation in engineering consultancy space; reputed clientele** – DCPL has an established track record in the design consultancy space, especially in the power sector. Over the years, the company has further diversified in other sectors like cement, paper, chemical, petrochemical, steel and other metals, mining and mineral processing, architecture, infrastructure, etc, thus mitigating the sectoral concentration risk to an extent. DCPL's clientele includes reputed customers both from the public and the private sectors in India and overseas. The company's proven track record of providing consultancy services helps it in securing repeat orders from the clients.

**Adequate order book position providing near to medium term revenue visibility** – The company's outstanding OB stood at ~Rs. 156 crore as of September 2025, translating into an OB/OI ratio of 3.1 times of its OI in FY2025, providing revenue visibility over the near to medium term. Order inflows were subdued in FY2025, primarily due to the slowdown associated with the General Elections in Q1 FY2025. Consequently, the revenue growth and operating margins were weaker in FY2025, although broadly aligned with ICRA's expectations. The pace of order acquisition has since improved, with order inflows of ~Rs. 72 crore recorded in 10M FY2026. The comfortable level of current order book position and healthy pipeline, both in the domestic and the overseas markets, provides revenue visibility for the near to medium term.

**Low leverage and strong liquidity position** – DCPL continues to have low leverage reflected in its TOL/TNW of 0.4 times as on March 31, 2025. Moreover, the company's free cash and bank balances remained comfortable at ~Rs. 65 crore as of January 2026. In addition, it held investments of ~Rs. 4 crore in mutual funds as on December 31, 2025. The liquidity position was further supported by reduction of receivables and receipt of income tax refunds in FY2025 and YTD FY2026. Going forward, with no major capital expenditure plans, the cash accruals from core operations and non-operating income will provide cushion to the liquidity profile in the near to medium term.

### Credit challenges

**Moderate scale of operations; intense competition restricts pricing flexibility** – The company has a moderate scale of operations with an OI of ~Rs. 51 crore in FY2025 and ~Rs. 40 crore in 9M FY2026 (provisional). The revenue growth over the next 12–15 months is expected to remain range-bound at 4–5%. After witnessing a substantial increase in operating margins in FY2024, the profit margins moderated in FY2025 (albeit in line with ICRA's expectations) owing to lower share of high margin export orders and higher fixed costs. The margins are estimated to remain range-bound in the near term. DCPL faces competition from several large and established consulting companies, which constrains the pricing flexibility. Nonetheless, technical expertise, as well as a strong track record of operations, are likely to support its revenue growth over the medium term.

**Elongated receivables leading to elevated working capital cycle and delinquency risks** – DCPL's elongated receivable position impacts its working capital intensity. Its net working capital relative to its operating income stood at an elevated level of ~80% in FY2025 on the back of high debtor days (~230 days in FY2025 against ~218 days in FY2024), thus exerting pressure on its cash flows. Further, the receivable position remains elongated, resulting in elevated working capital intensity (NWC/OI of 76% in FY2025), with receivables outstanding for more than one year equivalent to ~20% of the company's net worth as on March 31, 2025. Nevertheless, ICRA notes progress in collections of long-pending dues, evidenced by a decline in receivables over 365 days from ~Rs. 20 crore in March 2025 to ~Rs. 11 crore in December 2025.

### Liquidity position: Strong

DCPL's liquidity position is expected to remain strong, supported by free cash and bank balances of ~Rs. 65 crore as of January 2026. In addition, the company held investments of ~Rs. 4 crore in mutual funds as on December 31, 2025, and maintained

adequate buffer in its fund-based working capital facilities, with an average utilisation at 60% over the 14-month period ending November 2025. Against these liquidity sources, it has minimal capital expenditure or investment commitments and modest scheduled debt repayments of ~Rs. 1–2 crore in FY2027.

## Rating sensitivities

**Positive factors** – The ratings may be upgraded if the company is able to significantly improve its scale of operations with healthy profitability, while maintaining strong liquidity on a sustained basis.

**Negative factors** – The ratings may be downgraded in case of a sustained pressure on earnings, or any material stretch in the working capital requirement impacting its liquidity position or its debt protection metrics on a sustained basis. Specific triggers for a rating downgrade will include DSCR of less than 1.6 times on a sustained basis.

## Analytical approach

Analytical approach	Comments
Applicable rating methodologies	<a href="#">Corporate Credit Rating Methodology</a>
Parent/Group support	Not applicable
Consolidation/Standalone	Standalone

## About the company

Development Consultants Private Limited (DCPL) is a Kolkata-based company involved in engineering and consultancy services for various industries, especially in the power sector. The company was incorporated in 1970. It was promoted by a group of engineers, led by the Late Sadhan C. Dutt. DCPL provides design consultancy services for projects in India as well as overseas. So far, it has executed over 1,600 projects in various sectors including power, cement, paper, chemicals, petrochemicals, steel and other metals, space, defence, mining and mineral processing, architecture, infrastructure and environment, asset valuation consultancy, etc. DCPL is associated with the renowned consulting engineers, The Kuljian Corporation, of the US, and has two foreign subsidiaries through which the company receives overseas contracts.

## Key financial indicators (audited)

DCPL	FY2024	FY2025	H1 FY2026*
Operating income	55.6	50.9	25.1
PAT	4.4	4.4	2.1
OPBDIT/OI	17.0%	7.1%	0.4%
PAT/OI	8.0%	8.7%	8.2%
Total outside liabilities/Tangible net worth (times)	0.4	0.4	NA
Total debt/OPBDIT (times)	3.0	7.5	NA
Interest coverage (times)	4.2	1.4	NA

Source: Company, ICRA Research; \* Provisional; All ratios as per ICRA's calculations; Amount in Rs. crore; PAT: Profit after tax; OPBDIT: Operating profit before depreciation, interest, taxes and amortisation; NA – Not Available

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable

Any other information: None

### Rating history for past three years

Instrument	Current rating (FY2026)			Chronology of rating history for the past 3 years					
	FY2026			FY2025		FY2024		FY2023	
	Type	Amount rated (Rs crore)	Feb 09, 2026	Date	Rating	Date	Rating	Date	Rating
<b>Fund-based-Cash credit</b>	Long Term	7.10	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)	Dec 16, 2024	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)	Dec 18, 2023	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)	Jan 27, 2023	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)
<b>Fund-based-Term loan</b>	Long Term	9.43	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)	Dec 16, 2024	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)	Dec 18, 2023	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)	Jan 27, 2023	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)
<b>Unallocated limits</b>	Long Term	0.57	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)	Dec 16, 2024	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)	Dec 18, 2023	[ICRA]BBB+ (Stable)	-	-
<b>Non-fund based-Others</b>	Short Term	22.90	[ICRA]A2+	Dec 16, 2024	[ICRA]A2+	Dec 18, 2023	[ICRA]A2+	Jan 27, 2023	[ICRA]A2+

### Complexity level of the rated instruments

Instrument	Complexity indicator
<b>Term loan</b>	Simple
<b>Cash credit</b>	Simple
<b>Bank guarantee</b>	Simple
<b>Long-term - Unallocated</b>	Not Applicable

The Complexity Indicator refers to the ease with which the returns associated with the rated instrument could be estimated. It does not indicate the risk related to the timely payments on the instrument, which is rather indicated by the instrument's credit rating. It also does not indicate the complexity associated with analysing an entity's financial, business, industry risks or complexity related to the structural, transactional or legal aspects. Details on the complexity levels of the instruments are available on ICRA's website: [Click here](#)

**Annexure I: Instrument details**

ISIN	Instrument Name	Date of Issuance	Coupon Rate	Maturity	Amount Rated (Rs. crore)	Current Rating and Outlook
NA	Term loan	~2016-22	NA	~2033-34	9.43	[ICRA]BBB+(Stable)
NA	Cash credit	NA	NA	NA	7.10	[ICRA]BBB+(Stable)
NA	Bank guarantee	NA	NA	NA	22.90	[ICRA]A2+
NA	Unallocated	NA	NA	NA	0.57	[ICRA]BBB+(Stable)

Source: Company

[Please click here to view details of lender-wise facilities rated by ICRA](#)

**Annexure II: List of entities considered for consolidated analysis – Not Applicable**

## ANALYST CONTACTS

**Ashish Modani**  
+91 22 6169 3300  
[ashish.modani@icraindia.com](mailto:ashish.modani@icraindia.com)

**Suprio Banerjee**  
+91 22 6114 3443  
[supriob@icraindia.com](mailto:supriob@icraindia.com)

**Ritu Goswami**  
+91 124 4545 826  
[ritu.goswami@icraindia.com](mailto:ritu.goswami@icraindia.com)

**Mridul Rathi**  
+91 22 6169 3347  
[mridul.rathi@icraindia.com](mailto:mridul.rathi@icraindia.com)

## RELATIONSHIP CONTACT

**L. Shivakumar**  
+91 22 6114 3406  
[shivakumar@icraindia.com](mailto:shivakumar@icraindia.com)

## MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS CONTACT

**Ms. Naznin Prodhani**  
Tel: +91 124 4545 860  
[communications@icraindia.com](mailto:communications@icraindia.com)

## HELPLINE FOR BUSINESS QUERIES

+91-9354738909 (open Monday to Friday, from 9:30 am to 6 pm)  
[info@icraindia.com](mailto:info@icraindia.com)

## ABOUT ICRA LIMITED

ICRA Limited was set up in 1991 by leading financial/investment institutions, commercial banks and financial services companies as an independent and professional investment Information and Credit Rating Agency.

Today, ICRA and its subsidiaries together form the ICRA Group of Companies (Group ICRA). ICRA is a Public Limited Company, with its shares listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange. The international Credit Rating Agency Moody's Investors Service is ICRA's largest shareholder.

For more information, visit [www.icra.in](http://www.icra.in)

## ICRA Limited



### Registered Office

B-710, Statesman House, 148 Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-110001

Tel: +91 11 23357940-45



### Branches



© Copyright, 2026 ICRA Limited. All Rights Reserved.

Contents may be used freely with due acknowledgement to ICRA.

ICRA ratings should not be treated as recommendation to buy, sell or hold the rated debt instruments. ICRA ratings are subject to a process of surveillance, which may lead to revision in ratings. An ICRA rating is a symbolic indicator of ICRA's current opinion on the relative capability of the issuer concerned to timely service debts and obligations, with reference to the instrument rated. Please visit our website [www.icra.in](http://www.icra.in) or contact any ICRA office for the latest information on ICRA ratings outstanding. All information contained herein has been obtained by ICRA from sources believed by it to be accurate and reliable, including the rated issuer. ICRA however has not conducted any audit of the rated issuer or of the information provided by it. While reasonable care has been taken to ensure that the information herein is true, such information is provided 'as is' without any warranty of any kind, and ICRA in particular, makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy, timeliness or completeness of any such information. Also, ICRA or any of its group companies may have provided services other than rating to the issuer rated. All information contained herein must be construed solely as statements of opinion, and ICRA shall not be liable for any losses incurred by users from any use of this publication or its contents.