

May 15, 2026

Apraava Smart Meter Private Limited: Long-term rating reaffirmed; short-term rating assigned

Summary of rating action

Instrument*	Previous rated amount (Rs. crore)	Current rated amount (Rs. crore)	Rating action
Long term – Fund based – Term loan	-	170.00	[ICRA]A+ (Stable); reaffirmed
Short term – Fund based – Limits	-	20.00	[ICRA]A1; assigned
Long term - Fund based – Others	262.58	-	-
Long term - Unallocated	0.42	-	-
Total	263.00	190.00	

*Instrument details are provided in Annexure II

Rationale

The reaffirmation of the ratings for the bank facilities of Apraava Smart Meter Private Limited (ASMPL) factors in the substantial progress made in the execution of its advanced metering infrastructure service provider (AMISP) contract with Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL), with the installation of the smart meters being largely completed, along with the refinancing of its earlier bank facility in September 2025. As per the contract, the company is responsible for installing 693,077 prepaid smart meters along with the associated infrastructure within 27 months of signing the contract. The company will receive fixed monthly charges for the operational meters through the operating period of 93 months, subject to meeting the stipulated operating parameters, thereby providing long-term revenue visibility. The company would also receive a lumpsum grant, after achieving the operational go-live for the smart meters.

As of March 2026, 6,86,421 smart meters (~99% of the contract size) have been installed with slight delays compared to the schedule. Further, around 671,000 smart meters have achieved the go-live status, post the site acceptance tests, and the monthly service charges are being billed to APDCL. Also, the company has received around 95% of the lumpsum grant billed as of February 2026, which has supported its liquidity.

The rating also factors in the availability of a fixed O&M contract with Anvil Energy Private Limited (Anvil; erstwhile Anvil Cables Private Limited), thereby mitigating the cost variation risk for the project. Further, the ratings consider the presence of a strong parent – Apraava Energy Private Limited {AEPL; rated [ICRA]AAA (Stable); placed on rating watch with developing implications / [ICRA]A1+; outstanding} - which is expected to provide the necessary funding support to ASMPL, if required.

The rating is, however, constrained by the counterparty credit risk due to the exposure to single counterparty i.e., APDCL. ICRA notes that the project has a direct debit facility (DDF) wherein the online payments made by the consumers of APDCL will be deposited into the DDF and shall be first used to clear the payments to ASMPL; thereafter, the funds will flow to APDCL. However, there have been delays in the receipt of monthly service charges being billed to APDCL, primarily due to elongated invoice approval process timelines at APDCL's end. Hence, a timely realisation of the payments against monthly service charge invoices will remain a key monitorable, going forward.

This apart, the company's ability to demonstrate compliance with service level thresholds (SLAs), as per the contract, related to meter availability, data collection and delivery of recharge, among others, remains a key monitorable, given that there are provisions for penalty in case of underperformance against these SLAs. Nevertheless, the company is contractually protected against any LDs imposed by APDCL through a back-to-back arrangement with the EPC contractor i.e., Anvil.

ICRA also factors in the refinancing of the purchase order invoice discounting facility availed to fund the capital expenditure with a fresh term loan. Going forward, ICRA expects the company to maintain adequate debt coverage metrics over the loan tenure.

The company is also exposed to limited project execution risk for the remaining smart meter installations. Nevertheless, this risk is mitigated by the substantial completion of the project, with around 99% of the smart meters have already been installed, and the extension granted by the utility for completion of the remaining installations till June 2, 2026. Also, as per the contract, there are milestones identified under which liquidated damages (LDs) are applicable and any delays pursuant to those milestones for reasons attributable to the company would attract LDs from APDCL. However, meters not installed at the end of the execution period due to non-availability of access to the site or other issues attributable to APDCL would be either descope or APDCL shall provide further extension for 100% installation milestone.

The Stable outlook on the long-term rating derives comfort from the significant progress in project execution so far and ICRA's opinion that the company will benefit from its long-term advanced metering infrastructure service provider (AMISP) contract with APDCL. Further, ICRA expects the payment track record from APDCL to ASMPL to improve, going forward.

Key rating drivers and their description

Credit strengths

Strong parentage - The rating draws comfort from the strong parentage of ASMPL, a wholly-owned subsidiary of AEPL. AEPL has an established track record of owning and operating renewable power, power transmission assets and other smart metering projects in India. Further, comfort is drawn from the superior financial flexibility of AEPL due to the presence of strong ultimate shareholders – CLP Holdings Limited {rated Moody's A2 (Stable); with 50% shareholding} and Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec {CDPQ; rated Moody's Aaa (Stable); remaining 50% shareholding}. AEPL is expected to provide funding support to ASMPL in case of any requirement.

Long-term AMISP contract provides revenue visibility – ASMPL has signed a long-term contract with APDCL for installing and operating 693,077 smart meters along with the associated infrastructure. The contract tenure includes an installation period of 27 months for all the meters and an operating period of 93 months for each installed meter. As of March 2026, the company has installed 6,86,421 smart meters (~99% of contract size) within the stipulated timeline. Further, around 6,71,000 smart meters have achieved the go-live status, post the site acceptance tests, with monthly service charges being billed to APDCL, thereby providing long-term revenue visibility for the company.

Credit challenges

Delay in receipt of monthly service charge payments through DDF arrangement – The project has a direct debit facility (DDF), wherein online payments made by the consumers of APDCL will be deposited into the DDF and shall be first used to clear the payments to ASMPL; thereafter, the funds will flow to APDCL. However, there have been delays in the receipt of monthly service charges being billed to APDCL due to the elongated invoice approval process timelines at APDCL's end. Hence, a timely realisation of the payments against monthly service charge invoices will remain a key monitorable, going forward. However, comfort can be drawn from the fact that the company has received ~95% of the lump sum grant billed as of February 2026, which has supported the liquidity.

Interest rate risk - The company's debt coverage metrics remain exposed to interest rate risk, primarily due to the high reliance on debt funding in the project cost, the floating rate nature of the borrowing and the fixed-price revenue profile under the AMISP contract. The term loan has a repayment tenure of around 5.5 years, with final maturity in June 2031, and includes a lender put option exercisable at the end of Q2 FY2029.

Compliance with service level agreement requirements – As per the contract, the company must meet the stipulated SLAs related to meter availability, data collection and delivery of recharge among others for the operational meters. In case of non-compliance with the SLAs, penalties will be imposed on the company. During the initial months of operations, ASMPL under-

performed against certain SLAs due to initial stabilisation issues and attracted minor penalties. However, the penalties have reduced in the recent months. Moreover, the company is contractually protected against any SLA-related penalties imposed by the discom through a back-to-back arrangement with the EPC contractor, Anvil. Any sustained underperformance of the operating parameters may adversely impact the profitability and will remain a key rating sensitivity.

Liquidity position: Adequate

The company's liquidity profile is expected to remain adequate, supported by the internal cash accruals that are sufficient to meet its debt servicing obligations, healthy free cash and bank balances, a DSRA maintained in the form of a bank guarantee, and unutilised working capital facilities, despite the delays in receivables. As on April 30, 2026, the company had cash and bank balances of Rs. 21.25 crore and a DSRA of Rs. 11 crore in the form of a bank guarantee. In addition, the company has undrawn working capital limits of Rs. 20 crore. Further, the liquidity is supported by expectation of timely funding support from AEPL in case of any cash flow mismatch.

Rating sensitivities

Positive factors – Meeting the stipulated operating parameters under the AMISP contract, along with a sustained track record of timely recovery of monthly service charges in line with the DDF arrangement will be the key monitorable for an upgrade.

Negative factors – Lower-than-estimated debt coverage metrics due to continued challenges in improving the SLA parameters and/or further delays in the receivable cycle weakening the liquidity position could result in a downgrade. A deterioration in the credit profile of its parent or any adverse change in linkages between AEPL and ASMPL can weigh on the rating.

Analytical approach

Analytical approach	Comments
Applicable rating methodologies	Corporate Credit Rating Methodology
Parent/Group support	Parent: AEPL The assigned rating for ASMPL factors in the implicit support from the parent, AEPL
Consolidation/Standalone	Standalone

About the company

ASMPL, incorporated in February 2023, is a subsidiary of AEPL. It has been awarded an advanced metering infrastructure service provider (AMISP) contract under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS). The company won Package-1, covering the Bongaigaon and Kokrajhar electrical circles in Assam, for implementing the smart prepaid metering project on a DBFOOT (design, build, finance, own, operate & transfer) basis. In March 2023, ASMPL signed the AMISP contract with Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) to install all the meters within an installation period of 27 months, followed by an operating period of 93 months for each installed meter.

Key financial indicators (audited)

	FY2024	FY2025
Operating income	72.1	191.9
PAT	1.2	7.2
OPBDIT/OI	5.8%	12.3%
PAT/OI	1.7%	3.7%
Total outside liabilities/Tangible net worth (times)	14.6	18.4
Total debt/OPBDIT (times)	20.5	9.3
Interest coverage (times)	1.7	1.7

Source: Company, ICRA Research; All ratios as per ICRA's calculations; Amount in Rs. crore; PAT: Profit after tax; OPBDITA: Operating profit before depreciation, interest, taxes and amortisation

Status of non-cooperation with previous CRA: Not applicable
Any other information: None
Rating history for past three years

Instrument	Current (FY2027)			Chronology of rating history for the past 3 years					
	FY2027			FY2026		FY2025		FY2024	
	Type	Amount rated (Rs. crore)	May 15, 2026	Date	Rating	Date	Rating	Date	Rating
Long term – Fund based – Term loan	Long term	170.00	[ICRA]A+ (Stable)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short term – Fund based – Limits	Short term	20.00	[ICRA]A1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long term – Others - Fund based	Long term	-	-	June 30, 2025	[ICRA]A+ (Stable)	-	-	Mar 01, 2024	[ICRA]A+ (Stable)
Long term - Unallocated	Long term	-	-	June 30, 2025	[ICRA]A+ (Stable)	-	-	Mar 01, 2024	[ICRA]A+ (Stable)

Annexure I: Disclosure pursuant to the SEBI Circular SEBI/HO/DDHS/DDHS-PoD-2/I/4685/2026 dated February 10,2026

ICRA-rated instruments fall under the regulatory purview of various Financial Sector Regulators (FSRs), as under:

Sr. No.	Instrument	FSR
1	Listed/Proposed to be listed Bonds/Debentures/Preference Shares (all securities)	SEBI
2	Unlisted/Proposed to be unlisted Bonds/Debentures/ Preference share (all securities)	MCA
3	Listed PTCs / Securitisation Notes (originated by entities regulated by RBI) (*)	SEBI
4	Listed PTCs / Securitisation Notes (originated by entities not regulated by RBI) (*)	SEBI
5	Unlisted PTCs / Securitisation Notes (originated by entities regulated by RBI) (*)	RBI
6	Listed Commercial Paper and NCDs with original maturity less than 1 year	RBI
7	Unlisted Commercial Paper and NCDs with original maturity less than 1 year	RBI
8	Loan Facilities (Fund/Non-Fund Based) from Bank / NBFCs/ NHB/ FIs (\$)	RBI
9	External Commercial Borrowings/Loans from overseas branches of Indian Banks/other similar borrowings	RBI
10	Certificates of Deposit	RBI
11	Fixed Deposits raised by NBFCs, Banks, HFCs, FIs	RBI
12	Fixed Deposits raised by corporates other than NBFCs, Banks, HFCs, FIs	MCA
13	Inter Corporate Deposits/Loans extended by Corporates	MCA
14	Listed Security Receipts	SEBI
15	Unlisted Security Receipts	RBI

16	Unlisted PTCs / Securitisation Notes (originated by entities not regulated by RBI) (*)	Investor-side Regulator such as IRDAI, PFRDA (%)
(*)	<i>Includes securitisation transactions involving assignee payout, acquirer's payout.</i>	
(\$)	<i>Includes bank facilities such as liquidity facility, second loss facility that are part of securitisation transactions.</i>	
(%)	<i>These ratings were assigned prior to the introduction of SEBI CRA Circular dated Feb 10, 2026 and accordingly, investor side FSRs have been mentioned.</i>	

Other activities offered by ICRA fall under the regulatory purview of various FSRs, as under:

Sr. No.	Activity Name	FSR
1	Credit Ratings for Capital Protection Oriented Schemes (by Mutual Funds and AIFs)	SEBI
2	Credit quality ratings (CQRs) for Mutual Fund Schemes and Schemes of AIFs	SEBI
3	Independent Credit Evaluation (ICE)	RBI
4	Expected Loss Ratings (For Loan Facilities [Fund/Non-Fund based] from Banks/NBFCs/NHB/FIs)	RBI
5	Expected Loss Ratings (Listed / Proposed to be listed Bonds / Debentures / Preference Shares (all securities))	SEBI
6	Expected Loss Ratings (Unlisted / Proposed to be unlisted Bonds/ Debentures / Preference Shares (all securities))	MCA
7	Credit Rating of Borrowing programme	(@)
8	Issuer Ratings	(#)
9	Monitoring Agency	SEBI
10	Research activities, incidental to rating such as research for Economy & Industries (permitted by SEBI vide SEBI Master Circular for CRAs)	NA

(@) *The rated instrument may involve issuance of different instruments such as debt securities (listed or otherwise), bank loans, commercial paper (listed or otherwise), etc. The regulator of the instrument can only be determined upon issuance. Accordingly, ICRA shall capture the rated quantum details along with names of respective FSR in the press release(s) after the issuance(s) of the instruments.*

(#) *Since no instrument is being rated, FSR is not applicable. The rating scale and definitions stipulated in SEBI Master Circular for CRAs are being followed.*

Disclosure: SEBI's grievance redressal/dispute resolution and SEBI investor protection mechanisms such as SCORES and ODR shall not be available for activities and instruments which fall under the regulatory purview of FSRs other than SEBI.

Complexity level of the rated instruments

Instrument	Complexity indicator
Long term – Fund based – Term loan	Simple
Short term – Fund based – Limits	Simple

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 II: Instrument details

ISIN	Instrument name	Date of issuance	Coupon rate	Maturity	Amount rated (Rs. crore)	Current rating and outlook
NA	Long term – Fund based – Term loan	September 2025	NA	Jun 2031	170.00	[ICRA]A+ (Stable)
NA	Short term – Fund based – Limits	September 2025	NA	NA	20.00	[ICRA]A1

Source: Company

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

Annexure III: List of entities considered for consolidated analysis- Not Applicable

ANALYST CONTACTS

Girishkumar Kadam

+91 22 6114 3441

girishkumar@icraindia.com

Ankit Jain

+91 124 4545 865

ankit.jain@icraindia.com

Rachit Mehta

+91 22 6169 3328

rachit.mehta2@icraindia.com

Ayush Goel

+91 22 6169 3357

ayush.goel@icraindia.com

RELATIONSHIP CONTACT

L. Shivakumar

+91 22 6114 3406

shivakumar@icraindia.com

MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS CONTACT

Ms. Naznin Prodhani

Tel: +91 124 4545 860

communications@icraindia.com

HELPLINE FOR BUSINESS QUERIES

+91-9354738909 (open Monday to Friday, from 9:30 am to 6 pm)

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

ICRA Limited



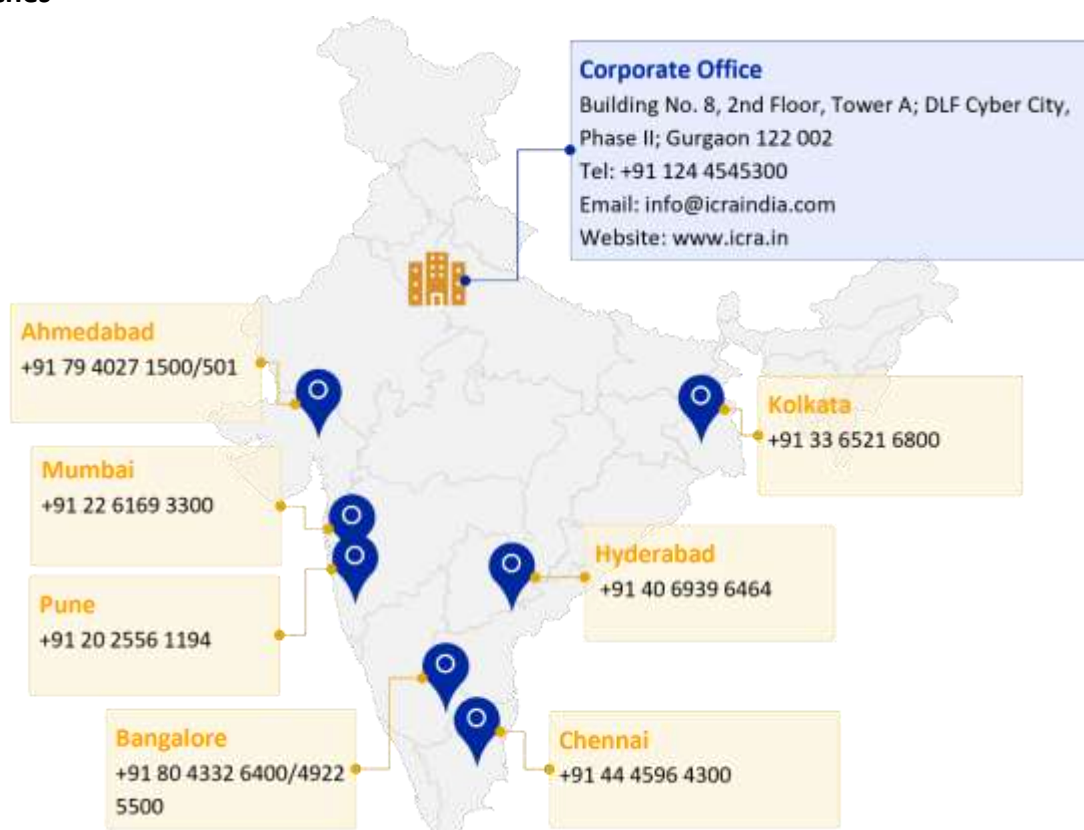
Registered Office

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 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.