

Renewable Energy

India

Sector View: Cautious NIFTY-50: 24,821 July 29, 2025

ALMM for cell delayed: 2027/28 EPS cut likely

The Indian government on July 28 released an amendment to its ALMM list II notification, effectively delaying its implementation by altering the cut-off date for applicability from December 9, 2024 (earlier version), to one month from ALMM list II's publication. This effectively shrinks the solar DCR market by 40-50% from June 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027, at minimum, since ALMM list II will only be applicable for solar rooftop, PM KUSUM and open access solar projects (cumulative ~60% share of FY2025 solar addition). We believe in the best case, 2027E EPS will reduce by 24.6% for Premier and 15.7% for Waaree, with limited impact in 2028. We have not yet factored in the impact on our estimates, as we await clarification from respective managements.

New amendment to delay implementation of ALMM list II by 9 months+

There has been a significant change in the ALMM list II notification released on December 9, 2024. According to the latest amendment (link), all solar projects (excluding solar rooftop, PM KUSUM and open access RE) would only be mandated to use ALMM list II solar cells, if the bid submission is after the cutoff date. This date has been defined as exactly one month from the publication of ALMM list II for solar cells. This is a significant departure from the previous notification that defined the cut-off date as December 9, 2024 (date of issuance of order), and implies that the government has effectively delayed implementation by a minimum of nine months (assuming ALMM list II is released today, the cut-off day will be August 30, 2025).

IPP to benefit, while solar manufacturers to come under pressure

Since modules make up nearly 50% of the project cost, IPPs that have won solar power project bids since December 9, 2024, and have signed PPAs are likely to benefit from lower raw material costs. On the other hand, the said amendment is negative for solar manufacturers, as it would likely lead to lower DCR module and cell realization in FY2027 and FY2028, since demand will be delayed by nearly a year while solar cell capacity is quickly ramping up.

DCR module and cell demand to nearly halve in FY2027

According to the new amendment utility scale, solar power plants, excluding open access and net metering, will not require ALMM list II cells at least up to end-FY2027. Based on FY2025 solar capacity addition, such projects accounted for 10 GW of the total 23.8 GW, implying nearly 40% of demand. According to our estimate, this implies that the total market for solar cells from June 1, 2026, to March 2027/December 2027 (depending on ALMM list II's release date) will nearly halve—likely to negatively impact DCR module and cell realizations, and in turn, profitability of solar manufacturers such as Waaree and Premier.

2027E EPS to contract by 24.6%/15.7% for Premier/Waaree

We estimate that in the best case (cut-off date: September 1, 2025), the 2027E EPS will reduce by 24.6%/15.7% for Premier/Waaree, with limited impact in 2028. We have not yet factored in the impact on our estimates, as we await clarification from respective managements.

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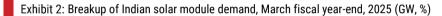
Latest amendment has effectively pushed back implementation of ALMM list II by nearly a year

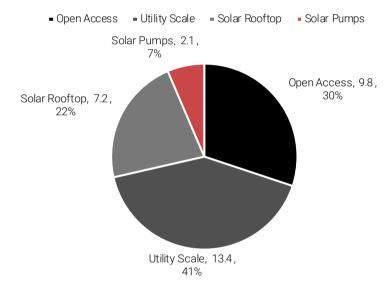
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Sr No	Exisitng provision	Modified provision
1	Installed solar cell capacity to increase next year, ALMM list II to be effective from 1 June 2026	Installed solar cell capacity to increase in next few years, ALMM list II to be effective from 1 June 2026
2	For all projects, if bid for solar project is before issuance of order (9 Dec 2024) even if commisioning is after 1 June 2026, they will be exempt from requirement of ALMM list II	For all projects, if bid for solar project is before cut off date even if commissioning is after 1 June 2026, they will be exempt from requirement of ALMM list II
3	For all projects, if bid for solar project is after issuance of order (9 Dec 2024) even if commisioning is before 1 June 2026, tender document to include provisions stating that bidders shall take into account the provisions of ALMM list II for submitting the bids	For all projects, if bid for solar project is after the cut off date even if commisioning is before 1 June 2026, tender document to include provisions stating that bidders shall take into account the provisions of ALMM list II for submitting the bids

Source: MNRE

Utility solar that will be directly impacted by the change in amendment accounted for nearly \sim 40% of India's 2025 module demand





Source: MNRE, Kotak Institutional Equities estimates

Scenario analysis

Since the ALMM amendment does not specify a definitive cut-off date—given that ALMM List II is yet to be published—we have modeled two scenarios to evaluate the potential impact on Waaree and Premier Energies. These represent best case and worst case frameworks, enabling a comprehensive assessment of the amendment's implications.

Scenario 1: Best case scenario

This scenario assumes that the government will release ALMM List II within the next few days, establishing a cut-off date of September 1, 2025. Under this assumption, we anticipate pricing pressure on DCR modules and cells, driven by the fact that cell capacity has already reached ~27 GW. Additionally, demand for DCR modules/cells will be half of what was expected in FY2027.

However, given the typical 18-month lag between solar project bidding and module consumption, we expect DCR demand to normalize by FY2028. Accordingly, we have factored in a drop in DCR module realizations for FY2027, with no impact projected for FY2028 in this scenario.



$FY2027\ PAT\ for\ Premier\ and\ Waaree\ to\ decline\ by\ 24.6\%\ and\ 15.7\%,\ respectively,\ in\ this\ scenario\ with\ no\ real\ impact\ on\ FY2028$

Exhibit 3: Scenario analysis for Premier and Waaree for September 1, 2025, as cut-off date, March fiscal year-ends, 2026-28 (Rs mn, %)

	2026E	2027E	2028E
Premier Energies			
Revenue (Rs mn)			
Old	88,391	140,078	150,336
Revised	88,391	133,783	150,336
Change (%)	_	(4.5)	_
EBITDA			
Old	24,615	39,249	37,592
Revised	24,615	32,954	37,592
Change (%)	_	(16.0)	_
PAT			
Old	12,510	19,063	18,837
Revised	12,510	14,379	18,614
Change (%)	_	(24.6)	(1.2)
Waaree Energies			
Revenue (Rs mn)			
Old	229,432	315,420	332,264
Revised	229,432	302,515	332,264
Change (%)	_	(4.1)	_
EBITDA			
Old	52,381	75,748	67,344
Revised	52,381	63,797	67,344
Change (%)	_	(15.8)	_
PAT			
Old	36,560	57,191	50,724
Revised	36,560	48,229	50,317
Change (%)	_	(15.7)	(0.8)

Scenario 2: Worst case scenario

This scenario assumes that the government will not release ALMM List II or, if it does, it will be in May 2026, establishing a cut-off date of June 1, 2026. Under this assumption, we anticipate pricing pressure on DCR modules and cells for FY2027 and FY2028. As projects bidding after June 1, 2026, will only need DCR modules from December 2027/January 2028. Thus, effectively impacting demand for nearly the whole of FY2028.

Accordingly, we have factored in a drop in DCR module and cell realizations for FY2027 and FY2028

FY2027/28 PAT to decline for Premier by 24.6%/26.1% and for Waaree by 15.7%/15.1% in this scenario

Exhibit 4: Scenario analysis for Premier and Waaree for June 1, 2026, as cut-off date, March fiscal year-ends, 2026-28 (Rs mn, %)

	2026E	2027E	2028E
Premier Energies			
Revenue (Rs mn)			
Old	88,391	140,078	150,336
Revised	88,391	133,783	144,020
Change (%)	_	(4.5)	(4.2)
EBITDA			
Old	24,615	39,249	37,592
Revised	24,615	32,954	31,276
Change (%)	_	(16.0)	(16.8)
PAT			
Old	12,510	19,063	18,837
Revised	12,510	14,379	13,915
Change (%)	_	(24.6)	(26.1)
Waaree Energies			
Revenue (Rs mn)			
Old	229,432	315,420	332,264
Revised	229,432	302,515	321,918
Change (%)	_	(4.1)	(3.1)
EBITDA			
Old	52,381	75,748	67,344
Revised	52,381	63,797	57,681
Change (%)	_	(15.8)	(14.3)
PAT			
Old	36,560	57,191	50,724
Revised	36,560	48,229	43,071
Change (%)	_	(15.7)	(15.1)

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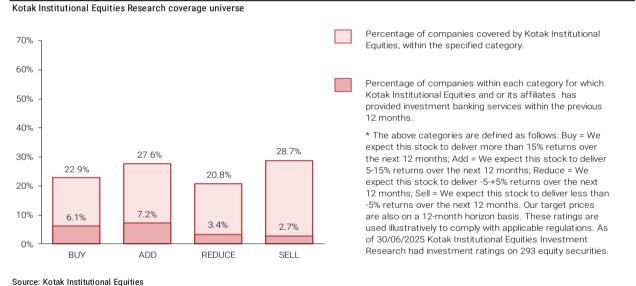
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SELL. We expect this stock to deliver <-5% returns over the next 12 months.

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