

## BROKER FIDUCIARY RATING REPORT

### Darson Securities (Private) Limited

**REPORT DATE:**

May 12, 2026

**RATING ANALYSTS:**

Shaheryar Khan Mangan

[shaheryar@vis.com.pk](mailto:shaheryar@vis.com.pk)

#### RATING DETAILS

<b>Broker Fiduciary Rating</b>	<b>BFR3++</b>
<b>Rating Rationale</b>	The rating signifies adequate business and financial sustainability and adequate ownership and governance structure. Internal controls and regulatory compliance are considered sound while management and client services are strong.
<b>Rating Date</b>	May 12, 2026

#### COMPANY INFORMATION

<b>Incorporated on</b> April 1998	<b>External auditors:</b> Muniff Ziauddin & Co Chartered Accountants
<b>Private Limited Company</b>	<b>Chairperson of the Board:</b> Mr. Muhammad Anwar Dar
<b>Key Shareholders (with stake 5% or more):</b>	<b>Chief Executive Officer:</b> Mr. Malik Dil Awayz Ahmed, CFA
<i>Mr. Muhammad Farooq Dar ~ 37.6%</i>	
<i>Mr. Muhammad Anwar Dar ~ 19.3%</i>	
<i>Mr. Ayan Dar ~ 13.1%</i>	
<i>Mr. Hassan Dar ~ 13.1%</i>	
<i>Ms. Esha Dar ~ 6.6%</i>	

#### APPLICABLE METHODOLOGY

**Applicable Rating Criteria: Broker Fiduciary Ratings**

<https://docs.vis.com.pk/Methodologies-2025/BrokerFiduciaryRating-Nov25.pdf>

#### APPLICABLE RATING SCALE(S)

**VIS Issue/Issuer Rating Scale:**

<https://docs.vis.com.pk/docs/VISRatingScales.pdf>

**Darson Securities (Private) Limited**

CORPORATE PROFILE	OVERALL GRADING
<p>Operating in the brokerage business for over 20 years, Darson Securities (Private) Limited ('DSL' or 'the Company') caters to equity broking services to both retail and foreign intuitional clients. DSL's operations are run through its corporate office in Karachi while the Company's registered office is in Lahore. The Company has a network of 10 branches spread nationwide. It has also received approval from the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) to launch an Islamic brokerage window.</p>	<p><b>BFR</b></p>

The Company holds a Trading Right Entitlement Certificate (TREC) issued by the Pakistan Stock Exchange Limited (PSX) for Trading & Self Clearing Services. External auditors of the Company are Muniff Ziauddin & Co Chartered Accountants. Auditors are rated 'A' on the approved list of auditors published by the State Bank of Pakistan.

Business and Financial Sustainability Indicators			
	3MFY26*	FY25	FY24
<b>Size of Net Worth (Rs. In Millions)</b>	565.6	510.0	411.3
<b>Gearing x (total interest-bearing debt/ total equity)</b>	0.01x	0.01x	0.00x
<b>Leverage x (total liabilities/ total equity)</b>	1.63x	1.25x	0.76x
<b>Liquid Assets/ Total Liabilities (x)</b>	1.18x	1.33x	1.41x
<b>Short term Investments/ Total Equity (%)</b>	29.1%	33.2%	25.6%

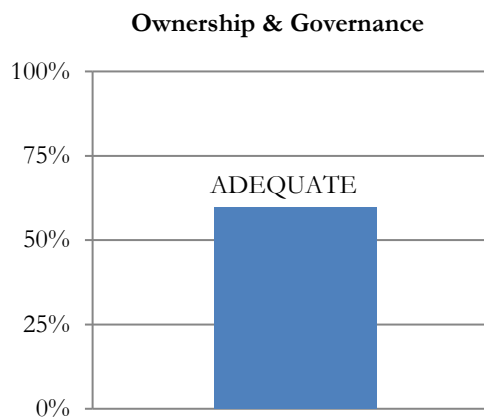
*\*Unaudited Accounts*

**Darson Securities (Private) Limited**

**Rating Indicators**

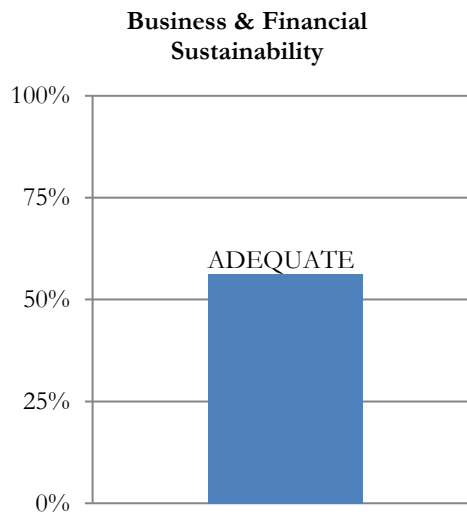
**Ownership & Governance**

- The Company’s board of directors consists of three members, with no independent representation.
- Additionally, the Company has four board committees, including Audit, HR, Risk Management, and Investment Committee, with the same composition across all committees.
- Expanding the board size and incorporating independent and certified directors may strengthen the Company's governance framework. Similarly, this would enable a different composition of board committees, thereby reducing repetition across them.



**Business & Financial Sustainability**

- During FY25, the Company reported strong profitability, albeit slightly lower than FY24, driven by increase in brokerage revenue amid an overall positive industry trend. This positive momentum extended into 3MFY26 as well.
- Consequently, the Company’s operational efficiency improved, with cost-to-income ratio coming down to 66.1% in 3MFY26 (FY25: 74.6%, FY24: 83.2%).
- The Company’s liquid assets provided coverage of 1.18x against its total liabilities as at Sept’25 (Jun’25: 1.33x, Jun’24: 1.41x).
- The Company’s short-term investments in relation to its equity stood at 29.1% as at Sept’25 (Jun’25: 33.2%, Jun’24: 25.6%), thereby reflecting lower market risk.
- The Company's capitalization profile is supported by nominal debt on its balance sheet, while its leverage indicator has increased. Additionally, the Company's equity base has increased in line with profitability reported in FY25 and 3MFY26.
- Going forward, diversification and enhancement in revenue base, along with improvement in operational efficiency will remain important for rating.



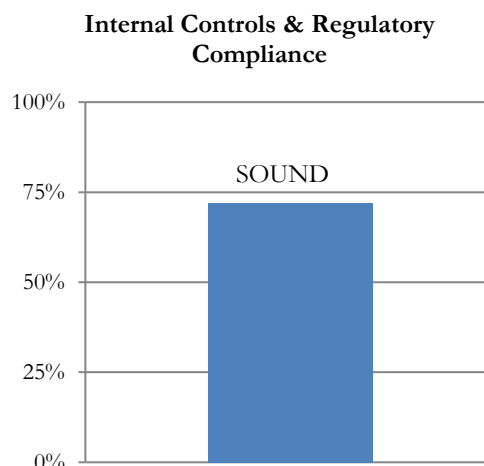
**Management & Client Services**

- Management and client services are considered strong, with the provision of various channels, including mobile and web-based trading platforms, to facilitate client transactions. Additionally, the Company provides research reports to support clients in devising investment strategies.
- However, investor grievance procedures may be further enhanced for greater visibility on the website.
- Contingency measures of the Company are in place. However, outsourcing offsite backups to a third-party warehouse may further strengthen the same.



**Internal Controls & Regulatory Compliance**

- Overall, the internal control framework of the Company is considered sound, with internal policies in place. However, enhancement in the scope of these policies may be considered for further enhancement in the internal control framework.
- Internal audit and compliance department operate independent of each other, boding well for the Company’s internal control framework.
- Rating takes note of the corrective actions undertaken by the Company, against non-compliances highlighted by PSX. Going forward, adherence to all applicable regulatory requirements will remain important for the assigned rating.



**Broker Fiduciary Rating Explained**

*In Securities Broker Fiduciary Rating (SBF), the strength of fiduciary role of the securities brokers is captured through the relative financial strength of the securities broker firm and its sponsors along with depth of internal control and governance framework, which are key rating ingredients. Responsiveness of the risk and internal control structure, quality of HR and soundness of the business infrastructure determine the strength of management and level of service quality of a stock broker. VIS Credit Rating Co. Ltd. (VIS) has developed a rating system that evaluates brokerage firms on the basis of such practices and the systems instituted to safeguard investor interests are at the forefront.*

**Darson Securities (Private) Limited**

REGULATORY DISCLOSURES		Appendix I		
<b>Name of Rated Entity</b>	Darson Securities (Private) Limited			
<b>Sector</b>	Brokerage			
<b>Type of Relationship</b>	Solicited			
<b>Purpose of Rating</b>	Broker Fiduciary Rating (BFR)			
<b>Rating History</b>	<b>Rating Date</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Rating Outlook</b>	<b>Rating Action</b>
	<b>RATING TYPE: BFR</b>			
	12-May-26	BFR3++	Stable	Upgrade
	22-Apr-25	BFR3+	Stable	Reaffirmed
	28-Dec-23	BFR3+	Stable	Initial
<b>Instrument Structure</b>	N/A			
<b>Statement by the Rating Team</b>	VIS, the analysts involved in the rating process and members of its rating committee do not have any conflict of interest relating to the credit rating(s) mentioned herein. This rating is an opinion on credit quality only and is not a recommendation to buy or sell any securities.			
<b>Probability of Default</b>	N/A			
<b>Disclaimer</b>	Information herein was obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable; however, VIS does not guarantee the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of any information and is not responsible for any errors or omissions or for the results obtained from the use of such information. Copyright 2026 VIS Credit Rating Company Limited. All rights reserved. Contents may be used by news media with credit to VIS.			