

## Srei Raises Benchmark Rate by 150 Basis Points.

*Kolkata, November 19, 2008:* Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited, the leading infrastructure institution, has announced a hike in its benchmark rate (SBR) by 150 basis points to 16 per cent with effect from November 1, 2008.

The Company's Asset Liability Management Committee met on November 1st, 2008 and after reviewing the increase in the borrowing costs, decided to increase its own benchmark rate in line with the latest trend of upward moving interest rates in the financial market.

Mr. Hemant Kanoria, Chairman and Managing Director of Srei said, "The rise in the SBR is mainly due to the rising cost of funds as a result of liquidity squeeze. We have increased the rate with the growing trend to capitalise ourselves well and be prepared for the testing times ahead."

Srei has grown its asset book and improved other performance parameters in spite of the global financial crisis. The Company's total consolidated income for the half year ended September 30, 2008 went up to Rs. 469.16 crore from Rs. 291.83 crore in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year, recording a growth of 61%. The total consolidated asset under management also increased to Rs. 9697.67 crore from Rs. 6202.27 crore during the same period last year, growing by 56%.

Srei has maintained its robust growth in the half year under review. Disbursements were more than satisfactory for the first six months of the fiscal year 2008-09 at Rs. 4656.22 crore as against Rs. 2915.58 crore in the corresponding period last year, posting an increase of 60%.

The Company has seamlessly progressed from financing infrastructure equipment to a complete infrastructure solutions provider expanding its products to infrastructure project financing, development, advisory, investment banking and fund management.

Acknowledging the challenges of the recent global meltdown which is likely to hurt India's economy, Mr. Kanoria reiterated, "The government will have to increase it's spend in the infrastructure sector and rely on greater private sector partnership to pull back the economy from an impending gloom."

## About Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited

Srei is an Integrated Infrastructure Institution, constantly and consistently ideating to deliver innovative Infrastructure solutions to the nation for over two decades, both in urban and rural India. One of the leading private sector infrastructure organisations, Srei's business ranges from Infrastructure Equipment Finance, Project Finance, Project Advisory and Project Development to E-governance, Investment Banking, Venture Funds, Insurance Broking and Equipment Rental through Quippo. Srei operates across the country with a network of 61 offices and also has its operations in Russia with 3 offices. Srei is the first Indian Infrastructure Financing Institutions to be listed on the London Stock Exchange (LSE). BNP Paribas Lease Group, a subsidiary of BNP Paribas with an asset base of over EURO 1, 694 Billion has a partnership with Srei.

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