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## Sterling & Wilson Solar's ₹3,125cr IPO sails through

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** Sterling & Wilson Solar's Rs 3,125-crore initial public offering (IPO), the largest issuance this year, has sailed through in a choppy stock market. Through the offering, the promoters — Shapoorji Pallonji & Co and Khurshed Daruvala — have raised Rs 2,900 crore as against the expected Rs 3,125 crore.

While the IPO portion for institutional investors (foreign and domestic financial firms) was oversubscribed, non-institutional buyers (high net worth individuals) and retail investors shied away from the issue. The non-institutional and retail investors quota was subscribed 90% and 30% respectively. The IPO closed on Thursday.

Wealthy and small investors stayed away from the issue due to volatile global market conditions triggered by the escalating US-China trade tensions even though Indian shares on Thursday surged on talks of the government planning to reverse surcharge on FPIs. The change in IPO application process (Unified Payments Interface, or UPI, becoming a mandatory medium for IPO application for retail investors from July) also impacted the issue.

Though the IPO wasn't 100% subscribed, it is considered successful even with 92% subscription as the issue falls under offer for sale (OFS) and, according to rules for OFS, the requirement is that 75% of the institutional investors' portion must be subscribed. In Sterling & Wilson Solar's IPO, the institutional portion was oversubscribed. Nomura, Schroeder, Abu Dhabi Investment Authority and Fidelity, among others, have invested in the solar EPC company.