

Pick the right card

SWIPE SMART. This guide helps you pick a credit card that fits your spending, your lifestyle and your financial reality



Kumar Shankar Roy
bl. research bureau

You probably use one to book a flight, order food or snag a deal on that dress you've been eyeing. But a credit card isn't just a swipe-and-go plastic; it's a line of credit with serious advantages. Unlike a debit card, the money doesn't leave your bank account instantly.

You spend now, and pay later. Spot a suspicious charge or did not receive the product or service you paid for? You can raise a dispute and refuse payment, whereas if you had used cash or debit card you will have to fight hard to get your money back.

No surprise, then, that India now has nearly 11 crore credit cards in circulation, a fivefold jump from just 2.1 crore a decade ago. When used wisely, a credit card offers flexibility, protection and real rewards.

When used poorly, it quietly morphs into an expensive loan. This guide helps you pick a card that fits your spending, lifestyle and financial reality.

KNOW YOUR SPENDS
Most people apply for a credit card after seeing a flashy ad, getting a "lifetime free" message, or being tempted by a welcome voucher. The right card isn't the one with the flashiest offers.

It's the one that fits your spending habits. If you're spending, say, ₹8,000 a month on Amazon and Swiggy, a dining or online cashback card makes more sense than a travel rewards card. Read the accompanying article on spending personas and card recommendations for each type.

CARD TYPE BASICS
Once you know your spending pattern, pick the card type that suits it best. Most cards fall into four broad buckets. Cashback

Common mistakes to avoid when picking a credit card			
Misreading spend thresholds: Cashback and fee waivers often require specific monthly or yearly spends. Miss them, and the card becomes costlier than it appears.		expires or complex conditions. If using them feels like a chore, they're not real rewards.	
It's convenience, not extra cash: Don't treat a credit card as extra money. It's a payment tool, not a licence to spend beyond your means. Use it for planned expenses, not impulsive buys or lifestyle upgrades.		Overlooking network restrictions: Offers or lounge access may apply only to specific card networks. Match benefits with the network.	
Avoid interest, use grace period smartly: Paying just the minimum traps you in interest cycles. Instead, clear full dues and align spends with your billing cycle to maximise the interest-free window. It's the smartest credit habit.		Skipping app and support reviews: A great card with a poor app or weak customer service is a headache. Check user feedback on forums or app stores to see real-world feedback on redemptions, delays or call centre support.	
Some rewards come with caps, fees 1.5 per cent cashback, that's ₹3,000 in rewards. After paying a ₹499 annual fee, you've still saved ₹2,501, which makes the card worthwhile.			

cards give you 1-5 per cent back on categories such as groceries, fuel and dining etc. They offer simple and visible savings. So, ₹1.5-lakh annual spend at 2 per cent earns ₹3,000 back.

Rewards cards offer points for spends, redeemable for vouchers or miles. But redemptions can be tricky and may come with redemption fee, and value per point may be as low as ₹0.10.

No-frills cards are usually lifetime free with minimal perks. They are great for credit-building or as a clean back-up.

UPI credit cards (RuPay) let you scan QR codes and earn rewards. A few cards offer digital gold instead of points too.

THE REAL COST
Just because a card claims to be "lifetime free" (LTF) doesn't mean it will stay that way. Some cards advertise ₹0 joining fee or first-year free, but in the second year the charges kick in unless you meet annual spending thresholds, often between ₹1 lakh and ₹2 lakh.

Let's say your card waives its ₹499 annual fee if you spend ₹1 lakh. Spend even ₹0.99 lakh, and you'll be billed the full fee next year. If you get into the habit of

paying only the minimum due, the unpaid amount racks up interest at 30-48 per cent annually. A PwC study notes that 40-50 per cent of credit card revenue comes from interest, paid by just 15-20 per cent of users who revolve balances, the real source of profit for card issuers.

The golden rule is always look at the total cost, not just joining fees. So know the interest rates, over-limit fee, late payment penalties, cash withdrawal charges, fees for EMI transactions and forex mark-ups etc.

REAL-LIFE BENEFITS
Most credit cards list a buffer of benefits, but a SaveSage survey shows 70 per cent of users barely optimise them. Instead of chasing every perk, focus on what fits your lifestyle.

Drive often? A 1 per cent fuel surcharge waiver adds up. Fly quarterly? Then 2-4 free lounge visits a year suffice. Don't fall for "unlimited access" unless you're a frequent flyer. Enjoy films? Many cards offer BOGO (buy one, get one) tickets, but only on certain days/times or ticket values.

Some cards advertise no-cost EMIs for big-ticket buys. Check if they're truly interest-free or

just deferred-payment traps. For mid-to-premium cards, look for lesser-known but useful add-ons such as travel insurance, extended warranties, or purchase protection. And watch out for grand-sounding benefits. "No-cap rewards" or "lounge access" may come with spend thresholds, limited cities or apply only on certain card networks. What sounds generous may be conditional.

CHECK NET VALUE

A credit card with annual fee should give back more than it takes. That's where the 1.5x rule comes in handy. If your card charges ₹1,000 annually, aim to extract at least ₹1,500 in real, usable benefits such as cashback, rewards, fuel waivers or lounge access. Anything less, and you're effectively paying for branding, not getting value.

Here's how you can calculate it:

- Look at your total annual spend.
- Multiply it by the effective reward rate (typically 1-2 per cent).
- Subtract the annual fee.
- What's left is your net gain. For example, if you spend ₹2 lakh in a year and your card of-

just deferred-payment traps. For mid-to-premium cards, look for lesser-known but useful add-ons such as travel insurance, extended warranties, or purchase protection. And watch out for grand-sounding benefits. "No-cap rewards" or "lounge access" may come with spend thresholds, limited cities or apply only on certain card networks. What sounds generous may be conditional.

ONE-TIME LURES

Credit card ads often scream instant gratification, like a ₹500 Amazon voucher, 10,000 bonus points if you spend within 30-45 days, or even a shiny trolley bag.

But these are designed to nudge you to sign up quickly.

Banks can recover these costs easily. They rely on a few proven levers:

Breakage are unredeemed points that expire before you use them; 'zero-cost' EMIs often include hidden costs like processing fees or the removal of upfront discounts so you may end up paying the full MRP instead of a deal price;

revolver users who only pay the 'minimum due' and rack up interest on outstanding balance.

That flashy gift at sign-up won't matter much if your rewards are hard to use, the fee kicks in next year, or you're stuck with high interest.

Would you still want the card if it came with no welcome bonus at all? If the answer is no, you're choosing the card for the wrong reason.

READ THE MITC

Every credit card comes with a document called the MITC (Most Important Terms & Conditions). This isn't a sales pitch, it's the legal fine-print that shows what you're really signing up for. The MITC clearly lists items such as late payment charges, cash withdrawal fees (interest applies from day 1, plus 2.5-3 per cent fee), reward point expiry timelines, forex markup fees etc.

Now, sales agents often hand you colourful brochures physically or send "presentations" on WhatsApp. These may look convincing, but they only highlight the upside. Always download the official MITC PDF from the card issuer's website. It's the only document that gives you a full view of costs, fees and limits.

ADD CARDS WISELY

If you already own a credit card, don't chase your next one just for a sign-up bonus. Pick a card that complements your current one, not duplicates it. Start with a quick audit: What is your existing card good at (online shopping, fuel, travel)? Where are you not earning rewards? Are you meeting the annual spend to get the fee waived? Once you know the gaps, look for a card that fills them.

For instance, if your current card gives strong returns on online purchases, add one with fuel or travel perks. If it covers groceries and bills, pair it with a card that offers BOGO movie tickets. A UPI-enabled RuPay card can unlock rewards on QR-code spends your regular Visa or Mastercard might miss.

The aim is to build a lean, effective stack. Each card should serve a clear role, so your total rewards go up without adding complexity.

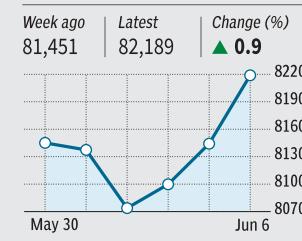
WISE WORDS.

But just as the warnings on packs of cigarettes do not prevent many people from smoking, so the warning that this investment may be dangerous to your wealth cannot block a speculator.

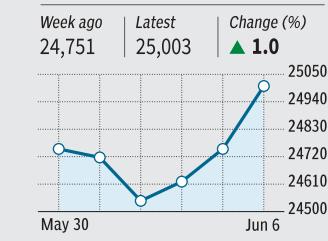
BURTON G. MALKIEL
Economist and author

MARKET ACTION.

SENSEX



NIFTY



How sectoral indices moved

	May 30	Jun 6	Movement	% change
REALTY	7,359	8,069	▲	9.6
METALS	30,760	31,268	▲	1.7
AUTO	52,322	53,094	▲	1.5
HC	42,604	43,222	▲	1.5
PSU	19,668	19,902	▲	1.2
FMCG	20,308	20,475	▲	0.8
CONSUMER DURABLES	57,947	58,400	▲	0.8
BANKEX	63,155	63,556	▲	0.6
TECK	17,897	17,940	▲	0.2
POWER	6,805	6,821	▲	0.2
OIL&GAS	27,030	27,080	▲	0.2
IT	36,894	36,837	▼	-0.2
CAPITAL GOODS	71,090	70,798	▼	-0.4

How other indices moved

	NIFTY NEXT 50	66,761	67,993	▲	1.8
NIFTY 500	22,802	23,165	▲	1.6	
BANK NIFTY	55,750	56,578	▲	1.5	
NIFTY 200	13,798	13,996	▲	1.4	
NIFTY 100	25,344	25,639	▲	1.2	

Sensex ups & downs

	Price ₹	May 30	Jun 6	Movement	% change
M&M	2,978	3,105	▲	4.3	
Bajaj Finance	9,175	9,373	▲	2.2	
Power Grid	290	296	▲	2.1	
HDFC Bank	1,945	1,979	▲	1.8	
HUL	2,349	2,389	▲	1.7	
Reliance Industries	1,421	1,444	▲	1.6	
Maruti Suzuki	12,318	12,460	▲	1.2	
JSW Steel	994	1,005	▲	1.1	
ICICI Bank	1,446	1,460	▲	0.9	
Nestle India	2,397	2,417	▲	0.8	
IndusInd Bank	817	823	▲	0.7	
ITC	418	421	▲	0.7	
Bharti Airtel	1,857	1,869	▲	0.7	
UltraTech Cement	11,197	11,246	▲	0.4	
Axis Bank	1,192	1,195	▲	0.3	
Titan	3,554	3,561	▲	0.2	
Sun Pharma	1,678	1,680	▲	0.1	
Infosys	1,563	1,564	▲	0.1	
SBI	812	813	▲	0.1	
HCL Tech	1,638	1,637	-	0.0	
Tech Mahindra	1,574	1,571	▼	-0.2	
Kotak Mahindra Bank	2,076	2,072	▼	-0.2	
NTPC	334	333	▼	-0.4	
Wipro	250	249	▼	-0.4	
L&T	3,676	3,654	▼	-0.6	
Asian Paints	2,260	2,245			

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Investors in the current markets are increasingly facing the value vs growth dilemma. On the one hand, as stocks continue to race ahead, sticking to value investing implies limiting oneself to the ever-shrinking list of value stocks. On the other hand, to take the plunge in growth stocks implies abandoning valuation warnings. Examples abound in sectors such as e-commerce, defense, hospitals, hotels etc where high double-digit PE (price to earnings) and triple-digit PEs are the norm.

How exactly can an investor reconcile this conundrum? Should a common investor too have the approach of a venture capitalist, focusing on a credible story by ignoring bloated valuations? Here's one way to approach such sectors.

THE END-MARKET SIZE

Growth investing entails sizing up the end-market opportunity when it matures to a reasonable level, assessing the extent to which a specific company can scale up in the sector and figuring out the sustainable margins it can achieve.

Based on this, an investor needs to make a call on what price he/she is willing to pay today for this opportunity.

Take, for example, quick commerce. The two listed entities — Eternal and Swiggy — boast of a revenue growth of 30-50 per cent per year. The Eternal stock trades at astronomical valuations of 260 times one-year forward earnings. Such valuations obviously raise alarm bells for value investors. Even hardened growth investors will have a tough time backing their thesis: "Growth at any valuation". But looking at them from the end-market dimension can bring the perspective needed to judge their valuation.

While by one measure (explained below), quick commerce opportunity can be valued at a maximum of ₹4 lakh crore, the two leading companies are now valued at around 75 per cent of that or ₹3 lakh crore.

Compared to getting driven off track by a dizzying PE of 260 times, investors can wrap their

Decoding the high PE conundrum

MARKET WISE. Comparing valuations to end-market potential in growth stocks



GETTY IMAGES

mind around the 75-per cent mark to make the investment call.

Indian consumer spending on groceries amounts to ₹50 lakh crore a year. This comprises 30 crore households of four members and an average per capita consumption of ₹3,500 per month. Assuming 7.5 per cent distribution margins, a geographical reach of 60 per cent and a peak penetration of 20 per cent in the addressable market, the quick commerce industry should target revenues of ₹45,000 crore per year. By applying 6-8 times price to sales multiple for quick commerce, we can assign a market cap of quick commerce industry of ₹2.7-3.6 lakh crore.

The two companies are currently valued at ₹2.4 lakh crore for Eternal and ₹85,000 crore for Swiggy. This includes food delivery business also, which is just as large if not larger. Such information will enable an investor to make a better investment decision.

VALUE OR GROWTH?

- Value stocks are getting rarer and growth stocks trade on high valuations
- Sizing up the end-markets may offer a different perspective
- Assumptions made for end-market can indicate investment over or undervaluations

Please note the illustration above is given to provide a perspective and is not a forecast on the quick commerce opportunity.

Employing an end-market method allows greater clarity on investment than allowed by valuation metrics. As one can toggle the penetration targets, distributor margins or geographical reach. As these assumptions are tweaked, the value, too, will change wildly. Each investor must discern for

oneself on the right assumptions to make. One can then assess if the company's current valuations are aggressive or benign on their assumptions.

The glaring drawback in this approach is that the market share will be fluid between the current 4-5 players before a phase of consolidation begins. But which ones will be the final two-three players remaining, as in most tech companies, will be an unknown. Apart from the final market share, the method also ignores the efficiency of each of the companies, the external environment of gig workers' compensation and the impact of regulation. This is the reason venture capitalists spread their bets over many companies in the same industry rather than double down on a specific company.

By pegging market caps to the end-market's perceived value, investors can gauge the true extent of over or under valuations. This approach can be applied

to other sectors such as defence, hotels or hospitality as well, where the prohibitive PE multiples will knock off value investors. For example, post Operation Sindoora, Indian defence stocks are rallying on not just the domestic opportunity, but export potential as well. Investors are likely factoring in strong export potential in the valuations following a resolute display of technology. Across drones, radars, electronics, munitions and naval variations of the same and the real-time display in operations, it is likely to drive international enquiries. How justified this optimism is from an investing perspective can be ascertained by following the above approach.

In following this approach, investors should err on the side of caution. This is to factor for unknown risks that maybe at play for these opportunities that will be realised years down the line and a lot can change in the intervening period.

WHO AM I?

Are you an avid investor? How well do you know corporate India?

- 1 I have a long history, having had British roots from the pre-Independence days.
- 2 I have changed my corporate identity on more than five occasions, though I have stuck with the same business since inception several decades ago.
- 3 My annual revenues crossed the billion-dollar mark only last year, despite a long history — thanks to almost 20 per cent CAGR over the recent three-, five- and 10-year periods.
- 4 My recently-appointed chairman is a multi-faceted personality — a qualified dental surgeon, a PhD in a branch of environmental studies and an awardee for corporate managerial service.
- 5 Though my public ownership has remained the same, the number of shareholders has doubled over the past five years due to the currently glamorous sector I belong to.

Send your answers by Wednesday 6 p.m. to who-am-i@thehindu.co.in, with your full name, postal address and phone number. A lucky winner in each week will get a book sponsored by UNIFI Capital as a reward.

Contributed by

UNIFI CAPITALLast week's stock:
Tilaknagar IndustriesLast week's winner:
Rajiv Kamal**Interest rates on home loans (%)**

Institution	Loan amount		
	Under ₹30 lakh	₹30 to 75 lakh	Over ₹75 lakh
BANKS (Floating rates)			
Axis Bank	8.75-9.65	8.75-9.65	8.75-9.65
Bank of Baroda	8.0-9.60	8.0-9.60	8.0-9.60
Bank of India	7.85-8.85	7.85-8.85	7.85-8.85
Bank of Maharashtra	7.85-10.40	7.85-10.40	7.85-10.40
Canara Bank	7.90-10.75	7.85-10.75	7.80-10.65
Central Bank	7.85-9.15	7.85-9.15	7.85-9.15
DBS Bank	<=8.90	<=8.90	<=8.90
Dhanlaxmi Bank	9.35-10.50	9.35-10.50	9.35-10.50
Federal Bank	>=9.65	>=9.65	>=9.65
HDFC Bank	8.45-9.70	8.45-9.70	8.45-9.70
ICICI Bank	8.75-9.80	8.75-9.95	8.75-10.05
Indian Bank	7.90-9.30	7.90-9.30	7.90-9.30
IOB	7.90-8.50	7.90-8.50	7.90-8.50
IDBI Bank	8.0-12.50	8.0-12.50	8.0-12.50
J&K Bank	>=8.0	>=8.0	>=8.0
Karnataka Bank	8.62-10.86	8.62-10.86	8.62-10.86
Karur Vysya Bank	8.45-11.40	8.45-11.40	8.45-11.40
Kotak Mahindra Bank	>=8.65	>=8.65	>=8.65
Punjab National Bank	8.05-9.70	8.9-7.0	8.9-6.0
Punjab & Sind Bank	8.05-11.25	8.05-11.25	8.05-11.25
RBL Bank	>=9.0	>=9.0	>=9.0
State Bank of India	8.0-8.95	8.0-8.95	8.0-8.95
South Indian Bank	8.30-10.60	8.30-10.60	8.30-10.60
Tamilnad Mercantile Bank	8.50-9.75	8.50-9.75	8.50-9.75
BANKS (Fixed rates)			
Indian Bank	9.45-9.65	9.45-9.65	9.45-9.65
ICICI Bank	8.90-12.05	8.90-12.05	8.90-12.05
Punjab National Bank	9.15-11.20	9.0-11.20	9.0-11.10
HOUSING FINANCE COMPANIES (Floating rates)			
Tata Capital	>=8.75	>=8.75	>=8.75
PNB Housing	8.50-11.25	8.50-11.45	8.50-11.45
Central Bank Housing	10-12.85	10-12.85	10-12.35
Samman Capital	>=8.75%	>=8.75%	>=8.75%
Aditya Birla Housing Fin	>=8.50	>=8.50	>=8.50
Bajaj Finserv	7.99-17.00	7.99-17.00	7.99-17.00
GIC Housing Finance	>=8.80	>=8.80	>=8.80
Sundaram Home Finance*	>=10	>=10	>=10
Piramal Capital & Housing Finance	>=9.50	>=9.50	>=9.50
IIFL Home Finance	>=8.75	>=8.75	>=8.75
LIC Housing Finance	8.9-8.5	8-10.05	8-10.25
HOUSING FINANCE COMPANIES (Fixed rates)			
LIC Housing Finance	10-10.25	10-10.25	10-10.25

Note: Rates that vary with tenures or credit score within the specified loan amounts are indicated as a range. Fixed interest rates may be subject to a revision after a specified tenure. Rates may also apply only for a definite period and change to floating thereafter. Data taken from respective bank's website as on June 06, 2025. Contributed by BankBazaar.com. *Annual percentage rate;

The smarter door to idle money

INVEST WISE. Liquid funds earn substantially more than savings accounts while being just as low-risk



applicable slab rates. One other feature of liquid funds is that the redemption of units is treated as capital gains and taxed only when sold. Thus, there is also no hassle of tax deducted at source.

OUR TAKE

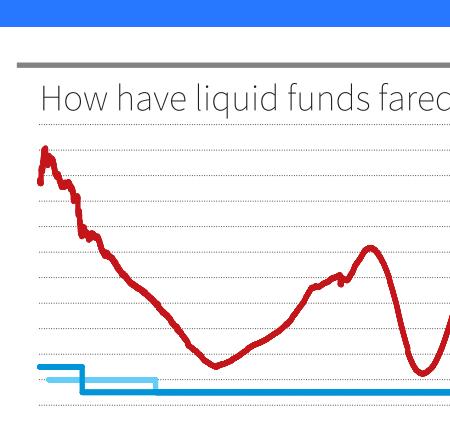
Considering the above, liquid funds do make a good case for parking funds that you do not expect to use immediately. Thus, while funds to meet daily expenses and those to meet medical emergencies, to an extent, can still be retained in savings accounts, the rest can very well be parked in liquid funds.

Instead of holding savings accounts with large banks, investors can also consider opening savings accounts with small finance banks (SFBS), which offer higher rates than larger banks. Though the minimum rate offered by SFBS is comparable with large banks, most follow a slab-wise structure with the first slab as low as ₹1 lakh. This means that once your balance crosses ₹1 lakh, the incremental portion earns interest at a significantly higher rate, ranging anywhere between 4 per cent and 7.5 per cent.

deemed in T+1 working days. Hence, they are not suitable to store cash meant to be used for immediate needs such as meeting day-to-day expenses. In contrast, savings accounts provide round-the-clock access to funds, complemented by debit cards and net banking options. However, most liquid funds offer instant redemption of up to ₹50,000, withdrawable in about 30 minutes.

CHARGES AND TAXATION
The cost of investing in liquid funds is also low. Most funds do not levy an exit load if units are redeemed after six days and expense ratios can be as low as 0.1-0.3 per cent under direct plans. This should be fine, given the higher relative returns.

As said earlier, both gains from liquid funds and interest from savings accounts are treated at par when it comes to taxation. Both are taxable as per



struments that mature within 91 days.

Fund managers typically invest only in high-quality, liquid debt instruments, eliminating credit risk. Unlike long-duration debt funds, liquid funds are largely insulated from interest rate risk due to their very short-maturity profiles.

POTENTIAL TO EARN MORE
India's largest bank, SBI, offers an interest rate of 2.7 per cent on its savings accounts. The top four private banks — HDFC, ICICI, Axis and Kotak — all offer a rate of 2.75 per cent.

On the other hand, liquid funds earn substantially more than savings accounts, as can be observed from the chart. Over the last 25 years, this has been a consistent trend. Even in 2021 and 2022, when liquid fund returns dipped sharply to fall below the Post Office Savings Bank rate, returns were still better

than the SB rates offered by the top two banks — SBI and HDFC. Currently the spread between the mean one-year rolling returns of liquid funds and the prevailing SBI SB rate stands at 440 bps. However, given the recent rate cuts and the liquidity from CRR reduction, investors need to be wary of the possibility of returns diminishing for liquid funds going forward, though it can be reasonably expected to outperform SB rates.

LIQUIDITY

Liquid funds can typically be re-



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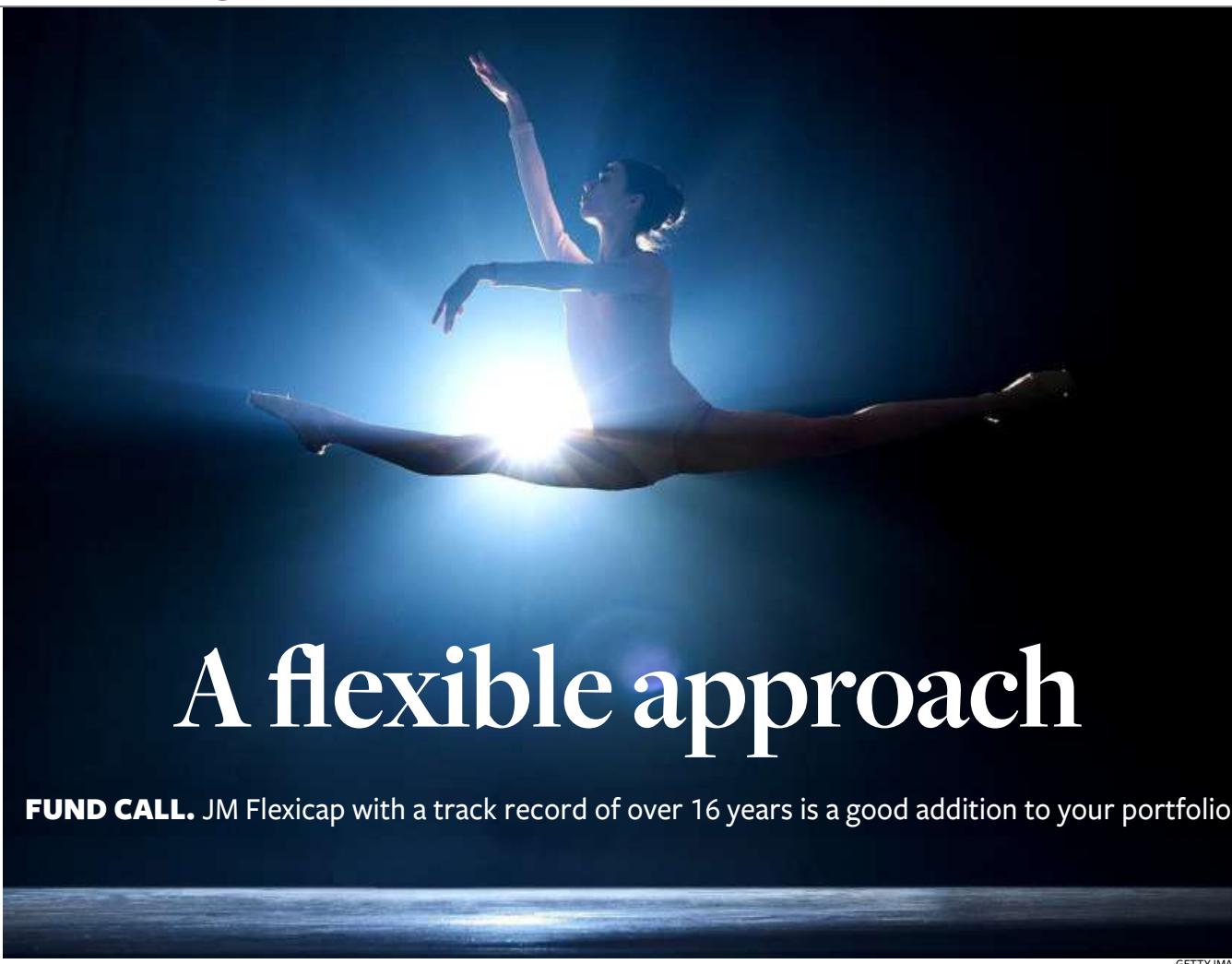
Venkatasubramanian K
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After a period of broader market correction over 6-7 months ranging from 15 to 25 per cent at the index level, key benchmarks regained some of the lost momentum in the past couple of months.

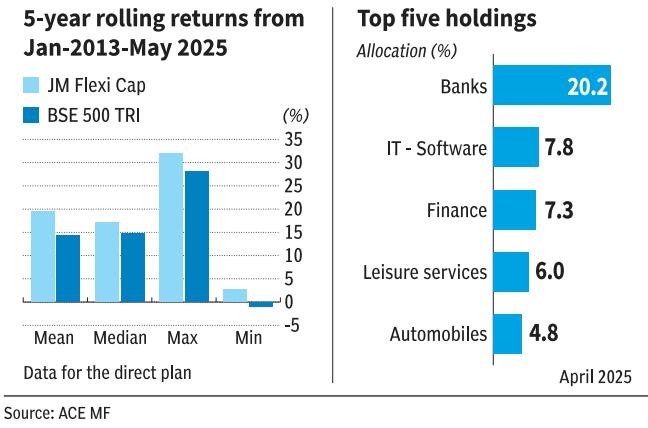
GDP growth in the fourth quarter, revival in FPI flows, low inflation and the prospect of a steady decline in interest rates are all positive factors at play. US trade tariffs, slowing global growth, AI disruptions and geopolitical tensions may bring periodical volatility. So, a flexi-cap approach with a tilt to large-caps would be suitable for investors with a reasonable risk appetite. JM Flexicap (JM Multicap earlier), with a track record of over 16 years, can be a good addition to your portfolio as the fund has delivered strong and consistent performance over the past 10 years. Taking the systematic investment plan (SIP) route, with a time horizon of 7-10 years, would work well.

ROBUST PERFORMANCE
JM Flexi Cap has been a consistently strong performer in the category over the past decade. When five-year rolling returns over the past 12-odd years (Jan 2013-May 2025) are considered, the fund has delivered mean returns of 19.4 per cent, placing it among the top funds in the category. Over the same timeframe and aforementioned rolling return period, the scheme's benchmark, BSE 500 TRI delivered average returns of 14.3 per cent. From January 2013 to May 2025, on a five-year rolling basis, the fund beat its benchmark nearly 93 per cent of the time. It delivered more than 15 per cent nearly 61 per cent of the time over this period, and more than 12 per cent for almost 83 per cent of the time. SIP returns (XIRR) over the past 10 years are fairly robust at almost 20 per cent. An SIP in its benchmark BSE 500 TRI would have returned 15.8 per cent over this period. All return figures pertain to the direct plan of JM Flexicap.

The fund has an upside capture ratio of 121.1, indicating its NAV rises much more than the benchmark during rallies. More importantly, it has a downside capture ratio of 84.5, suggesting the scheme's NAV falls much



FUND CALL. JM Flexicap with a track record of over 16 years is a good addition to your portfolio



Source: ACE MF



WHY INVEST

- XIRR over past 10 years fairly robust at almost 20%
- Diffused approach to stocks and sectors
- Blend of value, growth and momentum picks

less than the BSE TRI during corrections. A score of 100 indicates a fund performs in line with its benchmark. This inference is based on data from June 2022 to June 2025.

BLEND OF SEGMENTS

JM Flexicap spreads investments across market cap segments true to its mandate. However, the market situation and valuations do play a role in allocation. In the aftermath of Covid-19, the fund held large-caps even to the tune of 70 per cent of the portfolio. However, with small and mid-caps taking off over the past 2-3 years (before the correction from September 2024), the fund upped stakes in these segments, going over 55 per cent in the middle of last year. However, after the correction and recent months, large-caps gained prominence: April 2025 exposure is 58.6 per cent. Mid and

small-caps account for over 37 per cent of the portfolio. In terms of style, JM Flexicap combines value, growth and momentum picks. Banks have always been the top holdings; this

helped the fund over the past year. Finance companies too have tended to figure in prominence over the years. It loaded up on pharma and biotechnology stocks towards the second half of 2024, which helped outperformance. The fund upped stakes in IT stocks in recent months as the correction brought valuation comfort.

Earlier, JM Flexicap latched on to the IT sector post-Covid as the segment rallied well till late 2021. The fund was quick to pare stakes from the segment subsequently amid concerns of high valuations and low growth outlook. FMCG was another segment where the fund reduced exposure due to weak volume growth amidst slowing rural demand. The fund takes a diffused approach to stocks and sectors.

Barring the top sector, all others account for less than 10 per cent, while individual stocks barring a top few account for less than 5 per cent of the overall holdings. The fund would be suitable for those looking for healthy long-term returns with an above-average risk appetite.

Steady returns in a dynamic market

FUND-WISE. Why Aditya Birla Sun Life Corporate Bond Fund stands out

Dhuraivel Gunasekaran
bl. research bureau

Corporate bond funds are among the key beneficiaries of the ongoing rate cut cycle, generating an average return of 9.9 per cent over the last one year. Longer-duration gilt funds, long duration debt, and dynamic bond funds delivered returns of 11.6 per cent, 10.6 per cent, and 10 per cent, respectively.

Corporate bond funds present relatively better opportunities for conservative investors with 3-5 year investment horizons. With inflation largely under control and the RBI prioritising growth, the interest rate environment is expected to remain benign or even ease further. This supports strategies that focus on accrual, and offers an opportunity to benefit from falling spreads, which could enhance returns.

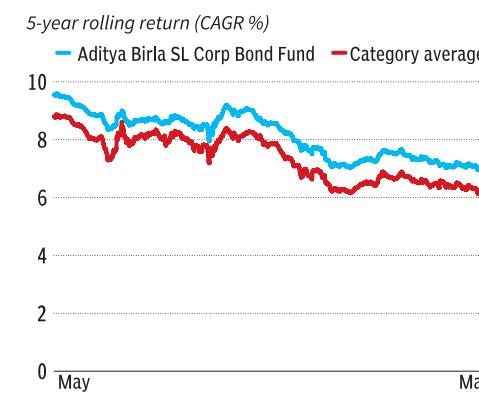
The declining trajectory of bank deposit rates enhances the attractiveness of corporate bond funds for risk-averse investors. As rates fall, shorter-duration products carry higher reinvestment risks, making funds with a 3-4 year maturity, like those in this category, better suited to mitigate that risk while retaining moderate duration exposure. Among the notable performers in this category is the Aditya Birla Sun Life Corporate Bond Fund. It has stood out for its above-average returns and emphasis on high credit quality. The fund, as per SEBI classification, primarily invests around 80 per cent in high-grade corporate bonds.

Moderate Duration
The fund typically maintains 65-85 per cent of its portfolio in corporate bonds with maturities ranging from 1-5 years, adjusting this allocation based on the prevailing interest rate outlook.

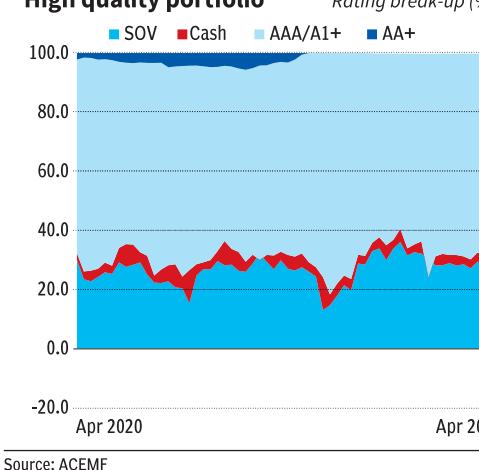
The remaining 15-35 per cent is deployed tactically to take advantage of interest rate fluctuations through longer-term corporate or sovereign bonds. This strategy enables the fund to remain aligned with its core man-

Performance and portfolio composition

Category beating return



High quality portfolio



date while also capturing opportunities from rate movements.

Over the next three to six months, the fund is expected to increase its non-tactical allocation towards 85 per cent, thereby reducing its exposure to longer-duration instruments. The fund's 15-30 per cent government securities allocation serves a dual purpose. Primarily, it satisfies regulatory liquidity coverage ratio (LCR) requirements applicable to debt funds.

It also helps the fund take duration calls, with current g-sec allocations concentrated in the 10-14 year segment, to capture the anticipated fall in rates.

The fund managers view the 2-4 year corporate bond segment as appealing, while identi-

fying opportunities in 10-year papers. In a liquidity-rich environment, spreads tend to narrow. So the fund is well-positioned to benefit from both accrual income and capital gains driven by spread compression, a scenario likely to persist as policymakers continue to ease liquidity and maintain a dovish stance.

AAA MANDATE

The fund successfully avoided credit rating downgrades that plagued the market from 2018 to 2020. The portfolio remains entirely invested in AAA-rated securities or sovereign bonds. The fund has adhered to this approach consistently over the past 10-12 years, except for a brief post-Covid period when an

allocation of 3-4 per cent to AA+ papers was made due to limited AAA supply. The current composition is tilted 80 per cent towards PSU bonds and 20 per cent towards non-PSU corporates.

Notable PSU bond allocations in the portfolio include SIDBI at 10.5 per cent, NABARD at 10 per cent, and PFC at 6 per cent. Among non-PSU bonds, key holdings include Bajaj Finance at 4 per cent, Bajaj Housing Finance at 3.2 per cent, and Tata Capital Financial Services at 2.2 per cent. This portfolio approach, while reducing credit risk, also reduces return potential. Peer funds that have had exposure to AA securities as of April 2025 were Mirae Asset

Corporate Bond Fund (5.7 per cent), PGIM India Corporate Bond Fund (6.7 per cent), Tata Corporate Bond Fund (14 per cent), and Franklin India Corporate Debt Fund (18 per cent).

ABSL Corporate Bond Fund has historically delivered above-average returns across multiple rate cycles.

During the post-Covid rate-cutting phase, the fund extended its average maturity up to 4.5 years, capturing capital gains from longer-duration bonds and delivering 12.6 per cent returns versus the category average of 11.4 per cent.

Conversely, in rising rate periods, it cut maturity to minimise mark-to-market losses.

Over the past 12 years, the fund's 5-year rolling returns averaged 8.1 per cent annually,

beating the category average of 7.4 per cent. These returns have ranged from a low of 6.9 per cent to a high of 9.6 per cent. As of April 30, 2025, the fund's portfolio yield to maturity stood at 7 per cent slightly above the category average of 6.9 per cent.

The fund's expense ratio for the regular plan is 0.51 per cent, below the category average of 0.7 per cent, while the direct plan's expense ratio is 0.33 per cent, slightly higher than the category average of 0.31 per cent.

ALERTS

Samco MF launches Large & Mid Cap Fund

Samco Large & Mid Cap Fund is an open-ended equity scheme investing in large-cap and mid-cap stocks. The NFO closes on June 19; 10 per cent of units can be redeemed any time without exit load, redemption in excess of 10 per cent of units will incur 1 per cent exit load in the first 12 months. There is no exit load if redeemed after 12 months from the date of allotment of unit. The minimum subscription amount is ₹5,000 and in multiples of ₹1 thereafter. The performance of the scheme will be benchmarked with Nifty Large Midcap 250 Total Returns Index; the fund managers are Umeshkumar Mehta, Nirali Bhansali and Dhawal Ghansham Dhanani.

Motilal Oswal MF launches BSE 1000 Index Fund

Motilal Oswal Mutual Fund has launched Motilal Oswal BSE 1000 Index Fund, an open-ended fund replicating/tracking the BSE 1000 Total Return Index. The NFO opens for subscription on June 5 and closes on June 19. Entry load will be nil for the scheme. Exit load will be 1 per cent, if redeemed on or before 15 days from the allotment and nil if redeemed after 15 days from the allotment. The minimum subscription amount is ₹500 and in multiples of ₹1. The performance of the scheme will be benchmarked with BSE 1000 Total Return Index; fund managers are Swapnil Mayekar, Dishant Mehta and Rakesh Shetty.

ETF movers

Top ETFs (Exchange Traded Funds) traded on NSE based on weekly change in price

ETF	NAV (₹) as on Jun 6	Price (₹)	Weekly change in price (%)	Volume traded in the last week (in '000s)
	103.8	103.9	9.8	3,217
HDFC Silver ETF	101.8	102.8	8.6	3,888
Groww Silver ETF	104.8	105.7	8.6	433
Nippon India Silver ETF	101.7	102.4	8.5	55,602
Axis Silver ETF	105.6	106.1	8.5	793
Tata Silver ETF	10.3	10.4	8.5	11,879
Aditya Birla SL Silver ETF	105.8	106.4	8.4	4,845
GOLD ETFs				
Baroda BNP Paribas Gold ETF	94.7	95.6	2.8	20
DSP Gold ETF	94.7	95.3	2.4	367
LIC MF Gold ETF	8848.4	8845.5	2.4	15

Source: Bloomberg. Returns as on June 6, 2025

Best NPS plans

Top pension funds in each category based on 5-year CAGR



QUICK FACTS

- Above average returns
- High credit quality portfolio
- Tactical flexibility

*Source: NPS Trust. Returns as on June 6, 2025

Top PMS schemes

Based on 5-year returns

AMC	Strategy	AUM (in ₹ cr) as on June 6	Returns (% CAGR)		
			1-year	3-year	5-year
TIER I: EQUITY PLANS					
ICICI Prudential Pension Fund		72.9	8.8	19.2	22.9
UTI Pension Fund		72.1	9.1	19.3	22.9
Kotak Pension Fund		67.8	10.7	19.4	22.7
TIER I: GOVERNMENT BOND PLANS					
ABSL Pension Scheme		19.1	11.0	10.1	7.0
LIC Pension Fund		30.8	11.3	10.2	7.0
SBI Pension Fund		41.2	11.2	10.1	6.9
TIER I: CORPORATE DEBT PLANS					
HDFC Pension Fund		29.1	11.7	9.1	7.9
ICICI Prudential Pension Fund		43.8	11.3	9.0	7.7
SBI Pension Fund		44.1			

Holding on to a sweet promise

PHARMA. The transition from Revlimid-led growth to diabetes portfolio will be rocky yet rewarding for Dr. Reddy's

Sai Prabhakar Yadavalli
bl. research bureau

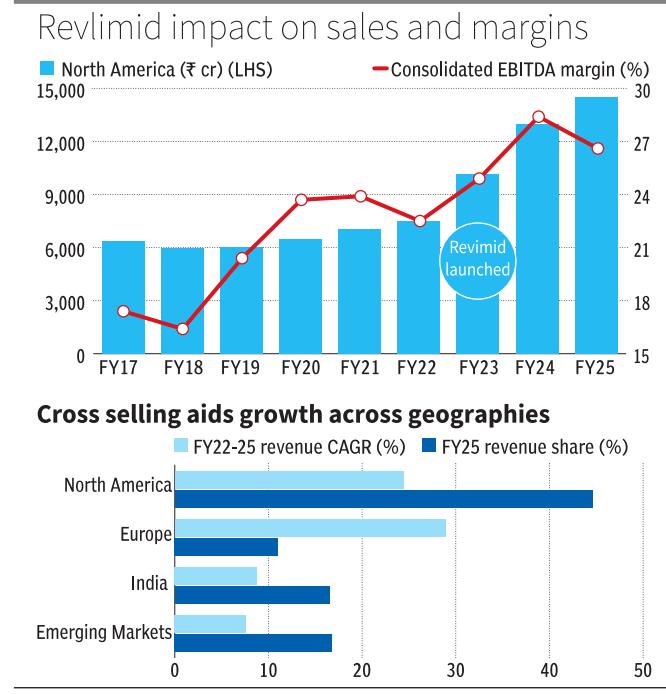
Dr. Reddy's has benefited significantly from gRevlimid sales in the US in the last three years. But that opportunity is now closing by FY26-end. The company has made significant investments with its cash surplus to tide over the revenue gap. The potential opportunities from these investments, though valuable, are not immediately available and the scope of value is yet to be fully ascertained. We earlier recommended accumulating the stock in September 2022 and the stock has returned around 60 per cent since then. With the stock now trading at 19 times one-year forward earnings, we recommend existing investors to hold the stock. While long-term drivers are in place and upside strong optionality exists if the new investments fructify, more clarity is required on the same. Till that plays out in the medium term, there could be some revenue slowdown and margin pressure.

REVLIMID-SIZED HOLE

Dr. Reddy launched generic Revlimid (multiple myeloma) in September 2022 or H2FY23. The US segment (45 per cent of FY25 sales) reported sales growth in FY22-25 of 24 per cent CAGR compared with 8 per cent CAGR in the previous three years (FY19-22). A significant portion can be attributed to gRevlimid sales. The impact on margins and cash accruals is also impressive. The EBITDA margins improved from an average of 22.6 per cent in FY19-22 to 26.6 per cent in FY22-25. The net cash as on March 2025 stands at ₹2,454 crore despite meeting upfront cash consideration of ₹458 million (₹5,300 crore) for an acquisition in September 2024. From January 2026, Revlimid will cease to be a limited competition product and will be fully generic, and the revenue will slow down to a trickle while drivers for the next phase are in the works.

GLP-1 OPPORTUNITY

The company has been on a 10-year capacity building exercise for GLP-1RA generics (glucagon like peptide 1 receptor agonist), which is a leading class of drugs for diabetes. The generic opportunity will begin from January



2026 when drug/product patents will start expiring. This will open access to a widespread opportunity across 80 geographic markets. According to Grand View Research, the global opportunity is estimated at \$30 billion annually across the world, but at the innovator level.

The company has built capacity and capability in peptides, the basic blocks of GLP-1s, to manufacture the APIs and the formulation. The injectable device will be outsourced.

Canada will be the first front where patent expiry is slated for January 2026. The innovator market stands at \$1.8 billion

with 10 million device sales. Assuming a four-player market, 40 per cent lower price, and 60 per cent market penetration for generics in the first year, the company should expect more than \$100 million in the first year. Product approval is expected by the current year-end. A similar opportunity should be expected across markets, primarily India, Brazil, in the short term.

But regulatory and competitive hurdles will be significant.

The product requires formidable capability to develop peptides in large quantities and getting prior regulatory approvals

● HOLD

Dr. Reddy's Laboratories
₹1,320.50

WHY

- Revenue growth and margins to be under pressure with Revlimid
- Placed competitively for Semaglutide opportunity
- Biosimilars and consumer health focus also developing

in swift cycles will be a challenge. However, approvals from Canada, India and Brazil should smoothen the process. The Intellectual Property (IP) challenges are another facet which will involve market-specific solutions, with a potential to delay the launches. In recent news, Dr. Reddy's has given an undertaking to not sell the weight-loss variant of drug in India but only manufacture it.

The competition will also be intense, with Sun Pharma, Aurobindo and others eyeing first-day launches across markets. But if Dr. Reddy's with end-to-end development done in-house, can gain a market share in the highly chronic and difficult to manufacture product, the benefit is significant.

SCALING GLOBALLY

Dr. Reddy's has been active on the inorganic front and has created a strong base for consumer health. In September 2024, the

company signed an agreement with Haleon, a UK-based company, to acquire Nicotine Replacement Therapy products or NRT for a total consideration of £500 million. These added sales of ₹1,200 crore last year with only two quarters consolidated. Dr. Reddy's has also started a JV with Nestle (51:49) and the subsidiary will induct global brands of Nestle in India gradually. This is along the lines of Sanofi partnership, through which vaccine brands are launched in the country and has boosted India sales by around ₹450 crore in FY25.

The Nestle JV and Sanofi partnership will leverage Dr. Reddy's domestic reach and will gradually play out. The NRT acquisition can be leveraged in Europe (its current market) and other markets including India and Rest of the World markets over time. In the last one year, Dr. Reddy's has relied on cross marketing its portfolio of generics across the US, India, Europe and Emerging Markets. This is more pronounced in Europe (28 per cent year-on-year growth in FY25) and EM (15 per cent), where it launched 39 and 85 products last year and the same can be expected to continue, driving strong growth.

R&D PORTFOLIO

Dr. Reddy's has maintained a high investment rate in R&D at 8.5 per cent of sales compared to industry range of 6-8 per cent. This includes investments in biosimilars as well. Rituximab biosimilar is expected to be launched in Europe followed by the US and will be followed by bevacizumab, denosumab and abatacept.

The ramp up will be gradual, and partner economics will impact shareholder realisations, but the large portfolio will add a lever to long-term growth. The company is also developing early-stage oncology assets by itself which are under trials in India (CAR-T therapy) and the US for lymphomas.

The company reported revenue growth of 15 per cent CAGR in FY22-25 to ₹32,552 crore along with PAT growth of 36 per cent CAGR. The 400-bps EBITDA margin expansion from 22 per cent to 26 per cent has boosted earnings growth. As gRevlimid boost is nearing a close, the next set of drivers are in place but will show up in earnings with a lag.

businessline's editorial policy prohibits analysts from taking positions in the stocks they recommend —Editor

REALITY CHECK.

Repo rate cut and the implications for banks

Nishanth Gopalakrishnan
bl. research bureau



When the broad market expectation was a mere 25 basis points (bps) reduction to the repo rate from the RBI, the central bank delivered a surprise 50 bps cut. Bank stocks posted healthy gains on Friday with the Nifty Bank gaining 1.5 per cent to mark a fresh all-time high. What exactly are the implications for bank stocks? Here we decode the move and what RBI's actions mean.

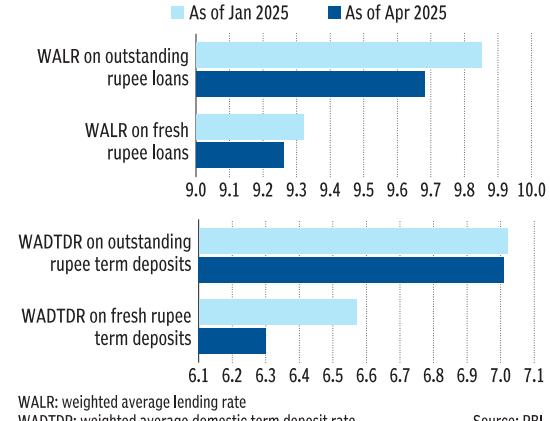
CLARITY ON MARGIN TRAJECTORY

While it is true that banks have to transmit the benefit of rate cuts to the borrowers soon and that their yields would come under pressure, what appears to have comforted banks is the fact that the RBI has frontloaded much of the monetary easing that it could. The switch back to neutral policy stance from accommodative explains there might not be any more rate cuts in the near term. This provides clear visibility to banks which were any way preparing to tackle rate cuts up to 50 bps. This way, the transmission of rates to borrowers and a commensurate repricing of deposits can happen quicker.

That said, banks' net interest margins (NIM) will come under pressure though, in the first couple quarters of FY26. This is because, loans will get repriced earlier than deposits. Within deposits, while the short-term bulk deposits get repriced quickly, retail deposits could continue to be sticky. Taking cues from the RBI Governor, historically the rate transmission cycles have been six-nine months long and he opined that the ongoing cycle is one of the fastest in history. Hence, NIMs can be reasonably expected to normalise at least by the end of this fiscal.

The latest data on rate transmission by all commercial banks combined since January 2025 (month before rate cuts) is presented in the infographic.

Rate transmission snapshot



Brick by brick, a steady build

REAL ESTATE. With rising profits, Ganesh Housing has registered top-notch EBITDA margins for the past three fiscals

Venkatasubramanian K
bl. research bureau

In the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, residential and commercial real estate segments saw soaring traction. While demand for housing and especially office space is robust in metros, there is considerable action even in other larger cities. Gujarat as a State, with strong infrastructure presence in cities such as Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar, has seen a strong uptick in realty demand in recent years.

Some softness, in line with the moderating demand in the overall economy, was witnessed in FY25. However, premium housing demand and commercial office spaces (due to Global Capability Centres, GIFT City etc.) is robust in the cities mentioned above.

Ganesh Housing Corporation, a mid-sized builder and developer of commercial and residential properties continues to be well-placed to cater to this demand in light of its extensive presence in these pockets.

From our recommendation in July 2024 at ₹1,039, the stock rose to ₹1,480-levels, before correcting 30 per cent in the broader market fall, especially in the small-cap segment.

At ₹1,022, the stock trades at just 12 times its likely per share earnings for FY26. This is among the lowest valuation multiples commanded by any real estate company with even mid-sized operations. The BSE Realty trades at a PE of nearly 54 times.

A strong track record of timely execution of projects, healthy pipeline of commercial and residential properties, focus on annuity revenues and debt-free balance sheet are positives for Ganesh Housing.



Investors with a two-three-year perspective can buy the shares of the company at the current price.

In FY25, the company's revenue from operations grew 7.6 per cent year on year to ₹960 crore, while net profits rose 30 per cent to ₹598 crore. It enjoyed an EBITDA margin of over 80 per cent in FY25.

WELL-POSITIONED
Ganesh Housing is a premium developer of commercial and residential properties focused mainly on Ahmedabad. The company has completed 18 residential and four commercial projects over the years, spread over 23 million sq ft.

It currently has two ongoing projects, of which one is residential and the other is commercial (Million Minds Phase 1). About 2 million sq ft will be built by March 2027 with total

● BUY
Ganesh Housing Corporation
₹1,026.50

- Project deliveries ahead of schedule
- Steady annuity income from commercial properties
- Strong balance sheet

expected sales value of ₹1,350 crore.

Then, there are four planned projects spread across residential, commercial and township constructions to the tune of 30.5 million sq ft. These projects will start from September 2025 and go on for another 10 years. The total sale value from these pro-

jects is a ₹16,000 crore.

Ganesh Housing has a strategic partnership with Tishman Speyer for Million Minds commercial projects, given the experience it has in developed markets, having worked with reputed clients such as Meta, Amazon, LinkedIn and even top Indian companies.

The Million Minds (IT SEZ) Phase 1 project – expected to be completed by March 2026 – is quite lucrative as each phase would generate about ₹72 crore in lease income every year.

This construction would be funded from internal accruals, without taking any external debt.

In other finished projects, Malabar County 3 and Malabar Exotica are both 100 per cent completed and 100 per cent booked. Possession has generally been on time or ahead of schedule.

One Thaltej, a commercial project with 1.8 million sq ft construction and ₹2,114-crore revenue potential is under final stages of approval.

Smile City 1 and Smile City 2 are township projects planned in Godhavi, Ahmedabad. The latter could generate as much as ₹4,550 crore in revenues by H1FY23.

In all, over the next several years, there is a robust pipeline of projects with considerable revenue visibility.

Ahmedabad itself is a robust real estate market, especially after the emergence of the GIFT City, rolled out by the Central government.

It draws 42 per cent of the total investment into Gujarat. Inventory overhang has reduced from 15 months in FY24 from 25 months in FY21, and per square feet rates have nearly doubled from CY20-25 to nearly ₹20,000-levels, according to Knight Frank and PropEquity data.

HEALTHY FINANCIALS

After a period of turbulence around Covid and for a year after the pandemic, Ganesh Housing was straddled with slow growth and high debt. However, with four continuous years of rising profits, the company has not only registered top-notch EBITDA margins for the past three fiscals, but has also managed to become debt free for two years in a row.

The company's return on equity has more than tripled over FY22 to FY25, from 8.9 per cent to 29.1 per cent in FY25. Return on capital employed is higher at 38.7 per cent as of FY25. It also has a cash surplus of ₹157 crore, despite spending ₹216 crore for SEZ Phase 1 construction entirely from internal accruals.

MCLR LOANS TO AID PSU BANKS

Public sector banks might fare better in terms of NIM compression, owing to higher share of MCLR-linked (marginal cost of funds-based lending rate) loans in their portfolio. As per latest available data on RBI's database, this is the MCLR:EBLR:other loan mix of public and private banks as of December 2024 was public banks – 51:45:4; private banks – 13:86:1.

EBLR stands for external benchmark linked lending rate. EBLR loans have to be repriced as soon as there is a change in the benchmarks such as repo rate and T-bill yields, irrespective of whether repricing happens in deposits or not. MCLR loans, on the other hand, are based on the movement in the cost of funds of a bank (deposits largely represent a bank's funds) and hence transmit benefit to the borrower as and only when deposits reprice.

GROWTH IN ADVANCES AND DEPOSITS

Loan growth slipped to a moderate 11 per cent year on year in FY25, compared with a 20 per cent growth seen in FY24. This was partly due to elections and absence of a healthy demand for capex in FY25 (though picked up in the last quarter of FY25). There was also the HDFC factor. To bring down credit deposit ratio, the bank put loan growth on the back seat. Now with rates slashed, loan growth in FY26 can be expected to be better than FY25. HDFC's loan growth, too, is expected to be in line with the system in FY26.

Most banks already have a good pipeline of corporate loan sanctions. Demand can be expected from credit-dependent sectors such as infrastructure, real estate and automobiles. Retail loans could also see traction, supplemented by personal income tax cuts undertaken in the Budget.

With government spending picking up, deposits growth will be better too. Banks, too, are confident about deposit mobilisation, inferring from their prompt reduction in interest rates offered on term deposits and savings accounts, in response to repo cuts in February and April.

CRR SURPRISE

What came as another pleasant surprise to banks is a 100-bp cut in the CRR (cash reserve ratio). The Governor noted that a CRR of 3 per cent is adequate and the reduction will free up ₹2.5-lakh crore worth of liquidity. This will prove to be a boon for banks, as this can ease the cost of funds and cushion the NIM compression to an extent.

Moving on, the rate cuts will help banks post good other income growth as well. As yields of government securities drop in response to the rate cuts, the AFS (available for sale) portfolio of banks will see MTM (marked-to-market) gains rise, some of which can become realised gains. This will boost the bottom line and return on assets.

While NIM compression may be a short-term overhang for bank stocks, the positives explained above outweigh the risk to margins.



Breakout time

F&O TRACKER. Traders opt for longer commitment in Nifty futures as Nifty Bank leads, Nifty 50 eyes breakout

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl. research bureau

Nifty 50 (25,003) appreciated 1 per cent last week whereas Nifty Bank (56,578) outperformed by returning 1.5 per cent. Here is the analysis and insights from derivatives data of both indices.

NIFTY 50

Nifty futures (Jun) (25,096), which was largely sideways until Thursday, saw a notable upswing on Friday which led to the contract posting a weekly gain of 0.9 per cent.

But note that the outstanding Open Interest (OI) of June futures dropped last week by 6 per cent to nearly 122 lakh contracts but the same for July futures nearly doubled to 50 lakh contracts. This indicates that participants are building long positions in the next expiry rather than the current series, intending to carry the positions longer.

Supporting the positivity, the Put Call Ratio (PCR) of June and July month options stood at 1.1 and 1.6 respectively. A ratio

greater than 1 is because of selling of relatively higher number of puts compared to calls. Traders sell puts when they are bullish. That said, the chart shows that Nifty futures (Jun) continues to trade in the 24,650-25,250 price band. Yet the price action shows that it is likely to break out of 25,250 soon.

A rally past 25,250 can quickly lift the contract to 26,000. Potential resistance above 26,000 is at 27,000. On the other hand, a breach of the support at 24,650 can drag Nifty futures (Jun) to 24,200 and 24,000.

Strategy: Retain the long positions on Nifty futures (Jun) initiated at 24,970. Target and stop-loss can be 26,000 and 24,450 respectively.

The alternate suggestion of longs on June expiry 25,500-call would have hit the stop-loss at ₹90 as it made an intraweek low of ₹83.85 before recovering to the current level of ₹158. As the view remains bullish, traders can consider going long again on this contract at ₹158. Target and stop-loss can be ₹600 and ₹650 respectively.

BROAD TREND

- Notable long build-up on Nifty July futures
- Nifty Bank June futures witnessed long accumulation
- Retain long positions on both

NIFTY BANK

Nifty Bank futures (Jun) (56,770) appeared muted for most part of the week. But it rallied on Friday resulting in a weekly gain of 1.2 per cent.

As it rallied, unlike in Nifty futures (Jun), there was an increase in the outstanding OI. It went up 14 per cent and it stood at about 21 lakh contracts on Friday. This denotes fresh long build-up.

While the PCR of June options stood at 1 on Friday, the same for July options was at nearly 1.7, again a positive indication due to higher put selling. The chart also shows a clear breakout of the range of 55,500-

56,000. Nifty Bank futures (Jun) marked a high of 56,832.80 before moderating to the current level of 56,770.

There might be some softening in price where the contract might see a correction to 56,300. Nevertheless, Nifty Bank futures (Jun) can resume the rally.

While 57,000 can be a potential hurdle, given that the contract has seen a fresh breakout, it can surpass this level and touch 58,000 in the near term. A breach of 58,000 can open the door for a rally to 60,000.

But if the contract declines from the current level of 56,770, it can find support between 56,000 and 56,300. A break below 56,000 can drag it back to 55,500 and 55,000. But the probability of a fall to these levels is low.

Strategy: Last week, we suggested buying Nifty Bank futures (Jun) if it breaks out of 56,000 with an initial stop-loss at 55,000. Retain this trade and modify the stop-loss to 56,200 when the contract touches 57,000. On a rally to 57,500, trail the stop-loss further to 56,900. Book profits at 58,000.

F & O QUERY

AKHIL NALLAMUTHU
bl. research bureau

Can I buy the Tata Elxsi June 7000-call option?
TC Rajashegaran

Tata Elxsi (₹6,473): The stock has been on an uptrend since April 21 when it rebounded from ₹4,800. It marked a fresh four-month high of ₹6,535 on May 29 before moderating to the current level of ₹6,460.

Notably, the price action since early last week shows loss in upward momentum and the stock has largely remained sideways. That is, it has been oscillating between ₹6,360 and ₹6,535. However, the uptrend has not been invalidated.

The recent consolidation can be temporary and this can even lead to further correction in stock price, probably to ₹6,240 and ₹6,100, which are notable support levels. But broadly, the bull trend will remain true and corrections can be opportunities to go long.

That said, in case the stock rallies from the current level itself and breaks out of ₹6,535, it can rally to ₹6,800 quickly. Resistance above ₹6,800 is at ₹7,000.

Considering the above factors, you can consider buying call options on Tata Elxsi as it retains the uptrend. However, rather than buying at the current level, you can go long on calls either after a fresh breakout of ₹6,535 or after a decline to the ₹6,240-6,100 price band.

We suggest buying at-the-money options. That is, in the event of a breakout of ₹6,535, you may consider buying 6500-call; in case the stock drops to ₹6,200, you can prefer 6200-call. If either of these events occur in the final week of June expiry, we recommend considering July call options.

Post initiating long positions on call options, if the stock price falls below the support at ₹6,100, exit all the longs as this can lead to further drop in price. Nearest support below ₹6,100 can be spotted at ₹5,850.

Send your queries to derivatives@thehindu.co.in.

F&O Strategy

Bull call spread on NBCC

KS Badri Narayanan

The stock of NBCC (India) (₹127.72) is ruling at a crucial level. One more conclusive close above ₹123.50 will ensure a positive outlook for the stock. If NBCC sustains the current rally, it can move to ₹152-155 range.



Immediate support is at ₹116 and ₹100. A close below the latter will negate the current bullish outlook on the stock. We expect the stock to sustain the bullishness with some volatility in the near term.

F&O pointers: NBCC June futures closed at ₹128.32 against the spot price of ₹127.72. In the last 10 days, open interest jumped from 2 crore shares to 4.29 crore shares along with a sharp rise in share price from ₹114. This signals accumulation of long positions. Option trading indicates the stock could move between ₹120 and ₹135.

Strategy: Consider a bull call spread on NBCC. This can be initiated by selling 130-call and simultaneously buying 128-call. As these options closed with a premium of ₹4 and ₹4.90 respectively, this strategy would cost traders ₹0.90/lot or ₹5,220 (market lot 5,800 shares). This would be the maximum loss in this strategy.

A maximum profit of ₹6,380 is possible, if the stock crosses ₹130 during this cycle. Hold the position for two weeks.

Follow-up: Hold the trade on ICICI Bank for one more week.

Note: The recommendations are based on technical analysis and F&O positions. There is a risk of loss in trading.

Short Take

Indian Bank & Canara Bank F&O contract adjustments

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl. research bureau

Indian Bank (₹634.05) has announced an interim dividend of ₹16.25. June 10 is the record/effective date when the stock price and all derivatives contracts will be adjusted appropriately.

For adjustment, the reference rate of the relevant contract on June 9 will be considered. The open positions shall be carried forward to June 10 at the daily settlement price on June 9 minus ₹16.25.



FIs have increased their net short on index futures. But they have reduced the net long on puts and added net long on call. Overall, there is no clear indication.

Stocks that witnessed major change in OI

Company	Price (₹)	Weekly price change %		OI (in lakh)	Weekly OI change %
		As on Jun 6	As on Jun 6		
RISE (as on Jun 6)					
COPORGE	1,775.50	3.8	182.6	416.1	
ABFRL	77.77	-9.4	1382.3	183.9	
HINDZINC	502.25	9.6	287.5	121.0	
CAMS	4,262.10	7.6	46.3	89.3	
YESBANK	20.85	-2.9	18625.9	88.8	
FALL (as on Jun 6)					
MANAPPURAM	247.56	3.7	942.2	-28.7	
CUMMINSIND	3,384.10	3.5	62.9	-9.8	
SJVN	103.73	7.7	600.0	-4.3	
MOTHERSON	157.49	2.9	1631.5	-3.9	
SAIL	135.04	4.5	1896.4	-2.9	

Stocks in F&O ban (for trade on Jun 9)

ABFRL | CHAMBLFERT | HINDCOPPER | MANAPPURAM

Change in OI and market positioning

Symbol	Expiry date (2025)	Price (₹)	OI (Weekly change %)	Indication
COMMODITIES (as on Jun 6)				
ALUMINIUM	30-Jun	237.80 (0.6)	4227 (-6)	Short covering
COPPER	30-Jun	875.80 (1.7)	6995 (2)	Long build-up
CRUDEOIL	18-Jun	5534.00 (6.4)	8865 (-13)	Short covering
CRUDEOILM	18-Jun	5536.00 (6.4)	7428 (-56)	Short covering
GOLD	5-Aug	97036.00 (1.2)	13646 (2)	Long build-up
GOLDGUINEA	30-Jun	77925.00 (1.4)	5419 (-19)	Short covering
GOLDM	4-Jul	96645.00 (1.3)	25732 (14)	Long build-up
GOLDPETAL	30-Jun	9762.00 (1.3)	73015 (-22)	Short covering
LEAD	30-Jun	179.15 (0.7)	175 (-28)	Short covering
MENTHAOIL	30-Jun	905.50 (-0.8)	205 (5)	Short build-up
NATURALGAS	25-Jun	325.70 (9.9)	19042 (34)	Long build-up
SILVER	4-Jul	105459.00 (8.7)	21238 (9)	Long build-up
SILVERM	30-Jun	105239.00 (8.5)	33770 (39)	Long build-up
SILVERMIC	30-Jun	105201.00 (8.5)	92557 (28)	Long build-up
ZINC	30-Jun	253.40 (1.0)	2852 (-19)	Short covering
CURRENCIES (as on Jun 6)				
USDINR	26-Jun	85.75 (0.1)	1093307 (3)	Long build-up
EURINR	26-Jun	98.05 (0.9)	31105 (9)	Long build-up
GBPINR	26-Jun	116.15 (0.6)	20458 (24)	Long build-up
JPYINR	26-Jun	59.8 (0.1)	5477 (3)	Long build-up

Suppose the nearest expiry futures (June contract) closes at ₹630 on June 9. It will be revised to ₹613.75 (₹630 less ₹16.25). Likewise, in options, all the strike

Gurumurthy K
bl. research bureau

Nifty 50, Sensex and the Nifty Bank index sustained well above their support and has risen sharply last week. Nifty Bank index has seen the much-expected bullish breakout last week. However, this breakout is yet to happen on the Nifty and Sensex.

The trigger for the breakout in the Nifty Bank index came from the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) monetary policy announcement on Friday. The RBI cut the repo rate by 50 basis points and the cash reserve ratio (CRR) by 100 basis points.

Overall, our broader bullish view is intact. The breakout in the Nifty Bank index has opened the doors for more rise. We expect the Nifty and Sensex to breakout this week and rise alongside the Nifty Bank index.

Among the sectors, the BSE Realty index got a boost on Friday after RBI's sharp rate cuts. The index surged the most last week and was up 9.65 per cent.

FPI'S SELL

Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) began the month of June on a negative note. They sold about \$1.02 billion in the equity segment in the first week of the month. However, this has not impacted the benchmark indices much last week. We will have to wait and see the FPIs' action going forward.

NIFTY 50 (25,003.05)

Nifty fell initially last week but then recovered very well in the second half. The index touched a low of 24,502.15 on Tuesday and then rose back to close the week at 25,003.05, up 1.02 per cent.

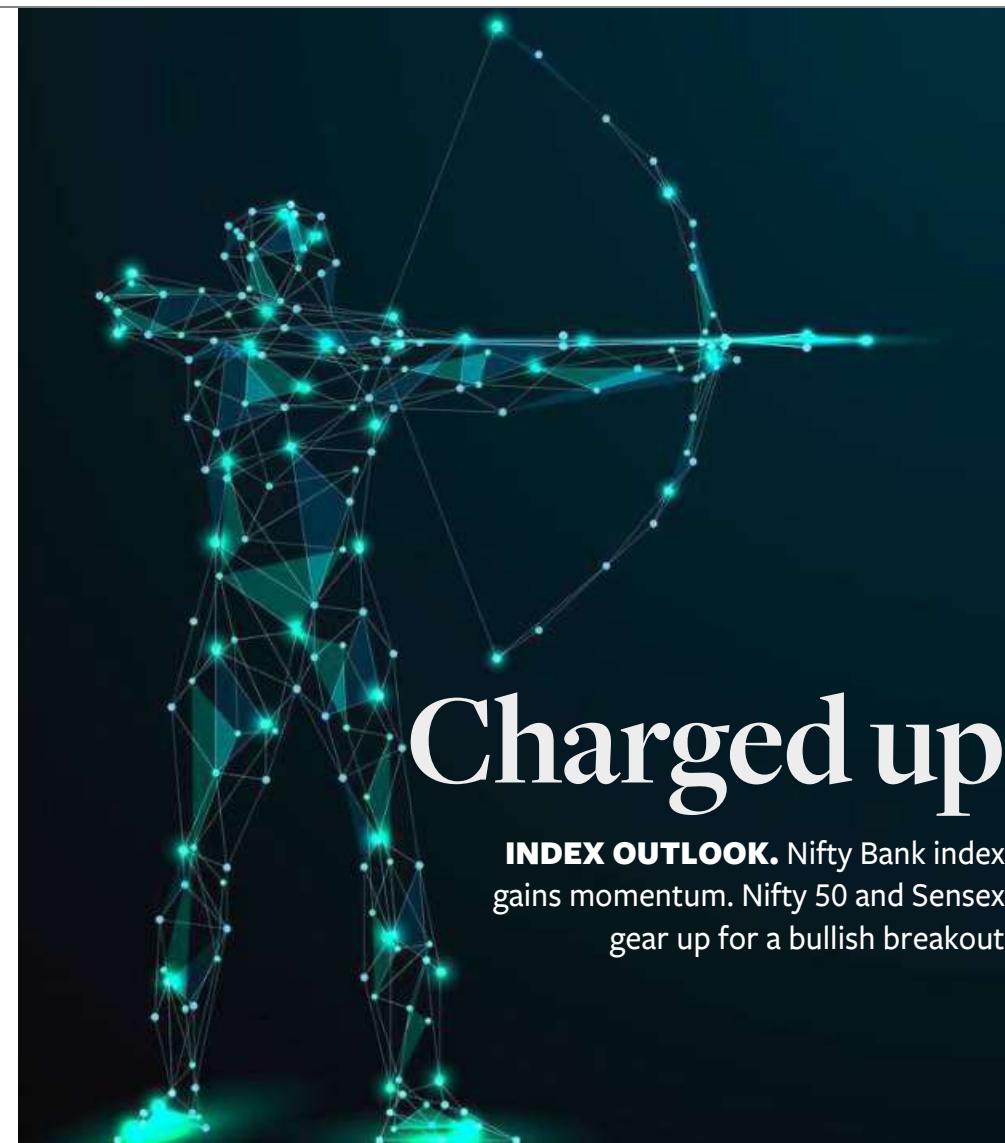
Short-term view: Nifty has been range-bound between 24,350 and 25,100 over the last few weeks. The bias is bullish. We expect the Nifty to breach 25,100 and rise to 25,600-25,800 initially, and then 26,000 eventually in the short term.

If Nifty fails to breach 25,100, it can fall back to 24,800 or 24,600. Thereafter it can rise back again.

Medium-term view: The broader picture remains bullish. Nifty can rise to 28,000-28,500 over the medium term. Also, from a long-term perspective we expect the Nifty to target 31,000. However, there could be an intermediate correction, possibly from the 28,000-28,500 region before the index targets 31,000. Immediate support is in the 24,500-24,000 region. We expect the Nifty to sustain above 24,000 going forward.

NIFTY BANK (56,578.40)

The much-awaited breakout



Charged up

INDEX OUTLOOK. Nifty Bank index gains momentum. Nifty 50 and Sensex gear up for a bullish breakout

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

**SHORT-TERM TARGETS**

- Nifty 50: 25,800-26,000
- Sensex: 84,000-84,500
- Nifty Bank: 58,000-59,000

SENSEX (82,188.99)
Sensex broke below 81,000 initially last week but found support around 80,500. The index rose back well from the low of 80,575 recovering all the loss. It closed the week at 82,188.99, up 0.91 per cent.

Short-term view: The outlook is bullish. Sensex can rise to test its 82,000-83,000 resistance zone. We expect the Sensex to breach 83,000 and rise to 84,500 and higher in the short term.

Medium-term view: Failure to breach 83,000 can drag the index down to 82,000 or even 81,000 again. In that case, the 80,500-83,000 range can continue to remain intact for some more time.

Medium-term view: The outlook is bullish to see 86,000 in the coming months. Strong support is in the 80,000-79,000 region which is likely to limit the downside going forward.

From a long-term perspect-

ive, there are good chances for the Sensex to target 90,000-92,000 on the upside.

US MARKET OUTLOOK

The US benchmark indices have risen well for the second consecutive week. The Dow Jones Industrial Average and the S&P 500 index were up 1.17 per cent and 1.5 per cent respectively. The NASDAQ Composite closed over 2 per cent for the second consecutive week and outperformed last week. The index was up 2.18 per cent.

Overall, the picture on the chart continues to remain bullish for the US benchmark indices. We can expect them to move higher going forward.

DOW JONES (42,762.87)

The Dow Jones is stuck between 41,350 and 43,000 over the last few weeks. But the bias is bullish. So, we expect it to breach 43,000 in the coming days. Such a break will also confirm the inverted head and shoulder bullish pattern on the chart. It will then boost the bullish momentum and take the Dow Jones up to 44,000 initially, and then 45,000-46,000 eventually in the coming weeks.

Near-term supports are at 42,200 and 41,800. These supports can limit the downside if the Dow fails to breach 43,000 and reverses lower.

The index has to decline below 41,800 to turn the short-term outlook negative for a fall to 41,200-41,000.

S&P 500 (6,000.36)

The S&P 500 index has risen breaking above 5,970 as expected. That keeps intact our bullish view of seeing the rise to 6,200. An extended upmove even up to 6,300 cannot be ruled out. Supports are at 5,940 and 5,890 which can limit the downside. The index has to break 5,890 to come under pressure for a fall to 5,800. But that looks less likely.

NASDAQ COMPOSITE (19,529.95)

NASDAQ Composite index has risen well breaking above the resistance at 19,450. That keeps intact our overall bullish view. The index can rise to 20,000-20,100 from here. Supports are at 19,200 and 18,900.



Watch bl. Guru share the Nifty and Bank Nifty technical outlook for this week

**TECH QUERY**

GURUMURTHY K
bl. research bureau

What is the outlook for Mastek? Is it a good time to enter this stock?

Ashish



Mastek (₹2,373): The uptrend seems to have been broken. Cluster of resistances are there in the broad ₹2,400-2,700 region. A strong rise above ₹2,700 is needed for the outlook to turn positive again. That might need some strong

positive trigger. Only then the doors will open for a rise to ₹3,000-3,300 levels again. As long as the stock stays below ₹2,700, the bias will remain negative and the trend reversal will remain valid. Support is in the ₹2,000-2,100 region. A break below ₹2,000 will see Mastek share price tumbling towards ₹1,600 in the coming months. The price action on the chart indicates that the fall to ₹1,600 is more likely to happen. So, stay out of this stock for now.

I have bought shares of Prince Pipes and Fittings at ₹700 per share. I am a long-term investor. What should I do now?

Ramasubramanian, Bengaluru

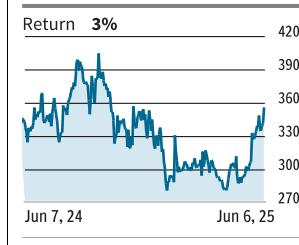


Prince Pipes and Fittings (₹325): After tumbling from around ₹700 in July last year to about ₹320 in April this year, the stock is showing some recovery. However, there is no sign of a trend reversal. This can be a corrective

bounce only. There are chances to see recovery rally to ₹400-450 in the next few months. But going back to your purchase price of ₹700 looks unlikely. Considering the sharp fall it is not advisable to accumulate at current levels. You can consider two options. First is to exit immediately and accept the loss. Second is to keep a stop-loss at ₹280 and exit when the price goes up to ₹400.

I have bought Go Digit General Insurance shares at ₹315. What is the outlook?

Indhira, Mumbai



Go Digit General Insurance (₹333): The stock has formed a strong base around ₹300. The recent rise above ₹320 is a positive sign. This confirms the breakout of the consolidation that was in place since the beginning of this year. The region between ₹325 and ₹320 can be a good support zone. The outlook is bullish. There are good chances to see a rise to ₹380-400 from here. Moving average crossover on the daily chart also strengthens the bullish case. Hold the stock. Keep a stop-loss at ₹318 so that you can lock some profit. Move the stop-loss further up to ₹338 when the price goes up to ₹360. Move the stop-loss further up to ₹355 when the price touches ₹370. Exit the stock at ₹385.

I have shares of Gateway Distrivarks bought at ₹80. What is the outlook?

Srikrishna, Bengaluru



Gateway Distrivarks (₹67): The stock is in a strong downtrend since July last year. Within this, it is currently consolidating now. Some support is around ₹60. There are chances to see a corrective rise to ₹78-80. But

thereafter a fresh leg of fall can happen. In that case, there is a danger of the price tumbling to ₹40 and even lower. So, keep a stop-loss at ₹58. When the price goes up to ₹72 move the stop-loss up to ₹68. Move the stop-loss further up to ₹73 when the price touches ₹77. Exit the stock with a minimum loss at ₹80. As mentioned, there is a danger of the stock price turning down again from around ₹80. So, make sure to exit there.

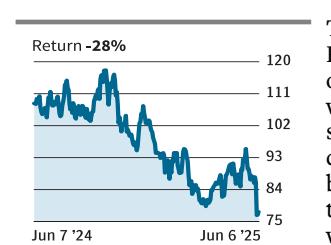
Send your queries to techtrail@thehindu.co.in

BANDU'S BLOCKBUSTERS.**MOVERS & SHAKERS**

AKHIL NALLAMUTHU bl. research bureau

ADITYA BIRLA FASHION AND RETAIL (₹77.79)

Tests a crucial base



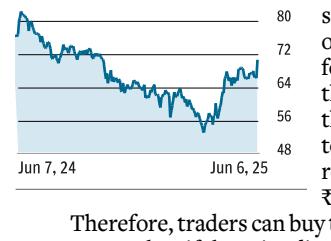
The stock of Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail got hammered and it lost a little over 16 per cent over the past three weeks. However, there are important supports ahead, which can arrest the downturn. The ₹73-77 is the nearest base followed by ₹68 and ₹62. Given this, the stock can establish an uptrend within the broad price region between ₹62 and ₹77. On the upside, the script

can rally to retest the resistance at ₹118. Note that the uptrend

might slow temporarily at ₹96 and ₹105, potential hurdles. Buy the stock at ₹77 and accumulate at ₹68. Place stop-loss at ₹60. Raise the stop-loss to ₹85 and ₹96 when the price rises to ₹96 and ₹105 respectively. Book profits at ₹118.

IDFC FIRST BANK (₹71.52)

Confirms bullish reversal



The stock of IDFC First Bank has been rallying since early April after it found support at ₹53. By mid-May, it broke out of a barrier at ₹66 and last week, it

formed another higher high, confirming that the trend has turned bullish. While

there might be a temporary fall, possibly to ₹68-69 price band, it will eventually resume the rally. We expect it to touch ₹95 over the next few months.

Therefore, traders can buy the stock of IDFC First Bank at ₹71 and

accumulate if the price dips to ₹69. Place stop-loss at ₹62 at first.

Shift this higher to ₹79 when the stock appreciates to ₹85. Tighten the stop-loss further to ₹85 when the price rises to ₹90. Liquidate the longs at ₹95.

ZYDUS WELLNESS (₹1,944.95)

Set to resume the rally



The stock of Zydus Wellness has been appreciating since early March. It began moving up after finding support at ₹1,550. In the recent sessions, the price action shows that the uptrend has slowed and the stock has been consolidating. However, the overall bull

trend stays valid and we expect the rally to resume soon. The stock can touch ₹2,350 before the end of this year. As it

moves up, there could be consolidation at ₹2,100 and ₹2,200.

Hence, go long on the stock at ₹1,940 and buy more shares at ₹1,850. Place stop-loss at ₹1,750. Alter the stop-loss to ₹1,950 when the stock touches ₹2,100. Revise the stop-loss to ₹2,100 when the price hits ₹2,200. Exit at ₹2,350.

Dollar remains stable

CURRENCY OUTLOOK. Broader bearish outlook is intact

Gurumurthy K
bl. research bureau

The dollar index was stable and range-bound all through last week. The index oscillated between 98.35 and 99.45. The US 10Yr Treasury Yield on the other hand surged from its low of 4.31 per cent on Friday recovering all the loss.

The trigger for this rise came from the US jobs data. The dollar index also rose but well within its narrow range.

The non-farm payroll in the US increased by 139,000 in May.

Market expectation was to see an increase of 125,000. The unemployment rate in the US, however, remained unchanged at 4.2 per cent.

For the coming week, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) data release on Wednesday will be important to watch.

A lower CPI number will be negative for the yields and the dollar index as it will keep hopes high in the market for the US Federal Reserve to cut rates.

DOLLAR OUTLOOK

The strong rise on Friday has given some relief for the US 10Yr Treasury Yield (4.51 per cent). If the momentum sustains, there are good chances of seeing a rise to 4.6 per cent this week. However, 4.6-4.65 per cent is a good resistance zone which can cap the upside. We expect the 10Yr Yield to reverse lower again from this resistance zone and fall back to 4.4-4.35 per cent. In case the yield manages to breach 4.65 per cent, there can be an extended rise to 4.75 per cent and then a reversal can happen.

RANGE-BOUND

The euro (EURUSD: 1.1397) oscillated around 1.14 in a narrow range all through last week. The price action indicates that the currency is

struggling to get a strong follow-through rise above 1.14.

Support is there in the 1.1350-1.13 region. As long as the euro stays above 1.13, the bias will remain positive. So, a sustained break above 1.14 can take the euro up to 1.16 in the short term.

8 • bl • Take 500

Valuation Radar: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly

The Benchmark indices, Sensex and Nifty 50 were up 0.9 and 1 per cent respectively last week. BSE Realty gained the most by 9.6 per cent followed by BSE Metal 1.7 per cent, BSE Healthcare and BSE Auto 1.5 per cent each. BSE Capital Goods and BSE IT declined by 0.4 and 0.2 per cent respectively last week.

	Nifty 50	Sensex	Auto	Bankex	Capital Goods	Consumer Durables	FMCG	Healthcare	IT	Metal	Oil & Gas	Power	PSU	Realty	Teck
P/E	22.5	22.8	23.0	14.2	47.2	81.9	41.8	41.3	28.8	15.8	12.8	27.3	12.2	54.1	31.0
P/BV	3.7	4.2	6.0	2.7	8.9	15.3	8.8	6.4	7.6	2.5	1.6	4.0	2.1	6.3	8.2
Dividend Yield	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.9	0.4	1.8	0.5	2.1	2.8	3.2	1.4	2.6	0.3	1.7
Weekly Return (%)	1.0 ▲	0.9 ▲	1.5 ▲	0.6 ▲	-0.4 ▼	0.8 ▲	0.8 ▲	1.5 ▲	-0.2 ▼	1.7 ▲	0.2 ▲	0.2 ▲	1.2 ▲	9.6 ▲	0.2 ▲
Monthly Return (%)	2.6 ▲	1.9 ▲	4.3 ▲	3.2 ▲	14.0 ▲	3.9 ▲	-0.6 ▼	2.9 ▲	4.8 ▲	8.8 ▲	1.7 ▲	4.9 ▲	8.8 ▲	21.7 ▲	3.0 ▲
Annual Return (%)	9.6 ▲	9.5 ▲	-3.9 ▼	13.2 ▲	4.3 ▲	4.4 ▲	-0.8 ▼	21.0 ▲	6.1 ▲	-4.0 ▼	-3.6 ▼	-9.3 ▼	-1.1 ▼	-1.7 ▼	10.6 ▲

The sector indices are disseminated by S&P BSE.

Company	CMP	EPS	PE	PB	Year End	Sales Qty	Profit Qty	Sales TTM	Profit TTM	Wkly Rtn	ROCE	DER	Yr/High	Yr/Low	
360 ONE [1]	1066.3	27.3	39.0	6.0	202503	3.7	2.9	29.5	33.9	6.9	14.5	2.5	1317.3	7661.1	
3M India	29405.1	542.7	54.2	15.4	202406	-0.3	21.6	3.0	23.3	0.6	39.8	0.0	41000.0	25714.4	
A															
A B B [2]	6054.4	89.1	67.9	18.1	202503	2.5	3.2	10.2	29.2	1.4	38.4	0.0	9200.0	4590.1	
A B Real Estate	2359.4	-1.0	6.9	202503	-42.6	-10.3	-16.2	-104.0	8.9	7.5	3142.0	1638.0			
Aadhar Hsg. Fin.	449.8	21.1	21.3	3.1	202503	20.4	21.0	21.6	1.2	11.4	3.2	516.7	340.5		
Aarti Industries [5]	476.7	9.1	52.5	3.1	202503	9.9	-2.7	14.2	-21.1	7.3	7.6	767.1	347.4		
AAVAS Financials	1921.9	62.0	31.6	4.0	202403	21.4	12.3	25.4	15.2	4.4	9.9	32238.4	1582.6		
Abbott India	31751.1	665.6	47.7	15.0	202503	11.5	27.9	9.6	4.3	44.7	0.0	32180.0	25262.0		
ACC [2]	100.3	1.8	15.2	1.8	202503	1.1	-1.0	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0	100.0	100.0		
Action Cons.Eq. [2]	1242.0	34.4	36.1	9.2	202503	15.0	20.4	12.4	-2.7	0.2	0.0	1601.0	917.1		
Adani Energy [2]	883.8	20.2	4.8	202503	35.4	79.0	43.1	11.5	1.9	10.1	2.2	1347.9	588.3		
Adani Enterprises [1]	2535.0	36.3	69.9	6.3	202503	-7.6	41.2	1.5	20.1	0.6	9.0	1.8	3351.0	2026.9	
Adani Green	1018.8	10.7	94.8	19.3	202503	22.1	79.5	22.9	35.6	0.4	9.4	6.4	2091.9	758.0	
Adani Ports [2]	1471.3	52.3	28.1	5.1	202503	23.1	28.5	14.1	34.0	2.7	14.0	0.9	1604.2	939.9	
Adani Power	555.2	33.5	16.3	4.3	202503	6.5	-3.7	11.6	1.2	0.7	0.0	810.3	430.9		
Adani Gas [1]	679.4	33.3	112.2	18.1	202503	14.9	-1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1084.0	533.0		
Aditya Birla Fin. [5]	756.6	33.3	24.2	6.0	202503	17.3	9.5	24.5	19.2	4.3	34.9	0.0	1210.0	530.0	
Aditya Birla Fin. [5]	77.8	5.2	1.8	2.4	202503	9.2	-16.5	1.5	1.5	0.0	0.0	126.0	126.0		
Aditya Birla Cap [2]	233.3	12.7	18.4	2.0	202503	13.3	-29.6	18.6	-0.1	4.9	1.0	41.1	247.0	148.8	
Aegis Logistics [1]	799.7	16.5	48.4	6.0	202412	-8.9	-6.3	12.5	0.6	1035.7	610.5				
Aether Industri.	789.7	12.6	62.4	4.7	202503	104.4	4765.7	40.2	86.5	7.5	0.1	1066.3	742.6		
Afflco [3]	1800.5	27.2	66.2	4.8	202503	17.0	23.0	28.5	2.7	15.8	0.1	1883.1	1182.8		
AI Engineering [2]	3504.6	11.6	31.4	4.8	202503	-0.5	2.0	-11.0	-7.1	-0.3	2.8	0.0	4940.0	3005.1	
Ajanta Pharma [2]	2590.1	10.1	34.9	4.8	202503	11.0	1.0	12.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	1210.0	1210.0		
Ajanta Pharma [2]	3249.4	9.3	34.4	11.1	202503	5.0	-3.3	0.7	-2.9	0.1	0.0	449.0	351.0		
Alembic Pharma [2]	987.9	29.3	33.9	3.7	202503	16.7	-12.0	7.1	-6.9	-2.9	12.9	0.1	1296.2	756.0	
Alkem Lab [2]	4865.0	18.1	26.9	4.9	202503	7.1	0.9	2.3	14.5	-0.5	18.3	0.0	6240.0	4489.9	
Alkyl Amines [2]	1890.3	36.4	54.7	7.3	202503	8.3	19.7	9.1	25.0	1.7	0.0	2498.0	1500.0		
Alok Industries [1]	19.3	-1.8	-0.5	-20.5	202503	-35.1	-17.0	-32.7	-7.5	-1.7	0.0	30.0	13.9		
Amara Raja Enr. [1]	1000.5	47.4	21.1	2.5	202503	5.2	-29.7	9.7	-1.1	-2.8	18.8	0.0	1774.9	805.1	
Amber Energy [2]	3039.4	88.6	88.9	5.3	202503	39.3	28.2	48.2	83.1	0.0	0.0	818.0	818.0		
Amplus Centres [5]	556.0	15.9	32.6	2.6	202503	11.6	-0.3	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.6	706.0	452.9		
Anand Rathi Wea. [5]	1979.0	36.1	54.8	24.4	202503	20.4	29.8	27.3	33.3	5.6	5.6	0.1	2320.0	1586.1	
Anant Raj [2]	57.7	12.4	46.6	4.8	202503	22.2	21.5	5.5	38.9	6.3	0.2	947.3	356.7		
Angel One [2]	3215.9	25.9	42.7	5.2	202503	-22.2	-26.6	4.1	6.0	2.5	0.0	2570.0	1240.0		
Anupam Rasayan [2]	1040.3	8.5	122.2	4.0	202503	24.7	-4.2	-27.4	3.7	9.4	0.4	1055.0	601.0		
Appl. Apollo Tubes [2]	1922.0	27.3	70.4	12.1	202503	15.6	1.2	12.0	3.4	5.2	0.3	1924.7	1253.0		
Apollo Tyres [5]	6941.1	10.1	57.4	11.0	202503	10.7	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	1095.0	1095.0		
Apollo Tyres [5]	4712.2	19.5	24.2	2.0	202503	19.8	-3.6	-2.1	-0.3	0.1	0.4	584.7	368.0		
Appus Value Hou. [2]	316.4	20.1	21.1	3.7	202503	29.2	26.2</								



Breaking down bond market dynamics

INVEST-WISE. RBI's repo rate cut, hefty dividend payout to the Centre and surplus liquidity: What retail investors should know

GETTY IMAGES

Dhuraivel Gunasekaran
bl. research bureau

From repo rate cut to economic policy changes, multiple factors are impacting bond markets today. We break down recent developments and explain what they mean for your investment strategy.

REPO RATE CUT

On June 6, the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee delivered a significant 50 basis point repo rate reduction, bringing the policy rate down to 5.5 per cent while transitioning from an 'accommodative' to 'neutral' stance.

The RBI Governor signalled that rate cuts had been front-loaded and that future policy decisions will be driven by economic data rather than predetermined bias.

Alongside the rate cut, the central bank reduced the cash reserve ratio for banks by 100 basis points to 3 per cent of net demand and time liabilities, demonstrating coordinated monetary easing.

This latest reduction represents the third consecutive rate cut in 2025, adding up to 100 basis points of easing since February 2025, and pushing the repo rate to its lowest level since Covid. The RBI's strategy aims to align consumer price infla-

tion with the 4 per cent medium-term target while supporting economic growth.

The central bank has revised its full-year FY26 headline inflation projection downward to 3.7 per cent from April's 4 per cent forecast, while maintaining quarterly GDP growth estimates at 6.5, 6.7, 6.6, and 6.3 per cent for consecutive quarters of FY26.

Transmission of rate cuts is already evident in the banking sector, at least on the deposit side. Major lenders have begun reducing their deposit rates with HDFC Bank cutting fixed deposit rates by up to 50 basis points for select tenures and State Bank of India reducing rates by 10 basis points in April 2025. Borrowers of external benchmark-linked loans will see a reduction in rates with this cut.

The CRR reduction will inject approximately ₹2.5 lakh crore of primary liquidity into the banking system between September and November 2025, lowering funding costs and accelerating monetary policy transmission.

RBI'S RECORD DIVIDEND
On May 23, the RBI announced a record surplus transfer of ₹2.69 trillion to the government for FY25, a 27 per cent rise from last year's ₹2.1 trillion.

This increase stems from higher profitability driven by

THIRD CUT

The 50 bps cut is the third consecutive rate cut in 2025, adding up to 100 basis points of easing since February 2025 and pushing the repo rate to its lowest level since Covid-19 pandemic

active forex management and improved returns on foreign assets. According to the RBI Annual Report 2024-25, forex transaction gains surged 33 per cent to ₹1.11 lakh crore, while interest income from foreign securities jumped 49 per cent to ₹97,006.66 crore.

This marks a significant shift from the past, when average annual payouts hovered between ₹30,000 and ₹50,000 crore until 2019.

The progression from ₹87,420 crore in FY23 to ₹2.1 trillion in FY24, and now ₹2.69 trillion highlights the impact of proactive forex interventions and elevated global interest rates.

This record payout could help the government trim its fiscal deficit, reduce borrowing needs, and support bond market sentiment.

SURPLUS LIQUIDITY

The RBI's ₹2.69 trillion dividend transfer is expected to significantly boost the banking system liquidity over the coming months, adding to the existing daily average surplus of ₹1.5 trillion.

Taken with the CRR cut, this will likely push short-term rates lower. Surplus liquidity in the system has driven short-term paper yields down by 40-50 basis points over the past three months.

For instance, the yield on 3-month commercial paper dropped to 6.15 per cent as of June 4, 2025, from 7.59 per cent three months ago. Similarly, the call rate eased to 5.75 per cent from 6.27 per cent during the same period.

The central bank started infusing liquidity aggressively from January 2025 through multiple tools: open market operations (OMOs), variable rate repo auctions, and USD-INR buy-sell swaps that inject rupee liquidity while absorbing foreign exchange.

These liquidity operations have significantly benefited the banking system. Upcoming CRR reductions will further amplify this liquidity injection, creating favourable conditions for debt markets.

Excess liquidity will compress yield spreads across the curve, likely improving performance of short to medium-duration debt mutual funds including short-duration, corporate bond, and banking PSU debt markets.

This marked the first quarterly outflow since India was included in global bond indices in September 2023.

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funds while surplus liquidity persists.

Conversely, falling short-term rates will negatively impact accrual-based very short-term debt funds such as overnight, liquid, and money market funds. Long-term bond yields are likely to remain range-bound as current rate cuts have been partially priced in, resulting in limited gains for long-duration bonds.

NARROWING SPREAD

The spread between Indian and US 10-year government bond yields fell to a 20-year low of 164 basis points on May 21, 2025. Currently, India's 10-year bond yields 6.29 per cent, while the US 10-year Treasury stands at 4.357 per cent, putting the spread at 193 basis points.

Such a narrowing of the yield gap typically reduces the appeal of Indian debt to foreign investors, as the adjusted return — after accounting for currency volatility and compliance costs — becomes less favourable.

This is evident in the recent outflow of ₹25,544 crore of foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) from Indian government securities under the fully accessible route (FAR) during the first quarter of FY26.

This marked the first quarterly outflow since India was included in global bond indices in September 2023.

Bank FD interest rates (%)

Bank	<1 year	1 to 2 years	2 to 3 years	3 to 5 years	w.e.f
FOREIGN BANKS					
DBS Bank	6	7.05	6.9	6.5	May 31
Deutsche Bank	6	7.75	6.75	6.75	Apr 28
HSBC	4.1	7	6	6	May 07
Scotiabank	3.7	3.9	4	4	May 01
Standard Chartered	6.5	7.2	7	7	May 03
INDIAN: PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS					
Bank of Maharashtra	6.5	7.15	6.5	6.25	Jun 02
Bank of Baroda	6.5	7.3	7.15	6.8	Oct 14
Bank of India	5.75	7	6.65	6.5	Jun 01
Canara Bank	6.25	7	6.9	6.75	Jun 01
Central Bank of India	6.25	7.3	7.15	6.75	Apr 10
Indian Bank	4.75	7.15	6.7	6.25	NA
Indian Overseas Bank	5.75	7.1	6.8	6.5	May 13
Punjab National Bank	6.25	6.9	6.7	6.5	Jun 01
Punjab & Sind Bank	6	7.25	6.5	6.5	Apr 01
State Bank of India	6.3	6.85	6.7	6.55	May 16
UCO Bank	6.85	6.9	6.3	6.2	Jun 05
Union Bank	6.25	7.15	6.7	6.5	Apr 25
INDIAN: PRIVATE SECTOR BANKS					
Axis Bank	6	6.85	6.75	6.75	May 30
Bandhan Bank	4.5	7.75	7.25	7.25	May 01
CSB Bank	6.75	7.4	7	5.75	May 03
City Union Bank	6.5	7	7	6.25	Jun 04
DCB Bank	6.75	7.75	7.5	7.25	May 07
Dhanlaxmi Bank	6	7.25	6.5	7	Jun 02
Federal Bank	6.25	7	6.9	6.9	Jun 02
HDFC Bank	6	6.85	6.7	6.65	May 23
ICICI Bank	6	6.85	6.75	6.75	Jun 06
IDBI Bank	6.25	7.15	7	6.5	May 16
IDFC First Bank	5.5	7	6.75	6	Jun 06
IndusInd Bank	6.5	7.25	7	7	Jun 02
J & K Bank	6.25	7.25	7.3	6.75	May 11
Karnataka Bank	6.15	7	6.5	6.5	Jun 03
Kotak Bank	6.5	6.85	6.75	6.75	Jun 05
Karur Vysya Bank	7.15	7.25	7	7	May 16
RBL Bank	6.05	7.75	7.5	7.1	Apr 25
South Indian Bank	6.25	6.95	6.5	6.8	May 28
Tamilnad Mercantile Bank	6.75	7.3	6.75	6.5	Apr 18
TNSC Bank	6.6	7.5	6.85	6.6	NA
Yes Bank	6.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	Apr 21
SMALL FINANCE BANKS					
AU Small Finance Bank	7	7.75	7.5	7.5	Apr 16
Equitas Small Finance Bank	7.2	7.9	8.05	7.5	Apr 07
ESAF Small Finance Bank	5	7.75	7.5	6.25	Apr 07
Jana Small Finance Bank	7.5	8.05	8.05	8.2	Jun 03
Suryoday Small Finance Bank	7.25	8.25	8.4	8	01-Jun
Utkarsh Small Finance Bank	6.25	8.25	8.25	8	May 05

Data as on respective banks' website on 06 Jun 2025; For each year range, the maximum offered interest rate is considered; interest rate is for a normal fixed deposit amount below ₹1 crore. Compiled by BankBazaar.com;

ALERTS.

Policybazaar rolls out elder care program Saarthi

Policybazaar through its insurer partners has launched Saarthi, a first-of-its-kind elder care concierge service for senior citizens. From choosing the right insurance plan to getting hands-on claims assistance and personalised follow-ups, Saarthi offers an experience tailored to the unique needs of older adults. It offers specialised sales & service advisors, direct helpline, on-ground claims support, and senior-focussed concierge services.

Small Savings Schemes - Interest rates

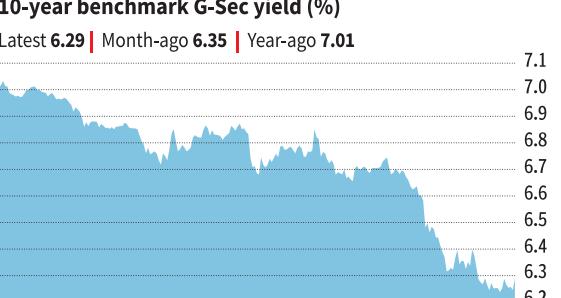
Small Savings Scheme	Interest rate (%)		Compounding frequency
	Jan 1 - Mar 31, 2025	Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2025	
Post Office Savings Deposit	4.0	4.0	Annually
1 year	6.9	6.9	Quarterly
2 year	7.0	7.0	Quarterly
3 year	7.1	7.1	Quarterly
5 year	7.5	7.5	Quarterly
Post Office Recurring Deposit (5 year)	6.7	6.7	Quarterly
Senior Citizen Savings Scheme	8.2	8.2	Quarterly and paid
Post Office Monthly Income Scheme	7.4	7.4	Monthly and paid
National Savings Certificate	7.7	7.7	Annually
Public Provident Fund	7.1	7.1	Annually
Kisan Vikas Patra	7.5 ^a	7.5 ^a	Annually
Sukanya Samridhi Yojana	8.2	8.2	Annually

Note: Small savings rate as on the latest quarterly reset on March 28, 2025
#Will mature in 115 months Source: Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, GoI

Bond yields

10-year benchmark G-Sec yield (%)

Latest 6.29 | Month-ago 6.35 | Year-ago 7.01





bl.rating	Scheme Name	Latest NAV (₹)	Latest Corpus (₹ Cr)	Expense Ratio (%)	Regular	Direct	1 Year CAGR	3 Year CAGR	5 Year CAGR	10 Year CAGR	Sortino Ratio (%)
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EQUITY - LARGE CAP FUNDS

★★★★★ Canara Robeco Bluechip Equity	63.0	15621	1.7	0.5	12.0	17.7	20.4	14.0	0.79	
★★★★★ ICICI Pru Bluechip	109.6	68034	1.4	0.9	11.0	20.5	23.6	14.4	0.97	
★★★★★ JM Large Cap	152.1	507	2.4	0.8	1.1	18.2	18.6	10.8	0.65	
★★★★★ Baroda BNPPL Large Cap	219.7	2543	2.0	0.8	6.4	18.4	20.7	12.7	0.77	
★★★★★ Edelweiss Large Cap	83.8	1229	2.1	0.6	8.1	18.0	21.0	12.6	0.81	
★★★★★ Kotak Bluechip	569.8	9830	1.7	0.6	9.8	17.6	21.6	13.0	0.82	
★★★★★ Nippon Ind Large Cap	90.3	39677	1.5	0.7	10.7	23.1	26.4	14.5	0.98	
★★★★★ Aditya Birla SL Frontline Equity	525.0	29220	1.7	1.0	10.9	18.0	22.0	12.7	0.84	
★★★★★ Bandhan Large Cap	76.2	1828	2.0	0.9	9.9	18.8	20.7	12.4	0.73	
★★★★★ HDFC Large Cap	1130.5	37315	1.6	1.0	7.0	18.7	22.9	13.1	0.88	
★★★★★ HSBC Large Cap	466.1	1809	2.1	1.2	7.7	17.0	19.5	12.4	0.67	
★★★★★ Invesco India Largecap	69.1	1424	2.1	0.8	11.4	19.2	21.4	12.9	0.73	
★★★★★ Mirae Asset Large Cap	112.1	38892	1.5	0.6	11.5	15.0	19.8	13.6	0.77	
★★★★★ SBI Blue Chip	92.1	51010	1.5	0.8	9.7	17.1	21.3	12.8	0.86	
★★★★★ Tata Large Cap	499.6	2539	2.0	1.0	5.9	17.2	21.6	12.1	0.82	
★★★★★ UTI Large Cap	273.1	12720	1.8	0.9	8.6	14.9	19.6	11.9	0.72	
★★★★★ Axis Large Cap	60.3	33218	1.6	0.7	8.1	13.8	16.2	12.4	0.55	
★★★★★ Franklin Ind Bluechip	1014.6	7600	1.9	1.2	10.6	15.7	19.7	11.2	0.74	
★★★★★ LIC MF Large Cap	56.1	1469	2.1	1.0	9.6	14.5	17.8	10.7	0.62	
★★★★★ Union Largecap	23.4	442	2.5	1.5	5.1	15.1	19.3	-	0.70	
★★★★★ DSP Large Cap	474.7	5611	1.9	1.0	14.9	21.4	21.0	12.0	0.86	
★★★★★ Groww Largecap	42.4	124	2.4	1.0	4.6	16.0	18.4	11.8	0.64	
★★★★★ PGIM India Large Cap	339.3	593	2.4	0.9	8.6	14.7	17.9	10.7	0.64	
- Mahi Manu Large Cap	23.1	651	2.3	0.7	8.6	16.0	20.4	-	0.76	
- Taurus Large Cap	156.7	48	2.6	2.4	6.4	17.5	19.4	9.8	0.61	

EQUITY - LARGE & MID CAP FUNDS

★★★★★ HDFC Large and Mid Cap	337.1	24326	1.7	0.9	9.0	23.7	28.8	14.4	0.97	
★★★★★ Quant Large & Mid Cap	117.1	3645	1.9	0.6	-4.5	21.7	25.4	16.9	0.75	
★★★★★ Bandhan Core Equity	133.1	8408	1.8	0.6	12.9	27.5	28.9	15.7	0.97	
★★★★★ ICICI Pru Large & Mid Cap	997.6	20352	1.7	0.8	13.0	24.3	28.9	15.7	1.09	
★★★★★ Kotak Equity Opport	338.2	25712	1.6	0.6	6.7	22.3	24.8	15.5	0.86	
★★★★★ Mirae Asset Large & Midcap	148.6	37799	1.5	0.6	8.4	18.3	24.4	17.9	0.81	
★★★★★ Canara Robeco Emerging Equities	257.3	24041	1.6	0.6	12.1	19.9	24.2	16.0	0.80	
★★★★★ DSP Large & Mid Cap	617.2	14387	1.7	0.7	11.4	23.8	25.5	15.7	0.90	
★★★★★ Edelweiss Large & Mid Cap	86.4	3732	1.9	0.5	11.8	21.2	25.0	14.7	0.81	
★★★★★ Invesco India Large & Mid Cap	99.6	6765	1.8	0.7	21.0	27.7	26.1	16.9	0.77	
★★★★★ LIC MF Large & Midcap	39.0	3055	1.9	0.6	11.7	19.6	23.5	14.9	0.77	
★★★★★ SBI Large & Midcap	610.3	30133	1.6	0.8	10.5	20.8	25.7	14.9	0.98	
★★★★★ Tata Large & Mid Cap	528.3	8294	1.8	0.7	8.1	19.6	23.0	13.8	0.85	
★★★★★ UTI Large & Mid Cap	177.6	4544	1.9	1.1	12.4	24.6	28.1	14.0	0.99	
★★★★★ BOI Large & Mid Cap Equity	87.8	376	2.3	1.1	5.9	20.6	23.2	12.6	0.73	
★★★★★ Navi Large & Midcap	35.5	303	2.3	0.4	9.1	15.9	22.0	-	0.74	
★★★★★ Nippon Ind Vision	1452.5	5719	1.9	1.3	11.0	23.6	27.1	13.0	0.93	
★★★★★ Sundaram Large and Mid Cap	84.1	6550	1.8	0.8	7.6	18.8	23.0	14.4	0.75	
★ Aditya Birla SL Equity Advantage	904.0	5491	1.9	1.2	8.4	16.9	20.8	12.2	0.58	
★ Franklin Ind Equity Advantage	190.4	3375	2.0	1.3	13.7	18.6	24.8	12.0	0.84	
Axis Large & Mid Cap	32.4	13755	1.7	0.6	9.6	20.4	24.2	-	0.73	
HSCB Large & Mid Cap	26.4	3906	1.9	0.9	8.5	22.4	24.5	-	0.64	

EQUITY - FLEXI CAP FUNDS

★★★★★ JM Flexicap	97.6	5625	1.8	0.5	2.9	26.5	27.1	16.4	0.86	
★★★★★ Parag Parikh Flexi Cap	83.9	98541	1.3	0.6	15.2	22.2	26.4	17.7	1.07	
★★★★★ Franklin Ind Flexi Cap	1644.8	18225	1.7	1.0	11.3	22.1	26.5	14.3	0.94	
★★★★★ HDFC Flexi Cap	1961.2	74105	1.4	0.7	14.2	25.3	29.7	15.8	1.14	
★★★★★ PGIM India Flexi Cap	36.0	6143	1.8	0.4	11.5	26.2	22.7	13.9	0.75	
★★★★★ Union Flexi Cap	50.9	2227	2.0	0.9	9.1	18.0	22.9	12.6	0.78	
★★★★★ Aditya Birla SL Flexi Cap	1787.3	22414	1.7	0.9	13.1	19.8	22.9	14.4	0.79	
★★★★★ Canara Robeco Flexi Cap	338.2	12609	1.7	0.6	10.8	17.7	21.2	13.9	0.76	
★★★★★ DSP Flexi Cap	103.1	11412	1.7	0.7	12.4	20.9	22.5	14.6	0.73	
★★★★★ Edelweiss Flexi Cap	37.6	2542	1.9	0.5	9.2	21.2	24.5	14.6	0.81	
★★★★★ HSBC Flexi Cap	218.1	4700	1.9	1.2	11.2	22.0	24.4	13.2	0.72	
★★★★★ Kotak Flexicap	84.9	50812	1.5	0.6	10.4	20.0	21.8	14.4	0.77	
★★★★★ Bandhan Flexi Cap	207.1	7179	1.9	1.2	10.1	18.5	20.9	11.2	0.74	
★★★★★ LIC MF Flexi Cap	93.8	980	2.3	1.3	6.0	15.0	16.8	9.1	0.53	
★★★★★ SBI Flexic平	107.2	2								

bl.rating	Scheme Name	Latest NAV (₹)	Latest Corpus (₹ Cr)	Expense Ratio (%)	Regular	Direct	1 Month Ann.	3 Month Ann.	6 Month Ann.	1 Year CAGR	AA & Below
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CASH FUNDS

LIQUID FUNDS

- 360 ONE Liquid	2003.3	796	0.3	0.2	6.7	7.0	7.0	7.1	-	
- Aditya Birla SL Liquid	419.2	44546	0.3	0.2	6.9	7.4	7.2	7.3	-	
- Axis Liquid	2896.9	36089	0.2	0.1	7.0	7.4	7.3	7.3	-	
- Bandhan Liquid	3142.9	13626	0.3	0.1	6.9	7.3	7.1	7.2	-	
- Baroda BNPP Liquid	2991.6	11384	0.3	0.2	6.9	7.3	7.1	7.2	-	
- BOI Liquid	2996.1	1849	0.1	0.1	7.1	7.4	7.3	7.3	-	
- Canara Robeco Liquid	3131.6	4692	0.2	0.1	6.9	7.4	7.3	7.3	-	
- DSP Liquidity	3714.3	17752	0.2	0.1	7.0	7.3	7.2	7.3	-	
- Edelweiss Liquid	3327.2	7716	0.2	0.1	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.3	-	
- Groww Liquid	2516.5	212	0.2	0.1	7.1	7.6	7.3	7.3	-	
- HDFC Liquid	5104.5	64398	0.3	0.2	6.8	7.4	7.2	7.2	-	
- HSBC Liquid	2594.4	21894	0.2	0.1	7.2	7.5	7.3	7.3	-	
- ICICI Prudential Liquid	385.2	50000	0.3	0.2	7.0	7.4	7.2	7.3	-	
- Invesco India Liquid	3576.2	14737	0.2	0.2	7.1	7.4	7.2	7.3	-	
- ITI Liquid	1355.1	70	0.3	0.1	6.8	7.1	7.0	7.0	-	
- JM Liquid	71.0	2196	0.3	0.2	7.1	7.3	7.1	7.2	-	
- Kotak Liquid	5258.7	36088	0.3	0.2	7.0	7.4	7.2	7.2	-	
- LIC MF Liquid	4703.5	11165	0.3	0.2	6.9	7.3	7.1	7.2	-	
- Mahi Manu Liquid	1692.9	1198	0.3	0.2	6.9	7.3	7.2	7.3	-	
- Mirae Asset Liquid	2728.4	14285	0.2	0.1	7.1	7.4	7.2	7.3	-	
- Motilal Oswal Liquid	13.8	1117	0.4	0.2	6.3	6.6	6.6	6.7	-	
- Navi Liquid	28.3	121	0.2	0.2	6.4	6.4	6.6	6.8	-	
- Nippon Ind Liquid	6349.7	36125	0.3	0.2	7.0	7.4	7.2	7.2	-	
- Parag Parikh Liquid	1443.6	3426	0.2	0.1	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.9	-	
- PGM India Liquid	338.7	472	0.2	0.1	7.0	7.5	7.3	7.3	-	
- Quant Liquid	41.1	1679	0.5	0.3	6.7	6.9	7.0	7.0	-	
- Quantum Liquid	34.9	558	0.3	0.2	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.8	-	
- SBI Liquid	4067.3	65172	0.3	0.2	7.0	7.3	7.2	7.2	-	
- Sundaram Liquid	2295.1	6288	0.3	0.1	6.9	7.2	7.2	7.2	-	
- Tata Liquid	4097.9	18156	0.3	0.2	7.0	7.4	7.3	7.3	-	
- Union Liquid	2503.3	4208	0.2	0.1	6.9	7.3	7.2	7.3	-	
- UTI Liquid	4268.1	23623	0.2	0.2	6.9	7.4	7.2	7.3	-	
- WhiteOak Capital Liquid	1399.5	452	0.3	0.2	6.7	7.2	7.1	7.2	-	

ARBITRAGE FUNDS

- Aditya Birla SL Arbitrage	26.5	15896	1.0	0.3	5.6	7.3	7.1	7.0	-	
- Axis Arbitrage	18.6	6299	1.0	0.3	5.4	7.2	7.0	6.9	-	
- Bandhan Arbitrage	32.3	8656	1.1	0.4	5.3	7.0	7.0	7.0	-	
- Baroda BNPP Arbitrage	16.0	1027	1.1	0.3	5.2	6.7	6.5	6.7	2.40	
- BOI Arbitrage	13.7	44	0.9	0.5	4.1	6.2	6.5	6.6	-	
- DSP Arbitrage	14.9	6153	1.0	0.3	5.1	6.6	6.8	6.9	-	
- Edelweiss Arbitrage	19.3	14307	1.1	0.4	5.3	6.8	7.1	7.0	-	
- HDFC Arbitrage	30.5	19627	1.0	0.4	5.1	6.7	6.9	7.0	-	
- HSBC Arbitrage	18.9	2314	0.9	0.2	4.8	6.6	6.8	6.7	-	
- ICICI Prudential Equity-Arbitrage	34.2	26918	0.9	0.4	5.6	7.2	7.1	7.1	-	
- Invesco India Arbitrage	31.8	20029	1.1	0.4	5.1	6.7	6.9	7.0	-	
- ITI Arbitrage	12.9	49	0.9	0.2	4.6	6.6	7.0	6.7	-	
- JM Arbitrage	32.5	194	1.1	0.4	4.1	5.7	6.2	6.4	-	
- Kotak Equity Arbitrage	37.3	63310	1.1	0.4	5.2	7.0	7.1	7.1	-	
- LIC MF Arbitrage	13.8	168	1.0	0.3	4.5	6.6	6.8	6.7	-	
- Mahi Manu Arbitrage	12.3	105	1.2	0.4	4.0	5.3	5.5	5.5	-	
- Mirae Asset Arbitrage	13.0	3054	0.9	0.1	4.6	6.0	6.6	6.7	-	
- Nippon Ind Arbitrage	26.4	14113	1.1	0.4	4.8	6.5	6.7	6.8	-	
- PGM India Arbitrage	18.3	105	1.1	0.4	5.5	7.2	7.0	6.8	-	
- SBI Arbitrage Opport	33.7	31895	0.9	0.4	5.8	7.2	7.2	7.1	-	
- Sundaram Arbitrage	14.4	292	1.0	0.2	5.8	6.7	6.9	6.8	-	
- Tata Arbitrage	14.3	13629	1.1	0.3	5.7	7.3	7.0	7.0	-	
- Union Arbitrage	14.0	302	1.1	0.5	4.8	6.2	6.6	6.7	-	
- UTI Arbitrage	34.9	7308	0.8	0.3	5.7	7.3	7.2	7.2	-	

DEBT FUNDS

DEBT - ULTRA SHORT DURATION FUNDS

★★★★★ Nippon Ind Ultra Short Duration	4020.4	8772	1.1	0.4	7.6	7.2	6.8	6.5	10.97	
★★★★★ UTI Ultra Short Duration	4228.6	4351	0.9	0.4	7.5	7.2	6.8	6.1	3.62	
★★★★★ Aditya Birla SL Savings	547.2	18981	0.5	0.3	8.3	7.8	7.4	6.3	11.59	
★★★★★ Baroda BNPP Ultra Short Duration	1538.6	1595	0.5	0.3	7.8	7.5	7.3	5.8	0.50	
★★★★★ HDFC Ultra Short Term	15.1	16573	0.7	0.4	7.8	7.4	7.0	5.8	4.44	
★★★★★ ICICI Pru Ultra Short Term	27.6	16269	0.8	0.4	7.8	7.5	7.1	6.1	5.42	
★★★★★ Axis Ultra Short Duration	14.7	6211	1.2	0.4	7.4	7.0	6.6	5.4	4.28	
★★★★★ Bandhan Ultra Short Term	15.2	4562	0.5	0.3	7.7	7.4	7.1	5.6	-	
★★★★★ Invesco India Ultra Short Duration	2690.8	1227	0.7	0.2	7.6	7.3	6.9	5.4	2.79	
★★★★★ Kotak Savings	42.8	15401	0.8	0.4	7.6	7.3	6.9	5.6	1.95	
★★★★★ PGM India Ultra Short Duration	34.0	198	0.9	0.3	7.2	6.9	6.6	5.4	-	

Landau assures US backing on India's anti-terror ops

STRATEGIC DIALOGUE. Indian delegation in Washington also discusses bilateral trade

Our Bureau
New Delhi

The US stands strong with India in the fight against terrorism, US Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau told an all-party delegation visiting Washington on the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoos.

The Indian delegation met Landau on Friday (US time) as it wrapped up the crucial US leg of its multi-nation tour, briefing key interlocutors about Operation Sindoos that targeted terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

Previously, the Indian Embassy had posted on X: "An all-party delegation led

by Dr. @ShashiTharoor arrives in Washington D.C. Over the next two days the delegation will be meeting members of the US Congress and administration, think tanks, media and policymakers to brief them on Operation Sindoos and India's strong stand against terrorism."

A statement issued by State Department spokesperson Tammy Bruce said: Landau "reaffirmed the United States' strong support of India in the fight against terrorism and the strategic partnership between the two countries."

COMMERCIAL TIES
The delegation discussed with Landau the importance of advancing key areas



US Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau

tries, according to the statement.

Bruce said that Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau had met with an Indian Parliamentary delegation in Washington.

"The Deputy Secretary reaffirmed the United States' strong support of India in the fight against terrorism and the strategic partnership between the two countries," she said.

EXPANDING TRADE
Landau and the delegation discussed the importance of advancing key areas of the bilateral relationship, "including expanding trade and commercial ties to foster economic growth and prosperity in both countries".

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IndiGrid buys 2 assets from ReNew for ₹2,100 cr

Janaki Krishnan
Mumbai

KKR-backed infrastructure investment trust IndiGrid has signed agreements to acquire a solar and a transmission asset from ReNew Energy at an enterprise value of ₹2,108 crore.

In a statement, KKR said the acquisition will be funded through a combination of equity, internal accruals, and debt. The net debt to AUM ratio will be 62 per cent post the acquisition, leaving adequate headroom for future growth, it added.

The solar asset, Renew Solar Aayan Private Ltd, is a 300 MW operational project located in Barmer, Rajasthan. The transmission asset, Koppal Narendra Transmission Limited (KNTL), is a Build-Own-Operate-Maintain, inter-State transmission system project in Karnataka.

SOLAR PROJECT
The solar project has been operational since March 2024 and has a 25-year power purchase agreement (PPA) with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) at a fixed tariff of ₹2.37 per unit. It is a fully owned subsidiary of ReNew Solar Power Private Ltd, part of ReNew Energy Global. It is located near an asset acquired by IndiGrid in 2024 and offers strong operational synergies and strengthens the platform's presence in the renewable segment. This has been operational since October 2023, and it comprises around 276 circuit kilometers of transmission lines and 2,500 MVA of transformation capacity.

Koppal Narendra Transmission Limited is a joint venture between ReNew Solar Power, with 51 per cent stake and KNI India (49 per cent), itself a joint venture between Norfund and KLP.

With its location in a region witnessing rapid grid expansion, KNTL offers long-term augmentation potential for IndiGrid, the statement said.

IndiGrid will acquire entire shareholding and management control of both assets, in line with the provisions of the definitive and concession agreements and the PPA, including lock-in obligations.

Harsh Shah, Managing Director of IndiGrid, said that both assets were of high quality that would help deepen its presence in key geographies, enhance portfolio diversification and were DPU accretive.

"As the sector continues to evolve, IndiGrid remains focussed on building a future-ready platform that supports the nation's energy ambitions while delivering sustained value to our unitholders."

IndiGrid owns 41 power projects, consisting of 49 transmission lines with more than 9,000 circuit km, 15 substations with 22,550 MVA transformation capacity, 855 MWac of solar generation capacity, and 450 MW of battery energy storage systems.

Rabi Sankar, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, will be a new part-time member of the 16th Finance Commission. He will take the place of Ajay Jha, who resigned on personal grounds.

"He shall hold office from the date of assuming charge until the submission of the Commission's Report or October 31, 2025, whichever is earlier," a Gazette Notification said. The 16th Finance Commission was constituted on December 31 with Arvind Panagariya, former Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog, as its chairman. It is mandated to submit its recommendations by October 31, 2025, for the award period of five years commencing April 1, 2026.

T Rabi Sankar, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India

LONG STINT
Rabi Sankar joined the RBI in 1990 and has worked in various capacities until he became a Deputy Governor in May 2021. His areas of responsibility include Departments of Payment and Settlement Systems, Fintech, Foreign Exchange, Information Technology, and Central Security Cell.

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Kamal Haasan will join list of 29 RS MPs with assets over ₹100 cr

TE Raja Simhan
Chennai

Actor-turned-politician Kamal Haasan will join the list of 29 Rajya Sabha members who have total assets of more than ₹100 crore.

With a total asset of ₹306 crore, Kamal Haasan is ranked 15th.

Kamal Haasan, who filed his nomination on Friday, in his affidavit declared assets worth ₹306 crore (₹246 crore worth of movable and ₹60 crore of immovable assets).

OVERALL LIABILITY
His overall liability, however, has remained the same at ₹49 crore over the last four years.

The crorepati club

Name	Party	State	Total assets (in ₹ cr)
Bandi Partha Saradhi	BRS	Telangana	5,300
Alla Ayodhya Rami Reddy	YSRCP	Andhra Pradesh	2,577
Abhishek Manu Singhvi	INC	Telangana	1,972
Jaya Amitabh Bachchan	SP	Uttar Pradesh	1,578
Kamal Haasan	MNM	Tamil Nadu	306

Source: Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR)

He filed the nomination papers on Friday. He is set to become an MP soon when voting will take place on June 19 and results will be declared on the evening of the same day.

Of the 225 members of the Upper House, Bharat Rashtra Samithi's Bandi Partha Saradhi is the richest with a total assets of ₹5,300 crore, according to Myneta.info, an open data repository platform

AP ties up with NVIDIA to set up India's first AI univ

Our Bureau
Hyderabad

Global chip major NVIDIA will collaborate with the Andhra Pradesh Government to set up the country's first AI University.

"Plans are underway to establish India's first AI University in collaboration with NVIDIA for shaping the infrastructure and research capabilities. From education and skilling to research and innovation, this initiative will lay the foundation for a Swarna Andhra Pradesh," Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has said.

"We have entered into a memorandum of understanding with NVIDIA to build a strong and inclusive AI ecosystem in the State," he said in a post on X (formerly Twitter).

With support from NVIDIA for curriculum and training, 10,000 engin-

eering students will receive skill training over the next two years, while 500 AI start-ups from AP will gain access to its Inception Program for global exposure and key resources.

MAJOR TIE-UP

This is the second major tie-up the State has forged with a tech major. In May, it announced a tripartite agreement with IBM and Tata Consultancy Services to anchor a project in the State's upcoming Quantum Valley Tech Park at Amaravati.

With its IBM Quantum System Two installation, with a 156-qubit Heron quantum processor, IBM will set up an anchor project.

When installed, it would be the largest quantum computer in India. TCS will work with IBM to support the development of algorithms and applications.

A DREAM REALIZED!

Amul
TICKET TO GREAT TASTE

daCunha/AB/1028

It's 10-hour workday in Andhra; CPI flays 'anti-worker move'

Press Trust of India
Amaravati



AP's Information and Public Relations Minister K Parthasarathy

Earlier, Minister Parthasarathy had noted that overtime was allowed only

up to 75 hours but that has now been extended up to 144 hours per quarter

can with safeguards such as consent, transport facility, security and surveillance.

He said the workplace for women during night shifts should be fully illuminated.

"When you work extra, income will increase. By these rules women can work in the formal sector. They empower women economically and promote gender inclusion and industrial growth. Also contribute to women's empowerment," he said.

INFRINGEMENT ON RIGHTS
CPI's Ramakrishna, however, opposed the NDA alliance government's stand on labour law amendments. He alleged that the Centre and the State governments are working against the interests of workers.

"These amendments were brought to implement global rules," said Parthasarathy.

"For the past 11 years, the Modi government has repeatedly taken measures that infringe upon workers' rights," he told PTI on Saturday.

To oppose these rules, he said trade unions have decided to protest on July 9 all over India.

RBI's Rabi Sankar joins 16th Finance Commission as a part-time member

Our Bureau
New Delhi

T Rabi Sankar, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, will be a new part-time member of the 16th Finance Commission. He will take the place of Ajay Jha, who resigned on personal grounds.

LONG STINT
Rabi Sankar joined the RBI in 1990 and has worked in various capacities until he became a Deputy Governor in May 2021. His areas of responsibility include Departments of Payment and Settlement Systems, Fintech, Foreign Exchange, Information Technology, and Central Security Cell.

T Rabi Sankar, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India

G Square acquires Rakindo's Coimbatore project for ₹1,000 cr

Our Bureau
Chennai

G Square Group, the Chennai-based real estate developer, has acquired a 714-acre project from Rakindo for ₹1,000 crore in Coimbatore, and announced the launch of G Square Seven Hills township project.

The Kovai Hills project, now rebranded G Square Seven Hills, spans 714 acres with Phase 1 covering 406 acres and featuring 3,127 DTCP and RERA-approved plots. The remaining 308 acres are designated for joint ventures with villa and apartment developers, built-to-suit IT infrastructure projects, including commercial leasing and business parks, malls and multiplexes.

Located along the Western Ghats adjacent to the Palakkad Gap in Kovaipudur near



(L-R) Siva Kumar P Global Business Head and Bala Ramajeyam, Founder and Managing Director of G Square Group during the announcement of G Square Seven Hills city

Madukkarai, this elevated township project offers a panoramic view of Coimbatore. Located at the edge of reserve forests, the township benefits from lower ambient temperatures.

Bala Ramajeyam, Founder and Managing

China may speed up rare earths applications from EU firms

Reuters
Shanghai

China is willing to accelerate the examination and approval of rare earth exports to European Union firms and will also deliver a verdict on its trade investigation of EU brandy imports by July 5, its Commerce Ministry said.

Price commitment consultations between China and the EU on Chinese-made electric vehicles exported to the EU have also entered a final stage but efforts from both sides are still needed, according to a statement on the ministry's website.

The issues were discussed between Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao and EU Trade Commissioner Maros Sefcovic in Paris.

India, 5 Central Asian nations show interest in exploring for rare earths

Reuters
New Delhi

India and five Central Asian countries have expressed interest in joint exploration of rare earths and critical minerals, they said in a joint statement after the fourth meeting of the India-Central Asia Dialogue, held in New Delhi.

Rare earths are a group of 17 elements whose most key uses include the creation of magnets that power motion for cars, cellphones, missiles, and other electronics.

businessline.

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