NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealthDelhi Edition: 1 Page: DETWDFP User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 19:05 Color:

www.etwealth.co | Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, New Delhi, Pune | Volume 15 No. 34 | August 25-31, 2025 | 24 pages | ₹8

THE ECONOMIC TIMES
wealth

"HOSPITALS NEED TO COME WITHIN THE REGULATORY AMBIT" P12

Sharad Mathur

Flash spenders, savvy investors

Inside Gen Z's money mindset P2

+

HOW GIFT CITY OPENS GLOBAL INVESTMENT DOORS P8

THIRD-PARTY INSURANCE: YOUR SAFETY NET P10

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP2 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 19:07 Color:

Flash spenders, savvy investors

Gen Z thinks differently, and that reflects in their spending priorities and investment habits. Some quirks aside, they have a good shot at achieving financial security.

by **Sanket Dhanorkar**

Bingeing on a heady cocktail of Instagram reels, K-pop and Boba tea, the Gen Z cohort—those born between 1997 and 2012—has emerged as India's largest demographic group. Now aged between 13 and 28, a rising number of this generation is spilling into the mainstream, with supersized Stanley cups in tow. One in four Gen Z is already a part of the workforce, according to a joint study by BCG and Snapchat.

Even as their acronym-riddled internet slang may leave you guessing—IYKYK—Gen Z has its priorities straight. Fresh into their working years, these digital natives aren't afraid to splash the cash, indulging in the latest fads and fashions. At the same time, they are actively investing their money in various avenues.

What sets them truly apart from previous generations? They splurge on Korean ramen and Ed Sheeran concerts while simultaneously building investment portfolios through Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) via apps on their phones, often starting with their first internship stipends..

"A quiet but compelling shift is underway in India's financial ecosystem," observes Ajay Kumar Yadav, CEO and CIO of Wise Finserv. "It's not happening in boardrooms or stock exchanges, but on the smartphones of students, freelancers, and first-jobbers. At the heart of this transformation is Gen Z, India's youngest and most digitally connected generation."

In this story, we delve into the quirky money habits of the free-spirited Gen Z. We identify what they are doing differently, the proclivities that will push them towards financial security and the foibles that could put their financial well-being at risk.

Living the Instagram life

Unlike their predecessors—the more circumspect millennials—Gen Z prefer living in the moment. This reflects in their attitudes towards spending. Aspirational spending, or the Instagram lifestyle, is this generation's "flex." Running her own home décor business in New Delhi, Vanshika Kumar, 24, prefers spending liberally, often overlooking the price tag. "My major spending is on food and experiences. Those are the areas I value the most and try to save for,"

Vanshika Kumar, *24, New Delhi,* **runs home decor business**

SPENDING HABITS

- Prefers spending liberally
- Doesn't consciously monitor everything, but keeps track of where money goes
- Major spending is on food and experiences

SAVING/INVESTING HABITS

- Started investing in 2021 after getting first job at age 20
- Prefers long-term investments (mutual funds and stocks) over short-term or day trading
- Researches on her own or takes advice from family

rahulrockz1995@gmail.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP3 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 19:08 Color:

shares Vanshika.

For some who have just started earning, it's as if the handcuffs have come off. No wonder then that 43% of India's total consumption spending is led by Gen Z, according to the BCG Snapchat study. Mumbai resident Sawnee Jogdand, 17, got her first gig only three months ago, making reels for small business owners. Her spending has already increased since. "I would hesitate to ask for pocket money from my parents, as my lifestyle expenses were quite high. Now that I have started earning, I feel independent and confident enough to spend on myself," she says. Her indulgences include frequenting premium cafes, arcade gaming parlours, among other outings.

Gen Z spends generously on food, with eclectic tastes spanning Korean ramen, kimchi, kombucha, oat-milk lattes, and bubble tea. They aren't stingy about 'experiences' either. Instagram-friendly travel ranks high on their list, offering both lasting memories and self-discovery. In India, Gen Z averages two to three trips a year, according to Hilton's 2025 report. Outings tied to sports events like the Cricket or Football World Cup, or music festivals such as Sunburn, Lollapalooza, and concerts by Coldplay, are especially popular. Many don't think twice before shelling out ₹20,000-25,000 to watch Ed Sheeran or Dua Lipa live.

They love to flaunt their "drip"—appearing stylish through clothing and accessories. Girls stay on top of glam trends via social media posts tagged #OOTD (Outfit of the Day) and #GRWM (Get Ready with Me). The latest drops from Zara or H&M, tote bags from Zouk, and cosmetics from Juice or Nykaa are all the rage. Boys, meanwhile, are hooked on the newest smartphones, gaming gear, and sneakers. Nike Air Jordans or official merchandise from The Souled Store aren't just cool style statements—they also make for eye-catching unboxing content. "My peers are instantly drawn to hype around anything new. They will rush to buy it just to look cool or keep up with the trend, however heavy on the wallet," Sawnee says. This FOMO (fear of missing out) is what drives the hysteria around collectables like Labubu dolls.

These young consumers are bingeing on the good life. To be sure, many are acutely aware of their spendthrift ways. They rationalise purchases to make them seem like worthy expenses: "I saved₹1,200 in the Big Billion Days sale, so I basically earned ₹1,200." Or, "₹1.5 lakh for an iPhone is fine because I'll use it for 3 years—only ₹137 a day, cheaper than a latte."

But loose purse strings are also chafing their finances. A Deloitte study shows that 55% of Indian youth report living paycheck to paycheck—higher than the global average. Easy access to loans via fintech apps has put many on the credit treadmill. Those in their early 20s account for 20-25% of loans disbursed through digital platforms—a significant share, given their recent entry into the credit market. A chunk of these borrowings is now turning sour, with recent RBI reports flagging high stress in fintech loans, particularly among individuals under 25.

A significant portion of these young adults needs to come to terms with reality soon. Ironically, unemployment is the most critical concern for Indian Gen Z, according to the Deloitte survey. Layoffs and retrenchment are affecting thousands as AI advances rapidly. Yet, the cost of living (topmost concern for millennials) comes in at a distant fourth for Gen Z.

Financial pitfalls: Falling into the debt trap so early is hazardous. If your credit scores tank, it will dent your ability to access loans for critical expenses in the future. Discretionary expenses must be curtailed to align with income. Krishan Mishra, CEO, FPSB India, insists, "Striking a balance between present enjoyment and future security is key. By maintaining an aversion to unnecessary debt and reinforcing savings habits, Gen Z can future-proof their finances in an increasingly unpredictable economic environment."

If you find yourself giving into FOMO and impulse buying, reflect on the purchase: Wait 24 hours before buying anything trending. Ask yourself if you will still use the item a year from now?

Investing – To The Moon!

Soon after she got her first job at age 20, Vanshika identified her first investment in the Nifty100 index fund. She doesn't invest regularly yet, but prefers long-term investments over short-term or day trading. "My preferred choices are mostly index funds or mutual funds, because I find them safer. I'm not deeply involved in investing, so I feel more comfortable with lower-risk options," she says.

New Delhi-based Prerit Singhania, 26, a credit officer at a prominent foreign bank, started investing four years ago. His first investments were in a Nifty50 index fund and Parag Parikh Flexi Cap Fund. Prerit has already formed a disciplined investing habit. He allocates a generous 50%-60% of his income toward savings and investments. Around 40% of his salary is invested in equities, and another 20% in fixed deposits (FD) or bonds. He transfers approximately 10% to a separate bank account linked to his UPI (United Payments Interface), which helps him track and control his monthly spending. He stashes the remaining 30% in liquid funds for any emergencies or spontaneous opportunities. "Since I don't have dependents so far, I prefer an aggressive approach: a larger allocation to equities for long-term growth," says Prerit. He mainly prefers SIPs in equities as it instils a habit of saving before spending. Additionally, he occasionally deploys some of his liquid funds to capitalise on market dips.

Prerit and Vanshika are among many other Gen Zers who have started investing early. "Earlier, investment was something people started after getting a stable job. But Gen Z begins earlier. Many invest from their pocket money or internship stipends," avers Yadav.

Sawnee Jogdand, *17, Mumbai,* makes reels for small business owners

SPENDING HABITS

- Secured first gig few months ago, spends have jumped since
- Major spending on outings, arcade activities, cafes

SAVING/INVESTING HABITS

- Yet to start investing formally
- Uses Fampay account for spends (where fixed percentage of money credited gets locked into savings)

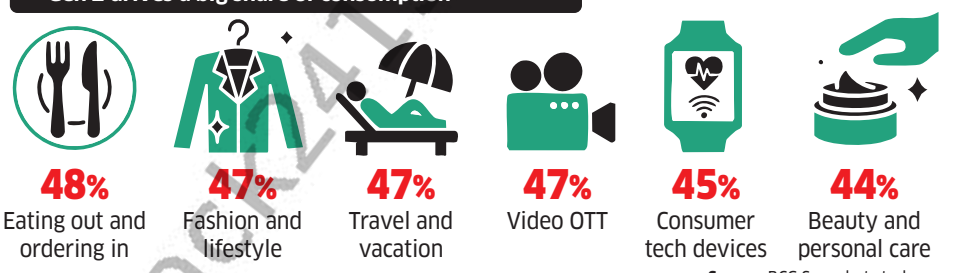
"By maintaining aversion to unnecessary debt and reinforcing savings habits, Gen Z can future-proof their finances."

KRISHAN MISHRA
CEO, FPSB INDIA

Where young consumers spend

Gen Z is impacting $860 billion of consumer spends - 43% of total.

Gen Z drives a big share of consumption



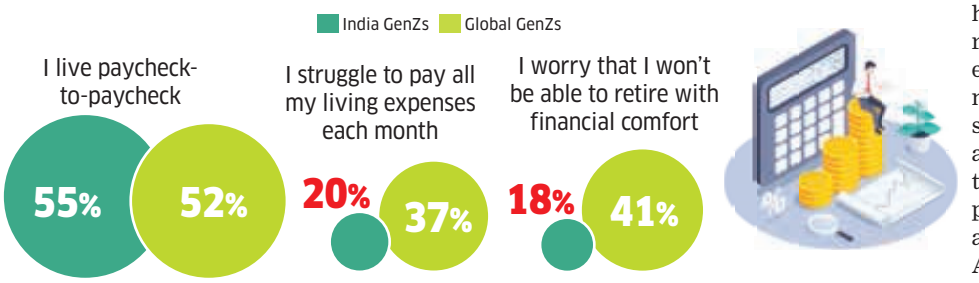
Source: BCG Snapchat study.

72% of Zoomers search on creator pages while purchasing products

Living in the moment

55% of Gen Zs in India living paycheck to paycheck, higher than the global average.

Share of Gen Z agreeing with these statements on financial security:



Source: Deloitte Global 2025 Gen Z and Millennial survey.

rahulrock24@gmail.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP4 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 19:09 Color:

A recent Share.Market analysis of over 6 lakh mutual fund investors between 1 August 2024 and 31 July 2025 reveals that approximately 48% of mutual fund investors is in the age bracket of 18 to 30 years. The research indicates a substantial shift in young people's mindset towards investing and long-term wealth creation. Furthermore, the data highlights that nearly 95% of Gen Zers begin their investment journey in mutual funds through equities. Almost 92% of the young investors invest through SIPs on the platform.

"I believe this is an extremely healthy trend, as it helps young investors gain valuable experience early on, which can go a long way in making them confident investors by the time they enter their 30s and have more substantial sums to invest," says Nilesh D Naik, Head of Investment Products, Share.Market. Particularly encouraging is Gen Z's affinity for financial assets over physical assets, such as real estate. "Their focus on investment before asset ownership and early retirement planning is commendable," says Mishra.

The preference for DIY (do-it-yourself) investing is evident among this generation. More than half of Gen Z learns about investing from YouTube, Instagram, or finance creators, according to a 2024 Groww Insights report. "Just like elsewhere globally, Gen Z investors in India find unprecedented access to financial information through digital platforms and from sources such as finfluencers," remarks Pankaj Sharma, Director – Capital Markets Policy, India at CFA Institute. This has led to some cultural shifts in investing habits. "To say Gen Z is different is an understatement. They're not just learning about money earlier; they're taking action—early, digitally, and intentionally. They've made UPI their first financial language, SIPs their first commitment, and ETFs their first equity exposure," Yadav remarks. "Armed with mobile apps, YouTube explainers, and trial-and-error investing, they've built their own curriculum. It's not always perfect, but it's proactive," he adds.

However, this affinity for self-education also exposes Gen Z to misleading advice and investment scams that can ruin finances. Naik cautions, "Although there is now an abundance of educational content available on social media, young investors must perform due diligence to ensure they choose genuine educational material from educators and content creators who possess the necessary knowledge and experience in the investment domain." Some are already cautious about taking unverified financial advice on social media platforms with a grain of salt. Prerit insists, "When it comes to making decisions, I rely on my analysis and fundamentals. Platforms like YouTube and Instagram are good for awareness, but I always do my due diligence."

Prerit Singhania, *26, New Delhi,* Credit Officer at foreign bank

ASHWANI NAGPAL

SPENDING HABITS

- Prioritises essential expenses first
- Allows for discretionary spends after allocating towards savings
- Major spends on gadgets such as mobile phones, smartwatches, stand-up comedy
- Transfers fixed sum to separate bank account every month for online spends

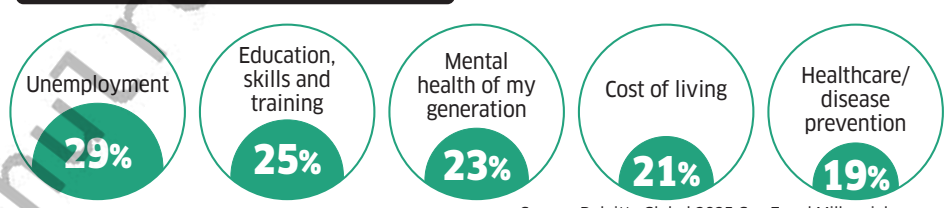
SAVING/INVESTING HABITS

- Allocates 50-60% towards savings and investments
- Prefers SIP in equity and FDs or Bonds for fixed income
- Has experimented with cryptocurrencies
- Relies on own analysis rather than any advice on social media

Unemployment is the biggest concern for Zoomers

Millennials are most concerned with the cost of living, Gen Z have other worries.

Young respondents citing concern

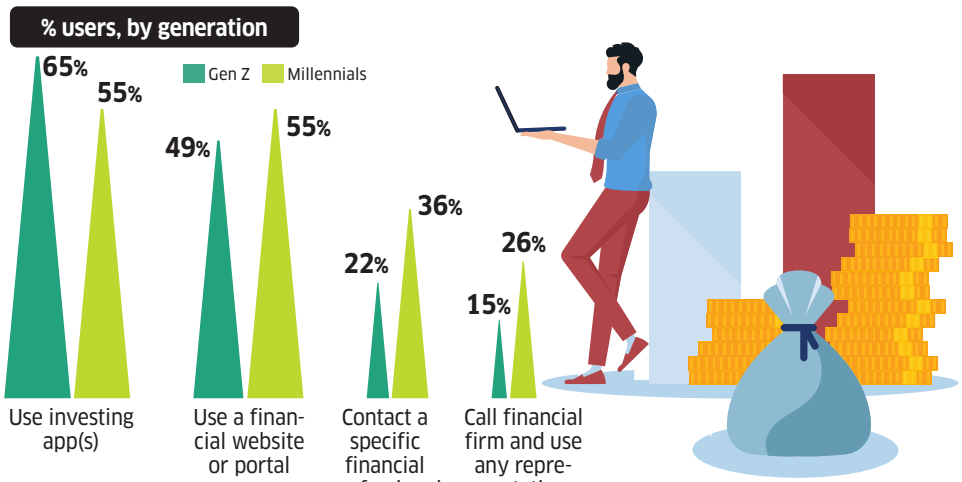


Source: Deloitte Global 2025 Gen Z and Millennial survey

Digital apps have powered Gen Z investing habits

67% of young users say app nudges influence investments.

% users, by generation

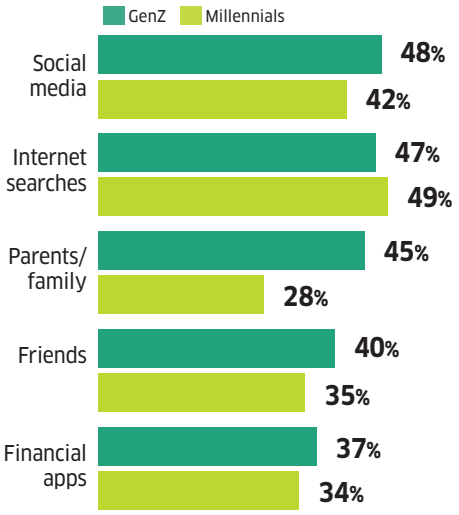


Source: CFA Institute

Gen Z relies more on social media to learn about money, investing

Parents and family remain the most trusted resource.

% respondents relying, by generation



Source: CFA Institute

Some among Gen Z also exhibit adventurism in their choice of investments. The pursuit of higher returns has driven many towards speculative bets on cryptocurrencies, F&O, as well as high-yield bonds. These are hazardous investments. A Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) study shows that nine out of 10 retail investors end up making losses in F&O. The recent default in TruCap bonds, where retail investors chased a 13% yield, reveals the inherent risks of high-yield bonds. CFA Institute's Sharma cautions, "Gen Z's strong focus on higher returns without sufficiently analysing the associated risks, frequent investment decisions based on unverified recommendations and preference for engaging content over its quality, heighten vulnerability to misinformation and ill-informed financial decisions." Prerit has recently started investing in bonds, attracted by 3-4% higher yield over FDs. He has also experimented with cryptocurrencies. However, these pursuits may have to be tempered. Naik of Share.Market asserts, "While Gen Z investors' openness to exploring newer investment products is commendable, they should be cautious not to fall for false claims from unregulated or extremely high-risk products."

Experts maintain that Gen Z must lay the foundation for their finances. Mishra of FPSB India remarks, "While Gen Z often embraces a 'live in the moment' mindset, building a strong emergency fund should remain a top financial priority—alongside managing debt and investing wisely." Mrin Agarwal, Founder, Finsafe India, asserts that Gen Z remain vulnerable if they don't work on making a habit of savings and investing and tone down returns expectations. "Do not get swayed by trending products. Remember that wealth building takes time."

sanket.dhanorkar@timesofindia.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP5 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 17:32 Color:

With accelerated rewards, build & tap into your points

Lifestyle shopping and travel are among the highest-margin categories. For banks, frequent bookings here serve as a feedback loop to keep customers engaged.

AJAY AWTANEY
FOUNDER AND EDITOR, LIVEFROMALOUNGE.COM

With the rewards boost, banks are hoping not just to keep their high net-worth individuals (HNIs) and mass affluent customers happy and engaged, but also to make a neat profit on them, given that their portals have a slightly higher fare compared to booking directly with the airline or hotels.

Major banks aim to build loyalty by linking their broader relationship with their most desirable credit cards. They also offer loyalty perks, trying to keep you engaged by giving extra points when you shop through their loyalty portal for anything under the sun. And this is the part that many people often overlook, as it turbocharges their rewards accumulation journey.

Bulk your rewards

Many years ago, HDFC Bank took the first step by launching a loyalty portal for its credit and debit card users, called HDFC Bank SmartBuy. This portal lets card members earn bonus points for select transactions.

If you book flight tickets on this website, you can earn five times the regular points for your flight bookings (25 points for every ₹150 spent). On hotel bookings, you can earn up to 10 times the regular points (50 points for every ₹150 spent). You can also earn points on shopping via the portal. Buying medicines through PharmEasy (when clicked through the site) earns you 10 times the normal points, and Myntra gives you 5 times the points.

At a value of ₹1 per point for the HDFC Bank Infinia and Diners Club Black credit cards, that amounts to up to 33% points earned on spending via the portal. Each card has a cap. The most you can earn is 15,000 points per month on the Infinia, the bank's top-tier card. Points earned this way can be transferred to hotel or airline loyalty programmes or used as cash to redeem for air tickets or hotel stays. On debit cards and some cash-back cards, you can earn some money back instead of points.

American Express has two such offerings. The first, which is similar to HDFC Bank SmartBuy, is called American Express Rewards Multiplier. American Express India cardholders can use this portal to book travel, buy electronics, jewellery, and more, earn 5X Membership Rewards points by swiping the Amex Platinum Metal or Gold Charge card, as well as lower multiples on other Amex cards. However, American Express takes a much longer time (up to 120 days) to credit points compared to HDFC Bank SmartBuy.

The other American Express programme is Rewards Xcelerator. Here, the company has tied up with select lifestyle brands to offer 10-20 times the usual points when you shop online with your American Express Platinum or Centurion card. Brands include Bvlgari, Air India, Tata Cliq, Kama Ayurveda, among others. If you have an American Express Platinum Metal Card, it currently has the most lucrative option to book Air India tickets on the airline's website, where you can earn 2,500 Membership Rewards points for a ₹10,000 spend (equivalent to 1,250 miles in most of Air India's transfer partners).

Axis Bank offers a range of lifestyle and travel cards and also acquired Citi's retail banking business in India. It has TravelEDGE for a few years now, where, for select credit cards, you can earn five times the usual Axis Bank EDGE Rewards points for booking flights and hotels. Similarly, on its GrabDeals portal, you can get 5X EDGE Rewards.

Newer players more aggressive

Newer entrants are becoming more aggressive as they realise that they must offer more to gain wallet share. HSBC, which is revamping its card portfolio in India, has just launched Travel With Points, which allows you to book travel through the HSBC India app. When you go through this microsite, you can earn up to six times the usual points on flights and 12 times on hotel bookings.

For HSBC Premier, the group's premium offering, the top-tier HSBC card is publicly available; this means you can earn 18 points per ₹100 spent on booking flights via this microsite. You can either transfer these points to loyalty programme partners or use them at a value of ₹1 to redeem on future flights or hotels with HSBC, using the same site.

IDFC First Bank has integrated its accelerator within its app instead of its website. For the Mayura credit card, it offers 30X points on flights and 50X points on hotels, which means you can earn points worth up to 18% of the transaction value when booking a hotel.

ICICI Bank, which was late to the party, launched the iShop for its card members earlier this year, where you can earn up to six times the normal points for flights and 12 times for hotels.

With all card portals, the objective is the same: lifestyle shopping and travel are among the highest-margin categories, and frequent bookings here serve as a feedback loop to keep customers engaged with the bank, rather than having them sign up for the card and then forget about it.

With the rewards boost, banks are hoping not just to keep their high net-worth individuals (HNIs) and mass affluent customers happy and engaged, but also to make a neat profit on them, given that their portals have a slightly higher fare compared to booking directly with the airline or hotels. Customers look at the higher rewards they earn and, hence, tend to look the other way when comparison shopping. The strategy has been successful for global banks such as JPMorgan Chase and American Express in the US, and there is no reason to believe it will not also start to work for them in India.

Make sure you swipe right

Card issuer	Portal	Points multiplier	Eligible cards	Book via	Earn accelerated points on	Monthly limit (earning)
American Express	Rewards Multiplier	Up to 10X	Centurion, Platinum, Gold Charge and all proprietary credit cards	Website	Select merchants	25,000 Membership Rewards points
Axis Bank	Travel EDGE/ GrabDEALS	Up to 5X	Reserve, Magnus and 64 other credit cards	Website	Travel and select merchants	On spends up to ₹2 lakh on TravelEDGE
HDFC Bank	Smartbuy	Up to 10X	Infinia, Diners Black, Regalia and four other credit cards	Website	Travel, Apple products, gift vouchers and select merchants	15,000 reward points (Infinia)
HSBC	Travel With Points	Up to 18X	Prive, Premier, Travel One, Visa and RuPay Platinum	App	Travel	18,000 points
IDFC First Bank	TripStacc	Up to 50X	–	App	Travel	25,000 points (IDFC Private)
ICICI Bank	iShop	Up to 12X	–	Website/ App	Gift vouchers and travel	18,000 Points (Emeralde Private Metal)

Data compiled by Ajay Awtaney. This is not an exhaustive list.

Please send your feedback to
etwealth@timesofindia.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP6 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 18:04 Color:

India Inc.'s uneven recovery

Winners, losers and the smart money strategy

From cement's 71% surge to healthcare's 34% plunge—our 8-quarter sectoral tracker reveals why putting all eggs in one basket is a costly mistake in today's polarised market. By **Sameer Bhardwaj.**

The Economic Times wealth

Net profit growth (year-on-year)

Sector	Sep-2023	Dec 2023	Mar 2024	Jun 2024	Sep 2024	Dec 2024	Mar 2025	Jun 2025
Automobiles (79)	94.3%	66.4%	82.1%	52.8%	-3.8%	-3.8%	-10.8%	-15.0%
Consumer discretionary (55)	-26.6%	20.1%	363.5%	175.7%	46.8%	17.2%	23.9%	-12.9%
Hotels, restaurants & leisure (32)	63.4%	231.6%	64.7%	-28.4%	70.6%	7.6%	41.6%	-7.6%
Textiles & luxury goods (73)	7.0%	150.6%	25.4%	18.6%	10.7%	-34.0%	13.4%	12.9%
Consumer staples (90)	-0.2%	10.9%	0.3%	12.0%	7.7%	-2.6%	140.8%	3.7%
Energy (21)	170.4%	27.7%	-6.7%	-38.7%	-45.5%	-14.8%	-1.3%	39.9%
Banks (39)	34.7%	17.3%	41.8%	21.0%	18.7%	19.0%	3.1%	-5.3%
Financials (132)	41.4%	1.2%	30.5%	18.1%	0.8%	6.5%	-3.7%	21.6%
Insurance (11)	-41.1%	38.3%	-12.1%	14.3%	4.5%	14.0%	29.2%	13.7%
Healthcare (110)	17.8%	28.3%	35.6%	104.5%	21.7%	19.2%	32.9%	-34.3%
Aerospace & defence (12)	19.2%	31.1%	50.0%	67.7%	32.3%	27.4%	-1.6%	-3.2%
Industrials (266)	24.4%	-35.4%	-23.4%	56.2%	21.2%	22.2%	13.9%	-1.2%
IT (91)	3.5%	-1.2%	9.9%	10.2%	12.1%	12.9%	5.1%	7.2%
Chemicals (151)	-19.8%	-49.6%	-32.2%	-9.6%	-6.0%	69.8%	31.0%	29.4%
Cement* (30)	103.4%	25.7%	1.0%	-22.7%	-70.7%	-40.0%	0.3%	71.4%
Materials (33)	-23.3%	-0.5%	-52.0%	-23.8%	-38.4%	-47.6%	2.8%	13.1%
Metals & mining (70)	-33.0%	95.1%	-17.2%	9.8%	185.4%	11.4%	38.6%	26.5%
Utilities (31)	69.3%	19.0%	74.1%	-5.0%	23.6%	1.6%	-9.2%	1.5%

Source: Reuters-Refinitiv. Numbers in brackets are the number of companies in each sector. 1438 companies with market cap of more than ₹500 crore are considered. The 18 sectors listed in the table constitute 95% of the 1438 companies.* includes construction material.

Cement, energy and metals drive modest profit growth

Persistent demand challenges weighed on India Inc. in Q1 2025-26, with the aggregate net profit of 1,438 companies (market capitalisation above ₹500 crore) rising just 6.4% year-over-year—the weakest growth in three quarters. Quarter-on-quarter earnings fell 7.6%.

Three sectors drove this modest performance: cement (boosted by higher volumes and lower variable costs), metals (aided by healthy realisations and cheaper coking coal), and energy (supported by strong marketing margins and increased gas volumes). Excluding these, the remaining companies posted flat earnings (-0.08%).

Banking struggled with weak momentum, high credit-deposit ratios, and margin compression. The Information Technology (IT) sector showed mixed signals—healthy order books offset by concerns about structural demand and macroeconomic uncertainties. Consumer staples faced margin pressure due to high-cost inventory, although stable rural-urban demand provided some support.

Despite the softness, 54.7% of the 320 tracked companies beat analyst estimates, indicating a favourable beat-to-miss ratio.

rahul.rock241994@gmail.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

Invesco Mutual Fund

Midcaps are mid-sized companies that may offer **greater growth potential for investors**

- Midcaps are companies that fall between the 101st and 250th companies by market cap.
- Well positioned to benefit from a growing economy.
- Relatively under-researched offering a chance to exploit gaps between market price and intrinsic values.
- Potential to grow into future large caps and generate considerable gains.
- They carry a higher risk than large cap companies.
- Immense long term potential, however they could underperform in the short & medium term.

An easy way to gain exposure to mid-cap companies is through Midcap Funds.

Mutual Fund companies have professional research and investment teams that can help you identify the right Midcap stocks that are diversified across sectors.

You may also reduce risk by limiting your exposure to midcaps or better still choose the Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) route over a longer period. Midcap Funds are suitable for investors with an investment horizon of 5 years or more.

invescomutualfund.com

Follow us on

An investor education and awareness initiative.
For Know Your Customer (KYC) guidelines along with the documentary requirements and procedure for change of address, phone number, bank details, etc., please visit the Education and Guidance section on www.invescomutualfund.com. Investor should deal with only SEBI registered Mutual Funds, details of which can be verified under "Intermediaries/Market Infrastructure Institutions" on https://www.sebi.gov.in/index.html. For any grievance / complaint, please call us on 1800-209-0007 or write to us at mfservices@invesco.com. Alternatively, complaints can be registered on the SEBI SCORES Portal at https://scores.sebi.gov.in

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP8 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 17:44 Color:

How GIFT City opens global investment doors

With mutual funds hitting RBI's $7 billion overseas investment limit, India's financial hub offers residents a regulated path to global diversification under the LRS route.

by **Abhinav Kaul**

Last year's performance of Indian benchmark indices highlights the importance of global diversification. While the Sensex and Nifty remained largely unchanged, major US indices, such as the Nasdaq 100 and S&P 500, gained over 10% each. Meanwhile, some global indices, such as the Hang Seng, surged by more than 40%.

However, many investors were unable to take advantage of the rally in global stocks, as the mutual fund route had remained largely closed due to restrictions on overseas investments by Indian asset management companies. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a $7 billion industry-wide cap on mutual fund investments in overseas securities. An additional $1 billion limit is available specifically for investments via exchange-traded funds (ETFs). Both of these limits are nearly exhausted.

A route that remains open for overseas investments is Outward Remittances under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) for resident individuals.

LRS is a facility introduced by RBI that allows Indians to freely remit up to $250,000 per financial year for certain permitted transactions, which include overseas education, travel & tourism, medical treatment and investment in shares, mutual funds, debt instruments, and real estate outside India.

RBI data shows that investment in equity or debt via the LRS route jumped 12.45% year-on-year (y-o-y) to $1.70 billion in 2024-25.

While you can directly invest in global ETFs and stocks via fintech platforms that have tie-ups with global exchanges, resident investors can also invest through GIFT City using the LRS avenue. "Just look at last year's returns of the Indian market, and the asset allocation strategy will tell you that you cannot have all your money invested in one place. So for diversification, you may also check out the GIFT City route," says Vaibhav Shah, Head-Products, Business Strategy & International Business, Mirae Asset Investment Managers (India).

What is GIFT City?

GIFT City (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) is India's first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC), designed to be a global financial and technology hub. It offers a unique and attractive environment for various types of investors, both Indian residents, NRIs (Non-Resident Indians), and foreign entities.

The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has been vested with the combined regulatory powers of India's four domestic regulators for banking, capital markets, pension funds, and insurance to oversee IFSCs in the country.

Notably, of the total investments made via GIFT City, around 85% of investments have been directed towards India. We look at the investment opportunities in GIFT City for resident Indian investors.

Retail funds

While there are 177 Fund Management Entities (FMEs) having licences or registrations in the GIFT City, only one retail-focused fund is open right now.

DSP IFSC, a unit of DSP Asset Managers, recently launched the DSP Global Equity Fund — the first retail-focused offshore fund to be rolled out from GIFT City.

The fund will be country- and benchmark-agnostic, with 25-30 stocks, having a soft minimum threshold of $30 billion in market capitalisation. "Unlike many mutual funds that invest pan-global, DSP Global Equity Fund will be underweight on the US with an allocation of around 25%. A major part of the investment will be focused on Asia (Korea, Taiwan, Japan, Hong Kong) and Europe (Sweden, Germany, France, Italy and the UK)," says Jay Kothari, Global Head-International Business, DSP Asset Managers.

The fund has a minimum lump sum investment of US $5,000 with an incremental top-up of US $500. The

rahul.rock24199@gmail.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP9 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 18:58 Color:

fund house is also planning to launch the SIP route soon.

While the registration for the fund is currently a physical and digital journey, DSP IFSC plans to go completely digital in the next few days.

Direct stock investing

There are two stock exchanges, India INX and the NSE IFSC, operating out of the GIFT City, which enable residents of India to invest in global securities.

Currently, under the LRS route, resident Indians can invest in NSE IFSC receipts, which are classified as unsponsored depository receipts (UDRs). There are 50 stocks selected out of S&P 500 index listed as UDRs on the NSE exchange platform at GIFT City.

"They are not actually ownership stocks. These UDRs represent ownership of shares in US companies, which allow Indian investors to trade in foreign stocks without directly holding them. For example, one can even buy fractional stocks of companies such as Apple," says Naveen Mathur, Director, Anand Rathi International Ventures IFSC.

Meanwhile, IFSCA has already given permission to add 75 stock listings as UDRs. According to Mathur, there are also plans to launch exchange-listed products, which would provide global access to over 100 markets to Indian investors.

Resident investors can also access 135 global stock exchanges through GIFT City–registered brokers, that act as global access providers similar to fintech platforms like Vested Finance.

Viram Shah, co-founder of Vested Finance, which is in the process of launching operations in GIFT City, said, "Another route for overseas investments that will come up is global ETFs listed on the offshore exchanges. Further, we will soon have IPOs of Indian companies in the GIFT City."

To be sure, the global investment route is currently open via the LRS route through the conventional channel as well. "However, Indians may prefer the GIFT City route for direct overseas investment now because it offers peace of mind, as this investment is a regulated product offered by an Indian regulator," said Shah. Further, unlike Indian stock transactions, you don't pay Securities Transaction Tax (STT), Commodity Transaction Tax (CTT), or GST on most IFSC trades.

Alternative funds

It is one of the largest investment categories at GIFT City, with 272 Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) schemes registered. Outbound funds in GIFT City, such as the Mirae Asset Global Allocation Fund (Close-Ended Fund Category III AIF), open up international opportunities not available through the mutual fund route, which is limited by RBI-imposed restrictions. Note that these AIFs have a minimum investment threshold of $1,50,000 and $10,000 for accredited investors.

While there are many funds investing in GIFT City investing in India, not many options are available on the outbound front. "There is a very strong interest from Indian investors to invest in international markets. However, GIFT City has its own challenges," said Rohit Beri, Co-founder and Chief Investment Officer of ArthAlpha, a PMS, which is exploring setting up GIFT City operations.

According to Beri, the tax treatment of outbound funds is not on par with Global IFSCs. "If you are investing via Singapore, you pay tax only when you redeem the fund, but in GIFT City, the tax is charged in the hands of AIF as and when AIF sells a security, making it tax inefficient for the resident Indians," he said. Meanwhile, GIFT City is treated as an "offshore" investment for Indian Income Tax purposes even though it's within India.

"Capital gains from selling shares, mutual funds, bonds, or debentures in GIFT city by resident Indians via the LRS route are subject to the same provisions and rules which are applicable generally on all regular investments," says Mayank Mohanka, Founder, Taxaaram India and Partner, SM Mohanka & Associates. Long term capital gains are taxed at 12.5 % and STCG is taxable at 20 %.

Should you invest?

Keep in mind that resident Indians need to do a separate KYC process with entities registered in the GIFT City to be able to invest via this route. Also, note that remittances for investments exceeding ₹10 lakh in a financial year made under the LRS are liable for a 20% TCS. This is also applicable to the GIFT City. One of the major attractions of GIFT City is that investors' end-goals could be in foreign currency, and they're trying to hedge the currency risk.

"Further, as a jurisdiction, GIFT City feels less unfamiliar compared to going and investing through Singapore or through some other jurisdictions. Also, local mutual fund options to invest internationally have become fewer because of the RBI's cap on foreign investments," says Vishal Dhawan, CEO of Plan Ahead Wealth Advisors, a wealth management firm in Mumbai.

While a strong point in favour of GIFT City is familiarity with the location and jurisdiction, experts suggest continuing to use the conventional LRS route for overseas investment and diversification as it offers a greater number of options to resident Indians. "Over time, as the GIFT City becomes more established and the range of options becomes widespread, that's when investors may want to explore going to the GIFT City rather than using LRS directly," said Dhawan.

abhinav.kaul@timesofindia.com

GIFT your portfolio global access

It enables investments by both resident Indians and NRIs, though 85% of the funds have been directed towards India.

OUTBOUND INVESTMENT OPTIONS

Alternative Investment Funds
Limited outbound options. Minimum investment $150,000; $10,000 for accredited investors

Retail Funds
Only fund is live as of now—DSP Global Equity Fund; minimum investment of $5,000

NSE IFSC Receipts
Indians can invest in unsponsored depository receipts of top 50 US stocks

Global Access Platforms
These platforms enable investments in global stocks, ETFs, currencies, mutual funds

COST BENEFIT
Nil Securities Transaction Tax, Commodity Transaction Tax, and Stamp Duty

BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

Period	No. of fund management entities	No. of funds/ registered schemes	Total commitments raised
Jun '24	116	143	$11.69 billion
Jun '25	177	272	$22.11 billion

SOURCE: IFSCA Bulletin

Why global diversification is important

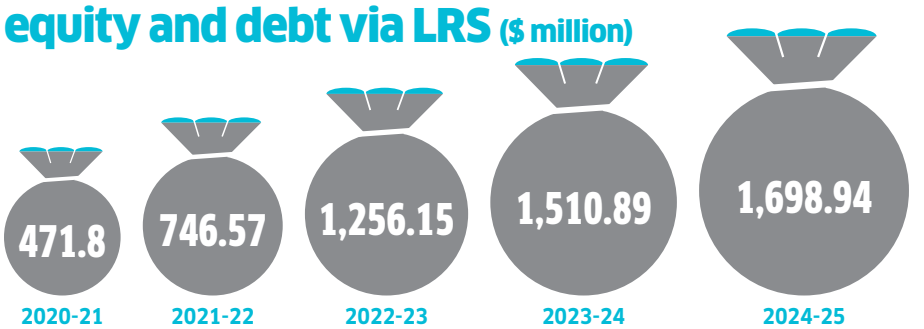
Many investors missed the global stock rally due to investment restrictions on mutual funds, but LRS remains open for overseas investments.

One-year returns of global indices (%)

Hang Seng (Hong Kong)	43.24
DAX (Germany)	31.78
Kospi (South Korea)	17.04
Nikkei 225 (Japan)	14.71
S&P 500 (US)	13.91
Dow Jones (US)	9.85
CAC 40 (France)	6.28
FTSE 100 (UK)	4.54
BSE Sensex	1.78
BSE Small Cap	-2.55
BSE Mid Cap	-3.35

Data till August 20

Investment trends in global equity and debt via LRS ($ million)



SOURCE: ValueResearch, RBI

NPAV
PC, Laptop
Tablet, Mobile
सुरक्षा
INTERNET SECURITY
www.npav.net
92.72.70.70.50
98.22.88.25.66

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP10 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 19:10 Color:

Driving without third-party insurance?

It's mandatory, affordable, and your best defence against crippling liabilities.

by **Yasmin Hussain**

GETTY IMAGES

You are driving with full responsibility and focus. But suddenly, a pedestrian comes out of nowhere in front of your car and gets injured. Even without any fault of yours, you could end up losing lakhs. Why? Because you didn't have a third-party insurance (TPI), which usually costs no more than ₹3,000 per month.

Under the Motor Vehicles Act (MVA), 1988, TPI is mandatory for all cars and two-wheelers in India. Despite this, many motorists continue to skip the cover. In 2023, the Minister of State for Finance, Bhagwat Karad, revealed that more than 50% of vehicles on Indian roads were operating without the mandatory insurance. That's not just a violation of the law but also exposes drivers and victims to avoidable hardships.

What does it cover?

TPI is designed to protect others from the financial consequences of your actions on the road. In simple terms, it covers injuries or death of another person caused by your vehicle, as well as damage to someone else's property, such as another car, motorcycle, or roadside structure.

It is important to note that TPI does not cover damage to your vehicle or your medical expenses.

This is where comprehensive car insurance comes in. TPI is often complementary to comprehensive policies, which combine coverage for your own losses with the mandatory third-party liability.

The cost differs depending on the vehicle and its use. For cars, it covers liabilities arising from accidents affecting other people or their property. Two-wheeler TPI provides similar protection but at a lower premium.

Suprita Pal,
New Delhi

- Car: Volkswagen Polo
- Driving since 2021
- Insured? No
- Fine paid: ₹1,500

"I never met with an accident and didn't have to claim anything. Insurance for me is useless."

Reasons to avoid

Everyone has different reasons for avoiding insurance. Some find it too cost too high, while others are overly confident about their driving skills.

Take the case of Delhi-based Suprita Pal, who purchased a car in 2021. She paid for insurance during the first three years but chose not to renew it in 2025. She believes she doesn't need insurance because she drives carefully. "I never met with an accident in the first three years and didn't have to claim anything," she says, calling the premium a waste of money. Still, Pal is aware of the legal requirements and now plans to switch to just a third-party cover instead of the comprehensive plan she once had. Her realisation came after being slapped with a hefty fine for driving without insurance. "I wasn't aware that it was mandatory," she admits.

Pal's situation is not unique. Many drivers are willing to splurge on the car but cut corners when it comes to insuring it. Paying a fine is one obvious risk. "If any person drives in contravention of Section 146, then he/she can be punished with imprisonment of up to three months or a fine of up to ₹1,000, or both," explains Apeksha Lodha, Partner, Singhania & Co. But the bigger danger lies elsewhere: if you cause an accident, the financial liability can be far more crippling.

We have broken down the scenarios into three parts:

Legal consequences

If you hit a pedestrian

Even if it was the pedestrian's fault, you will have to pay the compensation decided by the court. Lodha explains how the injured person's liability will be calculated before the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal (MACT) under Section 179 of the MVA. The tribunal adjudicates claims for compensation arising from accidents that result in death, injury, or property damage.

"In absence of TPI, the driver will be personally liable to compensate the injured person for pecuniary damages such as medical expense, loss of income, in case the ability to earn in future is affected of the injured, besides loss of future earning capacity and non-pecuniary damages such as compensation for pain and suffering, or for any temporary or permanent disability," she says.

The driver can also be prosecuted under criminal law for rash driving, causing grievous hurt.

Imagine: Rahul hits a pedestrian who suffers a broken leg and misses 2 months of work.

- **Medical expenses:** ₹50,000
- **Loss of income:** 2 months' salary = ₹40,000 × 2 = ₹80,000
- **Pain and suffering:** Court decides ₹30,000
- **Total compensation:** ₹50,000 + ₹80,000 + ₹30,000 = ₹1,60,000

If pedestrian dies

If the accident leads to death, civil as well as criminal legal action can be taken against the driver. Drivers can be prosecuted under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (India's new criminal law). The driver can be charged with

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP11 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 19:03 Color:

causing death by negligence under Section 106—which applies when death happens because the driver was careless—or with culpable homicide not amounting to murder under Section 105, which applies when the act was severe enough to cause death but was not intentional murder.

The family of the deceased can file a civil claim for compensation under Section 179 of MVA. Compensation will include loss of future earnings, loss of consortium, funeral expenses, loss of estate, pain and suffering.

Imagine: Priya accidentally hits a pedestrian who dies. The person earned ₹10 lakh/year and was expected to work for 25 more years.

- **Loss of future earnings:** ₹10,00,000 × 25 = ₹2.5 crore
- **Loss of consortium (family support):** Court assigns ₹10 lakh
- **Funeral expenses:** ₹2 lakh
- **Pain and suffering:** ₹5 lakh
- **Total compensation:** ₹2.5 crore + ₹10 lakh + ₹2 lakh + ₹5 lakh = ₹2.67 crore

What's covered (what's not)

Third-party insurance doesn't cover personal damages. Comprehensive car cover is still important where TPI is complementary.

Description	Third-party car insurance	Comprehensive car insurance
Physical injury, damages to property and accidental demise caused to third party by the insured car.	✓	✓
Own damage coverage	×	Provides coverage in case of damages to your car due to accidents, man-made/natural calamities, theft, fire or total loss.
Premium	Low	High, as it provides wide-ranging benefits.
No Claim Bonus, Add-ons	×	✓

Source: acko.com

Premiums for cars and two-wheelers

Rates not been changed since 2021 but are expected to rise by 10% this year.

Category	Engine Capacity	Premium (₹)
Private car	Not exceeding 1000 cc	2,094
Private car	Exceeding 1000 cc but not exceeding 1500 cc	3,416
Private car	Exceeding 1500 cc	7,897
Two-wheeler	Not exceeding 75 cc	538
Two-wheeler	Exceeding 75 cc but not exceeding 150 cc	714
Two-wheeler	Exceeding 150 cc but not exceeding 350 cc	1,366
Two-wheeler	Exceeding 350 cc	2,804

Source: Ministry of road transport and highways.

Accident with another vehicle

If you meet with an accident and the fault is yours, you will be liable to compensate the other person for repairs and other damages from your pocket in case you don't have insurance. The liability is calculated similarly to the first case.

Imagine: Aman rear-ends another car. The repair bill is ₹80,000, the other driver had minor injuries costing ₹20,000 in medical bills, and he lost one month's salary ₹35,000.

- **Total compensation:** ₹80,000 + ₹20,000 + ₹35,000 = ₹1,35,000

The road, however, is bumpy

One of the reasons people shy away from insurance is the fear of long and tedious claim settlements. Many assume that cases take years to conclude in court — in some situations, especially those involving fatalities, this is true. "It's common for cases to take years to reach a final settlement. This is primarily due to the nature of the accident, parties involved, the claim amount, procedural delays, and the investigation process," says Shashank Agarwal, Founder, Legum Solis.

Delays are more common in hit-and-run cases, as they require a detailed investigation. This discourages many from buying TPI, leading them to believe it is a waste of money. However, a delay would occur any way. With a TPI, you won't at least bear the cost of the lawsuit.

Long process, low cost

The process is not as burdensome as many think. Raadhika Chawla, Advocate, Delhi High Court, explains that if the insurance company determines that compensation is payable and makes an offer, and the claimant (driver) accepts, the parties appear before MACT for judicial approval. If the claimant rejects the offer, the tribunal then hears the case in detail. Another common misconception is that claimants must spend years in court and pay hefty legal fees. "The insurance company handles the process and appoints its own lawyers to represent the matter before the tribunal. The insured does not need to hire a separate lawyer, nor does the government provide one," adds Chawla. Once documents are verified, the insurer pays compensation directly to the victim.

How compensation is decided

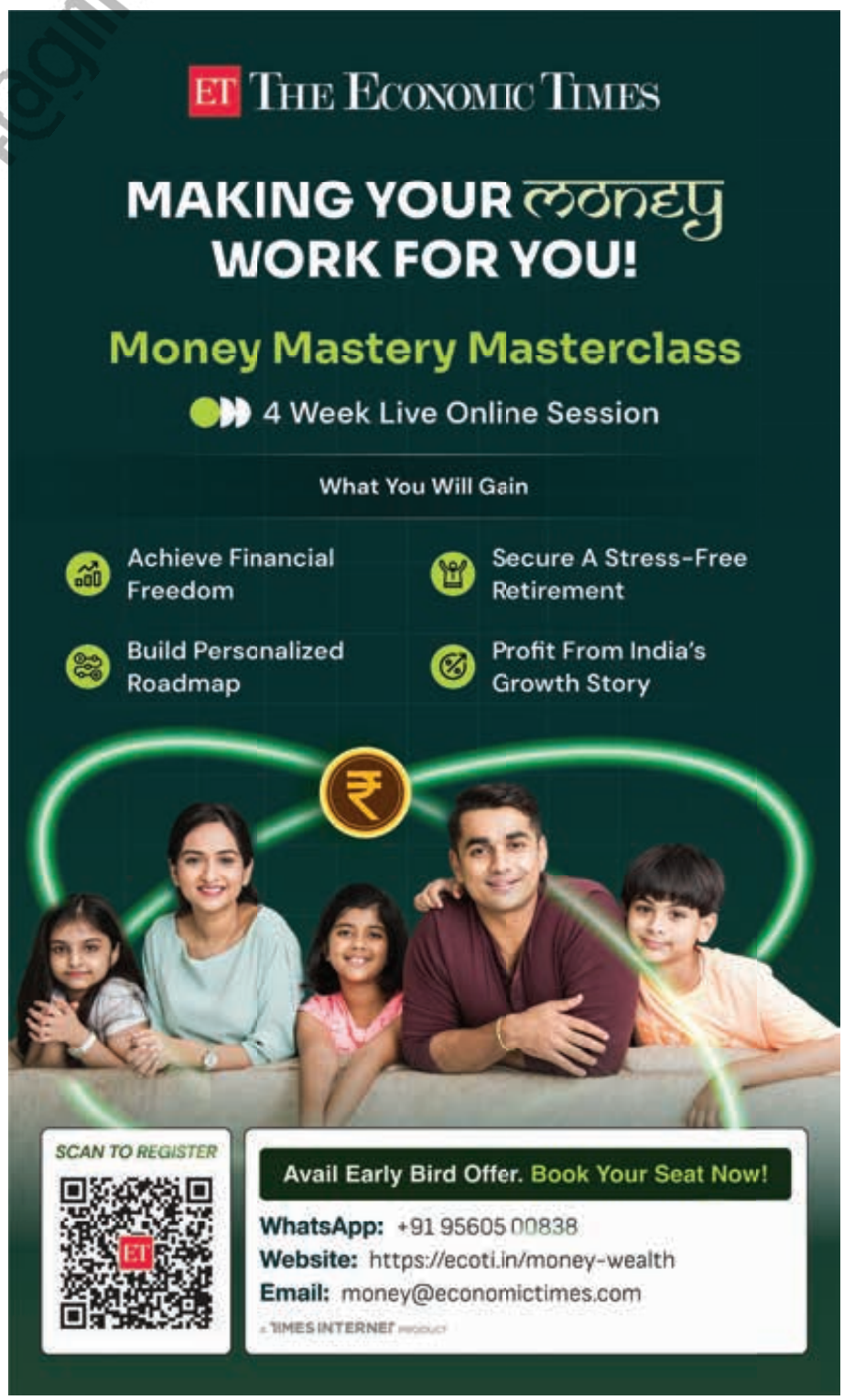
The type and timing of compensation depend on the section of the MVA under which a case is filed. In serious accidents, families may receive interim compensation under 'no-fault liability' provisions, typically paid by the insurer without waiting for the final verdict. For final awards, the MACT applies formulas approved by the Supreme Court which factor in the victim's age, monthly income, dependents, and future earning potential. In injury cases, the tribunal considers the degree of disability, medical costs, and loss of earning capacity. Importantly, with third-party insurance in place, it is the insurer—not the driver—who pays once the liability is established.

Essential, not optional

"What makes TPI most useful is that there is no cap on the liability. So even if your liability exceeds several crores, the insurance company will have to pay it," says Paras Pasricha, Head-Motor Insurance, Policybazaar.com. He explains that the only cap in third-party cover is for property damage, which is restricted to ₹7.5 lakh.

However, note that the company may not be liable to pay if you're proven to be guilty of drunk driving or your license has expired. The final judgment is given by the court, though. Yes, the process can feel slow, but third-party insurance ensures that you don't pay lakhs out of your own pocket. It is not only a legal mandate but also a financial safeguard that protects you from life-altering liabilities. It is the cheapest financial shield you can buy. Ignoring it is like driving without brakes.

yasmin.hussain@timesofindia.com

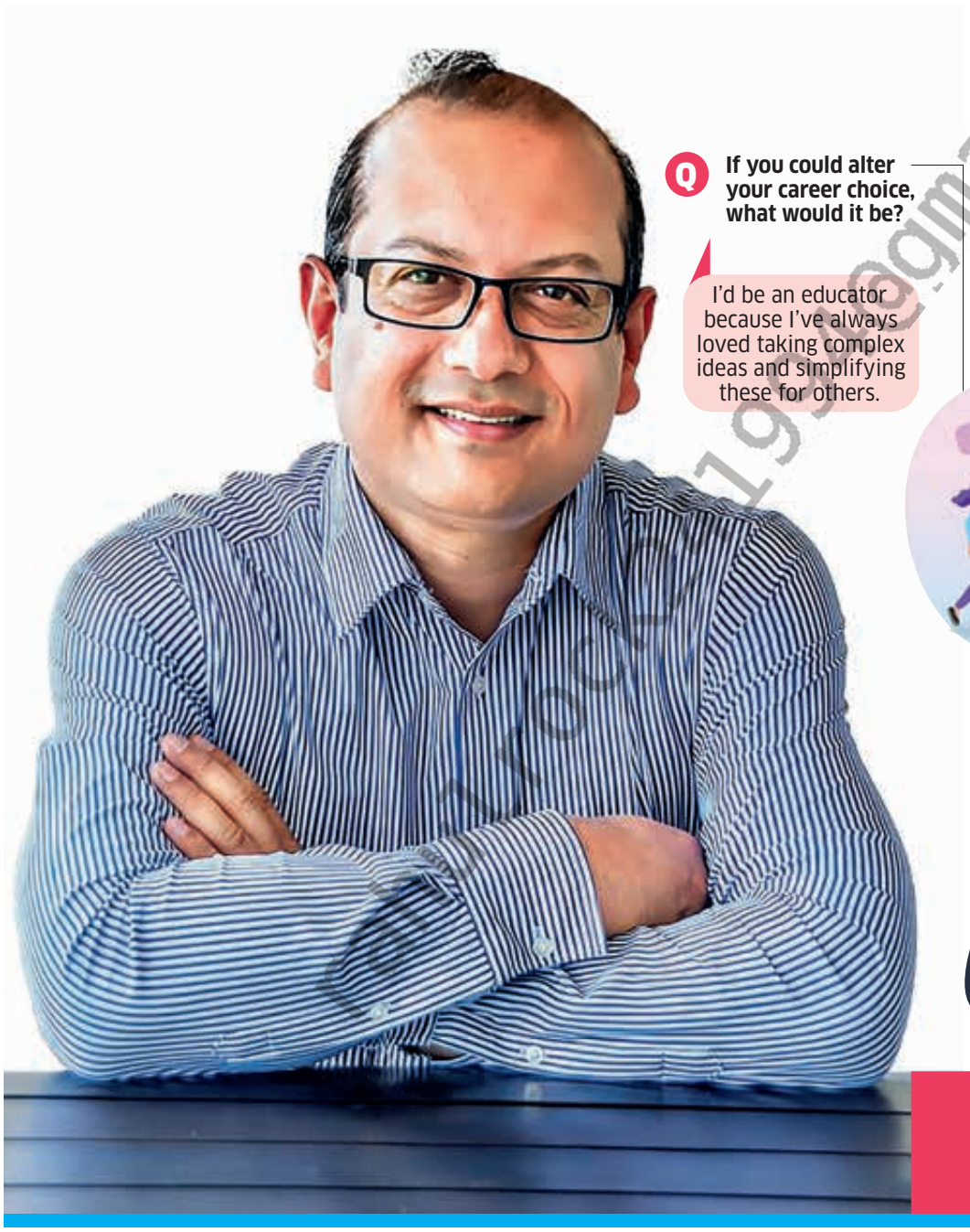


***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP12 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 17:42 Color:

"Hospitals need to come within the regulatory ambit"

Health regulations are required on a priority to enable higher transparency in hospital pricing and greater convenience for policyholders, says Sharad Mathur, MD & CEO, Universal Sompo General Insurance, in a conversation with **Riju Mehta.**



Q If you could alter your career choice, what would it be?

I'd be an educator because I've always loved taking complex ideas and simplifying these for others.

Q What is the one thing you would use ChatGPT/AI for?

I would use it to boost productivity by automating routine tasks.

RAPID FIRE

Q If you could go back to the pre-pandemic days, what changes would you make in your portfolio?

I would have significantly diversified my portfolio, invested more in defensive assets like gold, and strengthened my health and life insurance.

Q Which is the one book you would recommend?

Sapiens by Yuval Noah Harari for its insightful perspective on human history and evolution.

Sharad Mathur
MD & CEO, Universal Sompo General Insurance

What do you think of Bima Vistaar (an affordable combined product offering life, health, personal accident and property insurance)? Is it likely to dilute each insurance product?

The regulator (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India) has permitted health and term insurance to be sold as a combined product. If Bima Vistaar comes as a combination of life and non-life products, it will not dilute any of the existing products because it is being developed for a specific customer segment. The idea behind Bima Vistaar is to promote insurance inclusion and reach the last mile where affordability is a concern, and insurers without the necessary tech infrastructure struggle to access this segment. It will bridge the gap between what is being offered and the segment of customers looking for an affordable, combined product, rather than having to evaluate three options and not being able to figure out which one to take. It will be better if all three can be offered under the same umbrella on the basis of their needs and requirements. It also becomes easy for insurers to manage and administer. This will complement the existing products and create more awareness, which, in turn, will fuel their growth. This product will also, hopefully, see a great uptake.

Do you think general insurers should be allowed to come up with long-term health products?

Life insurance has historically been a long-term product, so the solvency computations and the way they factor in risk in calculations is different from general insurance. General insurance has been more of a short-term annual contract, though long-term secured loan products are also there. However, in health insurance, hospitals are not within the regulatory ambit and we are awaiting regulations so that they can become a part of the overall health space. The government

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP13 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 17:43 Color:

has invested in the National Health Claims Exchange (NHCX) and insurers are a part of it, but if hospitals also come on board, it will create a lot of visibility and transparency. This will make it easy for insurers to compute premiums and evaluate risk on a long-term basis, which is currently missing. If hospitals come under health regulations and there is visibility in the way procedures are carried out, surgical expenses are factored into the cost, and invoices are inflated, it will help insurers. Currently, we are unable to figure out what we should consider because rates vary from hospital to hospital. If these are regulated, then it becomes easy to compute the premium.

It has been a long-standing demand, but do you think this is likely to happen?

Yes, it favours everyone. If it doesn't happen, then the way health insurance has been growing after Covid, wherein it has become the fastest growing and top contributing line of business (LOB) in the general insurance space, might be adversely affected. Today, we agree with customers that they do not understand the dynamics at the service provider level. Transparency is needed even by policyholders and claimants—'If I go to X hospital, what rates will be charged and what will be covered? If I go to Y hospital, how will I be treated and at what rate?'—regardless of their coverage by an insurance company. To evolve and support the ecosystem and achieve the bigger objective of insurance inclusion by 2047, we need some kind of basic regulation just for creating transparency and comfort for policyholders.

The government has tried to introduce a standardised billing format for hospitals. Will it bring in transparency or also reduce costs?

It is not about reducing cost, but making the cost appropriate. Currently, in most hospitals, it has become an additional revenue stream probably because of the high-standard facilities they provide. Some hospitals are not able to provide high-standard facilities, so their costs are lower. As a part of the health ecosystem, the idea is not to bring down expenses, but to bring in transparency. Whether we have to pay X or Y amount, we need to know and, accordingly, it will be built into the prices. Currently, pricing is deprived of complete information. If transparency comes in, it will become easier to price the product and serve customers, even if the claim cost is high.

What is keeping hospitals from onboarding the NHCX?

Perhaps they are also awaiting full clarity on regulations, whether the NHCX will become a part of regulations or there will be a different treatment or method to manage what we want to achieve. If regulations take time and, in the interim, hospitals join the platform, it will become seamless for insurers and service providers to make it work for the customer. It will not only become transparent, but also swift for all providers in the ecosystem, making it easy for claimants.

Insurers are typically blamed for delays in the discharge of patients, but hospitals also share some responsibility. Will the delays continue without the NHCX?

Without the NHCX, it is difficult. It's because of a lack of transparency and a lack of understanding that the turnaround times are not being compressed, and NHCX can ensure the swift delivery of services by hospitals and insurers. It is a clear must, whether it becomes a part of health regulations or the regulations offer something better. Health regulations are a necessity as early as possible. In the interim, onboarding the NHCX is a win-win for all stakeholders, including claimants. We should achieve both parallelly—health regulations and onboarding of hospitals on the NHCX

> "The moment that health regulations are introduced and hospitals come within the regulatory ambit, the number of aggrieved customers will just fizzle out."

For senior citizens, high health insurance premiums are a big issue. Should we have a mandatory health contribution as in other countries? What is the solution to this problem?

No, I don't see a health fund or pool as a solution because what health insurers are doing is creating a pool, eventually, to serve the aged or even the young population. High premium for senior citizens is not the issue here. The issue is luxury or high standards in servicing or inflation of prices in surgical procedures. Hospital expenses are rising day by day due to more expensive core procedures or higher standards. Everything is being built into the surgical procedure costs.

If the overall expenses rise, insurance premiums also increase because all claimants are served from the same health insurance premium pool. It's a reciprocal arrangement. We are charging a premium that is adequate to serve the customer. If hospital expenses increase rapidly, there will be a reciprocal increase in premiums, otherwise health insurers will not be able to serve all claimants.

Is there any other way out for seniors because this segment typically drops out of insurance and ends up with its own buffer corpus?

Another option is for premiums to be funded in a way that it doesn't become an instant burden. We, as insurers, are also coming out with ways to fund the premium. For instance, the premium can be spread over a period of 12 months. You pay a portion every month, but the coverage continues uninterrupted. That is one way to look at it. Second, if senior citizens opt for hospitals with high quality of treatment and 100% success rate, instead of those that provide luxury and comfort, we can create a policy for seniors with low premiums. We go to hospitals to get treated, not to watch large-screen televisions. So, any age group, not just senior citizens, will appreciate this.

Rejection of claims or delay in claim processing is one area where health insurance gets a bad name. Why?

There is a surge in health insurance policies now and health insurance is becoming a pull product. One reason for rejections is the understanding gap. Though policy documents feature what is included and what is not, most customers get admitted without fully knowing what will be covered. With the help of the regulator, we have started sending a 2-3 page document clearly stating what will be covered. The policy has fine print and if someone is not keen on reading such a huge document, at least they will know what is covered in the policy. It should be made very clear to the customer in a format that is easy to understand and using large fonts. As a result, the number of complaints have started reducing. Complaints are of two types—one is the understanding gap, and the second is lack of transparency. If these two get addressed, there will be no unhappy customer. The moment health regulations are introduced and hospitals come within the regulatory ambit, the number of aggrieved customers will just fizzle out.

After Covid, have you seen any change in the customer profile when it comes to health insurance?

We have started attracting young customers, those who are in their 30s. Earlier, in this age group, people used to rely only on employers' group health covers, but now they have started buying individual or standalone health covers in addition to the employer plans. This helps maintain continuity and takes care of the exclusions that are present at the initial stages of policy purchase. So, the moment exclusions become inclusions that continue to provide benefits, it helps address the gap if someone were to leave their job. Our analysis shows that many young employees have started buying standalone health covers for their immediate families and are relying on employer health plans for their parents.

Are you planning to come up with innovative, hybrid or combo products?

We are in the process of working out a combo product that includes term and health insurance. Second, we have started developing health products for specific customer segments like domestic helpers. Our regular products are there for all age groups, across cities. We are also thinking of introducing more disease-specific products. So, we are innovating wherever we can on the basis of ailments and other health variants, and are trying to introduce term and health insurance products where affordability is not an issue.

All this requires investment, such as building systems or making enhancements in existing health systems. We are very keen to make these investments in infrastructure, technology, and in creating a think-tank of employees who think along these lines. We are planning to tie up with several hospitals and rolling out a product with low premium for senior citizens with premium funding. We want to create comfort for customers so that they can enjoy the experience at the time of claim settlement because only then will it result in end-to-end innovation.

What are your future business plans?

We want to reach out to all types of distributors, focusing on motor, health, commercial lines, property, and crops, wherever we are able to service farmers. So, essentially all lines of business and all geographies, but largely we are entering tier 4 and 5 locations because we are already present in tier 1, 2 and 3 cities. We work with a large number of banks, especially public-sector banks, with 60% of these located in rural areas. As a result, we have 163 brick-and-mortar offices and digitally enabled resources in 200 locations. We are also in the process of undertaking tech integration as the integrator model helps tech-savvy customers who are keen to buy on their own. So we are serving the customers of today and gearing up for tomorrow, where tech comes to the fore.

riju.mehta@timesofindia.com

rahulrock4199@gmail.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP14 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 17:31 Color:

How to rise from financial ruin

After suffering irretrievable financial losses, it is horrible to find oneself clinging to whatever is left. However, the best recourse is to accept the situation and build a path to recovery.

UMA SHASHIKANT
CHAIRPERSON, CENTRE FOR INVESTMENT EDUCATION AND LEARNING

We know of businesses that failed and caused huge losses to promoters; we have heard of inheritance lost in a prolonged legal battle; we may have come across cases of severe credit card overuse eroding wealth; and we know of unfortunate losses from speculation and gambling.

My grandfather never let me and my family cross the Cauvery river to visit his native village in Lalgudi. We used to pray to the family deity at home, but were not permitted to visit the temple. "Not in my lifetime," he would say. That little village of Mayilrangam in Tamil Nadu held memories of his prosperous childhood—and the enormous wealth he lost to fighting descendants when, at just 16, his father passed away unexpectedly. Losing wealth, inherited or built in one's lifetime, is painful. The wounds and scars can remain for several years. How does one recover from it?

Very few of us truly understand what it is like to lose everything. We don't know because we have not been there. The circumstances may differ, but the challenges are similar. We know of businesses that failed and caused huge losses to promoters; we have heard of inheritance lost in a prolonged legal battle; we may have come across cases of severe credit card overuse eroding wealth; and we know of unfortunate losses from speculation and gambling. Desperation and feelings of irrecoverable defeat mount as one stares at the bank account and unpaid debts, not to speak of shattered dreams and fear of the future. It is a horrible place to find oneself clinging to whatever is left after irretrievable loss. We can support without enabling if we can help to draw a path to recovery. What does it take to rebuild?

GETTY IMAGES

Wake up and smell the coffee

First, face up to the reality of the situation at hand and learn to process the emotions. Denial and blame games are the first refuge in the face of loss. Many tell themselves that they have been duped into the unfortunate situation, completely overlooking their own active role in the misfortune. Guilt, shame and regret are very difficult emotions to process, but there is no alternative to facing up to the truth and going through the emotions. After fighting denial and wishing it had never happened, then blaming the world for the misfortune and feeling like a victim, one must reach acceptance. Recovery begins there.

Second, understand the sequence of events and actions that led to defaults and loss of wealth. Identify the financial habits that led to the crisis. Was it unbridled spending? Careless lending? Too much borrowing? Indiscipline in book-keeping and accounting? Inability to write off losses? Take the help of a trusted friend or adviser to reconstruct the events, however painful it may be. Face up to the sequence while being kind to yourself and accepting that these are all behind you. The objective is not to rewrite the past or beat oneself up over what is already over, but to learn the lessons and behaviours for the future so that one can avoid the same mistakes. Be aware of and acknowledge your role in the crisis, and accept that you must play it differently going forward.

Third, begin with the three basic habits of financial discipline: make a budget, record all expenses, and review the actuals with your plans. Do this as frequently as you can—daily is great, weekly is good, monthly, only after your financial discipline is in place and is working. To budget is to be ready and disciplined; to record is to take responsibility; and to review is to remain accountable. All three are important to ensure that the mistakes of the past are not repeated. Involve a trusted friend, family member or an adviser to help with this process and monitor your progress, as well as to motivate and counsel you to stay on track.

Rebuild with a clean slate

Fourth, sell whatever assets you are left with and begin anew. Don't cling to what can work for you: property, jewellery, land, deposits, investments. Don't take fresh loans that you can't repay. Find a job; any job that will keep your mind off your situation and remind you that you have the task of rebuilding. Take support, help, references or subsidies that friends and family are willing to offer. Accept this assistance with grace and grit, and remain hopeful of engineering a turnaround. Join support groups if it helps; stay connected with people who cheer you up and want you to turn around; and remain engaged in your goals. Do not worry about appearances and social approval; start afresh in a new place if you want. Consolidate and conserve what you have and work with a plan, conscientious that this is all you have. Set short-term goals so that you can keep the motivation high and move from one goalpost to another gradually.

Fifth, begin to save. Even if it is a small amount, learn to set aside money and not use it. Work to rebuild your credit standing. Throwing off all your credit cards is a behaviour of avoidance. Learning to build a credit record again and staying within 20% of your credit limit is a mark of recovery. Pay all your bills on time—utilities, rent, and simiar recurring expenses. Do not take new loans till your payment history for small recurring expenses is stable, your credit card dues are paid in full on due date, and your savings have begun to build.

Sixth, spend time and energy on a habit or task that offers visible results and supports your effort to rebuild the financial health. A friend took to running and told himself that by the time he would be fit to run a marathon, his finances would have become stable. The mental strength required in running also helped him rebuild his life. Grow a garden, learn to cook, serve as a volunteer in a senior care home, write exams for the visually impaired. Do anything that keeps you grounded and engaged in a manner that helps your realise you are fortunate to be in a place where you can rebuild and recover.

Bring your family on board

Seventh, ensure that your family is with you, fully tuned in, informed and supportive of the situation you are facing. Enlist the support of the members of your household. If you cross the first barrier of owning up and processing the truth with them, you will find it easier to rally them around you. Make sure you are all in it together, doing your best and chipping in to rework towards the commonly agreed goals. Lies, deceit, denial and desolation won't take you any distance. Beginning afresh and rebuilding are the only choices when you have to start over again. If you have family and friends for support, you have a lot to be grateful for.

Please send your feedback to
etwealth@timesofindia.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

The Economic Times Wealth
August 25-31, 2025

SMART STATS

ET WEALTH TOP 50 STOCKS

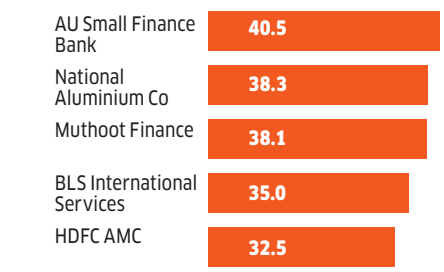
Every week we put about 3,000 stocks through four key filters and rate them on a mix of factors. The end result of this is the listing of the top 50 stocks based on the composite rating to help ease your fortune hunt.

	RANK		PRICE ₹	GROWTH%*		VALUATION RATIOS				RATING	
	Current Rank	Previous Rank	Stock Price	Revenue	Net Profit	PE	PB	PEG (5-year)	Div Yield (%)	No. of funds	Value Research Stock Rating
Aavas Financiers	1	2	1,680	17	16	22.8	3.0	1.1	–	21	★★★★★
National Aluminium Company	2	4	192	38	155	6.1	1.9	0.1	4.2	35	★★★★★
Muthoot Finance	3	3	2,686	38	38	17.5	3.5	1.2	0.9	72	★★★★★
REC	4	5	381	17	15	6.0	1.2	0.4	4.7	87	★★★★
CSB Bank	5	7	403	24	9	11.6	1.6	0.6	–	19	★★★★★
LIC Housing Finance	6	6	581	5	16	5.8	0.8	0.5	1.7	45	★★★★★
Kewal Kiran Clothing	7	9	514	30	3	20.8	3.7	0.8	–	8	★★★★★
State Bank of India	8	8	829	9	17	9.6	1.5	0.9	1.9	226	★★★★★
Avanti Feeds	9	10	651	7	53	15.3	3.0	1.5	1.4	11	★★★★★
Repco Home Finance	10	11	376	9	8	5.0	0.7	0.7	1.1	10	★★★★★
Power Finance Corporation	11	13	403	16	17	5.5	1.1	0.4	3.9	111	★★★★
City Union Bank	12	12	214	12	11	13.6	1.6	1.9	0.9	43	★★★★★
DCB Bank	13	14	122	21	18	6.0	0.7	0.5	1.1	20	★★★★★
Indian Energy Exchange	14	15	143	19	22	28.2	10.4	1.4	2.1	35	★★★★
AU Small Finance Bank	15	16	760	41	23	26.0	3.2	0.8	0.1	57	★★★★★
VRL Logistics	16	21	282	8	220	22.4	4.0	0.1	2.7	17	★★★★★
Just Dial	17	18	841	8	43	11.9	1.5	0.8	–	5	★★★★★
Indiamart Intermesh	18	19	2,622	15	62	26.7	6.8	1.0	1.9	29	★★★★★
Infosys	19	20	1,496	7	2	22.7	6.1	2.2	3.0	243	★★★★
Gulf Oil Lubricants India	20	22	1,238	9	13	16.6	3.9	0.9	3.9	13	★★★★★
Sundaram Finance	21	17	5,177	16	28	29.0	4.1	2.1	0.7	22	★★★★★
ICRA	22	24	6,309	11	21	34.1	5.5	2.5	1.0	15	★★★★★
Zydus Lifesciences	23	85	983	15	9	21.7	3.9	0.9	1.1	30	★★★★
Tata Consultancy Services	24	26	3,097	5	5	22.7	10.4	2.3	4.2	155	★★★★
Bank of Maharashtra	25	25	55	21	20	7.4	1.5	0.3	2.7	7	★★★★
APL Apollo Tubes	26	92	1,630	13	9	56.4	10.2	1.3	0.4	61	★★★★★
Intellect Design Arena	27	29	986	5	15	38.7	4.9	0.8	0.8	16	★★★★★
Nippon Life India AMC	28	27	863	30	11	41.1	12.4	1.6	2.1	58	★★★★★
Cipla	29	33	1,546	6	25	23.2	3.9	0.9	1.0	119	★★★★
Coromandel International	30	28	2,418	25	55	31.9	6.2	2.7	0.6	69	★★★★★
LG Balakrishnan & Brothers	31	34	1,279	12	6	13.2	2.0	0.3	1.6	6	★★★★★
PNB Housing Finance	32	31	809	11	28	10.4	1.2	1.7	0.6	92	★★★★★
Chambal Fertilisers	33	32	563	1	29	12.9	2.4	1.5	1.8	14	★★★★★
Adani Ports and SEZ.	34	30	1,370	16	24	26.2	4.5	1.0	0.5	55	★★★★
Welspun Corp	35	37	870	-12	68	11.4	3.0	0.6	0.6	24	★★★★★
Page Industries	36	39	45,600	8	33	66.3	31.5	2.1	2.0	80	★★★★★
Nucleus Software Exports	37	36	1,025	5	2	15.9	3.1	1.8	1.2	5	★★★★★
BLS International Services	38	40	370	35	58	27.1	8.0	0.3	0.3	5	★★★★★
Ashoka Buildcon	39	41	185	-8	195	2.9	1.3	0.1	–	6	★★★★
Cummins India	40	53	3,819	21	17	49.5	13.1	2.1	1.4	127	★★★★★
Hindalco Industries	41	43	701	12	57	9.3	1.2	0.4	0.7	126	★★★★
Emami	42	42	627	4	11	33.5	9.6	1.5	1.7	58	★★★★
Pfizer	43	35	5,652	4	33	32.0	5.9	7.3	2.9	31	★★★★
Transport Corporation Of India	44	44	1,167	11	21	20.9	4.0	0.8	0.7	7	★★★★★
EPL	45	78	236	7	77	19.1	3.1	1.8	2.1	9	★★★★
HDFC AMC	46	45	5,711	33	26	46.9	14.0	3.1	1.6	84	★★★★★
Glaxosmithkline	47	38	2,785	7	48	50.1	21.9	4.0	1.9	48	★★★★
Elgi Equipments	48	47	508	9	12	44.2	8.3	0.5	0.4	6	★★★★
LTIMindtree	49	46	5,182	8	3	32.7	6.5	1.3	1.3	71	★★★★
Bharti Airtel	50	49	1,928	22	250	33.3	9.7	0.7	0.8	269	★★★★

*REVENUE AND EPS FIGURES BASED ON ONE-YEAR GROWTH. DATA AS ON 20 AUG 2025. PERCENTAGES & RATIOS ROUNDED TO ONE DECIMAL PLACE. **SOURCE:** VALUE RESEARCH

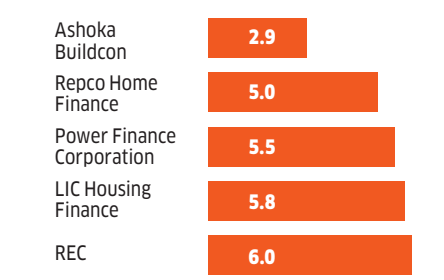
1 Fast growing stocks

Top 5 stocks with the highest revenue (1-year) growth (%)



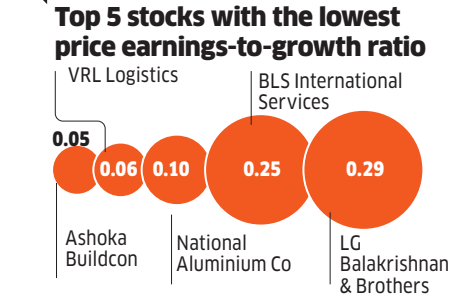
2 Least expensive stocks

Top 5 stocks with the lowest price-to-earnings ratio



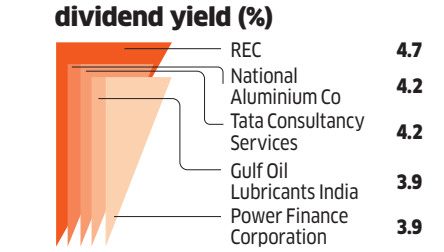
3 Best PEGs

Top 5 stocks with the lowest price earnings-to-growth ratio



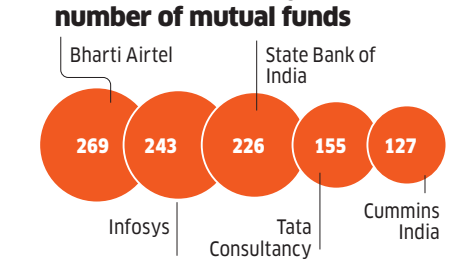
4 Income generators

Top 5 stocks with the highest dividend yield (%)



5 Most widely held

Top 5 stocks held by the most number of mutual funds



SEE NUMBER OF MUTUAL FUNDS HOLDING THE STOCKS IN THE ADJACENT TABLE.

rahul.rock24-4194@gmail.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP16 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 19:11 Color:

ETW FUNDS 100

BEST FUNDS TO BUILD YOUR PORTFOLIO

ET Wealth collaborates with **Value Research** to identify the top-performing funds across categories. Equity funds and equity-oriented hybrid funds are ranked on 3-year returns while debt-oriented hybrid and income funds are ranked on 1-year returns.

	Value Research Fund Rating	Net Assets (₹ Cr)	RETURNS (%) 3-Month	6-Month	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	Expense Ratio (%)
EQUITY: LARGE CAP								
Nippon India Large Cap	★★★★★	44,165	4.6	13.1	4.3	19.8	24.0	1.5
ICICI Prudential Large Cap	★★★★★	71,788	3.0	11.3	3.7	18.1	21.6	1.4
HDFC NIFTY50 Equal Weight Index	★★★★	1,503	3.5	10.9	0.7	16.4	–	0.9
DSP Nifty 50 Equal Weight Index	★★★★★	2,198	3.5	10.9	0.6	16.4	22.3	0.9
Invesco India Largecap	★★★★	1,528	3.3	13.2	1.7	16.3	19.1	2.0
HDFC Large Cap	★★★★★	38,117	2.2	8.5	-0.5	16.2	20.9	1.6
Aditya Birla Sun Life Nifty 50 Equal Weight Index	★★★★	376	3.5	10.9	0.5	16.1	–	1.0
Sundaram Nifty 100 Equal Weight	★★★★	108	3.8	11.9	-2.7	16.0	20.5	1.1
Baroda BNP Paribas Large Cap	★★★★	2,650	2.1	9.2	-2.8	15.6	18.6	2.0
Canara Robeco Large Cap	★★★★	16,407	2.4	10.3	3.8	15.3	18.3	1.6
Edelweiss Large Cap	★★★★	1,292	1.8	9.0	-0.9	15.1	18.3	2.1
Quant Focused	★★★★	1,017	2.0	8.1	-8.3	14.5	21.2	2.2
EQUITY: LARGE & MIDCAP								
Motilal Oswal Large and Midcap	★★★★★	12,428	4.0	19.0	5.6	26.8	28.3	1.7
ICICI Prudential Large & Mid Cap	★★★★★	23,246	2.3	10.8	4.6	21.3	26.0	1.7
Bandhan Large & Mid Cap	★★★★★	9,997	5.1	13.1	1.2	24.2	25.5	1.7
HDFC Large and Mid Cap	★★★★	26,406	4.2	12.7	0.4	20.5	25.3	1.6
UTI Large & Mid Cap	★★★★★	4,865	3.3	10.7	0.8	21.3	24.9	1.9
SBI Large & Midcap	★★★★	33,348	3.7	12.3	5.1	18.1	23.6	1.6
EQUITY: FLEXI CAP								
Invesco India Focused	★★★★	4,199	4.4	12.9	5.1	24.0	–	1.9
ICICI Prudential Retirement Fund - Pure Equity Plan	★★★★	1,333	7.5	17.0	8.7	23.5	27.4	2.1
HDFC Focused	★★★★★	21,456	3.6	11.8	9.5	22.8	27.5	1.6
HDFC Flexi Cap	★★★★★	80,642	3.6	12.0	8.6	22.7	27.6	1.4
JM Flexicap	★★★★	5,957	1.8	7.7	-7.7	22.5	25.5	1.8
ICICI Prudential Focused Equity	★★★★	12,380	5.1	15.9	6.6	22.4	24.4	1.7
Bank of India Flexi Cap	★★★★	2,155	3.4	12.1	-6.0	20.9	25.4	2.0
Parag Parikh Flexi Cap	★★★★★	1,13,281	1.7	7.4	8.4	20.1	22.5	1.3
HSBC Flexi Cap	★★★★	5,075	4.5	14.0	1.7	19.9	20.9	1.9
Mahindra Manulife Focused	★★★★	2,137	1.0	7.9	-3.3	19.2	–	2.0
HDFC Retirement Savings Fund Equity	★★★★★	6,612	1.9	10.1	0.8	19.0	24.5	1.8
Franklin India Flexi Cap	★★★★	18,988	2.0	10.3	1.3	19.0	24.3	1.7
ICICI Prudential Flexicap	★★★★	17,970	5.3	13.1	1.7	18.2	–	1.7
Edelweiss Flexi Cap	★★★★	2,768	3.9	11.2	-0.3	18.2	21.7	1.9
Canara Robeco Focused	★★★★	2,720	6.0	14.1	7.1	17.9	–	1.9
Franklin India Focused Equity	★★★★	12,421	5.2	11.3	1.3	17.0	23.9	1.8
360 ONE Focused	★★★★	7,487	1.8	7.6	-3.8	16.4	20.7	1.8
EQUITY: MID CAP								
Motilal Oswal Midcap	★★★★★	33,609	5.9	11.7	3.8	28.3	33.7	1.6
HDFC Mid Cap	★★★★★	83,847	5.3	14.1	4.5	26.3	29.1	1.4
Nippon India Growth Mid Cap	★★★★★	38,581	6.0	16.2	4.2	25.7	29.2	1.6
Edelweiss Mid Cap	★★★★	11,027	6.0	16.0	5.0	25.1	29.5	1.7
Kotak Midcap	★★★★	57,375	9.1	18.6	5.2	22.1	27.8	1.4
SBI Midcap Fund	★★★★	22,547	-0.2	7.8	-3.5	16.2	25.8	1.7
EQUITY: SMALL CAP								
Invesco India Smallcap	★★★★	7,580	7.4	16.9	5.5	26.5	31.0	1.7
Quant Small Cap	★★★★	29,463	2.3	13.2	-7.7	25.7	35.5	1.6
Nippon India Small Cap	★★★★★	65,922	4.1	14.8	-4.0	24.7	33.3	1.4
Tata Small Cap	★★★★	11,576	4.2	13.4	-2.8	22.7	30.3	1.7
EQUITY: VALUE ORIENTED								
HSBC Value	★★★★	13,817	4.9	15.4	2.6	24.5	26.2	1.7
ICICI Prudential Value	★★★★★	53,716	1.9	10.6	4.2	21.6	25.9	1.5
SBI Contra	★★★★★	46,947	0.3	7.7	-2.6	20.8	29.4	1.5
Templeton India Value	★★★★	2,237	1.3	8.8	-4.9	18.7	26.9	2.0
EQUITY: ELSS								
Motilal Oswal ELSS Tax Saver	★★★★	4,402	2.1	15.4	-0.6	24.4	25.5	1.8
SBI ELSS Tax Saver	★★★★★	30,271	2.1	8.7	-1.5	24.0	24.9	1.6
HDFC ELSS Tax Saver	★★★★★	16,579	3.3	12.2	6.0	22.0	24.8	1.7
JM ELSS Tax Saver	★★★★	207	5.1	11.2	-4.2	19.7	23.1	2.4
DSP ELSS Tax Saver	★★★★	16,981	1.1	9.4	0.6	19.2	23.2	1.6
Franklin India ELSS Tax Saver	★★★★	6,706	1.8	9.7	0.7	19.1	23.6	1.8
Parag Parikh ELSS Tax Saver	★★★★★	5,538	1.7	8.0	5.7	18.6	22.2	1.7

19.8% THE 3-YEAR RETURN OF NIPPON INDIA LARGE CAP FUND IS THE HIGHEST IN ITS CATEGORY.

24.0% THE 3-YEAR RETURN OF INVESCO INDIA FOCUSED FUND IS THE HIGHEST IN ITS CATEGORY.

28.3% THE 3-YEAR RETURN OF MOTILAL OSWAL MIDCAP FUND IS THE HIGHEST IN ITS CATEGORY.

24.5% THE 3-YEAR RETURN OF HSBC VALUE FUND IS THE HIGHEST IN ITS CATEGORY.

LAGGARDS & LEADERS

Taking a long-term view of fund returns, here is a list of 10 funds in each category—five leaders (worth investing) and five laggards (that may be a drag on your portfolio).

LAGGARDS | LEADERS

Equity: Large cap 5-year returns

Laggards		Leaders	
Nippon India ETF Nifty 50 Shariah BeES	12.0	BHARAT 22 ETF	31.6
Axis Large Cap	14.7	ICICI Prudential BHARAT 22 FOF	31.2
PGIM India Large Cap	15.6	Nippon India Large Cap	24.0
Groww Large Cap	16.3	SBI BSE Sensex Next 50 ETF	23.9
Sundaram Large Cap	16.5	UTI BSE Sensex Next 50 ETF	23.8

Equity: Flexi cap 5-year returns

Laggards		Leaders	
LIC MF Children's Fund	13.3	HDFC Flexi Cap	27.6
Motilal Oswal Focused	13.3	HDFC Focused	27.5
Axis Focused	13.7	ICICI Prudential Retirement	27.4
Aditya Birla Sun Life Bal Bhavishya	13.8	Quant Flexi Cap	27.3
Shriram Flexi Cap	14.3	ICICI Prudential India Equity FOF	25.5

Equity: Mid cap 3-year returns

Laggards		Leaders	
DSP Nifty Midcap 150 Quality	12.6	Invesco India Mid Cap	28.7
UTI Nifty Midcap 150 Quality	12.7	Motilal Oswal Midcap	28.3
DSP Nifty Midcap 150 Quality	13.3	HDFC Mid Cap	26.3
PGIM India Midcap	14.5	Nippon India Growth Mid Cap	25.7
SBI Midcap	16.2	Kotak Nifty Midcap 50 ETF	25.2

Equity: Small cap 3-year returns

Laggards		Leaders	
PGIM India Small Cap	15.1	Bandhan Small Cap	29.9
SBI Small Cap	16.6	ITI Small Cap	27.2
Kotak Small Cap	16.8	Invesco India Smallcap	26.5
Canara Robeco Small Cap	16.9	Quant Small Cap	25.7
LIC MF Small Cap	18.2	Aditya Birla Sun Life Nifty Smallcap	25.2

Hybrid: Aggressive 5-year returns

Laggards		Leaders	
Aditya Birla Sun Life Retirement	12.8	ICICI Prudential Equity & Debt	24.4
Shriram Aggressive Hybrid	12.8	Bank of India Mid & Small Cap Equity	23.7
Axis Children's	13.0	Quant Aggressive Hybrid	22.2
Axis Aggressive Hybrid	13.4	JM Aggressive Hybrid	21.2
Axis Retirement	13.6	ICICI Prudential Retirement	20.5

ANNUALISED RETURNS IN % AS ON 20 AUG 2025

rahul.rock2419@gmail.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP17 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 19:12 Color:

ETW FUNDS 100

	Value Research Fund Rating	Net Assets (₹ Cr)	RETURNS (%) 3-Month	6-Month	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	Expense Ratio (%)
HYBRID: EQUITY SAVINGS								
HSBC Equity Savings	★★★★	655	5.2	9.6	4.7	13.4	13.5	1.5
Kotak Equity Savings	★★★★	8,452	2.9	6.8	4.5	11.6	11.5	1.8
SBI Equity Savings	★★★★	5,738	1.5	8.0	5.8	11.4	11.9	1.6
Edelweiss Equity Savings	★★★★	750	3.2	6.7	7.9	11.1	10.8	1.6
UTI Equity Savings	★★★★★	709	0.7	4.1	4.2	10.5	11.6	1.6
ICICI Prudential Equity Savings	★★★★★	15,302	2.1	5.1	7.1	8.9	9.4	1.0
HYBRID: AGGRESSIVE (EQUITY-ORIENTED)								
SBI Magnum Children's Benefit Fund - Investment Plan	★★★★★	4,035	6.0	12.9	6.3	21.8	–	1.9
JM Aggressive Hybrid	★★★★★	841	3.0	6.9	-6.4	20.4	21.2	2.2
ICICI Prudential Retirement Fund - Hybrid Aggressive	★★★★	902	6.3	13.8	6.1	19.9	20.5	2.2
Bank of India Mid & Small Cap Equity & Debt	★★★★	1,258	2.3	12.0	-2.5	19.7	23.7	2.2
ICICI Prudential Equity & Debt	★★★★★	44,605	3.4	11.3	6.6	19.6	24.4	1.6
ICICI Prudential Children's Fund	★★★★	1,393	6.7	14.8	7.0	19.2	19.5	2.2
Edelweiss Aggressive Hybrid	★★★★	2,994	2.8	9.5	3.7	17.3	19.7	1.9
UTI Aggressive Hybrid	★★★★★	6,422	1.1	7.2	1.8	16.2	19.6	1.9
Kotak Aggressive Hybrid	★★★★	7,864	5.5	11.8	3.4	15.3	19.7	1.8
HDFC Children's Fund	★★★★★	10,307	0.5	7.7	1.0	15.1	18.5	1.7
HDFC Retirement Savings Fund - Hybrid Equity Plan	★★★★	1,673	1.5	8.5	2.0	14.9	17.8	2.1
HYBRID: CONSERVATIVE (DEBT-ORIENTED)								
ICICI Prudential Regular Savings	★★★★	3,237	2.3	6.5	7.6	10.3	10.0	1.7
Parag Parikh Conservative Hybrid	★★★★★	2,881	0.5	5.1	6.9	11.2	–	0.6
SBI Conservative Hybrid	★★★★★	9,799	1.5	6.2	5.4	10.1	11.2	1.6
SBI Magnum Children's Benefit Fund - Savings Plan	★★★★★	129	0.3	5.2	4.9	12.6	13.3	1.2
HDFC Hybrid Debt	★★★★	3,388	-0.7	4.1	4.0	10.2	11.0	1.7
Kotak Debt Hybrid	★★★★	3,130	-0.5	4.1	3.6	10.1	10.9	1.7
HYBRID: DYNAMIC ASSET ALLOCATION								
ICICI Prudential Balanced Advantage	★★★★	64,964	3.3	9.1	7.2	13.2	14.4	1.4
Baroda BNP Paribas Balanced Advantage	★★★★	4,424	3.2	10.3	4.7	14.1	14.6	1.9
HDFC Balanced Advantage	★★★★★	1,01,773	1.3	8.0	1.9	19.0	22.6	1.3
DEBT: FLOATER								
Aditya Birla Sun Life Floating Rate	★★★★★	13,620	1.6	4.3	8.2	7.7	6.3	0.4
DEBT: BANKING AND PSU								
Axis Banking & PSU Debt	★★★★	13,286	1.0	4.4	8.2	7.1	5.8	0.6
Aditya Birla Sun Life Banking & PSU Debt	★★★★	9,143	0.7	4.3	8.1	7.3	6.0	0.7
ICICI Prudential Banking & PSU Debt	★★★★★	10,354	0.9	4.2	8.1	7.6	6.3	0.7
Franklin India Banking & PSU Debt	★★★★	539	1.0	4.4	8.1	7.2	5.8	0.5
Bandhan Banking and PSU	★★★★★	13,392	0.9	4.2	7.9	7.1	5.8	0.6
DEBT: SHORT TERM								
Axis Short Duration	★★★★	11,760	1.3	4.8	8.8	7.5	6.1	0.9
HDFC Short Term Debt	★★★★★	18,143	1.2	4.5	8.5	7.7	6.3	0.7
SBI Short Term Debt	★★★★	16,453	1.1	4.6	8.4	7.3	5.8	0.9
ICICI Prudential Short Term	★★★★★	22,070	1.3	4.6	8.4	7.8	6.5	1.1
Aditya Birla Sun Life Short Term	★★★★	10,524	1.1	4.4	8.3	7.4	6.4	1.0
UTI Short Duration	★★★★	3,296	1.1	4.4	8.3	7.4	7.0	0.8
DEBT: CORPORATE BOND								
Nippon India Corporate Bond	★★★★★	10,013	0.8	4.7	8.8	7.9	6.7	0.7
Axis Corporate Bond	★★★★	9,403	1.0	4.8	8.7	7.5	6.2	1.0
Kotak Corporate Bond Fund - Standard Plan	★★★★	17,811	0.9	4.6	8.5	7.6	6.2	0.7
ICICI Prudential Corporate Bond	★★★★★	33,574	1.2	4.5	8.4	7.9	6.5	0.6
HDFC Corporate Bond	★★★★	35,968	0.6	4.2	8.2	7.7	6.3	0.6
Aditya Birla Sun Life Corporate Bond	★★★★	28,597	0.5	4.1	8.1	7.7	6.4	0.5

13.4% THE 3-YEAR RETURN OF HSBC EQUITY SAVINGS FUND IS THE HIGHEST IN ITS CATEGORY.

7.6% THE 1-YEAR RETURN OF ICICI PRUDENTIAL REGULAR SAVINGS FUND IS THE HIGHEST IN ITS CATEGORY.

8.3% THE 1-YEAR RETURN OF AXIS BANKING & PSU DEBT FUND IS THE HIGHEST IN ITS CATEGORY.

Expense as on 31 July 2025
Returns as on 20 Aug 2025
Assets as on 31 July 2025
Rating as on 31 July 2025

All equity funds ranked on 3-year returns. Debt funds ranked on 1-year returns. Percentages rounded to one decimal place.

Did not find your fund here? Log on to www.wealth.economictimes.com for an exhaustive list.

1 Top 5 SIPs

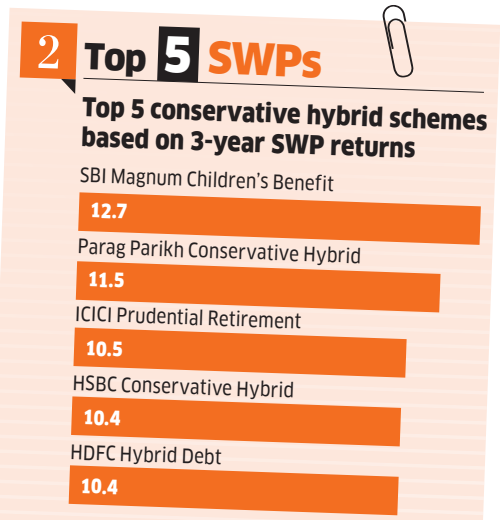
Top 5 equity schemes based on 10-year SIP returns

SIP: SYSTEMATIC INVESTMENT PLAN

% ANNUALISED RETURNS AS ON 20 AUG 2025

2 Top 5 SWPs

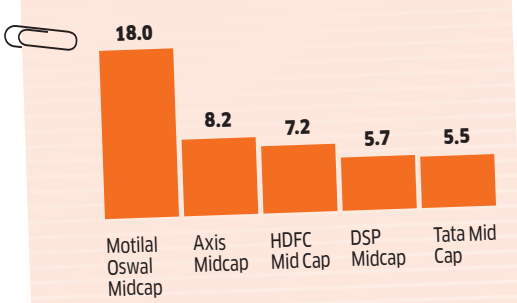
Top 5 conservative hybrid schemes based on 3-year SWP returns



SWP: SYSTEMATIC WITHDRAWAL PLAN

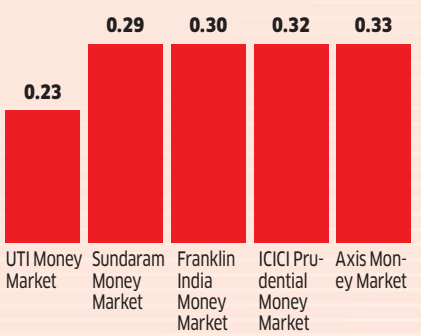
% ANNUALISED RETURNS AS ON 20 AUG 2025

3 Mid cap Cash Holdings



% OF ASSETS AS ON 31 JULY 2025

4 Expense ratio Debt: Money market



% AS ON 31 JULY 2025

% EXPENSE RATIO IS CHARGED ANNUALLY

METHODOLOGY OF TOP 100 FUNDS ON WWW.WEALTH.ECONOMICTIMES.COM

Methodology

The Top 100 includes only those funds that have a 5- or 4-star rating from Value Research. The rating of a fund vis-à-vis other funds in its category is determined by subtracting a fund's risk score from its return score. The resulting number is assigned stars according to the following distribution:

★★★★★ Top 10%
★★★★ Next 22.5%
★★★ Middle 35%
★★ Next 22.5%
★ Bottom 10%

(Not covered in ETW Funds 100 listing)

Debt funds with less than 18-months performance history and equity and hybrid funds with less than three-years performance track record are not rated. This ensures that all the funds have existed long enough to be tracked for consistency of performance. Given the focus on long-term investing, we have considered only the 'growth' plan of funds as it reinvests interim gains unlike 'IDCW' plan which offers periodic payouts to investors, thereby reducing NAV. The fund categories are:

Categories

Equity: Large-cap: Funds investing at least 80% in large cap stocks.

Equity: Large & MidCap: Funds investing at least 35% each in large and mid caps.

Equity: Flexi Cap: Funds investing at least 65% in equity with no particular cap on large, mid or small.

Equity: Mid Cap: Funds investing at least 65% in mid caps.

Equity: Small Cap: Funds investing at least 65% in small caps.

Equity: Value Oriented: Funds following value/contrarian investment strategy and grouped under 'Value' or 'Contra' categories as per SEBI.

ELSS: Equity: With a lock-in of three years and tax benefit under Section 80C.

Hybrid: Aggressive: Funds investing 65-80% in equity, and the rest in debt.

Hybrid: Conservative: Funds investing 10-25% in equity, and the rest in debt.

Hybrid: Equity Savings: Funds investing at least 65% in equity and equity related instruments, and at least 10% in debt.

Hybrid: Dynamic Asset Allocation: Funds which dynamically manage the asset allocation between equity and debt.

Debt: Short Duration: Funds with Macaulay duration between 1 and 3 years at the portfolio level.

Debt: Corporate Bond: Funds investing at least 72% in AA+ and above-rated corporate bonds.

Debt: Banking and PSU: Funds investing at least 72% in the debt instruments of banks, PSUs, public financial institutions and municipal bonds.

Debt: Floater: Funds investing at least 58.5% in floating-rate instruments.

FUND RAISER

11.9%

1-yr category average return of banks and financial services funds, the highest among all other equity-sector funds and equity-market cap (or diversified) funds.

Source: AMFI, based on 19 Aug 2025 NAVs

rahul.rock2419@gmail.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP18 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 19:13 Color:

LOANS & DEPOSITS

ET WEALTH collaborates with **ETIG** to provide a comprehensive ready reckoner of loans and fixed-income instruments. Don't miss the information on investments for senior citizens and a simplified EMI calculator.

Top 5 bank FDs

TENURE: 1 YEAR	Interest rate (%) compounded qtrly	What ₹10,000 will grow to
Bandhan Bank	7.1	**10,729**
RBL Bank	7.0	**10,719**
DCB Bank	6.9	**10,708**
IndusInd Bank	6.8	**10,692**
J&K Bank	6.8	**10,692**
TENURE: 2 YEARS		
Bandhan Bank	7.3	**11,557**
IndusInd Bank	7.0	**11,489**
J&K Bank	7.0	**11,489**
RBL Bank	7.0	**11,489**
DCB Bank	6.9	**11,466**
TENURE: 3 YEARS		
RBL Bank	7.2	**12,387**
Bandhan Bank	7.0	**12,314**
DCB Bank	7.0	**12,314**
YES Bank	7.0	**12,314**
IDFC First Bank	6.8	**12,224**
TENURE: 5 YEARS		
DCB Bank	7.0	**14,148**
YES Bank	6.8	**13,975**
RBL Bank	6.7	**13,941**
IndusInd Bank	6.6	**13,906**
ICICI Bank	6.6	**13,872**

Top 5 senior citizen bank FDs

TENURE: 1 YEAR	Interest rate (%) compounded qtrly	What ₹10,000 will grow to
Bandhan Bank	7.8	**10,798**
Bank of Baroda	7.6	**10,782**
RBL Bank	7.5	**10,771**
IndusInd Bank	7.2	**10,745**
J&K Bank	7.2	**10,745**
TENURE: 2 YEARS		
Bandhan Bank	7.9	**11,694**
Bank of Baroda	7.8	**11,671**
IndusInd Bank	7.5	**11,602**
J&K Bank	7.5	**11,602**
RBL Bank	7.5	**11,602**
TENURE: 3 YEARS		
Bandhan Bank	7.8	**12,590**
YES Bank	7.8	**12,590**
RBL Bank	7.7	**12,571**
Bank of Baroda	7.5	**12,497**
J&K Bank	7.2	**12,406**
TENURE: 5 YEARS		
YES Bank	7.5	**14,500**
Axis Bank	7.4	**14,393**
Punjab National Bank	7.3	**14,358**
DCB Bank	7.2	**14,323**
RBL Bank	7.2	**14,288**

Top 5 tax-saving bank FDs

TENURE: 5 YEARS & ABOVE	Interest rate (%)	What ₹10,000 will grow to
DCB Bank	7.0	**14,148**
YES Bank	6.8	**13,975**
RBL Bank	6.7	**13,941**
IndusInd Bank	6.6	**13,906**
Karur Vysya Bank	6.6	**13,872**

DATA SOURCED FROM ECONOMIC TIMES INTELLIGENCE GROUP. (ETIGDB@TIMESOFINDIA.COM).
RETURNS FOR SAME INTEREST RATES VARY DUE TO ROUNDING OFF TO ONE DECIMAL PLACE.

HOME LOAN RATES

With effect from October 2019, all banks have made the transition to external benchmarks for pricing new home loans. Most banks have picked the RBI repo rate as the external benchmark.

REPO RATE 5.5%

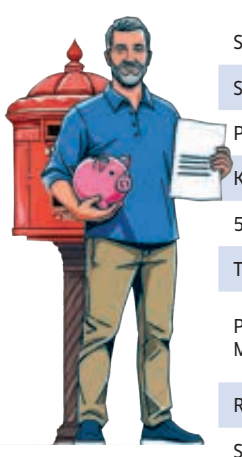
BANK	RLLR (%)	FOR SALARIED		FOR SELF-EMPLOYED (%)		WEF
		FROM (%)	TO (%)	FROM (%)	TO (%)	
Indian Overseas Bank	8.4	7.4	8.4	7.4	8.4	12 June 2025
Bank of Maharashtra	8.3	7.4	9.4	7.4	9.9	10 June 2025
Bank of India	8.4	7.4	10.1	7.4	10.1	4 Aug 2025
Indian Bank	–	7.4	8.8	7.9	9.3	9 June 2025
UCO Bank	8.3	7.4	9.5	7.4	9.5	28 June 2025
Canara Bank	8.2	7.4	10.2	7.4	10.2	12 July 2025
Bank of Baroda	8.2	7.4	9.2	7.4	9.2	4 July 2025
Union Bank of India	8.2	7.4	10.0	7.4	10.0	7 July 2025
SBI Term Loan	8.2	7.5	8.4	7.5	8.4	15 June 2025
Punjab National Bank	8.4	7.5	9.2	7.5	9.2	1 July 2025
Central Bank of India	8.5	7.6	8.9	7.6	8.9	10 June 2025
IDBI Bank	8.4	7.6	10.2	8.0	11.8	12 July 2025
Punjab & Sind Bank	7.6	7.6	10.8	7.6	10.8	9 June 2025
J&K Bank	8.1	7.8	8.8	7.8	8.8	10 Feb 2025
HDFC Bank	–	7.9	13.2	7.9	13.2	Not available
Indusind Bank	–	8.2	10.0	8.2	10.0	Not available
South Indian Bank	9.8	8.3	10.6	8.3	10.6	Not available
Axis Bank	–	8.4	9.4	8.4	9.4	Not available
Karnataka Bank	–	8.4	10.9	8.4	10.9	1 July 2025
Bandhan Bank	–	8.4	12.6	8.4	12.6	Not available
Karur Vysya Bank	8.8	8.4	11.4	8.4	11.4	10 June 2025
Dhanlaxmi Bank	–	8.6	9.2	9.1	9.8	1 July 2025
ICICI Bank	–	8.8	9.6	8.8	9.8	7 June 2025

Your EMI for a loan of ₹1 lakh

TENURE	5 YEARS	10 YEARS	15 YEARS	20 YEARS	25 YEARS
@ 7%	1,980	1,161	899	775	707
@ 8%	2,028	1,213	956	836	772
@ 9%	2,076	1,267	1,014	900	839
@ 10%	2,125	1,322	1,075	965	909

FIGURES ARE IN ₹. USE THIS CALCULATOR TO CHECK YOUR LOAN AFFORDABILITY.
FOR EXAMPLE, A ₹5 LAKH LOAN AT 10% FOR 15 YEARS WILL TRANSLATE INTO AN EMI OF ₹1,075 X 5 = ₹5,375.

Post office deposits



	Interest (%)	Minimum investment (₹)	Maximum investment (₹)	Features	Tax benefits
Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana	8.2	250	1.5 lakh	One account per girl child	80C
Senior Citizens' Savings Scheme	8.2	1,000	30 lakh	5-year tenure, minimum age 60 yrs	80C
Public Provident Fund	7.1	500	1.5 lakh p.a.	15-year tenure, tax-free returns	80C
Kisan Vikas Patra	7.5	1,000	No limit	Can be encashed after 2.5 years	Nil
5-year NSC VIII Issue	7.7	1,000	No limit	No TDS	80C
Time deposit	6.9 - 7.5	1,000	No limit	Available in 1, 2, 3, and 5 years	80C#
Post Office Monthly Income Scheme	7.4	1,000	9 lakh (single)	5-year tenure; monthly returns	Nil
			15 lakh (joint)		Nil
Recurring deposits	6.7	100	No limit	5-year tenure	Nil
Savings account	4.0	500	No limit	₹10,000 interest tax free	Nil

Data as on 20 August 2025 #Benefit available only for 5-year deposit

rahul rock2419 1994@gmail.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP19 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 18:03 Color:

Gold and silver sparkle in 2025

Welcome to TrendMap, your guide to how different investment segments have performed. This edition tracks 10 years of annual returns across equity, debt, precious metals, and real estate, revealing that no single asset class dominates and underscoring the importance of diversification. By **Sameer Bhardwaj.**

THE ECONOMIC TIMES wealth

Rank	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025*	10-year return
1	Silver 17.1%	Equity (Small cap) 54.5%	Gold 7.8%	Gold 24.5%	Silver 45.9%	Equity (Small cap) 57.5%	Gold 15.3%	Equity (Small cap) 54.5%	Equity (Small cap) 23.3%	Gold 28.4%	Equity (Mid cap) 15.1%
2	G-Sec 10-Yr 14.7%	Equity (Midcap) 45.9%	Debt (Short-term) 6.9%	Silver 20.4%	Gold 28.4%	Equity (Midcap) 44.3%	Silver 12.4%	Equity (Mid cap) 45.3%	Equity (Mid cap) 23.1%	Silver 27.4%	Gold 14.2%
3	Gold 9.9%	Equity (Large cap) 28.7%	G-Sec 10-Yr 6.1%	Equity (Large cap) 11.5%	Equity (Midcap) 21.6%	Equity (Large cap) 23.8%	Real estate 6.1%	Equity (Large cap) 19.4%	Gold 21.2%	Real estate 7.0%	Silver 12.1%
4	Real estate 9.1%	Debt (Short-term) 6.3%	Equity (Large cap) 4.1%	G-Sec 10-Yr 10.8%	Equity (Small cap) 20.6%	Debt (Short-term) 3.4%	Debt (Short-term) 4.8%	Gold 14.5%	Silver 17.3%	G-Sec 10-Yr 5.6%	Equity (Small cap) 12.1%
5	Debt (Short-term) 6.9%	Gold 5.8%	Real estate 2.0%	Debt (Short-term) 6.5%	Equity (Large cap) 14.8%	Real estate 2.7%	Equity (Large cap) 2.7%	G-Sec 10-Yr 7.8%	G-Sec 10-Yr 9.7%	Equity (Large cap) 5.2%	Equity (Large cap) 11.4%
6	Equity (Mid cap) 6.0%	Real estate 4.2%	Silver -0.9%	Real estate 4.9%	G-Sec 10-Yr 8.8%	G-Sec 10-Yr 1.4%	Equity (Mid cap) 2.3%	Silver 7.0%	Equity (Large cap) 8.8%	Debt (Short-term) 4.1%	G-Sec 10-Yr 6.7%
7	Equity (Large cap) 2.8%	Silver 0.3%	Equity (Mid cap) -15.3%	Equity (Mid cap) -4.4%	Real estate 4.7%	Gold -4.3%	G-Sec 10-Yr 0.4%	Debt (Short-term) 6.9%	Debt (Short-term) 7.1%	Equity (Mid cap) 0.4%	Debt (Short-term) 6.1%
8	Equity (Small cap) 1.1%	G-Sec 10-Yr -0.8%	Equity (Small cap) -29.7%	Equity (Small cap) -9.9%	Debt (Short-term) 4.5%	Silver -8.0%	Equity (Small cap) -14.8%	Real estate 4.8%	Real estate 6.3%	Equity (Small cap) -5.5%	Real estate 5.2%

Mid-caps and gold lead long-term gains

The demand for safe-haven assets amid global uncertainty fuelled gold prices, while strong industrial demand and limited domestic supply supported silver's surge in 2025.

Mid cap and small cap segments turned laggards due to the absence of fresh growth triggers, elevated valuations, profit booking, and shifting investor sentiment, particularly among foreign portfolio investors (FPIs). Currently, mid and small-cap benchmarks are trading at over a 40% premium to the Nifty 50, based on historical price-to-earnings multiples.In the long run, equity mid-caps led the performance charts, driven by their faster earnings growth, and expansion into new markets.Gold was a long-term diversifier due to its low correlation with equities and resilience against macro-economic shocks such as rising oil prices and geopolitical tensions.

Source: Reuters-Refinitiv, NHB and ACE MF. *2025 data is YTD based on 19 August 2025 closing values. Other years' returns are calculated between the first and the last trading day closing values. 10-year return is compounded average return. NHB Residex returns based on March values for each year. The latest NHB Residex data is available up to the March 2025 quarter. Benchmarks used: Equity (Large cap): Nifty 50, Equity (Midcap): Nifty Midcap 100 Index, Equity (Small cap): Nifty Smallcap 100 Index, Silver: MCX Silver futures, Gold: MCX Gold futures, G-Sec 10-Yr : Crisil 10 Yr Gilt Index, Debt (Short-term) : Crisil 91 Day T-Bill Index, Real Estate : NHB Residex.

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealth Edition: 1 Page: ETWDP20 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 19:04 Color:

The Economic Times wealth

Healthcare spurs NRI trips to home

Surgeries and medicines at a fraction of the prices overseas, insurance cover at much lower premiums, and cultural familiarity are some factors attracting non-resident Indians (NRIs) to India for medical services. A Policybazaar report sheds light on India's medical tourism sector, expected to grow to $13 billion in 2026.

Pocket-friendly surgeries

For an NRI, the average claim amount in India for common elective surgeries could range from $2,000 to $15,000, and from $20,000 to $40,000 for more complex procedures. Compared to international costs, these figures still represent substantial savings.

Procedure	Cost (in US $)	
	India	US
Heart bypass surgery	5,000-8,000	70,000-150,000
Knee replacement	4,000-6,000	30,000-50,000
Liver transplant	25,000-35,000	300,000-500,000
Kidney transplant	7,000-12,000	200,000-300,000

Cheaper medication

Affordable generic variants of a variety of specialised drugs and therapies, which are widely available as well as covered under insurance, makes treatment for a longer term and for chronic conditions easier in India.

	India	US	UK (NHS/ Private)	GCC (UAE/ Saudi/Qatar)
Insulin (diabetes), per vial	**1-5**	100-300	20-50	50-150
Paracetamol (pain relief), 10 tablets	**0.5**	5-10	1-3	3-7
Atorvastatin (cholesterol), per month	**2-5 per month**	30-50 per month	10-20 per month	15-40 per month
Blood pressure medication, per month	**2-10 per month**	50-200 per month	10-30 per month	20-80 per month
Imatinib (cancer drug), per month	**100-500 per month**	10,000+ per month	1,000+ per month	3,000-8,000 per month

All figures in US $

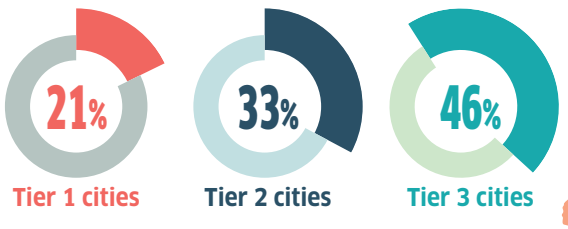
Affordable premiums

With an average annual premium per person of $120-300, health insurance in India is more affordable than in most nations.

Country	Average annual premium (per person)	Healthcare system
United States	$8,000+	Predominantly private
United Kingdom	NHS: Free (tax-funded) Private: $1,500-3,000	Public (NHS) & private
GCC countries (UAE, Saudi, Qatar, etc.)	$4,000-5,000	Private & employer-sponsored

Major trends in NRI health insurance claims

Share of patients across hospitals of different tiers:



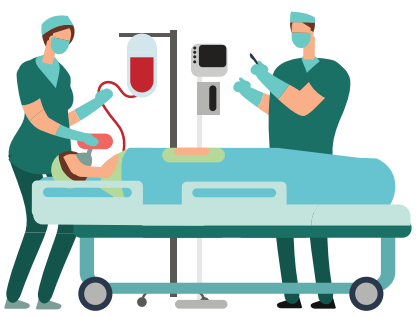
Top cities for seeking treatment

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Hyderabad	Ernakulam	Thrissur
Chennai	Thiruvananthapuram	Kollam
Mumbai	Pune	Kozhikode
Bengaluru	Thane	Kottayam
Kolkata	Coimbatore	Pathanamthitta

Google Trends search data shows that over the past few months, NRIs have been increasingly searching the following keywords:

'Health insurance India for NRIs'
60% rise in search volume in 2024 vs 2023

'Medical treatment for overseas citizens in India'
45% in search frequency over last 18 months



Source: Policybazaar customer NRI claims data in last three years across India.

Cultural comfort

For non-residents, receiving treatment in India offers the added comfort of cultural familiarity, family support, and English-speaking medical staff.

- Many hospitals offer treatment packages including visas, travel, and post-operation care.
- Insurance policies offer on-ground support to NRIs for the treatment of their elderly parents.

rahulpack2419@gmail.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

Q&A

Our panel of experts will answer questions related to any aspect of personal finance.

I bought a flat for ₹55 lakh in June 2024 with a ₹48 lakh IDBI Bank loan, jointly with my wife. We both pay the EMI. In FY 2024–25, I sold mutual funds for ₹15.78 lakh (cost ₹7.51 lakh; gain ₹8.26 lakh). I also sold a flat in my name in May 2025 for ₹22 lakh, bought in 2008 for ₹5.9 lakh. Can I offset these gains against the cost of the new flat purchased in June 2024?

Your capital gain from the sale of the house on 31 May will be ₹5.81 lakh using indexation for the purchase year 2008 and sale year 2005-06. Under Section 54 of the Income Tax Act, when a residential property is sold and the capital gain is reinvested in another residential property either bought 1 year before or within the next 2 years, the capital gain is exempt. Thus, you may seek exemption on that. As far as capital gain on mutual funds is concerned, that is governed by Section 54F, which mandates that not just capital gains but the entire sale proceeds of ₹15.78 lakh from these funds be reinvested in a residential property either 1 year before or within the next 2 years. As this is your case, your mutual fund transaction will also be exempt given that you should not own more than one house (apart from the one in which re-investment is made) on the date of sale of these mutual funds.

Shubham Agrawal
Senior Taxation Adviser, TaxFile.in

I am 42, earning ₹22 lakh annually, and will need ₹25 lakh for my daughter's college in six years and ₹5 crore retirement corpus by 60. My current investments include ₹12 lakh in MFs (70:30 equity-debt), ₹5 lakh PPF, ₹3 lakh FD. I have home loan outstanding ₹38 lakh (₹35,000 EMI). I can invest ₹50,000 monthly. How can I meet my goals?

You can achieve your goal of accumulating ₹25 lakh over the next six years, by allocating your existing mutual fund corpus of ₹12 lakh, assuming 12% returns. To optimise returns and improve tax efficiency without significantly increasing risk, consider switching your debt fund holdings into hybrid funds, such as balanced advantage or multi-asset allocation funds. You must check the downside protection during market falls for the schemes shortlisted from these categories before investing. For your retirement goal of building a ₹5 crore corpus by age 60, a ₹50,000 monthly SIP may fall short, but this gap can be bridged by increasing your SIP amount by 6% annually while assuming a 12% XIRR. Remember: 18 years from now, ₹5 crore will be equivalent to about ₹1.75 crore in today's value, assuming 6% inflation rate. Your retirement requirement calculation will depend on household expenses, inflation, expected investment returns before and after retirement, and life expectancy. Consult a professional for your goal planning and optimal utilisation of resources. Adequate life or health insurance is also important.

Prableen Bajpai
Founder, FinFix Research and Analytics

I am an NRI with inherited property and shares in India. What are the best ways to repatriate funds without triggering high taxes or violating Foreign Exchange mangement ACT (FEMA) rules?

For NRIs with inherited property, shares, or other assets in India, repatriating funds abroad requires careful tax planning and FEMA compliance. Inheritance isn't taxed, but capital gains tax applies upon sale. If held for over two years and sold after 23 July 2024, long-term capital gain (LTCG) tax is 12.5% without indexation for assets such as shares, mutual funds, and real estate. For real estate, Hindu undivided families (HUFs) and individuals can opt for either 12.5% (without indexation) or 20% (with indexation). After taxes, up to $1 million per financial year can be repatriated through a Non-Resident Ordinary (NRO) account, with Form 15CA and Form 15CB certification from a chartered accountant. Strategic tools like gifting assets to lower-income relatives or reinvesting can help optimise tax liability. Always seek professional advice to remain compliant, avoid penalties, and manage funds efficiently.

Sudhir Kaushik
Co-founder & CEO, TaxSpanner

Please send your feedback to
etwealth@timesofindia.com

The Economic Times wealth QUIZ

Money makes the world go round—but does it make your head spin? The **ET Wealth Quiz,** co-created with **DEZERV**, a leading wealth management firm, serves up five wickedly clever questions every Monday, spanning personal finance, banking, economics, and market wisdom. Think you can distinguish a bull market from a bear trap? Know your mutual funds from your fixed deposits? Answer correctly and win actual prizes. Fail spectacularly and gain wisdom. The **ET Wealth Quiz, co-created with DEZERV**—because financial wisdom pays.

WINNERS OF THE WEEK
Jahnavi Bodhe
Siva Nainar
Rajeev Dulani
Manisha Mali
Terala Bharath Kumar

Join the ET Wealth Quiz today

THIS WEEK'S QUESTIONS

Results out on Sep 1

1. **PM Modi's 'Double Diwali' GST announcement proposes eliminating which two tax slabs to create a simplified structure?**
   a. 5% and 28% slabs
   b. 12% and 28% slabs
   c. 5% and 12% slabs
2. **According to the Finance Ministry, the 18% GST slab currently contributes what percentage of total GST revenue collections?**
   a. 58%
   b. 65%
   c. 72%
3. **PM Modi announced that 99% of items from the 12% slab will move to which tax rate under GST 2.0?**
   a. 5%
   b. 8%
   c. 10%
4. **Which icy US state recently became the unlikely meeting ground for a bear and an eagle?**
   a. Wyoming
   b. North Dakota
   c. Alaska
5. **Which company became the first in history to reach a $4 trillion market capitalisation in July 2025?**
   a. Microsoft
   b. Apple
   c. Nvidia

LAST WEEK ANSWERS
1 A 2 A 3 B 4 C 5 C

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

Tick the correct answers on this page, click a picture, and e-mail it to ***etwealthquiz@timesofindia.com*** with '**ET Wealth Quiz 25 August**' as the subject. Include your name, e-mail, and mobile number in the entry. You can also post the picture on your social media handles with **#ETWealthQuiz**.

Winners of this contest will be announced in the issue dated 1 September 2025. Entries open till 29 August.

rahulrock2.com

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealthDelhi Edition: 1 Page: DETWDP22 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 17:41 Color:

your feedback & more...

Readers' response, online and in print, to ET Wealth stories has been enlightening. We pick some that add information and perspective to our articles from previous issues.

The cover story on job risks arising from AI, tariff-driven global turmoil, and outdated skills highlights how the youth must grasp changing corporate growth patterns and evolving job expectations. Corporates are rapidly transforming technology across production, marketing, HR, energy, and market research, while government sectors have also embraced high-tech administration and public services. The difference is that governments invest in skilling and upskilling their workforce from top to bottom, whereas corporates often allow attrition. This imbalance is unfair. In an era of continuously emerging technologies, employers and industries must take the responsibility of sponsoring skill development in relevant fields.
Vinod Johri

The article, 'How tariffs and uncertainty will impact your job', was well-written. Trade shocks and global uncertainties are real, but the emphasis on reskilling, embracing technology and staying agile offers a practical survival toolkit. The guidance is invaluable for employees navigating turbulence, ensuring they remain relevant and resilient in a volatile job market.
Philip J.

Timely advice

The cover story, 'Is your job at risk?', felt timely and relevant in today's fluctuating, AI-driven job market. Rather than amplifying fear, the article encouraged readers—both students and employees—to acknowledge challenges and learn how to overcome anxiety around AI. The real-life stories of individuals, who successfully rebuilt their careers even in their late 30s, inspired me to believe in myself and gave me the confidence to face this generational technological shift.
Atharva Kakde

Joydeep Sen's article, 'Inflation down to 1.55%. Can you rest easy?', offered a good explanation of the way inflation is calculated. It was the first time I truly understood the method and it gave me a clearer perspective on planning expenses, rather than blindly relying on headline inflation figures. Moreover, when inflation drops, we also benefit from reduced EMIs and lower home loan interest rates.
R. S. Rathnam

I truly appreciated Uma Shashikant article, 'It takes a village for an idyllic life.' The piece was not only beautifully penned, but also brought clarity to the nuances in making a life-changing decision. It corrected many of my misconceptions and helped me reflect on my assumptions about the 'grass being greener on the other side'. Please continue inspiring us with such thought-provoking articles.
Rajendra Thakkar

Uma Shashikant's article reminded me of the saying, 'A known devil is better than an unknown angel'. Relocating requires careful analysis from multiple perspectives before acting on it. Ultimately, what we all seek is peace of mind, and on this subject, there can be no two opinions.
S. Ramakrishnasayee

Please send your feedback to
etwealth@timesofindia.com

BACK TO BASICS

NRE vs NRO accounts

If you are confused by personal finance terms, jargon and calculations, here's a series to simplify and deconstruct these for you. In the 65th part of this series, **Riju Mehta** explains the difference between the two types of accounts for non-resident Indians.

If you are a non-resident Indian (NRI) and want to manage your financial affairs in India, you have the option of opening bank accounts that are geared towards your specific needs because NRIs are not allowed to open regular savings accounts.

The two types of bank accounts designed to ease NRIs' financial transactions are the non-resident external (NRE) and non-resident ordinary (NRO). Both these accounts can be maintained simultaneously by NRIs and come with a minimum balance requirement.

Find out how the two differ so that you can pick the one more suited to your needs.

NRE account

This account serves the purpose of NRIs who want to park their foreign earnings in India. A big advantage is that the interest income is tax-free for an NRE account, according to the Income Tax Act, 1961.

Besides, the NRIs can repatriate money from an NRE account to overseas accounts in the country of their residence without a chartered accountant's certificate.

The account can be opened individually only by an NRI or an Overseas Citizen of India (OCI). It can also be opened and operated jointly with another NRI/OCI or a resident Indian on an 'either or survivor' basis.

One can open NRE savings, current, term deposit, recurring deposit and fixed deposit accounts.

NRO account

This is for the NRIs who want an account to keep their Indian earnings. The income must be generated in India and can be in the form of rent, dividends, interest or from a business. It is subject to Indian taxation laws and, hence, the income is taxed as per the account holder's tax bracket. There is also a limit on the amount that can be repatriated. The types of accounts and account opening eligibility are similar to that for an NRE account.

How the accounts differ

	NRE account	NRO account
Source of funds	Overseas income.	Earnings within India, overseas deposits.
Taxation	Interest income is not taxed.	Taxable.
Repatriation limit	No limit on the amount repatriated to overseas account.	US $1 million a year.
Currency deposit	Deposited in foreign currency; kept as Indian rupees.	Deposited in foreign or Indian currency; kept as Indian rupees.

The Economic Times Wealth is available at an invitation price of ₹8/issue. To book your copy, contact your newspaper vendor or call 1800 1200 004.

The Economic Times Wealth, published by Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd. exercises due care and caution in collecting the data before publication. In spite of this, if any omission, inaccuracy or printing errors occur with regard to the data contained in this newspaper, The Economic Times Wealth will not be held responsible or liable. The content hereof does not constitute any form of advice, recommendation or arrangement by the newspaper. The Economic Times Wealth will not be liable for any direct or indirect losses caused because of readers' reliance on the same in making any specific or other decisions. Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquiries and seek appropriate advice before making any specific or other decisions.

Published for the proprietors, Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd. by Rajeev Yadav at Times House, 7, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110 002, Phone: 011-23322000, Fax: 011-23323346 and printed by him at The Times of India Press, 13 & 15/1, Site IV, Industrial Area, Sahibabad, UP. Regd. Office: Dr Dadabhai Naoroji Road, Mumbai 400 001. Editor: Kayezad Edul Adajania (Responsible for selection of news under PRB Act). © Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission of the publisher is prohibited. All rights reserved. RNI No. DELENG/2011/37994. MADE IN NEW DELHI

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NG 3.7 PubDate: 25-08-2025 Zone: ETWealthDelhi Edition: 1 Page: DETWDP47 User: saurabh.gupta3 Time: 08-21-2025 18:46 Color:

THE ECONOMIC TIMES
wealth

FLASH SPENDERS, SAVVY INVESTORS
P2

www.etwealth.co | Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, New Delhi, Pune | Volume 15 No. 34 | August 25-31, 2025 | 24 pages | ₹8

NFO

MIRAE ASSET
Mutual Fund

Timeless Precious Metals,
TIMELY STRATEGY!
Your Portfolio Deserves Both.

Invest in
Mirae Asset Gold Silver Passive FoF

NFO closes on: 25th August, 2025 | Scheme re-opens on: 1st September, 2025

PRODUCT LABELLING
Mirae Asset Gold Silver Passive FoF (An open-ended fund of fund scheme predominantly investing in units of Mirae Asset Gold ETF and Mirae Asset Silver ETF) is suitable for investors who are seeking*
- To generate long term capital appreciation/income.
- Investments predominantly in units of gold and silver Exchange Traded Funds.

*Investors should consult their financial advisors if they are not clear about the suitability of the product.

The Product Labelling assigned during the New Fund Offer (NFO) is based on internal assessment of the scheme characteristics or model portfolio and the same may vary post NFO when the actual investments are made.
In Fund Of Fund scheme, the investor shall bear the recurring expense of the scheme in addition to the expenses of the underlying-scheme.

Scheme Riskometer
Low Risk | Low to Moderate Risk | Moderate Risk | Moderately High Risk | High Risk | Very High Risk
RISKOMETER
The risk of the scheme is Very High

Scan here for product details & disclaimers

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

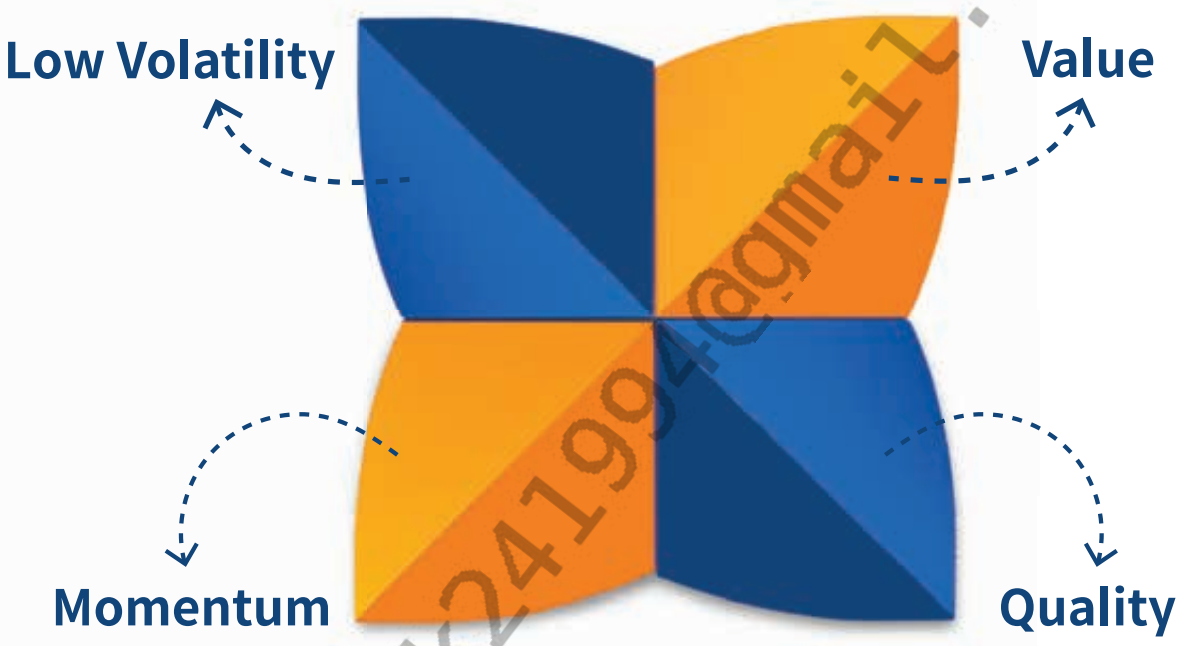
***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.

NFO

MIRAE ASSET
Mutual Fund

Built On **Factors**, Designed For **Every Cycle.**

A fund that thinks across strategies & across market cycles.



rahul rock241994@gmail.com

Invest in

Mirae Asset Multi Factor Passive FOF

NFO closes on: 25th August, 2025 | Scheme re-opens on: 1st September, 2025

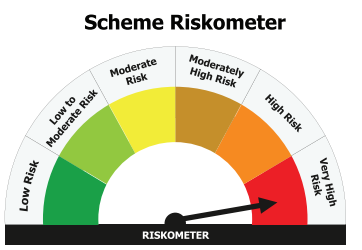
PRODUCT LABELLING

Mirae Asset Multi Factor Passive FOF (An open-ended fund of fund scheme predominantly investing in units of factor based domestic equity ETFs) is suitable for investors who are seeking*

- To generate long term capital appreciation/income.
- Investments predominantly in units of factor based domestic equity exchange traded funds.

*Investors should consult their financial advisors if they are not clear about the suitability of the product.
The above Product Labelling assigned during the New Fund Offer (NFO) is based on internal assessment of the scheme characteristics or model portfolio and the same may vary post NFO when the actual investments are made.
Scheme may invest in any eligible domestic factor based equity ETFs. Please refer to scheme information document for further details.

Scheme Riskometer



The risk of the scheme is Very High

Scan here for product details & disclaimers

In Fund Of Fund scheme, the investor shall bear the recurring expense of the scheme in addition to the expenses of the underlying-scheme.

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

***This PDF download is allowed by Economic Times only for the personal use of ePaper/ET Prime/TOI+ subscribers.
Sharing PDF on any Social Media or uploading on Websites will violate copyrights and would result in criminal offence and civil penalties.