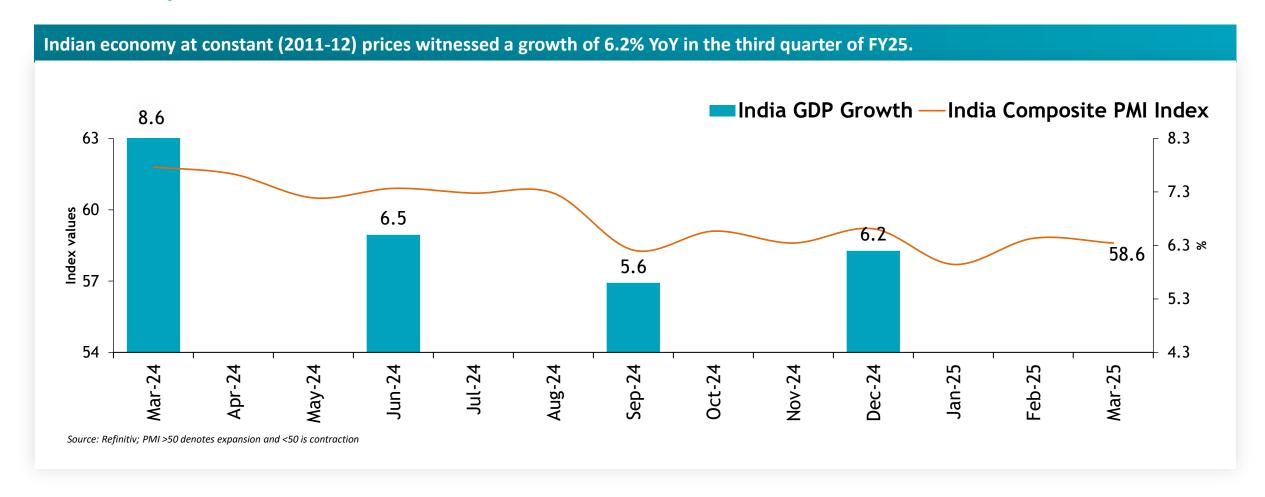


Indian Economic Indicators

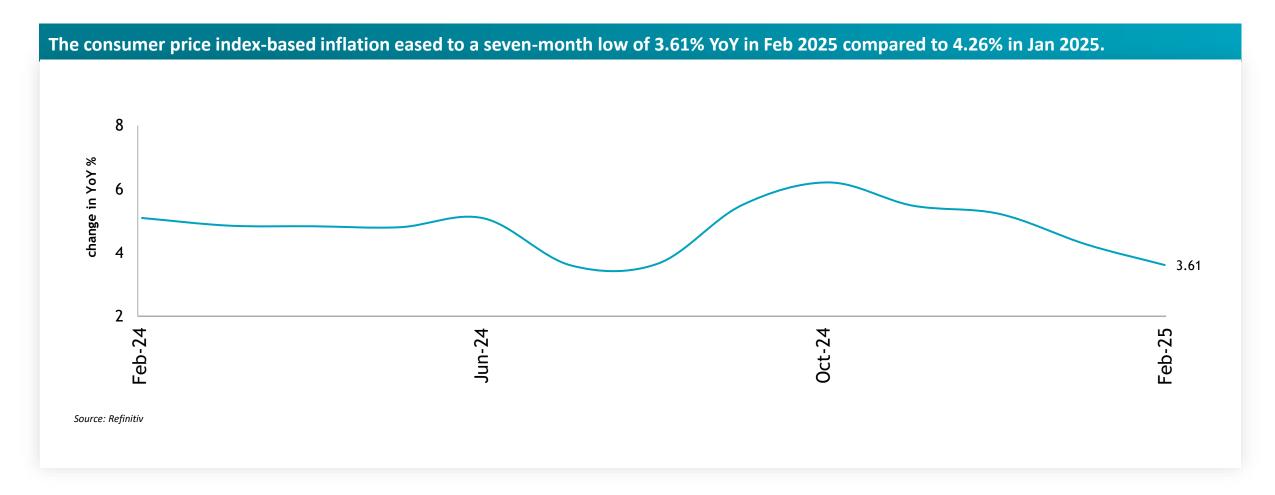
India Composite PMI & GDP Growth



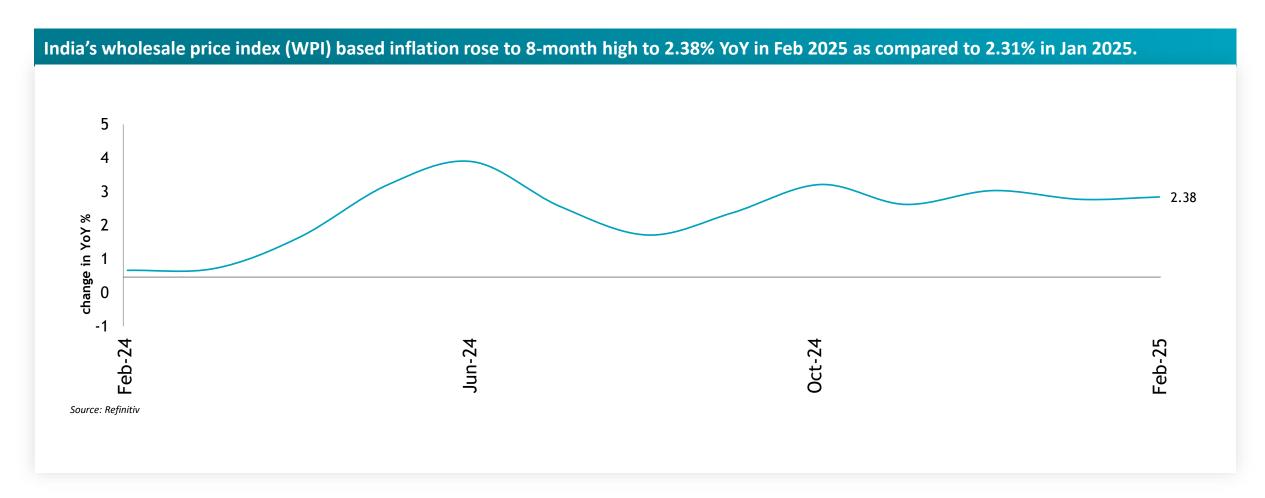
Index of Industrial production (IIP)



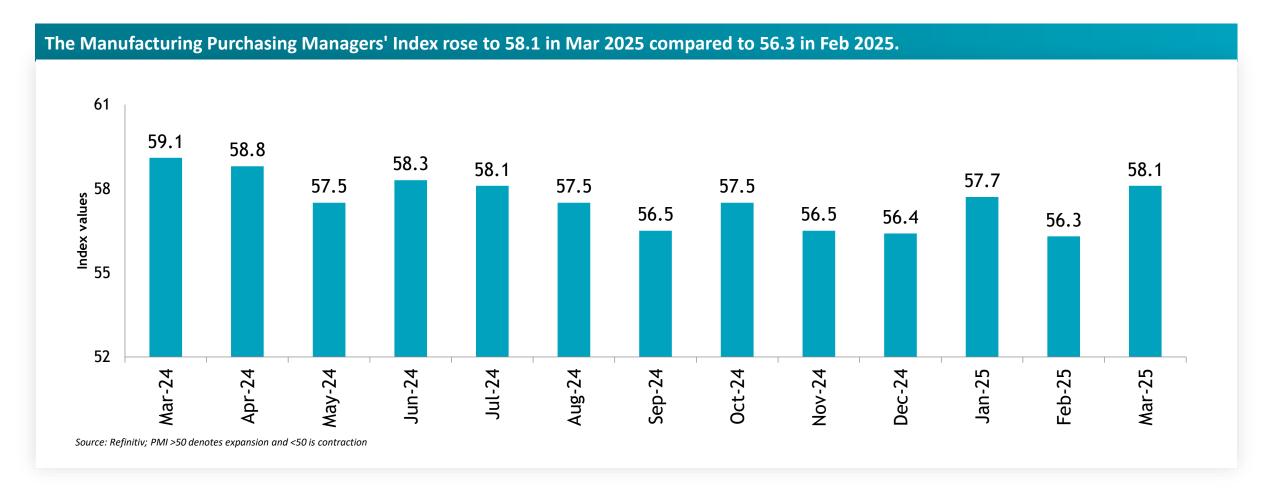
Consumer Price Index



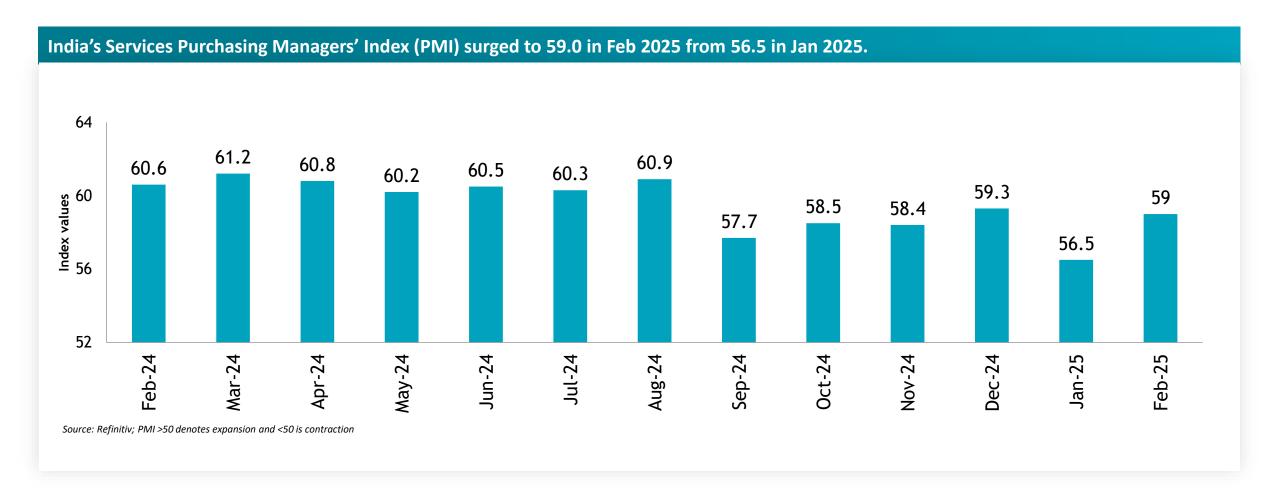
Wholesale Price Index



India Manufacturing PMI

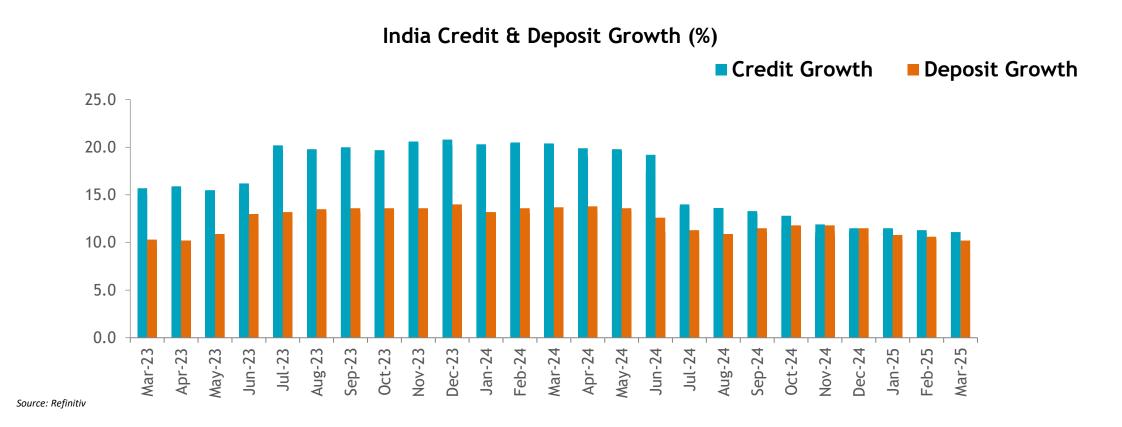


India Service PMI



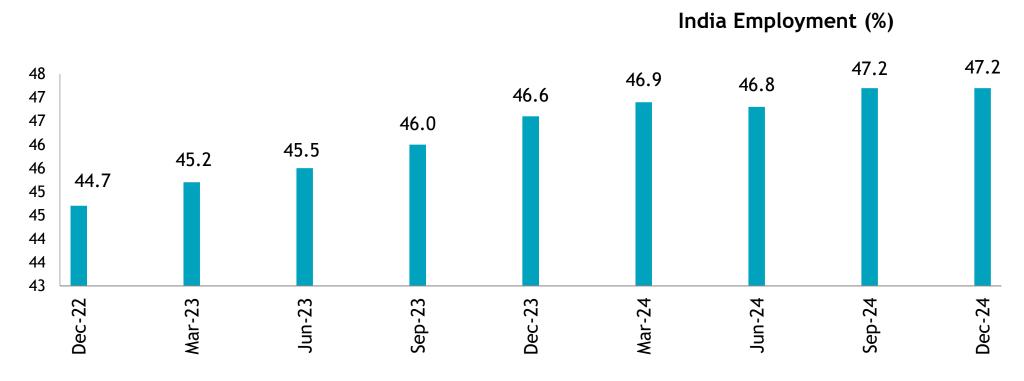
India Credit Growth and Deposit Growth

According to RBI, banks' credit and deposit witnessed a growth of 11.1% & 10.2%, respectively, as of Mar 07, 2025.



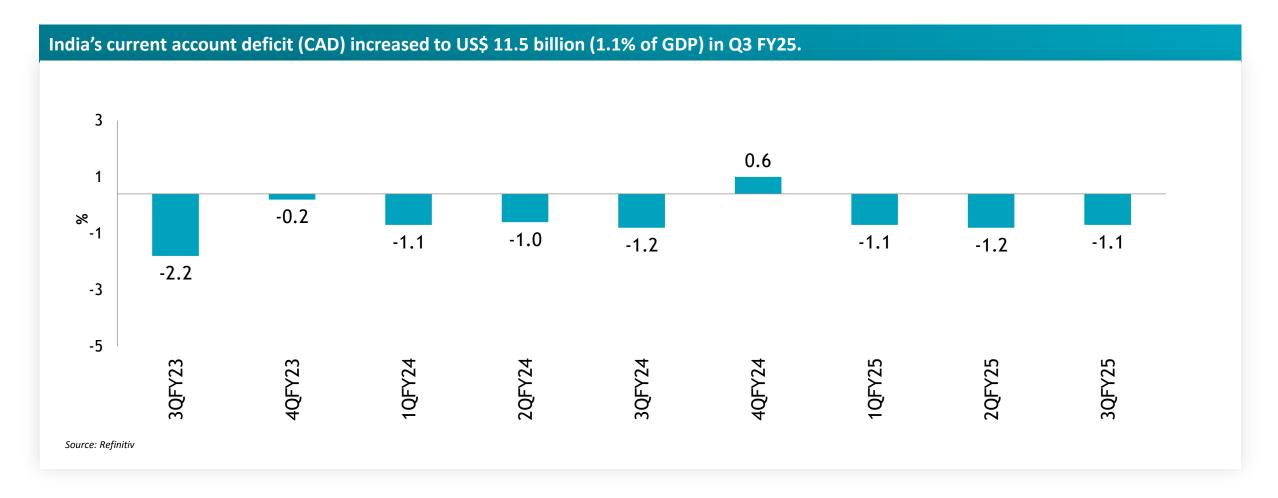
India Employment (%)

As per Periodic Labour Force Survey, India's employment increased to 47.20% in Dec 2024 same as Sep 2024.

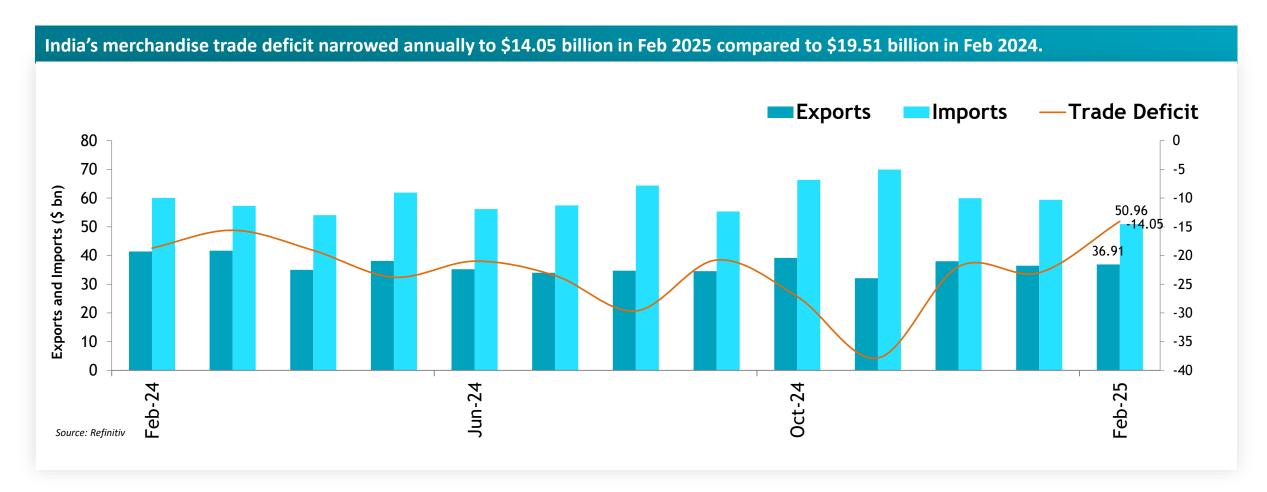


Source: Mospi

Current Account Deficit as % of GDP

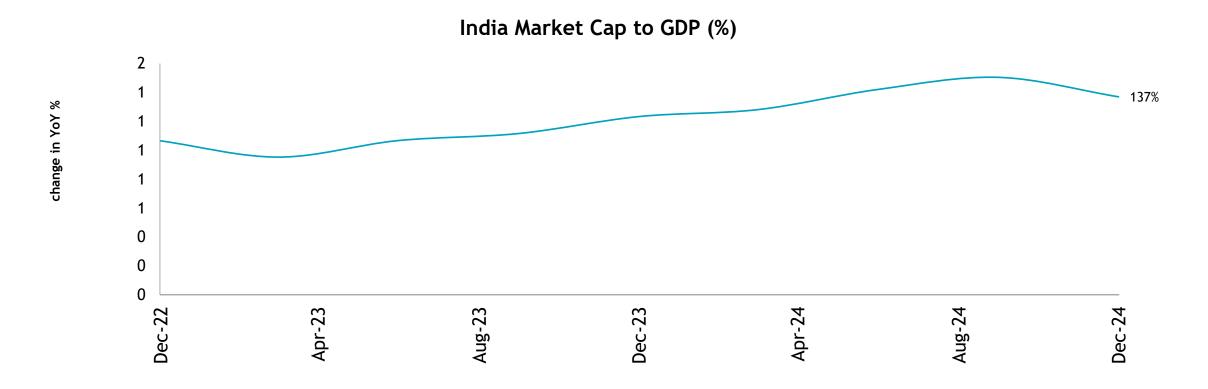


Trade Data



India Market Cap to GDP (%)

India's market capitalization to GDP ratio increased to 137% in the third quarter of FY25.

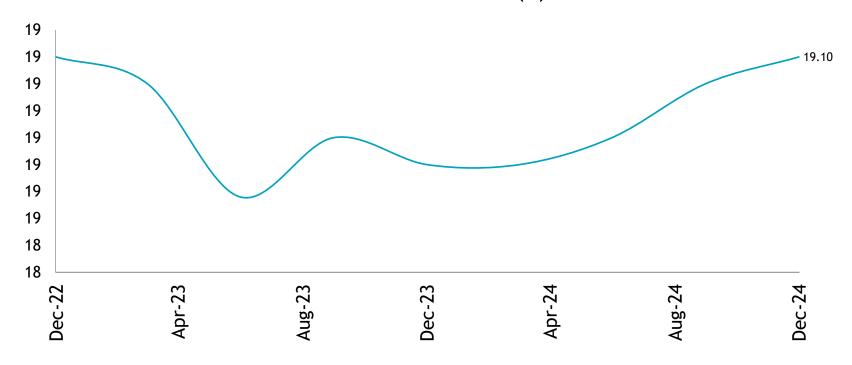


Source: Refinitiv & NSE

India External Debt to GDP (%)

According to the Ministry of Finance, India's external debt to GDP increased by 19.10% in Dec 2024 compared to 18.70% in Dec 2023.





Source: Finmin

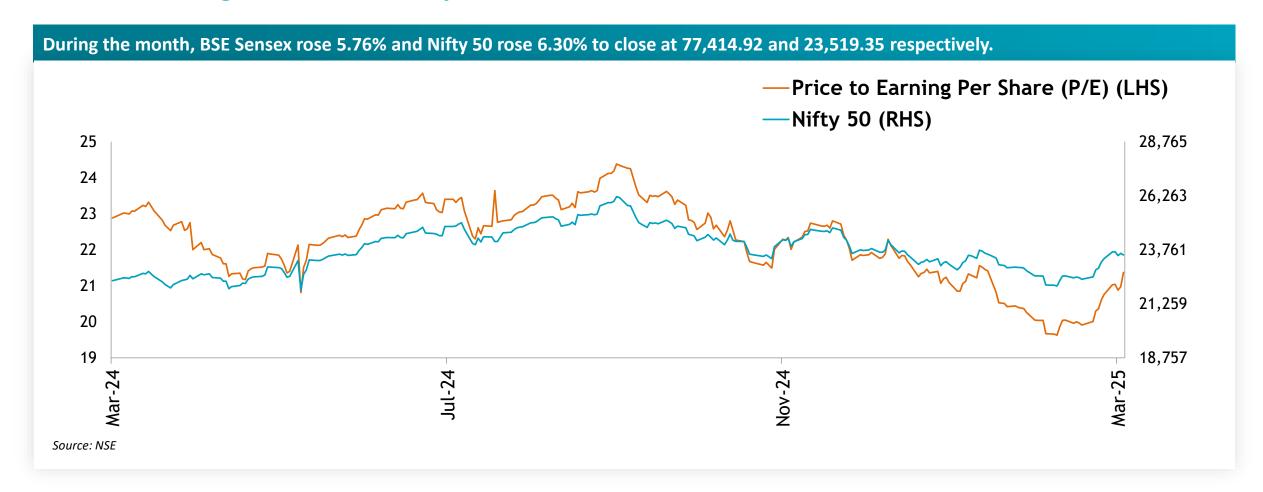
Key Domestic Market Highlights

Domestic equity markets rose after the U.S. administration has announced a one-month delay on tariffs

- Domestic equity markets rose after reports emerged that the U.S. President will "probably" announce a deal to reduce tariffs on Canada and Mexico. Sentiment was boosted after the U.S. administration has announced a one-month delay on tariffs affecting cars entering the U.S. from Canada and Mexico, raising hopes for negotiations.
- Gains were extended following the domestic services PMI data that expanded at an accelerated pace in Feb 2025. Sentiment was bolstered by a declining dollar and a positive outlook on China's economy, driven by recent economic stimulus measures aimed at increasing consumption.
- Market rose further after the U.S. Federal Reserve, in its Mar 2025 monetary policy meeting, maintained the interest rate and signaled the possibility of two rate cuts by the end of the year, given the increased uncertainty around the economic outlook.
- Gains were further bolstered by the inflow of foreign capital into the domestic equity markets towards end of the month and the strengthening of the rupee.
- However, the gains were curtailed as the U.S. President's stringent tariffs intensified fears of an escalating global trade war. The U.S. President announced a 25% tariff on imported vehicles, effective from Apr 3, 2025.

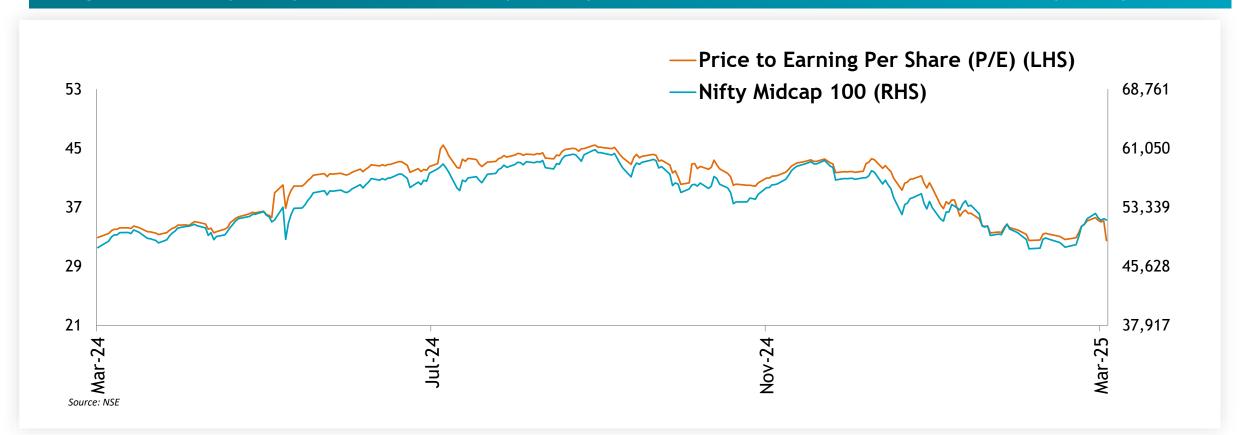
Domestic Equity Markets

Price to Earning Per Share vs Nifty 50

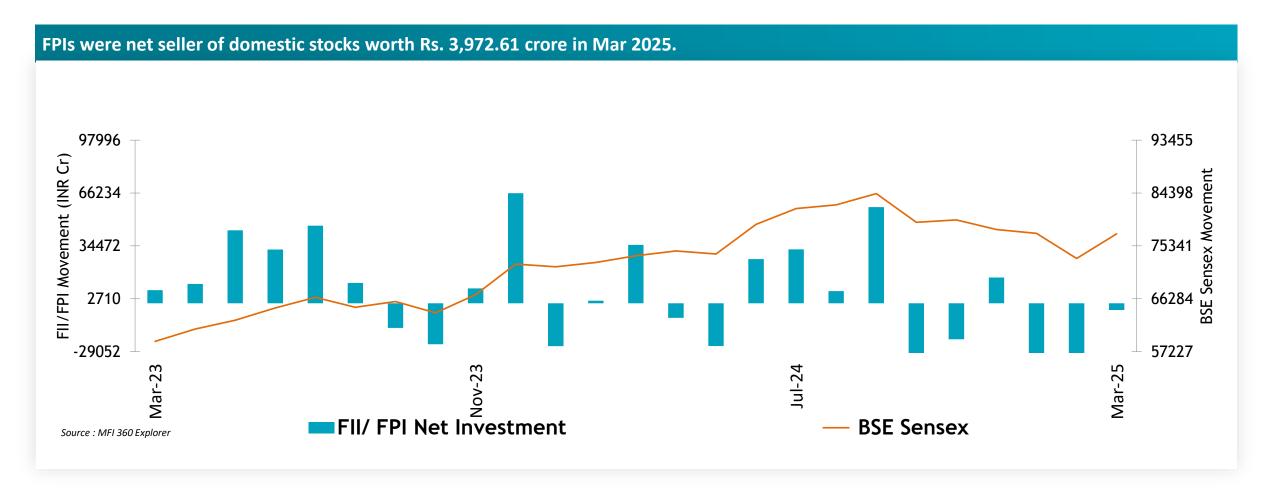


Price to Earning Per Share vs Nifty Midcap 100

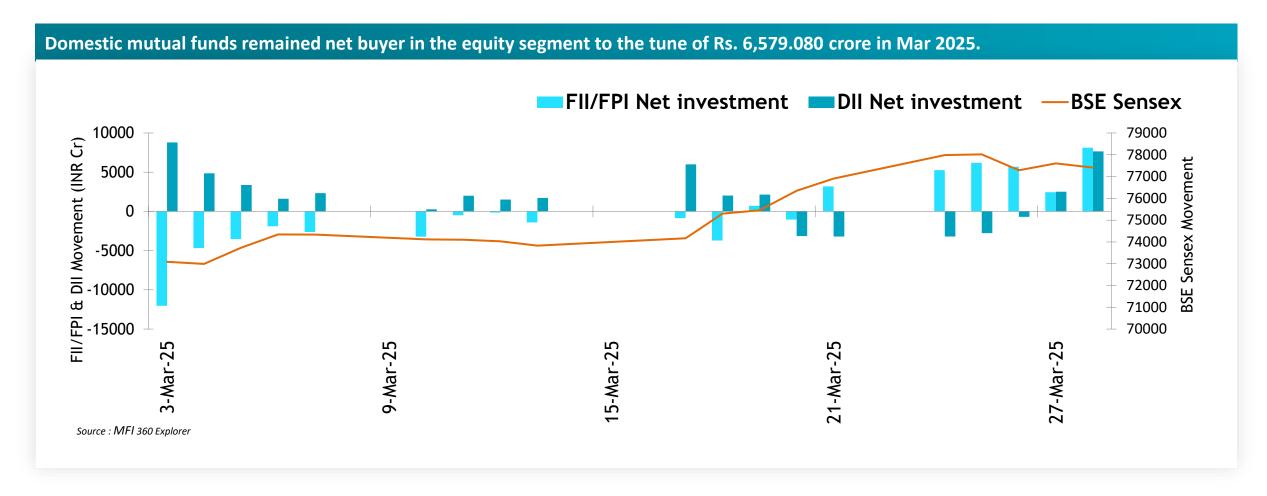
During the month, Nifty Midcap 100 rose 7.84% and Nifty Small cap 100 rose 9.49% to close at 51,672.25 and 16,095.70 respectively.



FII/FPI Investment and BSE Sensex - Last 24 Months



DII, FII/FPI Investment and BSE Sensex - During the Month



Returns of Major NSE Indices

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	CYTD
Media	Metal	Realty	IT	Realty	Pharma	Metal	PSU Bank	Realty	Pharma	Finance
10.30%	45.20%	110.22%	23.64%	28.49%	60.43%	69.66%	70.92%	81.64%	38.72%	6.64%
Smallcap	Auto	Smallcap	FMCG	Finance	IT	Smallcap	Metal	Smallcap	Realty	Metal
10.20%	10.75%	57.47%	13.57%	25.65%	54.75%	61.94%	21.83%	48.26%	34.07%	5.12%
Pharma	Midcap	Midcap	Finance	Largecap	Smallcap	IT	FMCG	Auto	Smallcap	Largecap
9.26%	5.41%	54.53%	10.54%	10.42%	25.02%	59.58%	17.59%	47.78%	26.19%	-1.79%
Midcap	Finance	Metal	Largecap	IT	Midcap	Realty	Auto	Midcap	Midcap	PSU Bank
8.41%	4.93%	48.71%	1.13%	8.39%	24.31%	54.26%	15.36%	43.82%	23.58%	-4.24%
FMCG	PSU Bank	Finance	Pharma	Midcap	Metal	Midcap	Finance	Pharma	Auto	FMCG
0.33%	4.11%	41.56%	-7.77%	-0.28%	16.14%	46.81%	9.55%	33.72%	22.44%	-5.65%
IT	Largecap	Media	Midcap	FMCG	Largecap	PSU Bank	Largecap	PSU Bank	IT	Auto
-0.03%	3.60%	32.80%	-13.26%	-1.29%	14.82%	44.37%	3.64%	32.40%	21.83%	-6.74%
Auto	FMCG	Auto	PSU Bank	Smallcap	FMCG	Media	Midcap	FMCG	PSU Bank	Midcap
-0.32%	2.78%	31.47%	-16.47%	-8.27%	13.42%	34.56%	2.97%	29.10%	14.35%	-9.56%
Largecap	Smallcap	Largecap	Metal	Pharma	Auto	Largecap	Smallcap	IT	Largecap	Pharma
-2.41%	0.36%	31.15%	-19.84%	-9.34%	11.43%	25.04%	-3.66%	24.16%	11.65%	-9.72%
Finance	Media	FMCG	Auto	Auto	Realty	Auto	Media	Largecap	Finance	IT
-5.41%	-0.85%	29.47%	-22.99%	-10.69%	5.11%	18.96%	-10.25%	20.11%	9.35%	-14.89%
Realty	Realty	PSU Bank	Media	Metal	Finance	Finance	Realty	Media	Metal	Smallcap
-15.02%	-4.20%	24.17%	-25.80%	-11.20%	4.46%	13.96%	-10.84%	19.94%	8.35%	-14.92%
Metal	IT	IT	Smallcap	PSU Bank	Media	Pharma	Pharma	Metal	FMCG	Media
-31.35%	-7.25%	12.21%	-26.68%	-18.25%	-8.55%	10.12%	-11.46%	18.72%	-0.33%	-18.85%
PSU Bank	Pharma	Pharma	Realty	Media	PSU Bank	FMCG	IT	Finance	Media	Realty
-32.91%	-14.18%	-6.32%	-32.87%	-29.72%	-30.50%	9.96%	-26.11%	13.24%	-23.71%	-19.10%

IT returns represented by NIFTY IT Metal returns represented by NIFTY Metal Realty returns represented by NIFTY Realty Auto returns represented by NIFTY Auto Pharma returns represented by NIFTY Pharma Media returns represented by NIFTY Media Finance returns represented by NIFTY Finance FMCG returns represented by NIFTY FMCG PSU Bank returns represented by NIFTY PSU Bank Largecap returns represented by Nifty 100 Midcap returns represented by Nifty Midcap 150 Smallcap returns represented by Nifty Small cap 250

Equity Outlook

- The decision of the US Government to enforce reciprocal tariff on most countries points towards it's intent to aggressively pursue and resolve the wrong that it believes it is suffering since the globalisation era., It is estimated that these tariffs are likely to affect trade worth roughly US\$1tn, thereby impacting Global GDP in FY26/27 by 0.5%. India too is likely to suffer a 0.5% impact on its GDP.
- While the theory of US getting short-changed by its trading partners is debatable, there is little doubt that the country was amongst the biggest beneficiaries of globalisation. As the US dominance in the global economy increased, it benefited from global savings moving back the the US to fund its large fiscal and trade deficit at an interest rate of under 3% on an average for the past 15 years.
- On the other hand, the benefits of increased local manufacturing that is being perceived as one of the end goals of these tariffs may not be easy to materialise. Global manufacturing supply chains have been established over the past 50 years and are almost impossible to move to the US easily. This is due to various limiting factors that US suffers from like lack of labour skillset and ecosystem to produce these products at competitive costs. Thus, in the near term, the strategy of stepping back from globalisation is likely to hurt US consumers as the cascading effect of these tariffs trickle down in the form of higher inflation and lower economic growth.
- The global macro environment remains complex as:
 - 1) US growth inflation dynamics indicating increased possibility of stagflation.
 - 2) Tariff news flow increases business uncertainty and keeps inflation high in an environment where the incremental data points continue to indicate consumer slowdown.

Equity Outlook

- If this scenario of global uncertainty elongates, then US might be in for a negative growth surprise, when high headline inflation leaves limited room for the Fed to cut beyond current expectations of 50-75bps in CY25.
- U.S President's policies so far are indicating their inward focus with a multi-polar world and disregard for global trade and defence agreements of previous US establishments. We thus expect uncertainty to prevail both on global growth and capital flows for Emerging markets including India. One possibility is that it may quickly lead to a US recession potentially easing monetary policy, Fed providing liquidity and faster interest rate cuts. US dollar would depreciate under such circumstances, which will be positive for Emerging markets over next 4-6 quarters.
- Emerging markets witnessed strong capital outflows over last 3 months. After strengthening for 3 months, the dollar index has started depreciating a good sign indicating possible flows moving towards Emerging markets and Europe. However, Europe and China's growth rates remain subdued at best. Euro area might be an eventual beneficiary of this environment as it finally moves towards policies which make it a better economic and geopolitical zone. European leaders have been forced to make serious choices for the first time in last several decades. They may start looking East more and India could be beneficiary of the same along with China and Others. Geopolitics in the Middle East and Ukraine-Russia is clearly on a de-escalation path, which is positive for growth and negative for energy prices. China continues to have challenges on growth revival due to ageing population and leverage in households/Real estate, which are structural in our view.
- Commodities in general may remain muted for extended period, given that more than 30-40% of every commodity is consumed by China and the recent stimulus does little to improve the structural challenges that the Chinese economy is going through. Only positive for China is its relatively cheap valuations and good quality listed tech companies. Eurozone would be the area to look out for over next 5 years from growth perspective. India remains one of the differentiated markets (Exports just 15% of GDP) in terms of structural growth and earnings, notwithstanding cyclical slowdown that we are witnessing right now.

Equity Outlook

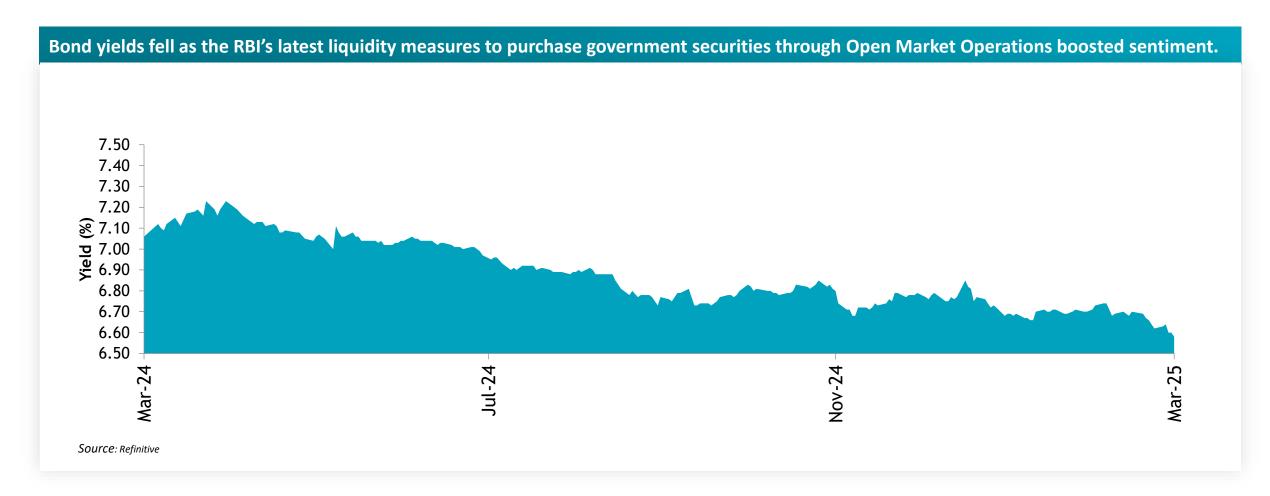
- Indian macro remains best among large economies; however its growth too has faltered. The last Gross Domestic Product (GDP) print came in at 5.4% and 6.2% respectively for 2Q/3QFY25 leading to downgrade in FY25 GDP growth to ~6.5% by consensus. Current Account Deficit has improved significantly and is expected to be 1 1.5% for FY25E/FY26E. Most domestic macro and micro indicators remain steady. Given these aspects, despite the global geo-political and economic dark clouds, the domestic equity market remains focused on earnings. While the structural earning growth has been healthy at >15% CAGR for FY20-24, FY25E has moderated to mid-high single digit, which is a cause of concern.
- We believe that this cyclical slowdown is driven by:
 - 1) Reduced Govt spending during 1HFY25 (which is catching up now)
 - 2) Significantly above average monsoon in southern part of country; and
 - 3) Stringent liquidity and administrative actions by RBI on retail credit (which is also reversing now).
- Consumption and revenue expenditure at State /Central level has started moving up. Financials, Pharma, industrials, Telecom, Hospital, Hotels, Aviation and Real Estate are witnessing a healthy earnings cycle whereas FMCG, Commodities and IT continues to face headwind. Indian equity market trades at 19xFY26/17xFY27 consensus Nifty earnings in an attractive valuation zone from medium term perspective given longevity of earnings growth potential in India. Large caps appear quite attractive based on these valuations. The broader market has moved up more than 70% in last 2 year capturing near term earnings positives. While the latest correction has taken out the froth in mid-caps and small caps, they continue to trade at 10-15% premium to their own historical valuations indicating that the strong earnings revival is must for this part of the market. FY26/27 is expected to be a stock pickers market as against broad themes as experienced in FY24/25.

Equity Outlook

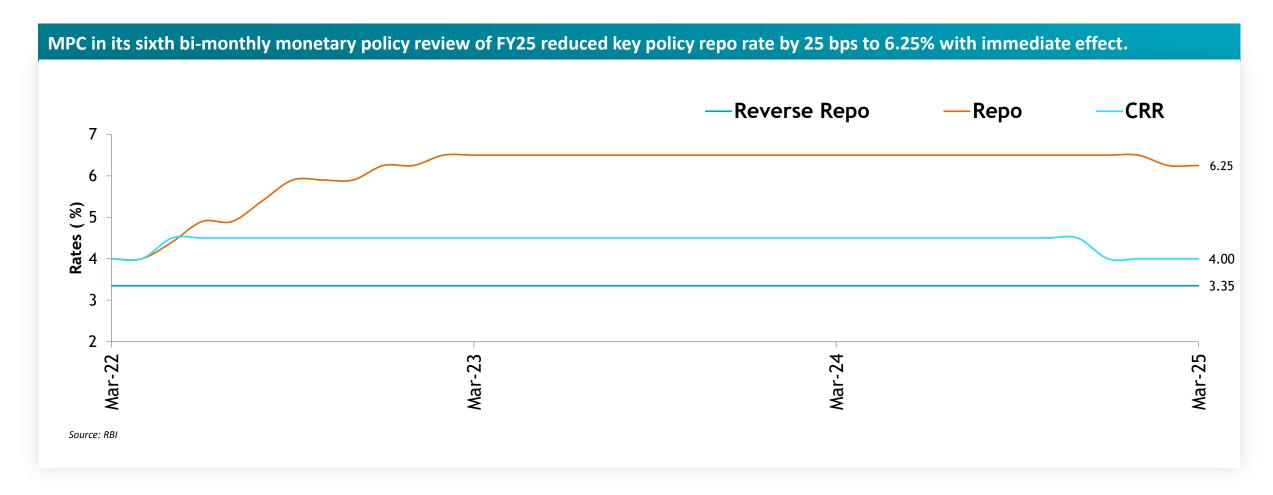
- Having said that, on near term earnings /market context, we believe that Indian economy is in a structural upcycle which will come to fore as global macroeconomic challenges/flow challenges recede over next few quarters. Our belief on domestic economic up-cycle stems from the fact that the enabling factor are in place
 - 1) Corporate and bank's financials are in best possible shape to drive capex and credit respectively,
 - 2) Consumer spending likely to normalize given our demographics
 - Govt is focused on growth through direct investments in budget as well as through reforms like GST(increasing tax to GDP), lower corporate tax and ease of doing business (attracting private capex), Production Linked Incentives private capital through incentives for import substitution or export ecosystem creation)
 - 4) Accentuated benefits to India due to global supply chain re-alignments due to geopolitics.
- This makes us constructive on India equities with 3-5 years view. We believe that India is in a business cycle / credit growth / earnings cycle through FY24-27E indicating a healthy earnings cycle from medium term perspective.

Domestic Debt Markets

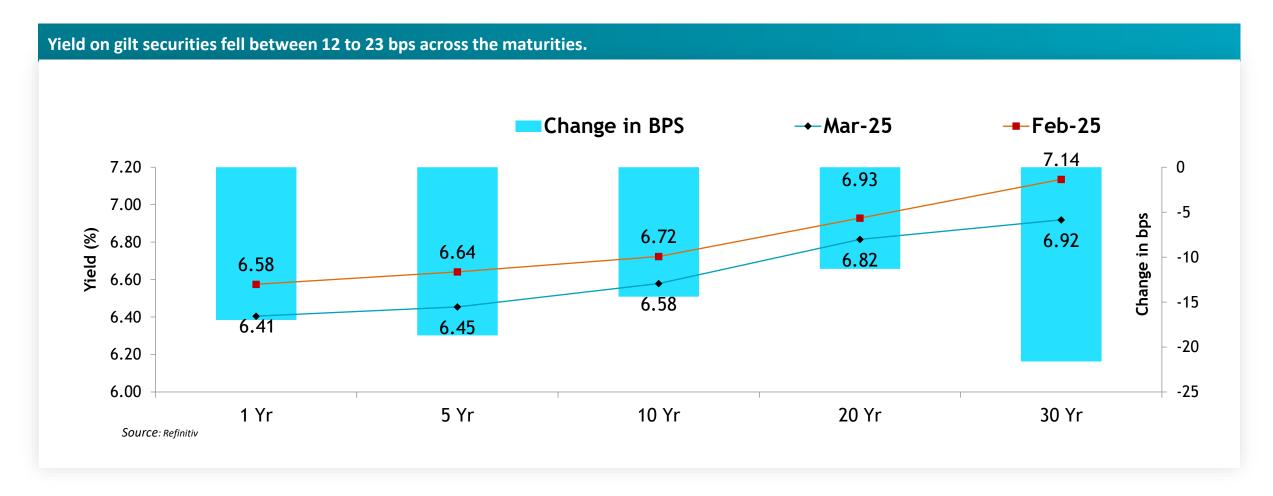
10-Yr Benchmark Bond



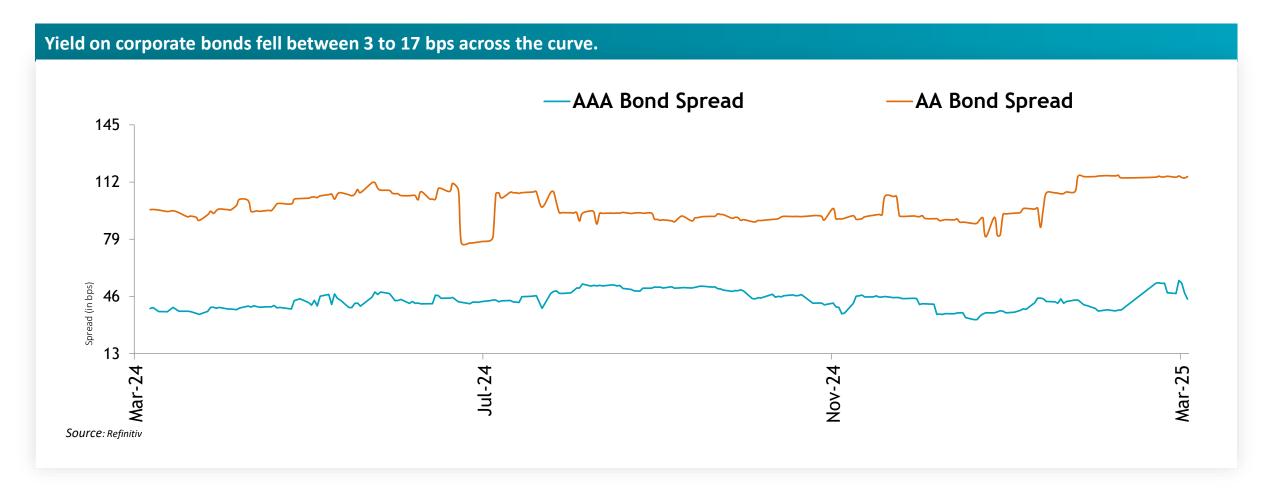
Movements of Key Policy Rates in India



India Yield Curve Shift (Month-on-Month)



10 Year Corporate Bond Spread (for AAA & AA bonds)



Category-wise Fixed Income returns

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	CYTD
LD	10 Y GILT	LD	LD	LT	LT	ST	LIQ	LD	10 Y GILT	10 Y GILT
8.94%	14.93%	6.80%	7.69%	10.72%	12.25%	4.38%	5.08%	8.86%	9.55%	11.83%
ST	LT	LIQ	LIQ	10 Y GILT	ST	LD	LD	10 Y GILT	LT	LT
8.66%	12.91%	6.66%	7.58%	10.46%	10.39%	4.23%	3.65%	7.82%	8.93%	10.17%
LT	ST	ST	ST	ST	10 Y GILT	LIQ	ST	LT	ST	ST
8.63%	9.82%	6.05%	6.65%	9.53%	9.23%	3.60%	3.59%	7.29%	7.94%	8.64%
LIQ	LD	LT	10 Y GILT	LD	LD	LT	LT	ST	LIQ	LIQ
8.23%	9.02%	4.71%	6.03%	8.60%	7.45%	3.44%	2.51%	7.26%	7.32%	7.12%
10 Y GILT	LIQ	10 Y GILT	LT	LIQ	LIQ	10 Y GILT	10 Y GILT	LIQ	LD	LD
7.39%	7.48%	-0.05%	5.91%	6.86%	4.60%	1.35%	0.46%	7.13%	N/A%	N/A%

LIQ	Liquid Returns represented by Crisil Liquid Fund Index
ST	Short Term Returns represented by Crisil Short Term Bond Fund Index
LT	Long Term Returns represented by Crisil Composite Bond Fund Index
LD	Low Duration Returns represented by Crisil Low Duration Index
10 Y Gilt	10 Year G-sec Returns represented by CRISIL 10 Yr Gilt

Asset Class Returns

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	CYTD		
Debt 8.63%	Debt 12.91%	Equity 35.32%	Gold 7.87%	Gold 23.79%	Gold 27.88%	Equity 28.88%	Gold 13.94%	Equity 24.74%	Gold 20.43%	Gold 16.83%		
											Equity	Equity Returns represente by Nifty 200 Index
Equity -0.75%	Gold 11.35%	Gold 5.12%	Debt 5.91%	Debt 10.72%	Equity 16.78%	Debt 3.44%	Equity 4.93%	Gold 15.41%	Equity 14.62%	Debt 2.51%	Debt	Debt Returns represented Crisil Composite Bond Fun Index
Gold	Equity	Debt	Fauity	Equity	Debt	Gold	Deht	Debt	Deht	Fauity		ilidex
-6.65%	5.08%	4.71%	Equity 0.31%	10.03%	12.25%	-4.21%	Debt 2.51%	7.29%	Debt 8.93%	Equity -2.96%	Gold	Gold Returns represented b domestic prices of gold

Fixed Income Outlook

- US FED rate cut expectations have gone up on recession fears in wake of tariff wars.
- US yield are likely to benefit from tariff war, as growth may get impacted in US, though risks to higher inflation remain.
- Liquidity has eased, however RBI has announced further Rs. 80,000 cr of OMO purchases to be conducted to ensure liquidity conditions remain conducive for growth.
- FII flows remained positive in March on positive bond market conditions in India.
- Looking ahead to the medium and long term, the effect on bonds is expected to be positive due to inclusion in JP Morgan Bond Index and other indices, as the demand for Government Securities (G-Sec) is likely to drive yields downward.
- We expect RBI to reduce rates again in April policy as well as turn stance to accommodative, as growth is moderating, and inflation is likely trending towards 4%. Further, the ongoing tariff disruptions may lead to slower global growth in near term.
- We are structurally long on India as growth inflation dynamics are still favorable for yields to tick down as RBI may have to resort to few more rate cut as growth slows.

Source: RBI, MOSPI, PIB, CMIE, NSDL, S&P Global, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Reuters, Bloomberg, Internal Research.

Global Markets

Key Global Equity Market Highlights

U.S.

- U.S. equity markets fell due to concerns over the U.S. President's trade policies, specifically the 25% tariffs on auto imports.
- Market sentiment was further impacted by significant weakness in the technology sector. Negative sentiment was also elicited in response to a report from payroll processor ADP, which indicated that private sector job growth in Feb 2025 was significantly lower than anticipated.
- U.S. Treasury prices fell after comments from the U.S. Federal Reserve Chair indicated the central bank could be patient in determining when to cut interest rates.

Europe

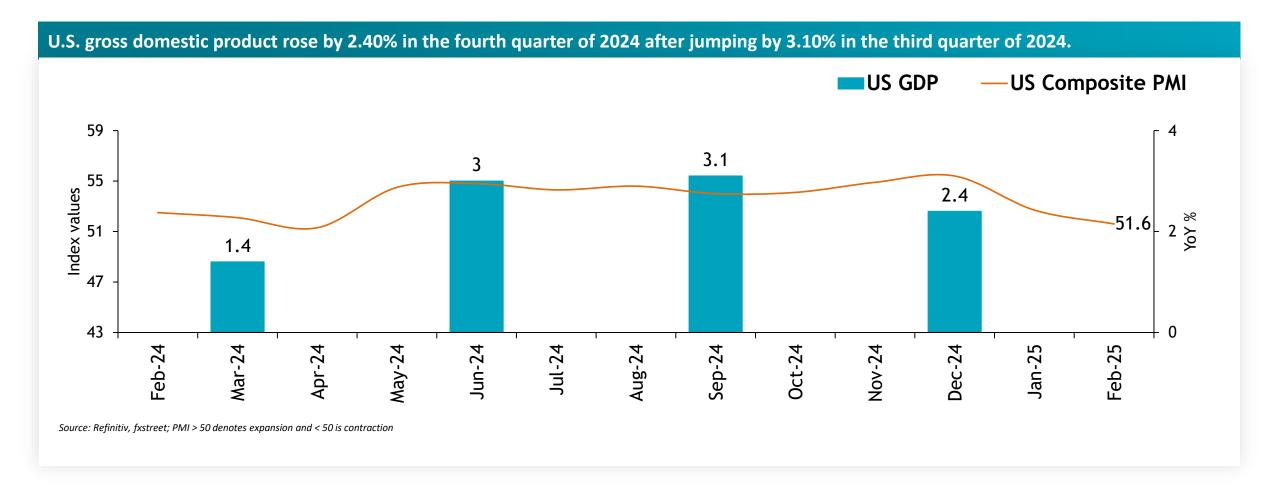
- European equity markets fell following the U.S. President's announcement of a 25% tariff on cars and car parts imported into the U.S.
- Furthermore, the market declined on concerns about global economic growth following the tariff announcement, coupled with not-so-encouraging U.S. economic data, including a reading on the core PCE price index.
- The Commerce Department reported that the core personal consumption expenditures (PCE) price index, which excludes food and energy prices, climbed by 0.4% in Feb 2025, after rising by 0.3% in Jan 2025. Economists had expected another 0.3% increase.

Key Global Equity Market Highlights

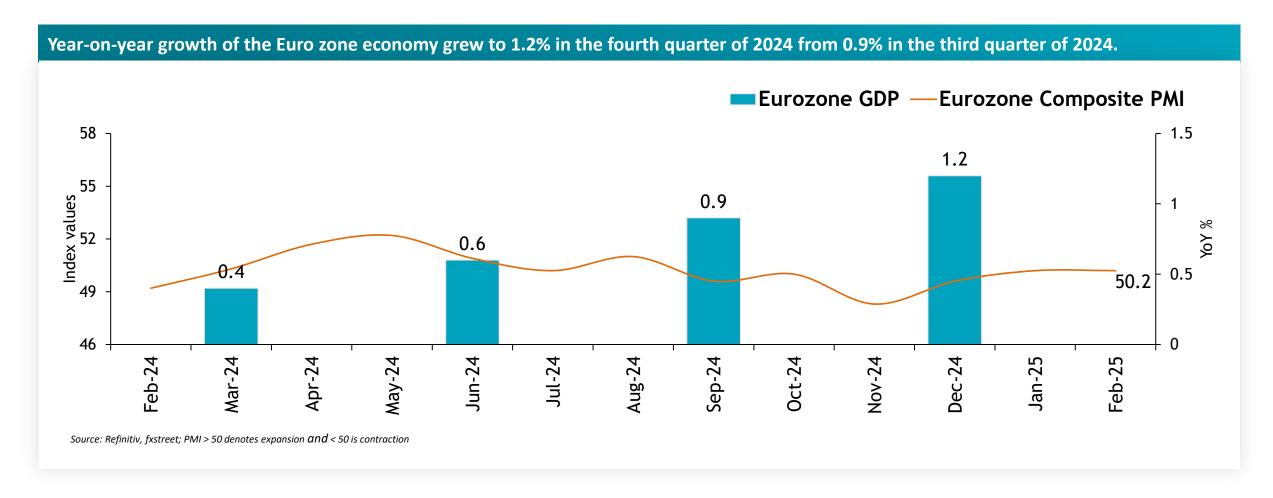
Asia

- Asian equity markets mostly rose after the U.S. Federal Reserve issued a dovish policy outlook.
- Additionally, the market gained after data showed U.S. retail sales rebounded marginally in Feb 2025, helping ease recession concerns.
- Gains were extended after the U.S. Senate announced plans to vote on a funding bill to finance the government through Sep 2025, easing worries about a potential federal government shutdown.
- However, gains were restricted following the U.S. President's 25% tariffs on auto imports. The market fell further amid fears that the U.S. economy could be slipping into a recession, particularly in light of ongoing tariff disputes.

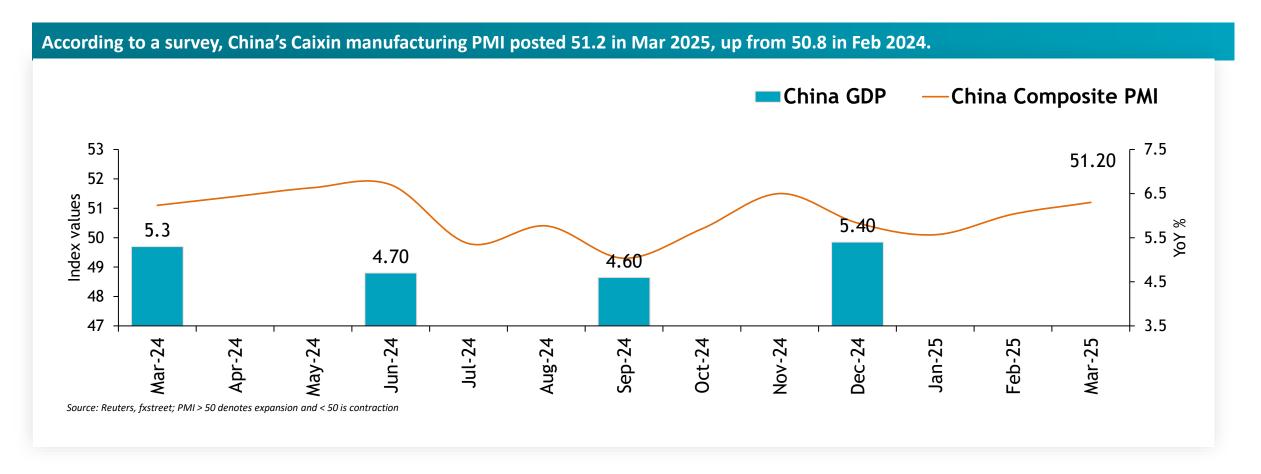
US Composite PMI & GDP Growth



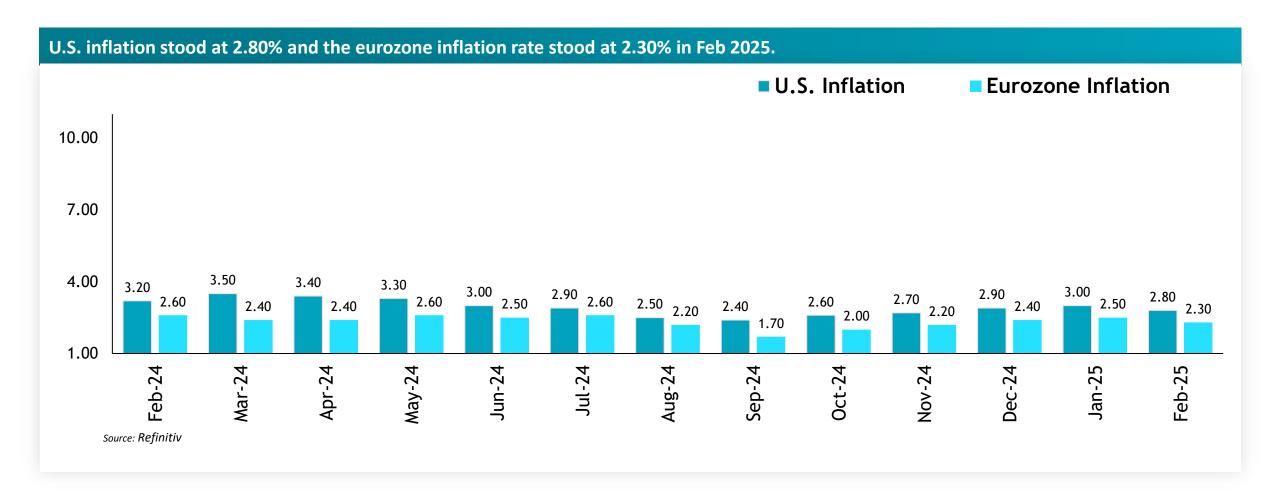
Euro Zone Composite PMI & GDP Growth



China Manufacturing PMI & GDP Growth

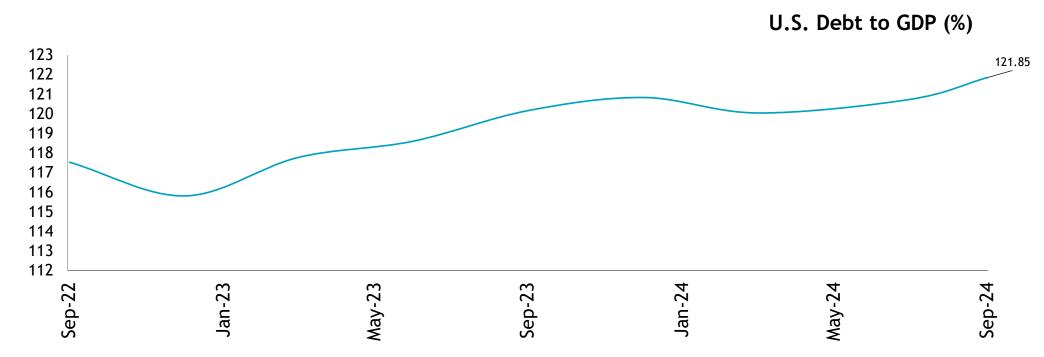


US & Eurozone Inflation



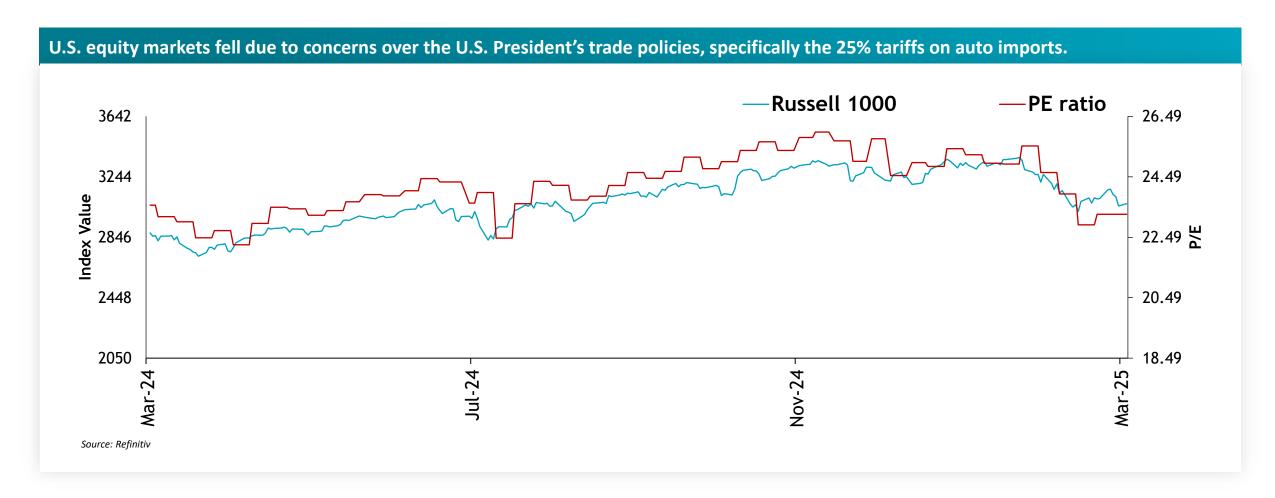
U.S. Debt to GDP (%)

According to a report, the U.S. debt to GDP ratio rose to 121.85% in Sep 2024, compared to 120.73% in Jun 2024.

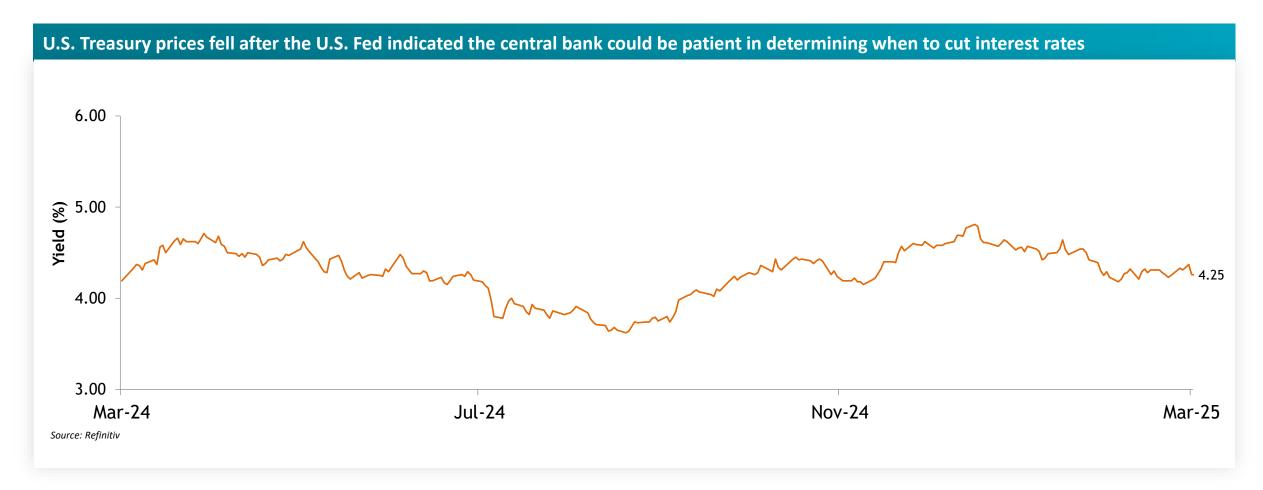


Source: Fred

Russell 1000 Index and PE ratio



U.S. 10 Year Treasury Yield

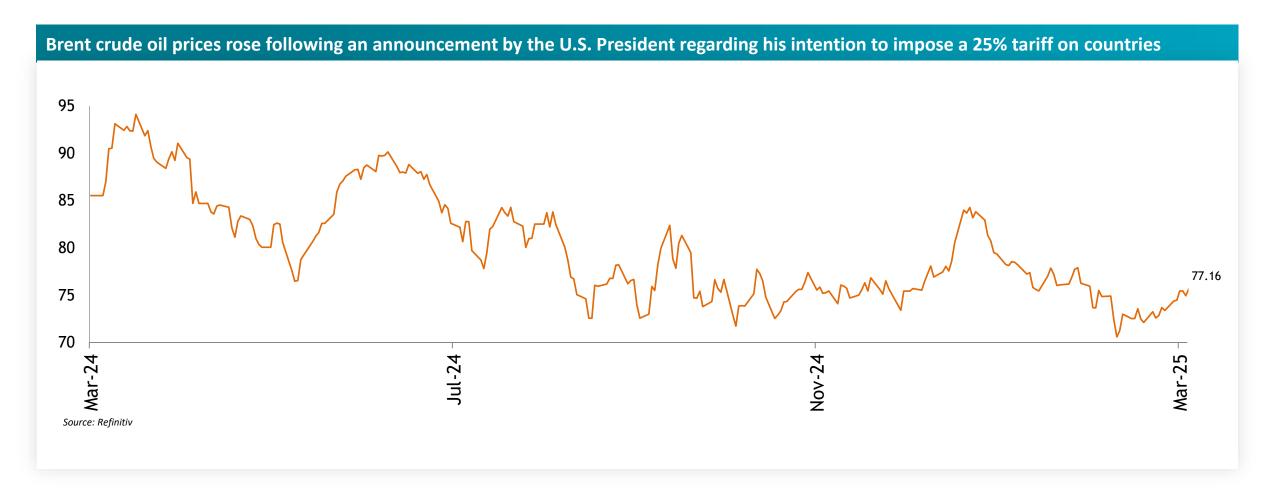


Gold

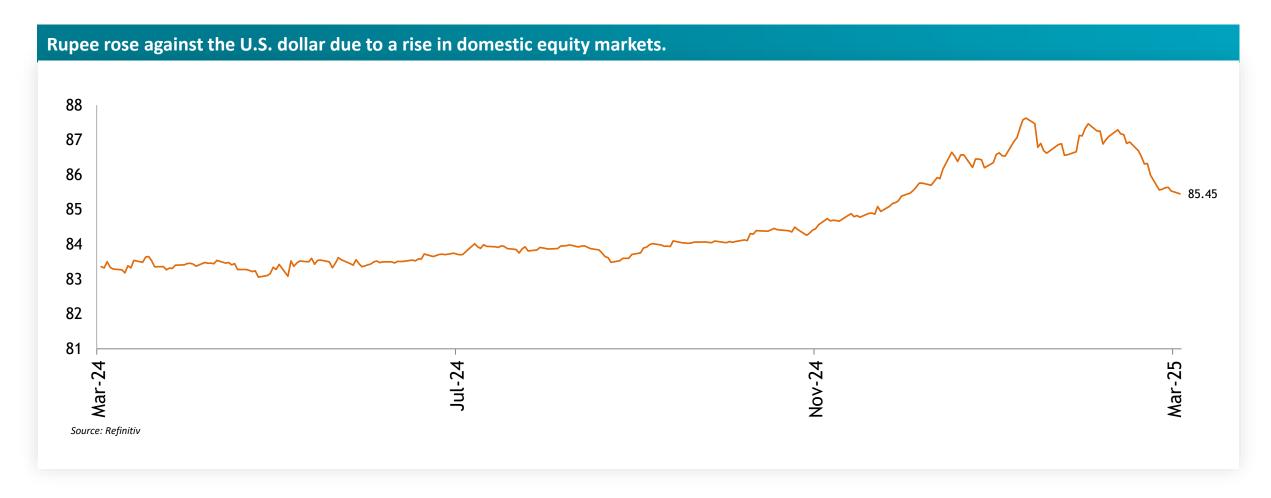
Gold prices rose as tariff worries and signs of rising geopolitical tensions boosted bullion's safe-haven appeal.



Brent Crude



USD/INR



Returns of Major Global Indices

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	CYTD
DAX	RTS	HangSeng	Nasdaq	RTS	Nasdaq	CAC	STI	Nasdaq	Nasdaq	HangSeng
9.56%	52.22%	35.99%	-1.04%	45.28%	47.58%	28.85%	4.09%	53.81%	24.88%	15.25%
SSEC	FTSE	Nasdaq	RTS	Nasdaq	Kospi	Nasdaq	FTSE	Nikkei	Nikkei	DAX
9.41%	14.43%	31.52%	-7.65%	37.96%	30.75%	26.63%	0.91%	28.24%	19.22%	11.32%
Nikkei	DAX	Kospi	STI	CAC	Nikkei	DAX	Nikkei	DAX	DAX	CAC
9.07%	6.87%	21.76%	-9.82%	26.37%	16.01%	15.79%	-9.37%	20.31%	18.85%	5.55%
CAC	Nasdaq	Nikkei	CAC	DAX	SSEC	RTS	CAC	Kospi	HangSeng	FTSE
8.53%	5.89%	19.10%	-10.95%	25.48%	13.87%	15.01%	-9.50%	18.73%	17.67%	5.01%
Nasdaq	CAC	STI	Nikkei	SSEC	DAX	FTSE	DAX	CAC	STI	STI
8.43%	4.86%	18.13%	-12.08%	22.30%	3.55%	14.30%	-12.35%	16.52%	16.89%	4.88%
Kospi	Kospi	DAX	FTSE	Nikkei	HangSeng	STI	SSEC	RTS	SSEC	Kospi
2.39%	3.32%	12.51%	-12.48%	18.20%	-3.40%	9.84%	-15.12%	11.63%	12.67%	3.40%
RTS	Nikkei	CAC	HangSeng	FTSE	CAC	Nikkei	HangSeng	FTSE	FTSE	RTS
-4.26%	0.42%	9.26%	-13.61%	12.10%	-7.14%	4.91%	-15.46%	3.78%	5.69%	0%
FTSE	HangSeng	FTSE	Kospi	HangSeng	RTS	SSEC	Kospi	STI	CAC	SSEC
-4.93%	0.39%	7.63%	-17.28%	9.07%	-10.42%	4.8%	-24.89%	-0.34%	-2.15%	-0.48%
HangSeng	STI	SSEC	DAX	Kospi	STI	Kospi	Nasdaq	SSEC	Kospi	Nikkei
-7.16%	-0.07%	6.56%	-18.26%	7.67%	-11.76%	3.63%	-32.97%	-3.70%	-9.63%	-6.95%
STI	SSEC	RTS	SSEC	STI	FTSE	HangSeng	RTS	HangSeng	RTS	Nasdaq
-14.34%	-12.31%	0.18%	-24.59%	5.02%	-14.34%	-14.08%	-39.18%	-13.82%		-8.25%

CAC returns represented by CAC 40 Index (France)

DAX Index returns represented by FSE DAX (Germany)

FTSE returns represented by FTSE 100 (United Kingdom)

HangSeng returns represented by HangSeng (Hong Kong)

Nasdaq returns represented by Nasdaq 100 (US)

Nikkei returns represented by Nikkei 225 (Japan)

RTS returns represented by RTS Index (Russia)

SSEC represented by SHANGHAI SE COMPOSITE (China)

STI returns represented by FTSE Straits Times (Singapore)

Kospi represented by Kospi Index (South Korea)

Disclaimer

All information contained in this document has been obtained by ICRA Analytics Limited from sources believed by it to be accurate and reliable. Although reasonable care has been taken to ensure that the information herein is true, such information is provided 'as is' without any warranty of any kind, and ICRA Analytics Limited or its affiliates or group companies and its respective directors, officers, or employees in particular, makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy, suitability, reliability, timelines or completeness of any such information. All information contained herein must be construed solely as statements of opinion, and ICRA Analytics Limited, or its affiliates or group companies and its respective directors, officers, or employees shall not be liable for any losses or injury, liability or damage of any kind incurred from and arising out of any use of this document or its contents in any manner, whatsoever. Opinions expressed in this document are not the opinions of our holding company, ICRA Limited (ICRA), and should not be construed as any indication of credit rating or grading of ICRA for any instruments that have been issued or are to be issued by any entity.

Readers are requested to click here for ICRA Analytics Limited disclaimer.

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