



Gratuity Fund Monthly Fund Performance

October 2018 Edition





Month gone by - A snapshot

Global equity markets witnessed a significant correction in October 2018 with MSCI Developed Markets Index down 7% and MSCI Emerging Markets Index down 9%. While Nifty ended the month 5% lower, the mid-cap index was down 1% as value buying emerged in second half of the month. The INR continued to weaken and was down 2% during the month, in line with other EM currencies. Foreign investors' outflows continued in October. RBI intervention and easing crude oil prices provided support to the INR. Fixed income markets witnessed a mild rally due to status quo on policy rates by RBI, easing crude oil prices and increase in Open Market Operations (OMO).

Macroeconomic environment largely stable

Retail inflation, as indicated by CPI, came in lower than estimates at 3.8%, driven by benign food and housing inflation. Index of Industrial Production (IIP) softened to 4.3% YoY mainly due to lower growth in manufacturing sector. Trade deficit for September narrowed to US\$ 14 bn from US\$ 17 bn in August despite high oil prices and weak exports. This was primarily due to reduction in import of gold and electronic items.

RBI took meaningful steps to improve liquidity in the system. It tweaked the Liquidity Coverage Ratio for banks and increased the exposure limit for NBFCs. RBI also provided support through OMO purchases of Rs. 360 bn in October 2018. Additional Rs. 400 bn of OMOs have been announced during November.

RBI intervention supported INR

INR was under pressure in the beginning of the month, as RBI had refrained from raising rates in its October monetary policy. INR fell to a low of 74.5 during the month before bouncing back meaningfully in the second half. RBI's intervention and easing of crude oil prices lent support to INR.

Fixed income market performance

Fixed income markets witnessed a mild rally: Fixed income markets witnessed a mild rally due to reduction in the government borrowing programme, status quo on policy rates by the RBI, easing crude oil prices and increase in Open Market Operations (OMO) conducted by RBI. 10-year G-sec yields eased by 17bp during the month, ending at 7.85%. Foreign investors were net sellers of US\$ 1.3 bn in fixed income market in October (YTD US\$ 8.5 bn).

Bond yields are likely to remain range-bound: Bond yields are likely to remain range bound given support from OMO purchases. However, risks remain from upward movement in US bond yields, uncertainty over crude oil prices and concerns around the government's ability to meet fiscal deficit target.

Equity market performance

Equity market correction continued: The equity market correction which began in September continued through October. Nifty ended the month 5% lower, while the mid-cap index ended 1% lower. Banks performed well on the back of strong results. There was profit booking seen in Information Technology, Automobiles and Oil & Gas stocks. Foreign investors sold over US\$ 3.5 bn in equities in October (YTD US\$ 5.5 bn) whereas domestic funds bought equities worth US\$ 3 bn (YTD US\$ 14 bn).

Equity market to consolidate in near-term: A potential slowdown in economic growth of large economies such as US and China is likely to lower global economic growth. The uncertainty arising from upcoming state and general elections in India may put foreign investors in a wait and watch mode. Moreover, even after the recent correction, Indian equity market valuation remains above its long term average. These factors, coupled with global geo-political issues such as trade war concerns, volatile crude oil prices and monetary policy actions, may lead to equity market consolidation in the near-term.

Sanjay Kumar
Chief Investment Officer

Glossary



Indicators	Oct 2017	July 2018	Oct 2018	3 Month Change	12 Month Change
Economic indicators					
Consumer Price Index (CPI) Inflation (%)	3.3	4.9	3.8	-1.2	0.5
Gross Domestic product (GDP Growth) %	5.6	7.7	8.2	0.5	2.6
Index of Industrial Production (IIP) (%)	4.8	3.8	4.3	0.5	-0.5
Brent crude oil (USD/barrel)	61	74	75	2%	23%
Domestic Markets					
Nifty Index	10,335	11,357	10,387	-9%	0%
BSE Mid-cap Index	16,588	16,013	14,613	-9%	-12%
10-year G-Sec Yield (%)	6.9	7.8	7.9	10 bps	100 bps
30-year G-Sec Yield (%)	7.3	8.1	8.2	10 bps	90 bps
10-year AAA PSU Corporate Bond Yield (%)	7.6	8.6	8.8	20 bps	120 bps
Exchange rate (USD/INR) *	64.7	68.5	74.0	8%	14%
Global Markets					
Dow Jones (U.S.)	23,377	25,415	25,116	-1%	7%
FTSE (U.K.)	7,493	7,749	7,128	-8%	-5%
Shanghai Stock Exchange Composite Index (China)	3,393	2,876	2,603	-10%	-23%
Nikkei 225 (Japan)	22,012	22,554	21,920	-3%	0%

Source: Central Statistics Organisation (CSO), RBI, Bloomberg. *Negative growth number signals depreciation while positive growth number signals appreciation.

10-year government bond yield trend



Equity Market performance



Glossary



The time to consider Critical Illness Insurance is Now

As we celebrate world Cancer day in February, we would like to highlight insurance covers with options for critical illness. The best way to illustrate this is through an ex; Mayank Desai, a marketing executive, was diagnosed with cancer and had a long and painful recovery. While the insurance company took care of the hospital bills, Desai's family had to undergo financial stress to meet household expenses as he stayed home and recuperated.

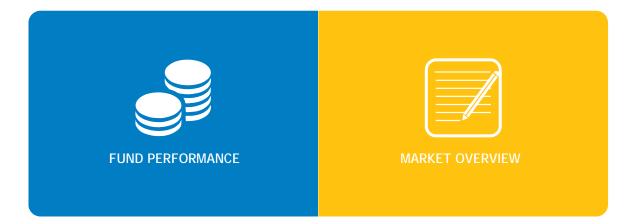
Desai's case is by no means unique as an increasing number of people are falling prey to critical illness at younger age. At the same time, the cost of health care is rising and crippling Indian households. Keeping this scenario in mind, investing in a comprehensive health insurance plan to safeguard the interest of the family, has become imperative.

One needs to understand the structure and the benefits of different health insurance products before investing. Health insurance plans can be broadly classified in two categories, namely indemnity based and benefits based. Under an indemnity based plan the insured is paid the entire amount that he spends on medical treatment, provided it is equal to or less than the sum assured. Benefits based plans are mainly critical illness plans under which the insured can claim the entire sum assured for the treatment of a critical illness specified in the policy, irrespective of actual costs incurred.

Investing in mediclaim can prove extremely useful in case of minor ailments. However, they become futile in case the insured contracts a critical illness such as cancer which demands much larger expenses over a longer term. A critical illness plan can prove extremely beneficial in this case as the lump sum received by the insured can be used to get the illness treated by best professionals. Also the sum assured, if in excess of the medical treatment, can be used to take care of the household expenses during the time of the illness.

Investors can also go for an endowment based life insurance policy from an insurer with a Critical Illness (CI) rider as it will give them a comprehensive insurance cover. This is to say that the sum assured can be claimed by the insured in case he survives through the term or by his family in case he does not. In addition, with a CI rider to the policy, the medical expenses will also be covered in case a critical illness is contracted during the term, over and above the sum assured.

In addition to providing a cover for medical expenses, health insurance products also attract tax benefits. Investing in comprehensive health insurance therefore will not only provide investor the peace of mind but also the freedom to plan their finances to meet more fundamental financial goals.







		3-year (CAGR)			5-year (CAGR)			7-year (CAGR)	
Sep 2018	Portfolio	Morningstar median returns	Morningstar Rating	Portfolio	Morningstar median returns	Morningstar Rating	Portfolio	Morningstar median returns	
Balanced									
Gratuity Balanced	7.7%	6.9%	**** (4-star)	10.4%	9.6%	**** (4-star)	9.5%	9.0%	

Source: Morningstar

Notes:

- Morningstar Rating is based on Morningstar Risk-Adjusted Return (MRAR) framework. MRAR is a measure of fund's past performance after adjusting for risk.
- The above information is as of September 30, 2018 as the performance data for October is yet to be provided by Morningstar.

 Morningstar median returns and rating for Gratuity Debt fund are not available as the categorization of this fund is currently under review by Morningstar. The Gratuity Debt fund was earlier classified under Intermediate Bond Fund category and was rated four-star over three-year period ending March 2018.

Morningstar rating methodology: Morningstar sets the distribution of funds across the rating levels, assigning three/five star ratings as follows:

- All funds in the category are sorted by MRAR % Rank for the respective time period in descending order. Starting with the highest MRAR % Rank, those in the top 10% of such funds receive a 5-star rating.
- The next 22.5% (i.e., ranking below the top 10% and up to the top 32.5%) of funds receive a 3-star rating.

 The next 22.5% (i.e., ranking below the top 10% and up to the top 32.5%) of funds receive a 4-star rating, and the following 35% (i.e., ranking below the top 67.5%) of funds receive a 3-star rating.

 The next 22.5% (i.e., ranking below the top 67.5% and up to the top 90%) of funds receive a 2-star rating.

 The remaining funds (i.e., the bottom 10% of the category) receive a 1-star rating.







As on October 31, 2018

SFIN No: ULGF00205/06/04GRABALANCE117

Gratuity Balanced

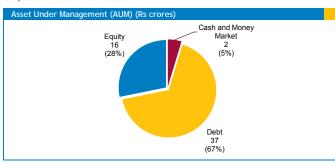
Investment Objective: To generate capital appreciation and current income, through a judicious mix of investments in equities and fixed income securities.

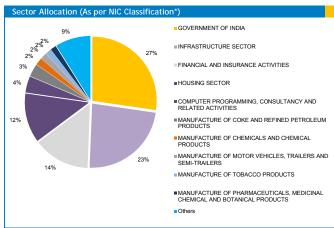
Investment Philosophy: The fund will target 30% investments in Equities and 70% investments in Government & other debt securities to meet the stated objectives.

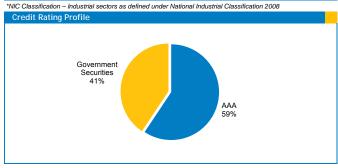
Portfolio Return As on October 31, 2018							
Returns	Absolut	e Return	CAGR Return				
	Last 1 Month	Last 6 Months	Last 1 Year	Last 2 Years	Last 3 Years	Since Inception	
Portfolio return	-0.7%	0.7%	2.1%	5.6%	7.3%	8.6%	
Benchmark**	-0.6%	0.7%	1.4%	6.0%	7.4%	8.3%	

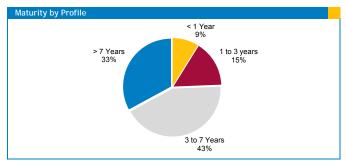
Note: Past returns are not indicative of future performance.

** Benchmark return has been computed by applying benchmark weightages on Nifty 50 for Equity and CRISIL Composite Bond Fund Index for Debt







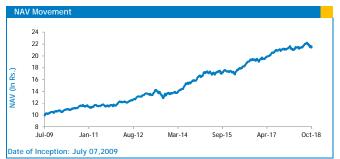


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Asset Classes	F&U	Actual
Government and other Debt Securities	25-95%	67.2%
Equities	5-35%	28.2%
Money Market and other liquid assets	0-40%	4.7%

Security	Rating	Net Assets
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES		
7.35% GOI 2024	Sovereign	7.9%
8.6% GOI 2028	Sovereign	7.1%
8.25% SDL 2026	Sovereign	5.3%
6.84% GOI 2022	Sovereign	5.3%
7.17% GOI 2028	Sovereign	1.7%
TOTAL		27.3%
CORPORATE BONDS		
INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD	AAA	7.1%
SIKKA PORTS & TERMINALS LTD.	AAA	6.3%
L&T INFRA DEBT FUND LTD	AAA	6.1%
DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPN. LTD.	AAA	5.3%
POWER FINANCE CORPN. LTD.	AAA	5.2%
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION CORPN. LTD.	AAA	4.5%
HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED	AAA	3.6%
SUNDARAM FINANCE LTD	AAA	1.7%
TOTAL		39.9%
TOP 10 EQUITY SECURITIES		
H D F C BANK LTD.		3.0%
RELIANCE INDUSTRIES LTD.		3.0%
INFOSYS LTD.		2.4%
ITCLTD.		1.5%
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPN. LTD.		1.5%
LARSEN & TOUBRO LTD.		1.1%
ICICIBANK LTD.		1.1%
HINDUSTAN UNILEVER LTD.		1.0%
KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LTD.		0.9%
TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES LTD.		0.8%
Others		11.9%
TOTAL		28.2%
CASH AND MONEY MARKET		4.7%
PORTFOLIO TOTAL		100.0%





As on October 31, 2018

SFIN No: ULGF00105/06/04GRADEBTFND117

Gratuity Debt

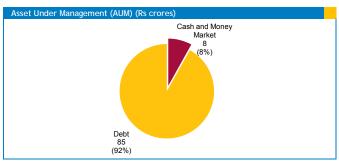
Investment Objective: To earn regular income by investing in high quality fixed income securities

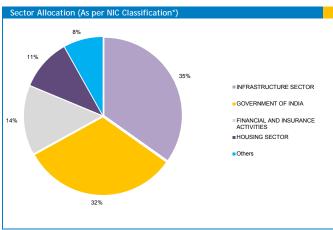
Investment Philosophy: The fund would target 100% investments in Government & other debt securities to meet the stated objectives.

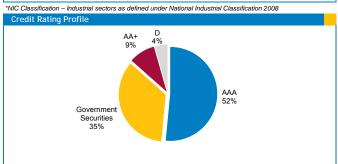
Portfolio Return As on October 31, 2018							
Returns	Absolute Return		CAGR Return				
	Last 1 Month	Last 6 Months	Last 1 Year	Last 2 Years	Last 3 Years	Since Inception	
Portfolio return	1.2%	0.6%	-0.6%	2.7%	5.7%	7.9%	
Benchmark**	1.2%	2.4%	1.7%	4.4%	6.8%	8.0%	

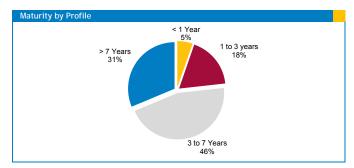
Note: Past returns are not indicative of future performance.

** Benchmark return has been computed by applying benchmark weightages on CRISIL Composite Bond Fund Index





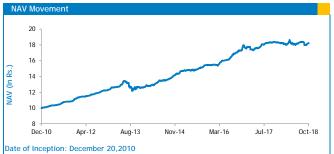






Asset Classes	F&U	Actual
Government and other Debt Securities	60-100%	91.9%
Money Market and other liquid assets	0-40%	8.1%

Security	Rating	Net Assets
TOP 10 GOVERNMENT SECURITIES		
6.68% GOI 2031	Sovereign	7.0%
7.68% GOI 2023	Sovereign	6.9%
7.17% GOI 2028	Sovereign	5.6%
7.16% GOI 2023	Sovereign	4.2%
6.84% GOI 2022	Sovereign	2.6%
7.35% GOI 2024	Sovereign	2.1%
6.57% GOI 2033	Sovereign	1.9%
8.4% GOI 2024	Sovereign	1.7%
8.13% GOI 2021	Sovereign	0.1%
7.95% GOI 2032	Sovereign	0.0%
TOTAL		32.2%
TOP 10 CORPORATE BONDS		
SIKKA PORTS & TERMINALS LTD.	AAA	8.8%
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION CORPN. LTD.	AAA	8.5%
POWER GRID CORPN. OF INDIA LTD.	AAA	6.0%
L&T INFRA DEBT FUND LTD	AAA	5.3%
DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPN. LTD.	AAA	5.3%
INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD	AAA	5.3%
SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE CO. LTD.	AA+	5.2%
INFRASTRUCTURE LEASING & FINANCIAL SERVICES	D	4.0%
NATIONAL BANK FOR AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVEL.	AAA	3.2%
IDFC BANK LIMITED	AA+	3.1%
Others		4.9%
TOTAL		59.7%
CASH AND MONEY MARKET		8.1%
PORTFOLIO TOTAL		100.0%





Quantitative Indicators

- Standard Deviation (SD) It shows how much the variation or dispersion of a fund's daily returns has from its average. Lesser SD indicates that the daily returns are moving closer to the average. A higher SD indicates that daily returns are widely spread over a large range of value.
- Beta It indicates how the fund is performing relative to its benchmark. If beta of a fund is higher than its benchmark, which is considered 1, it indicates risk-return trade-off is better and vice-versa.
- Sharpe Ratio It measures the risk-reward ratio as it indicates whether higher returns come with higher or lower risk. Greater the ratio, better is the risk-adjusted performance.
- Average Maturity It is the weighted average period of all the maturities of debt securities in the portfolio.
- Modified Duration (MD) It is the measurable change in the value of a security in response to a change in interest rates.
- Bond yield Bond yield is the amount of return an investor realizes on a bond. Several types of bond yields exist, including nominal yield (interest paid divided by the face value of the bond) and current yield (annual earnings of the bond divided by its current market price). Yield to maturity (YTM), a popular measure where in addition to coupon return it also additionally incorporates price decline/increase to face value of the bond over the maturity period.

Macroeconomic Indicators

- Macroeconomics Macroeconomics is the branch of economics that studies the behavior and performance of an
 economy as a whole. It focuses on the aggregate changes in the economy such as unemployment, growth rate,
 gross domestic product and inflation. Macroeconomics analyzes all aggregate indicators that influence the
 economy. Government and corporations use macroeconomic models to help in formulating of economic policies
 and strategies.
- Gross Domestic Product (GDP) GDP is one of the primary indicators used to gauge the health of a country's economy. It represents the total value of all goods and services produced over a specific time period. It can be stated in real terms or nominal terms (which includes inflation).
- Gross value added (GVA) GVA is a productivity metric that measures the contribution to an economy, producer, sector or region. Gross value added provides a value for the amount of goods and services that have been produced, less the cost of all inputs and raw materials that are directly attributable to that production.
- Index of Industrial Production (IIP) The index represents the production growth of various sectors in India. The index focuses on mining, electricity and manufacturing. The ongoing base year for calculation of index is 2004-2005.
- HSBC Purchasers Managers' Index (PMI) Three types of indices Manufacturing, Services and Composite Index are published on a monthly basis after surveys of private sector companies. An index reading above 50 indicates an overall increase in that variable, while below 50 shows an overall decrease.
- Inflation Inflation measures the change in the prices of a basket of goods and services in a year. From a calculation standpoint, it is the percentage change in the value of the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) / Consumer Price Index (CPI) on a year-on-year basis. It occurs due to an imbalance between demand and supply, changes in production and distribution cost or increase in taxes on products. When economy experiences inflation, i.e. when the price level of goods and services rises, the value of currency reduces.



Macroeconomic Indicators

- Nominal interest rate Nominal interest rate is the interest rate that does not take inflation impact into account. It is the interest rate that is quoted on bonds and loans.
- Real interest rate Real interest rate adjusts for the inflation and gives the real rate of a bond or a loan.
- Monetary Policy Monetary policy is the macroeconomic policy laid down by the Central bank. It involves management of money supply and interest rates to achieve macroeconomic objectives like inflation, consumption, growth and liquidity. Depending on growth-inflation dynamics, the central bank can either pursue an easy or a tight monetary policy. An expansionary/easy/ accommodative monetary policy involves expansion of money supply, mainly by keeping interest rates low, to boost economic growth. A contractionary/tight monetary policy involves reduction in money supply to control inflation in the economy.
- Liquidity The Central bank of a country has to maintain an appropriate level of liquidity to help meet the credit demand of the country as well as maintain price stability. This is done by way of direct monetary policy tools such as policy rates and cash reserves to be maintained with it by banks. It is also done by indirect means such as Open market Operations (OMO) which involve sale and purchase of Government securities.
- Fiscal Deficit This takes place when India's expenditure rises than its revenue. To fill this gap, the Government raises debt by issuing Government/ sovereign bonds. Fiscal deficit is usually compared with GDP to understand the financial position of the country. Rising fiscal deficit to GDP ratio is not good for the country, which requires immediate attention to cut expenditure and/or increase the source of revenue.
- Current Account Deficit (CAD) Current account deficit is a measurement of a country's trade where the value of
 imports of goods and services as well as net investment income or transfer from abroad is greater than the value
 of exports of goods and services for a country. This indicates that the country is a net debtor of foreign currency,
 which increases the pressure on the country's existing foreign currency reserves. Current account surplus is the
 opposite of this.
- Investment In private investment, the funds come from a private, for-profit business. A few examples of private investment are a private company's manufacturing plant, a commercial office building, or a shopping mall. In public investment, the money exchanged comes from a governmental entity such as a city, state, country, etc. It would involve roads, airports, dams and other public infrastructure.

Market Indices

- Nifty 50 Index It is a well diversified 50 stock index accounting for 22 sectors of the economy. It is used for a variety of purposes such as benchmarking fund portfolios, index based derivatives and index funds.
- CRISIL Composite Bond Fund Index It seeks to track the performance of a debt portfolio that includes government securities and AAA/AA rated corporate bonds.

Fixed Income Indicators

- Repo Rate The rate at which the RBI lends money to commercial banks is called repo rate. It is an instrument of monetary policy. Whenever shortage of funds banks has, they can borrow from the RBI.
- Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) CRR is the amount of funds which the banks need to keep with the RBI. If the RBI decides to increase the CRR, the available amount with the banks comes down. The RBI uses the CRR to drain out excessive money from the system.



Fixed Income Indicators

- Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) It is a rate at which the RBI provides overnight lending to commercial banks over and above the repo window (repo rate). The interest rate charged is higher than the repo rate and hence it is used when there is considerable shortfall in liquidity.
- Statutory Liquidity ratio (SLR) In India, commercial banks are required to maintain a certain percentage of their total deposits (net demand and time liabilities) in notified Government securities to ensure safety and liquidity of deposits. This percentage is known as the SLR rate. If the RBI or Central Bank reduces the SLR rate, it means that higher liquidity will be available to banks for their lending activity and vice-versa.

Others

- Goods and Services Tax (GST) The GST is one of the biggest indirect tax reforms, with an aim to make India one unified common market. It is a single tax on the supply of goods and services, right from the manufacturer to the consumer. Credits of input taxes paid at each stage will be available in the subsequent stage of value addition, which makes GST essentially a tax only on value addition at each stage. The final consumer will thus bear only the GST charged by the last dealer in the supply chain, with set-off benefits at all the previous stages.
- Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) FIIs are those institutional investors who invest in the assets belonging to a different country other than that where these organizations are based. These are the big companies such as investment banks, mutual funds etc, which invest considerable amount of money in Indian equity and fixed income markets, and consequently have a strong bearing on the respective market movement and currency.
- Domestic institutional investors (DIIs)- DIIs are those institutional investors who undertake investment in securities and other financial assets of the country they are based in. Institutional investment is defined to be the investment done by institutions or organizations such as banks, insurance companies, and mutual fund houses in the financial or real assets of a country.
- Emerging market (EM) economy- An emerging market economy describes a nation's economy that is progressing toward becoming more advanced, usually by means of rapid growth and industrialization. These countries experience an expanding role both in the world economy and on the political frontier.
- Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)- The OPEC was formed in 1960 to unify and
 coordinate members' petroleum policies. This was aimed at ensuring the stability of oil markets in order to secure
 an efficient, economic, and regular supply of petroleum to customers as well as a steady income to producers
 with a fair return. Members of OPEC include Iran, Iraq, Syria, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United
 Arab Emirates (or UAE), Oman, and Yemen. The OPEC countries produce 40% of the world's crude oil.
- Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC)- The FOMC is the monetary policymaking body of the Federal Reserve System. The FOMC is composed of 12 members - seven members of the Board of Governors and five of the 12 Reserve Bank presidents.
- International Monetary Fund (IMF)- The IMF, formed in 1945, is an international organization of 189 countries, headquartered in Washington, D.C. The key objectives include fostering global monetary cooperation, securing financial stability, facilitating international trade, promoting high employment and sustainable economic growth, and reducing poverty around the world.



About Us



PNB MetLife India Insurance Company Limited (PNB MetLife) is one of the fastest growing life insurance companies in the country, having as its shareholders, MetLife International Holdings LLC. (MIHL), Punjab National Bank Limited (PNB), Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited (JKB), M. Pallonji and Company Private Limited and other private investors, with MIHL and PNB being the majority shareholders. PNB MetLife has been present in India since 2001.

PNB MetLife brings together the financial strength of a leading global life insurance provider, MetLife, Inc., and the credibility and reliability of PNB, one of India's oldest and leading nationalised banks. The vast distribution reach of PNB together with the global insurance expertise and product range of MetLife makes PNB MetLife a strong and trusted insurance provider.

PNB MetLife is present in over 107 locations across the country and serves customers in more than 8,000 locations through its bank partnerships with PNB, JKB and Karnataka Bank Limited.

PNB MetLife provides a wide range of protection and retirement products through its Agency sales of over 6,000 financial advisors and multiple bank partners, and provides access to Employee Benefit plans for over 1,200 corporate clients in India. The company continues to be consistently profitable and has declared profits for last five Financial Years.

For more information, visit www.pnbmetlife.com

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- · For more details on risk factors, terms and conditions, please read product sales brochure carefully before concluding a sale
- · Unit-Linked Life Insurance products are different from the traditional insurance products and are subject to the risk factors
- The premium paid in Unit-Linked Life Insurance Policies are subject to investment risks associated with capital markets and the NAVs of the Units may go up or down based on the performance of Fund and factors influencing the capital market and the insured is responsible for his/her decisions The name of the Insurance Company and the name of the Unit-Linked Life Insurance contract does not in any way indicate the quality of the contract, its future prospects or returns. Please know the associated risks and the applicable charges, from your Insurance agent or the Intermediary or the Policy Document The various Funds offered are the names of the Funds and do not in any way indicate the quality of these plans, their future prospects and returns. The Unit-Linked Funds don't offer a quaranteed or assured return The premium shall be adjusted on the due date even if it has been received in advance.

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Compound annual growth rate (CAGR) is rounded to nearest 0.1%

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