

Milkar life aage badhaein



Gratuity Fund

Annual Fund Performance

March 2019 Edition

From the CIO's desk





Month gone by - A snapshot

Global equity markets moved up in March primarily on the back of easing global monetary policy stance. India significantly outperformed the broader emerging market (EM) pack after two months of underperformance, with MSCI India moving up by 9%, well ahead of MSCI EM at 1% return. This was largely on account of huge inflows by foreign institutional investors even as domestic institutional investors were net sellers. However, fixed income markets remained broadly range-bound. Liquidity injection and rate cuts by RBI (50bps in 2019), declining global bond yields and appreciating INR were partly offset by an

expected huge supply of G-secs in H1FY20.

RBI cuts policy rates for the second time in a row

The six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) cut the policy rate by 25bps to 6.0%, citing the need to strengthen domestic growth, as near-term inflation trajectory remains benign. However, the policy stance was retained at "neutral". The MPC has also reduced its inflation and growth forecasts, thereby keeping expectations of further rate cuts intact. The monsoon, movement in crude oil prices, India's fiscal situation and volatility in financial markets are key factors to watch out for in the near-term.

Easing global monetary policy stance

The Federal Reserve, in the recent monetary policy meeting, announced that there will be no further rate hikes in 2019, citing concerns about US as well global growth. This was followed by European Central Bank which announced fresh stimulus in response to weakening Eurozone growth prospects. This led to a sharp drop in global bond yields, with US/Germany 10-year yields declining by 80/60bps from October 2018 high.

Fixed income market performance

Fixed income market sentiments improve: Bond yields traded in a range-bound manner in March. Liquidity injection by the RBI via forex swaps, expectations of further rate cuts amid benign inflation and declining global bond yields positively impacted market sentiments. However, this was partly offset by announcement of a front-loaded G-sec borrowing calendar in H1FY20, rising crude oil prices and concerns around fiscal slippage. The foreign institutional investors turned net buyers in March, with net inflows at \$2.9bn - the highest in 21 months. The 10-year yield ended the month 6bps lower at 7.35% (-80bps from September peak level).

Outlook: Benign inflation-growth trajectory, coupled with easing global monetary policy stance, may open room for further rate cuts. This, in turn, bodes well for fixed income market. However, demand-supply situation is expected to remain unfavourable amid tight domestic liquidity and higher supply of G-secs. This, in turn, may limit the decline in bond yields. Going forward, movement in crude oil prices and US bond yields as well as outlook on monsoon are expected to have a significant impact on Indian fixed income market.

Equity market performance

Equity market at all-time high levels: Indian equity markets witnessed a significant rally in March with both Nifty and Mid-cap index moving up by ~8%. However, Nifty (FY19: +15%) has significantly outperformed the Mid-cap index (FY19: -3%) over one-year period. Key factors that supported the rally include a) an easing global liquidity environment, b) optimism over US-China trade negotiations, c) expectations of further rate cuts by RBI and d) diminishing perceived political risk. The FIIs were strong buyers for the second consecutive month (net inflows at \$8.5bn in Feb-March) even as domestic institutional investors booked profits in the rally.

Outlook: Global liquidity is expected to remain easy amid dovish stance by global central banks. This is expected to result in continued flow of foreign capital into emerging markets, including India. On the domestic front, continued improvement in corporate earnings and benign domestic interest rate environment bode well for equity markets. However, uncertainty around upcoming general elections, geo-political tensions, tightening domestic liquidity and growth slowdown remain key concerns. While markets may consolidate in the near-term, we continue to remain positive from long-term perspective.

Sanjay Kumar Chief Investment Officer

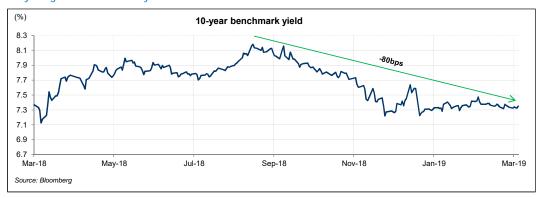
Glossary



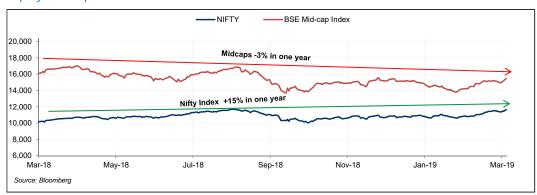
Indicators	Mar 2018	Dec 2018	Mar 2019	3 Month Change	12 Month Change
Economic indicators					
Consumer Price Index (CPI) Inflation (%)	4.4	2.3	2.6	0.2	-1.9
Gross Domestic product (GDP Growth) %	7.7	7.0	6.6	-0.4	-1.1
Index of Industrial Production (IIP) (%)	7.5	8.4	1.7	-6.7	-5.8
Brent crude oil (USD/barrel)	70	54	68	27%	-3%
Domestic Markets					
Nifty Index	10,114	10,863	11,624	7%	15%
BSE Mid-cap Index	15,963	15,438	15,480	0%	-3%
10-year G-Sec Yield (%)	7.4	7.4	7.4	0 bps	0 bps
30-year G-Sec Yield (%)	7.6	7.6	7.6	0 bps	0 bps
10-year AAA PSU Corporate Bond Yield (%)	8.1	8.3	8.4	10 bps	30 bps
Exchange rate (USD/INR) *	65.2	69.8	69.2	1%	-6%
Global Markets					
Dow Jones (U.S.)	24,103	23,327	25,929	11%	8%
FTSE (U.K.)	7,057	6,728	7,279	8%	3%
Shanghai Stock Exchange Composite Index (China)	3,169	2,494	3,091	24%	-2%
Nikkei 225 (Japan)	21,454	20,015	21,206	6%	-1%

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

10-year government bond yield trend



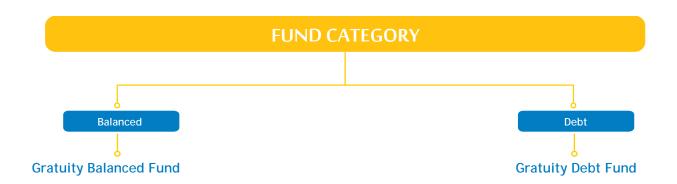
Equity Market performance



Glossary







Fund Performance of Key Open Gratuity Funds



		3-year (CAGR)		5-year (CAGR)			7-year (CAGR)	
Feb 2019	Portfolio	Morningstar median returns	Morningstar Rating	Portfolio	Morningstar median returns	Morningstar Rating	Portfolio	Morningstar median returns
Balanced								
Gratuity Balanced	9.6%	9.0%	**** (4 Star)	10.0%	9.3%	**** (4 Star)	9.0%	8.7%

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 February 28, 2019 as the performance data for March 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 92.5%) 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 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 March 31, 2019

SFIN No: ULGF00205/06/04GRABALANCE117

Gratuity Balanced

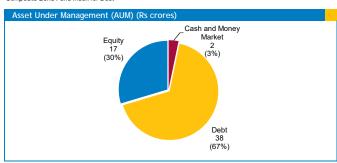
Investment Objective: To generate capital appreciation and current income, through a judicious mix of investments in equities and fixed income securities.

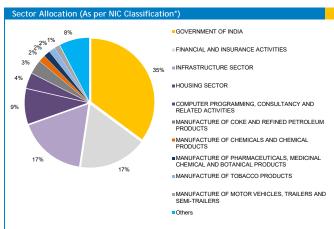
Investment Philosophy: The fund will target 30% investments in Equities and 70% investments in Government & other debt securities to meet the stated objectives.

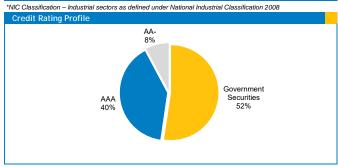
Portfolio Return					As on I	March 31, 2019	
Deturne	Absolut	e Return		CA	GR Return		
Returns	Last 1 Month	Last 6 Months	Last 1 Year	Last 2 Years	Last 3 Years	Since Inception	
Portfolio return Benchmark**	3.7% 3.5%	6.6% 6.7%	9.2% 9.2%	8.1% 8.0%	9.4% 9.8%	9.0% 8.8%	

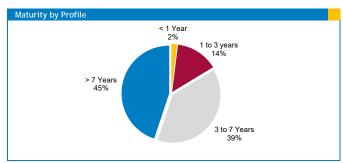
Note: Past returns are not indicative of future performance.

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





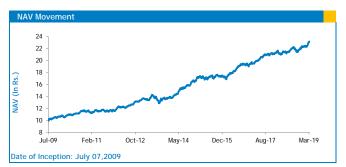






Asset Classes	F&U	Actual
Government and other Debt Securities	25-95%	67.1%
Equities	5-35%	29.6%
Money Market and other liquid assets	0-40%	3.3%

Security	Rating	Net Assets
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES		
7.35% GOI 2024	Sovereign	8.0%
7.17% GOI 2028	Sovereign	6.5%
8.13% GOI 2045	Sovereign	5.6%
8.25% SDL 2026	Sovereign	5.3%
7.26% GOI 2029	Sovereign	4.4%
7.72% GOI 2055	Sovereign	3.6%
7.37% GOI 2023	Sovereign	0.9%
7.32% GOI 2024	Sovereign	0.9%
TOTAL		35.1%
CORPORATE BONDS		
INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD	AAA	7.2%
SIKKA PORTS & TERMINALS LTD.	AAA	6.3%
L&T INFRA DEBT FUND LTD	AAA	6.1%
DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPN. LTD.	AA-	5.2%
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION CORPN. LTD.	AAA	3.5%
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPN. LTD.	AAA	1.8%
SUNDARAM FINANCE LTD	AAA	1.8%
TOTAL		32.0%
TOP 10 EQUITY SECURITIES		
H D F C BANK LTD.		3.3%
RELIANCE INDUSTRIES LTD.		3.1%
INFOSYS LTD.		2.2%
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPN. LTD.		1.8%
ITCLTD.		1.6%
ICICIBANK LTD.		1.2%
LARSEN & TOUBRO LTD.		1.2%
KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LTD.		1.0%
HINDUSTAN UNILEVER LTD.		0.8%
TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES LTD.		0.8%
Others		12.7%
TOTAL		29.6%
CASH AND MONEY MARKET		3.3%
PORTFOLIO TOTAL		100.0%





As on March 31, 2019

SFIN No: ULGF00105/06/04GRADEBTFND117

Gratuity Debt

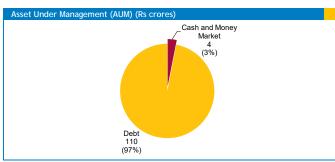
Investment Objective: To earn regular income by investing in high quality fixed income securities

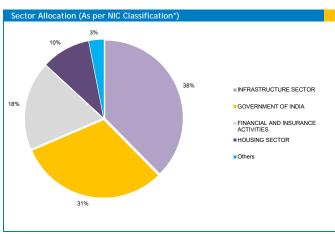
Investment Philosophy: The fund would target 100% investments in Government & other debt securities to meet the stated objectives.

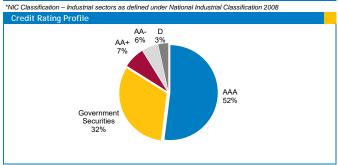
Portfolio Return					As on I	March 31, 2019	
Datama	Absolut	e Return		CA	GR Return		
Returns	Last 1 Month	Last 6 Months	Last 1 Year	Last 2 Years	Last 3 Years	Since Inception	
Portfolio return	1.9%	6.6%	4.5%	4.5%	6.6%	8.2%	
Benchmark**	1.7%	6.8%	6.7%	5.9%	7.6%	8.2%	

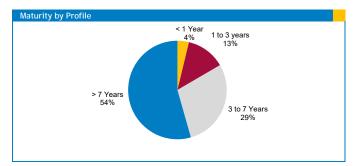
Note: Past returns are not indicative of future performance.

** 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%	96.9%
Money Market and other liquid assets	0-40%	3.1%

Security	Rating	Net Assets
TOP 10 GOVERNMENT SECURITIES		
7.26% GOI 2029	Sovereign	10.3%
7.59% GOI 2026	Sovereign	4.5%
7.17% GOI 2028	Sovereign	4.0%
7.72% GOI 2055	Sovereign	3.6%
8.83% GOI 2041	Sovereign	2.5%
7.35% GOI 2024	Sovereign	1.8%
7.06% GOI 2046	Sovereign	1.6%
7.68% GOI 2023	Sovereign	1.4%
7.37% GOI 2023	Sovereign	1.3%
8.13% GOI 2021	Sovereign	0.1%
Others		0.0%
TOTAL		31.0%
Indian Railway Finance Corpn. Ltd.	AAA	8.0%
INDIAN RAILWAY FINANCE CORPN. LTD.	AAA	8.0%
SIKKA PORTS & TERMINALS LTD.	AAA	7.3%
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPN. LTD.	AAA	5.6%
DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPN. LTD.	AA-	5.2%
L&T INFRA DEBT FUND LTD	AAA	4.5%
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION CORPN. LTD.	AAA	4.5%
Indiabulls housing finance LTD	AAA	4.5%
N H P C LTD.	AAA	4.4%
SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE CO. LTD.	AA+	4.4%
POWER GRID CORPN. OF INDIA LTD.	AAA	3.7%
Others		13.7%
TOTAL		66.0%
CASH AND MONEY MARKET		3.1%
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



Milkar life aage badhaein

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.

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IRDAI Registration number 117

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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.

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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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