

Milkar life aage badhaein



**Gratuity Fund**Monthly Fund Performance

January 2020 Edition

# From the CIO's desk





### Month gone by - A snapshot

The first month of 2020 started with an improvement in global trade outlook with US and China signing 'Phase I' trade deal. However, global markets ended the month in a negative territory due to the outbreak of coronavirus epidemic in China. This development has weakened global economic growth outlook as well as impacted market sentiments. Indian indices significantly outperformed

their emerging market peers. MSCI India index was down 0.8% for the month compared to MSCI Emerging Markets Index declining by 4.7%. The 10-year G-Sec yield increased by 5bps in a largely range-bound market. Crude oil prices declined by 12% in the month due to concerns over demand slowdown from China's economy.

## Union Budget 2021 to lead to a gradual economic recovery

The FM has presented a balanced budget which lays down the path for gradual recovery of the Indian economy. The budget has maintained a balance between fiscal prudence and reviving economic growth. The key themes are infrastructure development, increasing farm income, and focus on education and healthcare. Some of the steps announced for improving the investment climate include removal of Dividend Distribution Tax (DDT), tax exemptions for Sovereign Wealth Funds (SWFs), and increase in Foreign Portfolio Investors' limit for investment in corporate bonds. For individual tax payers, an optional exemption-free lower tax regime has been introduced.

Steady bond yields, path getting laid for entry into global bond indices: Bond yields remained range bound during the month as market awaited the FY 2021 budget. Despite increasing inflation trajectory, the continuation of 'Operation Twist' Open Market Operation (OMO) transactions by RBI has helped to cap G-Sec yields. Foreign inflows into the debt market remained negative in January at US\$ 1.5bn.

**Outlook**: No additional borrowings for FY 2020 have been announced in the budget. This, coupled with a significant fall in crude oil prices may keep yields range bound in the near term. From a longer term perspective, actions to liberalize FPI ownership of Indian debt can be seen as a step towards inclusion of Indian bonds in global bond indices. This is likely to create additional demand for Indian bonds, thereby leading to lower cost of credit for Indian borrowers.

Equity markets see profit booking: Global equity markets witnessed profit booking as the coronavirus epidemic in China impacted investors' sentiments. Indian equity markets corrected by 1.7% during the month. Equity market performance was adversely impacted by Banks, Metals and Automobile sector which underperformed, while Information Technology, Engineering & Construction and Cement outperformed. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth US\$ 1.1bn while Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) bought equities worth US\$ 0.3bn.

**Outlook:** We expect markets to be quite volatile going forward. However, a combination of fiscal and monetary measures by global central banks is likely to provide support. Some of the key monitorables include monetary policy transmission, revival in the rural economy, and government's continued focus on infrastructure development. We remain positive on equity markets from a medium to long term perspective.

Sanjay Kumar
Chief Investment Officer

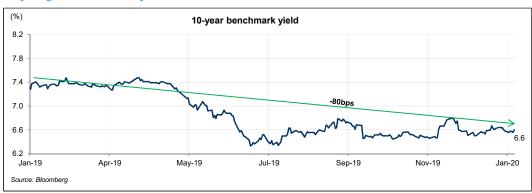
Glossary



Indicators	Jan 2019	Oct 2019	Jan 2020	QoQ Change	YoY Change
Economic indicators					
Consumer Price Index (CPI) Inflation (%)	2.1	4.0	7.4	3.4	5.2
Gross Domestic Product (GDP Growth) %	7.0	5.0	4.5	-0.5	-2.5
Index of Industrial Production (IIP) (%)	0.2	-1.4	1.8	3.2	1.6
Brent crude oil (USD/barrel)	62	60	58	-3%	-6%
Domestic Markets					
Nifty Index	10,831	11,877	11,962	1%	10%
BSE Mid-cap Index	14,560	14,865	15,462	4%	6%
10-year G-Sec Yield (%)	7.3	6.5	6.6	-10 bps	-70 bps
30-year G-Sec Yield (%)	7.7	7.1	7.1	0 bps	-60 bps
10-year AAA PSU Corporate Bond Yield (%)	8.4	7.7	7.6	-10 bps	-80 bps
Exchange rate (USD/INR) *	71.1	70.9	71.4	1%	0%
Global Markets					
Dow Jones (U.S.)	25,000	27,046	28,256	4%	13%
FTSE (U.K.)	6,969	7,248	7,286	1%	5%
Nikkei 225 (Japan)	20,773	22,927	23,205	1%	12%

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

## 10-year government bond yield trend



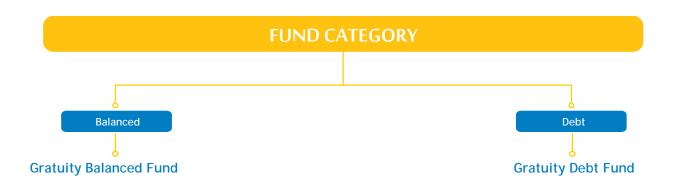
## **Equity Market performance**



Glossary









As on January 31, 2020

SFIN No: ULGF00205/06/04GRABALANCE117

### **Gratuity Balanced**

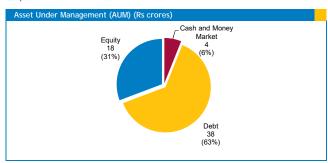
Investment Objective: To generate capital appreciation and current income, through a judicious mix of investments in equities and fixed income securities.

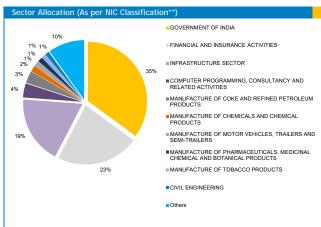
Investment Philosophy: The fund will target 30% investments in Equities and 70% investments in Government & other debt securities to meet the stated objectives.

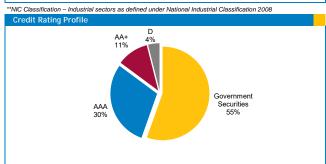
Portfolio Return					As on Ja	nuary 31, 2020
Datuma	Absolute	e Return		CA	GR Return	
Returns	Last 1 Month	Last 6 Months	Last 1 Year	Last 2 Years	Last 3 Years	Since Inception
Portfolio return	-0.2%	1.9%	7.4%	5.6%	7.1%	8.6%
Benchmark*	0.0%	4.6%	11.1%	7.5%	8.4%	8.7%

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







Maturity by Pr	ofile
	< 1 Year 12% > 7 Years 34% 1 to 3 years 18%
	3 to 7 Years 36%



Asset Classes	F&U	Actual
Government and other Debt Securities	25-95%	63.2%
Equities	5-35%	30.7%
Money Market and other liquid assets	0-40%	6.1%

Security	Rating	Net Assets
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES		
7.26% GOI 2029	Sovereign	9.3%
8.13% GOI 2045	Sovereign	5.6%
8.25% SDL 2026	Sovereign	5.3%
7.35% GOI 2024	Sovereign	5.2%
7.72% GOI 2055	Sovereign	3.6%
7.37% GOI 2023	Sovereign	2.7%
7.57% GOI 2033	Sovereign	2.6%
7.17% GOI 2028	Sovereign	0.4%
7.16% GOI 2023	Sovereign	0.3%
TOTAL		35.1%
OURON TERROTOR		
CORPORATE BONDS INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD	AA+	6.9%
L&T INFRA DEBT FUND LTD	AA+ AAA	6.0%
SIKKA PORTS & TERMINALS LTD.	AAA	5.9%
RURAL FLECTRIFICATION CORPN. LTD.	AAA	3.4%
DEWAN HOUSING FINANCE CORPN. LTD.	D AAA	2.5%
SUNDARAM FINANCE LTD.	AAA	1.7%
POWER FINANCE CORPN. LTD.	AAA	1.7%
TOTAL	AAA	
TOTAL		28.1%
TOP 10 EQUITY SECURITIES		
H D F C BANK LTD.		3.3%
RELIANCE INDUSTRIES LTD.		3.0%
INFOSYS LTD.		2.1%
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPN. LTD.		2.1%
ICICIBANK LTD.		1.9%
KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LTD.		1.2%
ITCLTD.		1.2%
LARSEN & TOUBRO LTD.		1.1%
HINDUSTAN UNILEVER LTD.		0.9%
TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES LTD.		0.8%
Others		13.1%
TOTAL		30.7%
CASH AND MONEY MARKET		6.1%
PORTFOLIO TOTAL		100.0%





As on January 31, 2020

SFIN No: ULGF00105/06/04GRADEBTFND117

## **Gratuity Debt**

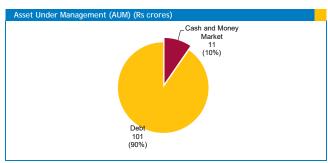
Investment Objective: To earn regular income by investing in high quality fixed income securities.

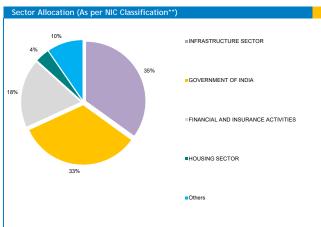
Investment Philosophy: The fund would target 100% investments in Government & other debt securities to meet the stated objectives.

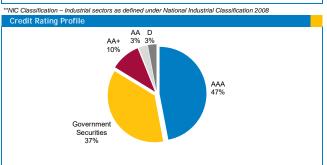
Portfolio Return					As on Ja	nuary 31, 2020
Determe	Absolute	e Return		CA	GR Return	
Returns	Last 1 Month	Last 6 Months	Last 1 Year	Last 2 Years	Last 3 Years	Since Inception
Portfolio return	0.1%	-1.8%	3.8%	3.8%	3.3%	7.7%
Benchmark*	0.7%	3.3%	11.3%	8.8%	6.9%	8.5%

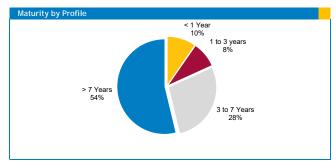
Note: Past returns are not indicative of future performance.

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







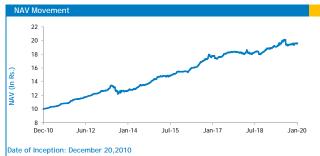




Asset Classes	F&U	Actual
Government and other Debt Securities	60-100%	90.4%
Money Market and other liquid assets	0-40%	9.6%

Security	Rating	Net Assets
TOP 10 GOVERNMENT SECURITIES		
7.26% GOI 2029	Sovereign	12.1%
7.57% GOI 2033	Sovereign	5.4%
7.72% GOI 2055	Sovereign	3.9%
8.83% GOI 2041	Sovereign	2.6%
7.69% GOI 2043	Sovereign	2.4%
7.59% GOI 2026	Sovereign	2.3%
7.06% GOI 2046	Sovereign	1.8%
7.68% GOI 2023	Sovereign	1.4%
7.17% GOI 2028	Sovereign	1.2%
8.13% GOI 2021	Sovereign	0.1%
Others		0.0%
TOTAL		33.2%
TOP 10 CORPORATE BONDS		
SIKKA PORTS & TERMINALS LTD.	AAA	8.3%
POWER GRID CORPN. OF INDIA LTD.	AAA	4.8%
L&T INFRA DEBT FUND LTD	AAA	4.8%
N H P C LTD.	AAA	4.7%
SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE CO. LTD.	AA+	4.6%
RURAL ELECTRIFICATION CORPN. LTD.	AAA	4.6%
INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD	AA+	4.6%
POWER FINANCE CORPN. LTD.	AAA	4.0%
STATE BANK OF INDIA	AAA	3.8%
INDIAN RAILWAY FINANCE CORPN. LTD.	AAA	3.8%
Others		9.2%
TOTAL		57.2%

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 20042005.
- 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.



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PNB MetLife is present in over 110 locations across the country and serves customers in more than 8,000 locations through its bank partnerships with PNB, JKB and Karnataka Bank Limited.

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

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