



Mutual Fund sector sees record inflows, expanding base

-: Trinity Mirror Online Team :-

India's mutual fund industry witnessed a transformative year in FY25, recording unprecedented growth and a notable shift in investor behavior, as highlighted by the recent AMFI-CRISIL report. The industry's assets under management (AUM) surged 23% year-on-year, rising from Rs.53.4 trillion in March 2024 to a record Rs.65.74 trillion by March 2025—an expansion fueled by robust net inflows, mark-to-market gains, and increasing retail participation. A key driver of this growth was the record equity inflow of Rs.4.17 trillion, the highest ever recorded in a single fiscal year. This marked a major milestone for equity-oriented schemes, reflecting not only strong investor confidence but also the attractiveness of equities amid buoyant

markets. Supporting this was the positive performance in both equity and debt markets, with benchmark indices like the Nifty 50 TRI and Sensex TRI posting gains of 6% and 5.9%, respectively. Debt markets, too, saw favorable yield movements, contributing positively through mark-to-market gains.

The industry also benefited from a significant increase in retail engagement. The number of mutual fund folios reached an all-time high of 234.5 million, representing an investor base of approximately 5.67 crore. This expanding base is reflective of the growing trust in mutual funds as a long-term investment avenue. FY25 was not just a year of growth in size, but also of evolving investor sophistication. There was a noticeable trend of investors venturing beyond traditional regular and direct mutual fund schemes, exploring more

complex and potentially higher-returning investment options. This shift suggests a maturing market where retail investors are becoming more discerning, informed, and willing to take calculated risks.

Additionally, Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) contributions rose steadily, underlining the increasing preference for disciplined, long-term investing. The industry also saw a rise in participation from women investors, signaling a broadening of the investor demographic and increased financial inclusion.

Surge in NFOs

Further indicating market optimism and investor appetite, FY25 saw a significant uptick in new fund launches. A total of 70 New Fund Offers (NFOs) in the equity category were introduced, mobilizing Rs.85,244 crore, up sharply from Rs.39,297 crore raised by 58 schemes in FY24. This highlights not just an

increase in product variety but also the deepening market engagement by both asset managers and investors. The record growth in India's mutual fund industry during FY25 showcases not only the sector's resilience amid global economic uncertainties but also the emergence of a more mature and engaged investor community. With continued regulatory support, increasing financial literacy, and digital access expanding reach into Tier II and III cities, the momentum is likely to persist in the coming years.

However, sustaining this growth will depend on how well the industry navigates market volatility, ensures investor protection, and continues to innovate while maintaining transparency and trust. The evolution of India's mutual fund landscape in FY25 sets a strong foundation for what appears to be a promising decade ahead.

Stay awake, but don't stay away! stock market correction is on

-: R Muthu Kumar :-

The Indian equity market has, as we all observed, witnessed a significant dip earlier this month. Major indices like the Sensex and Nifty experienced notable declines, triggering a familiar wave of investor unease. However, while the immediate volatility seems to have subsided, the prevailing mood is one of cautious optimism, a "wait-and-watch" approach, as the market assesses the ripple effects of global developments.

This recent correction, though sharp, was a confluence of factors. Weakness in global markets, particularly an overnight sell-off on Wall Street, played a significant role. Concerns over the US's fiscal health, highlighted by a surge in Treasury yields and a weak 20-year bond auction, spooked investors. Adding to the apprehension, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and rating agencies like Moody's have voiced red flags about the US's "excessively large fiscal deficits" and increasing debt burden. This "risk-off" sentiment globally often translates into capital outflows from emerging economies like India. Even closer to home, geopolitical tensions, such as army strikes to eliminate terrorists near Pakistan borders, added to the confusion in investors' minds, albeit temporarily.

Despite these external pressures, the underlying structural growth story of the Indian market remains robust. Supported by strong domestic demand, ongoing government reforms, and a positive outlook for

economic recovery, India continues to be a compelling investment destination for the long term. However, it's crucial to acknowledge that global uncertainties, including renewed discussions around global trade tariffs, will continue to introduce periods of volatility.

One significant factor that could bring tailwinds to the Indian market is the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) monetary policy. With Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation now comfortably below the RBI's targeted rate of 4 percent, there's a strong expectation that the central bank might implement further policy rate cuts. The RBI's primary objective is to ensure adequate and durable liquidity within the system, a goal that has seen considerable improvement due to open market operation (OMO) purchases. Such rate cuts could stimulate borrowing, investment, and overall economic activity, providing a boost to various sectors.

This is precisely the time for investors to reiterate a crucial mantra: do not panic. Market corrections are an inherent and healthy part of the stock market cycle. Succumbing to fear and offloading your holdings during a dip often leads to crystallizing losses and, more importantly, missing out on the inevitable recovery that historically follows such downturns.

While the adage "buy the dip" holds weight, it demands a strategic and informed approach. Instead of indiscriminately buying any stock, shrewd investors will focus on fundamentally strong companies.

Look for businesses with sound management, a track record of consistent earnings, and a sustainable competitive advantage. These are the companies most likely to not only weather the storm but also rebound with renewed vigor when market sentiment improves.

Furthermore, a market dip presents an excellent opportunity to rebalance your portfolio. If certain asset classes or sectors have become overweighted due to previous strong performance, this is your chance to trim those positions. You can then strategically reallocate capital to underperforming, yet fundamentally robust, assets that align with your long-term investment strategy.

The current sentiment among analysts is a mixed bag. While many believe the worst of the near-term volatility is behind us, some remain cautious about the sustainability of any rapid rally and foresee potential profit booking at key resistance levels. This indicates that the Indian equities might be entering a near-term consolidation phase.

The message for investors is clear: Stay awake, but don't stay away!

Vigilance and a well-thought-out strategy, rather than impulsive reactions, will be your best allies in navigating these market dynamics. By understanding the underlying factors, focusing on quality, and maintaining a long-term perspective, you can turn periods of market correction into opportunities for growth.

Ernakulam to host International industrial expo in Jan

Tiruvandrum, May 23: The India International Industrial Expo, a major event for the industrial sector, is set to take place in Ernakulam from January 16 to 18, 2026. The expo is a joint initiative of the Kerala State Small Industries Association (KSSIA) and Metro Mart, as announced by Kerala Industries Minister P. Rajeeve.

Minister Rajeeve officially released the logo for the Expo, highlighting its significance in fostering industrial growth.

The event is expected to attract approximately 400 companies from both India and abroad, providing a platform for them to showcase their diverse range of products and services. Organizers anticipate a substantial turnout, with an estimated footfall of around 20,000 visitors.

The India International Industrial Expo is being organized with robust support from various governmental and industrial bodies. Key collaborators include the Ministry of MSME, Government of India;

the Department of Industries, Government of Kerala; the Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC); the Kerala Bureau of Industrial Promotion (K-BIP); and KINFRA.

KSSIA State President A. Nisarudheen presided over the logo release function. The expo aims to boost industrial development, facilitate business collaborations, and provide a comprehensive overview of the latest innovations and trends in the industrial landscape.

Kerala bans constructions firm for road damages

Kochi: Following the collapse of the under-construction six-lane NH66 in 3 places in Kerala, the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has disallowed KNR Constructions Ltd from participating in ongoing and future bidding forthwith.

Project Consultant and Inde-

pendent Engineer, Highway Engineering Consultant has also been disallowed from participating in ongoing and future bidding, an official release said.

NHAI said it is taking all essential steps to ensure necessary remedial measures are taken to address the situation.

A team of two experts under

the supervision of a Retd. Professor from IIT-Delhi, visited the site to analyse the reason for the incident and suggest remedial measures.

The under-construction NH-66 has collapsed at 3 places, including Kooriyad, Thalapara and Kanhangad in Malappuram and Kasargod districts.

Harvard Wins Restraining Order against Trump Administration Over Student Visas

A federal judge on Friday granted Harvard University a temporary restraining order against the Trump administration, blocking the Department of Homeland Security from revoking the university's ability to host international students on visas.

The ruling comes one day after U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem sent a letter to Harvard declaring that, "effective immediately," the university's student visa sponsorship privileges were being withdrawn. Noem cited Harvard's alleged creation of an "unsafe campus environment that is hostile to Jewish students," its "promotion of pro-Hamas sympathies," and its use of what she called "racist 'diversity, equity, and inclusion' policies."

The letter warned that current international students at Harvard—more than 7,000, according to the university—would lose their legal status unless they transferred to other institutions. The administration said it would reverse the visa cancellation if Harvard provided information about foreign students within 72 hours.

Harvard responded swiftly by filing a lawsuit in federal court Friday morning, arguing that the administration's actions violated federal law.

"This revocation is a blatant violation of the First Amendment, the Due Process Clause, and the Administrative Procedure Act," the university stated in its complaint. "It is the latest act by the government in clear retaliation for Harvard exercising its First Amendment rights to reject federal interference in its governance, curriculum, and campus discourse."

U.S. District Judge Allison Burroughs of Massachusetts sided with Harvard, finding that the visa revocation would cause the university "immediate and irreparable injury." She issued a temporary restraining order preserving the visa privileges until a full hearing can be held.

Tricia McLaughlin, assistant secretary for public affairs at DHS, defended the administration's decision, claiming Harvard's lawsuit attempts to "kneecap" President Donald Trump's constitutional powers.

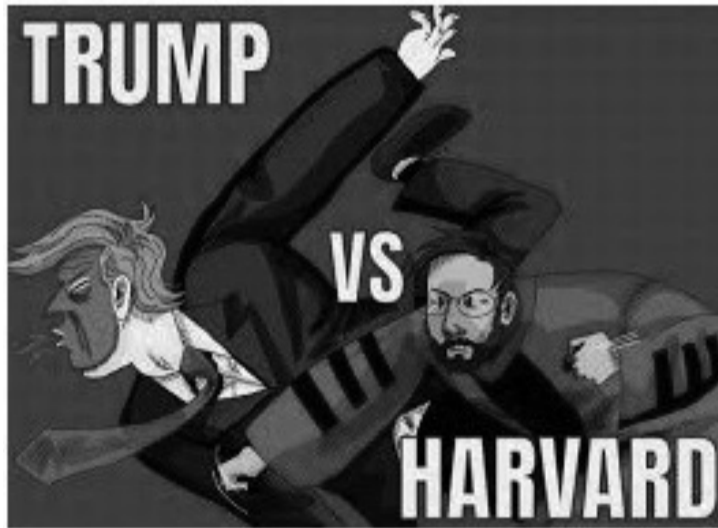
"It is a privilege, not a right, for universities to enroll foreign students and benefit from their higher tuition payments to pad their multibillion-dollar endowments," McLaughlin said. "The Trump administration is committed to restoring common sense to our student visa system."

This legal clash is the latest in a growing series of confrontations between Harvard and the Trump administration. In April, the university sued the federal government after the Department of Education froze billions in grant funding, alleging that Harvard had violated Title VI of the Civil Rights Act by failing to address antisemitism on campus.

Trump has also floated the idea of revoking Harvard's tax-exempt status on social media, accusing the institution of fostering "political, ideological and terrorist-supporting sickness." No formal steps on that front have been taken.

Harvard's lawsuit argues that both funding and international students are central to its identity and mission. "Without its international students, Harvard is not Harvard," the complaint reads.

The next hearing in the case is expected in the coming weeks, as the university seeks a longer-term injunction.



'Aagakadavana' Engaging suspense thriller

Direction: Dharma
Cast: Aathiran Suresh, Vincent S, CR Rahul, Michael S, Sathish Ramadass, Dashna, Rajasivan, Vijay Srinivas

"Aagakadavana" produced by Sarah Kalaikkoodam - Anitha Leo, Leo V Raja revolves around Aadhiran Suresh, C.R. Rahul, and Rajasivan work at a pharmacy. United by a common goal, the trio saves up Rs.6 lakhs with the dream of opening a pharmacy of their own. But disaster strikes when the money is stolen. Determined not to give up, they decide to sell land in their hometown to raise the funds again and set off on a two-wheeler journey to make it happen.

Midway, their vehicle gets a flat tyre. In search of help, they end up at a puncture shop located in a remote forested area. They were watched by three criminals Vincent

S, Satish Ramadas, and Michael S seem to be involved in some shady, mysterious dealings. A young boy works at the shop fixing tyres, while the three criminals As the tyre repair drags on, strange things start happening around Aadhiran and Rahul. Just as they begin to question what's really going on, Rahul suddenly disappears. Aadhiran sets out to find him, only to be attacked by the gang.

Why are they being targeted? What connection do they have to this criminal group? And what's the secret behind the eerie happenings in this secluded area? These questions form the crux of Aghakkadavan, a film that explores the power of storytelling through suspense and intrigue.

Aside from the six central characters—three on the side of good, and three with a criminal



background—every supporting actor delivers a performance that shows a deep understanding of their roles.

The film's setting, the way it's presented visually, and the handling of the characters are so seamless that it doesn't feel like the work of a debut team. Each scene pulls the viewer deeper into the story. Notably, director Dharma tells this gripping tale entirely with male characters, without the presence of a single female role, and yet manages to keep the narrative fresh and engaging.

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DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION : 02.07.2025, BETWEEN 11:00 A. M. TO 01:00 P. M. LAST DATE OF RECEIPT OF KYC & EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (EMD) : 01.07.2025					
Sr. No.	Name of the Borrowers & Co-Borrowers	Description of Properties / Secured Assets and Date of Possession	Reserve Price (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (In Rs.) / Incremental Value (In Rs.)	Demand Notice Date & Total Amt. (In Rs.)
1	1. Mr. Easwara Moorthi Ponnusamy 2. Mrs. Kokila LOAN A/C. NO. : ABERDST000000560806	Old Survey No.11/1 As New Natham R.S. No. 164/18, 164/19, 164/20, 164/21, 164/23 And 164/24 In Ponnudi Village, Perundurai Taluk, Perunthurai Sro, Erode Rd, Dist Erode, Tamil Nadu-638056. East By : North-South Street And Natham R.S. No. 164/22, West By : House Land, Yet To Give Settlement To P/Chandran, North By : 2nd Item Property And Natham R.S. No 164/22, South By : Natham R.S.No. 164/25,26,27 And 28.	Rs. 22,80,000/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lacs and Eighty Thousand Only)	Rs. 2,28,000/- (Rupees Two Lacs Twenty Eight Thousand Only)	21.05.2024 & Rs. 20,34,883.26 (Rupees Twenty Lakh Thirty-Four Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Three And Twenty Six Paise Only) due as on 10.05.2024
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Aditya Birla Capital Limited / Secured Creditor's website i.e. https://abfl.adityabirlacapital.com/Pages/Individual/Properties-for-Auction-under-SARFAESI-Act.aspx or https://BidDeal.in Contact Nos.: Aditya Birla Capital Limited, Authorized Officer- 1) Mr. Apoorva Thomas Danthi - apoorva.danthi@adityabirlacapital.com, M. No. 9930909725 You may also visit nearest Branch or contact Aditya Birla Capital Limited 2) Mr. Jahirul Laskar : Jahirul.Laskar@adityabirlacapital.com) M. No. +91 97060 03075, 3) Parneet Singh : (parneet.singh@adityabirlacapital.com) M. No. +91 97200 29337, 4) Mr. Srikanth : srikanth.s@adityabirlacapital.com - M. No. 98840 02027					
Place : Erode, Tamil Nadu Date : 25.05.2025					Sd/- Authorised Officer Aditya Birla Capital Limited