# WHITE OAK INDIA PIONEERS EQUITY



November 2023 Update Portfolio Data as on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023

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THE ART AND SCIENCE OF INVESTING

**WHITEOAK** 

CAPITAL MANAGEMEN

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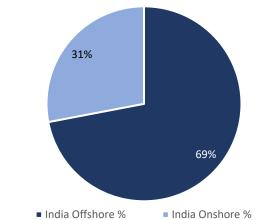


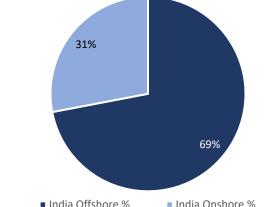
- i. Introduction, Portfolio Manager Profile & Portfolio Strategy
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### WhiteOak Group

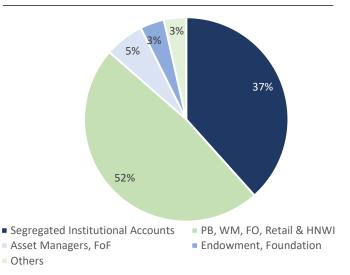
# THE ART AND SCIENCE OF INVESTING

#### Firmwide AUM Split (%) – By Geography





#### Firmwide AUM Split (%) – By Type of Investors



#### **Overview**

**AUM**<sup>2</sup>: ~ US\$6.7 bn

Offices: India, Mauritius, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland and UK

- Founded by Prashant Khemka in June 2017
- Prior to White Oak Prashant served as the CIO and Lead PM of both Goldman Sachs India since March 2007, and ٠ Global Emerging Markets Equity since June 2013
- Research underpinned on a 'proprietary analytical model' <sup>1</sup> honed over two decades; replicable across markets ٠ and businesses
- Performance first culture built-upon:
  - (a) team of sector experts with global experience
  - (b) bottom-up stock selection philosophy
  - (c) disciplined fundamental research
  - (d) balanced portfolio construction

<sup>1</sup>Trademarked as OpcoFinco<sup>™</sup> framework .<sup>2</sup>AUM as of 31 October 2023. Includes aggregate assets under management or advisory for White Oak Capital Management Consultants LLP and WhiteOak Capital Asset Management Limited

### Founder's Profile and Track Record

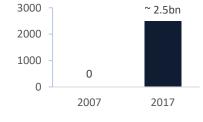


#### Extensive investing record across India, GEM and the US

- Prashant joined Goldman Sachs Asset Management (GSAM) in 2000 in the US Growth Equity team
- In 2004, he became Senior PM and Co-Chair of the Investment Committee on the US Growth Equity team which managed US\$25 bn
- Returned to Mumbai in 2006 to start GSAM India business, where he served as CIO and CEO / Co-CEO until 2017
- In 2013, Prashant moved to Singapore as CIO and Lead PM of both India and Global Emerging Markets
- Directly managed more than US\$5.0 bn out of the US\$6.5 bn managed by his team
- Prashant and the funds managed by him at GSAM earned several awards including Citywire AAA rating and FundCalibre Elite rating

#### **CIO and Lead PM of GS India Equity**

- Prashant launched GS India Equity strategy in March 2007 with US\$ 5.0mn seed capital from Goldman Sachs
- Scaled GS India Equity business to US\$2.5 bn with distribution across multiple channels in Europe, Asia, and USA
- Since inception the strategy delivered peer group leading cumulative 265.8% gross US\$ returns<sup>1</sup> vs. 66.1% for its benchmark



GSAM India Equity AUM (US\$ mn)

<sup>1</sup>Past performance Gross of Fees in US\$ for GS India Equity Portfolio. <sup>2</sup>Past performance Gross of Fees in US\$ for GS EM Equity Portfolio.

"Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results and returns may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations. There can be no assurance that comparable results can be achieved or that similar investment strategy can be implemented or that investment objectives can be achieved."

#### CIO and Lead PM of GS GEM Equity

- Prashant took over as CIO and Lead PM of GS GEM Strategy in 2013 with approximately US\$600 mn in total assets
- Scaled GEM business to US\$2.6 bn with distribution across multiple channels in Europe, Asia and USA
- During his tenure, the strategy delivered peer group leading cumulative 36.3% gross US\$ returns<sup>2</sup> vs. 13.1% for its benchmark







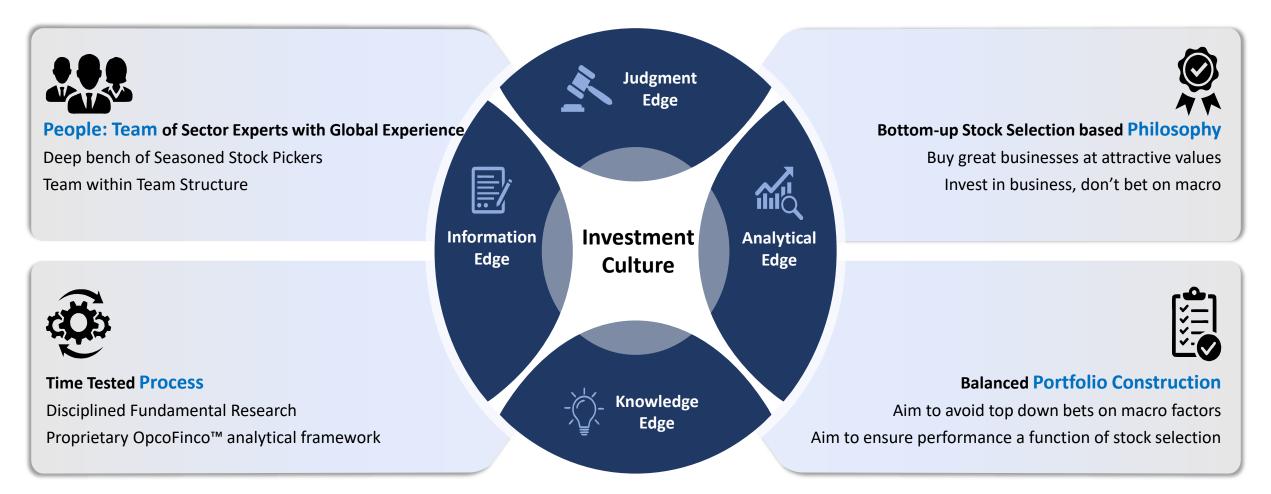
Investment Culture: Team, Philosophy, Process & Portfolio Construction

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### **Focused Investment Culture**



#### **Performance first**



### **Our Team**



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Well resourced team with experience across emerging and developed markets



<sup>1</sup>Employees of White Oak Capital Partners Pte Ltd. <sup>2</sup>WhiteOak Capital AMC <sup>3</sup>White Oak Capital Management Consultants LLP (WOCM); WOCM and White Oak Capital AMC provides non-binding, non-exclusive and recommendatory investment advisory services to White Oak Capital Partners Pte. <sup>4</sup>White Oak Capital Management (Spain), Sociedad Limitada <sup>5</sup>Acorn Asset Management Ltd <sup>6</sup>Fleet Street Global Investment Adviser LLP

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### Our Team



THE ART AND SCIENCE OF INVESTING

#### Well resourced team with experience across emerging and developed markets

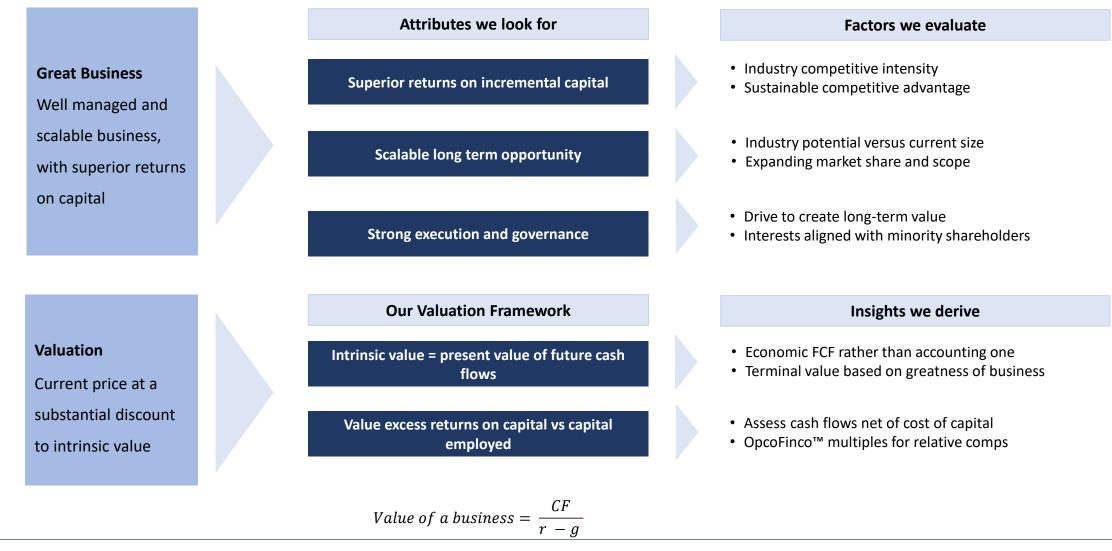
Sr. No	Name	Location*	GEM (ex-India) Coverage	India Coverage	Trading	ESG	Comm Services	Consumer Disc	Consumer Staples	Energy	Financials	Health Care	Information Tech	Industrials	Materials	Real Estate	Utilities	Generalis
1	Arthur Kadish	SGP					-			-	-	-	-	-	-		-	
2	Lim Wen Loong	SGP					-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	
3	Nori Chiou	SGP					-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	
4	Fadrique Balmaseda	ESP					-					-	-					
5	Jorge Robles	ESP									-	-	-	-		-		A
6	Krishna Sathyamoorthi	SGP					-			-	-		-		-	-	-	
7	Yu Heng Ong	SGP SGP					-			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
8	George Chen	SGP					-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	
9 10	Joshua Chu Anand Bhavnani	IND							-				-	-	-			
		IND					-			-						-	-	
11	Tejkiran Magesh Kshitij Bansal	IND						-	-			-	-	-	-	-	-	
12 13	Shane Mathews	IND					-			-	-	-	-	-	-		-	
13	Prashant Khemka	SGP					-		-	-	-		-		-	-	-	
14	Manoj Garg	SGP										_	-	-				
16	Ayush Abhijeet	SGP							-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	
10	Vineet Narang	IND						-	-	-			-	-		-	-	
18	Pratyush Agarwal	IND							-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	
19	Yash Verma	IND					-				-	-	-			-		
20	Samvit Bordia	IND					-			-	-	-	-	-		-	-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
21	Darshak Lodhiya	IND					-		-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	
22	Aman Kapadia	IND					-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
23	Adithi Duggad	IND																
24	Sanjay Vaid	SGP					-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
25	Charles Woo	MUS					-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
26	Ashish Agrawal	IND																
27	Ramesh Mantri	IND					-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	
28	Trupti Agrawal	IND					-		-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	
29	Dheeresh Pathak	IND					-	-	-	-	-		-	-		-	-	
30	Shariq Merchant	IND					-			-	-	-	-	-	-		-	
31	Neeraj Parkash	IND					-		-		-	-	-		-			4
32	Nikunj Sarda	IND					-			-	-	-	-		-			
33	Sadeev Singh	IND					-	-		-		-	-	-	-	-		
34	Parag Jariwala	IND					-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	
35	Rohit Chordia	IND									-	-	-	-	-			4
36	Kritik Jain	IND					-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	
37	Naitik Shah	IND																
38	Sanket	IND																<b>I</b>
39	Chaitanya Kapur	IND																
40	Radhika Maheshwari	IND					-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
41	Shubham Aggarwal	IND																
42	Nikhil Kochar	IND																
43	Armaan Wadhawan	IND																
44	Ishanya Chanana	IND																
45	Saahas Jain	IND					-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	

As at September 30 2023, for illustrative purposes only \*IND : India, SGP: Singapore, ESP : Spain, MUS : Mauritius

### **Investment Philosophy**

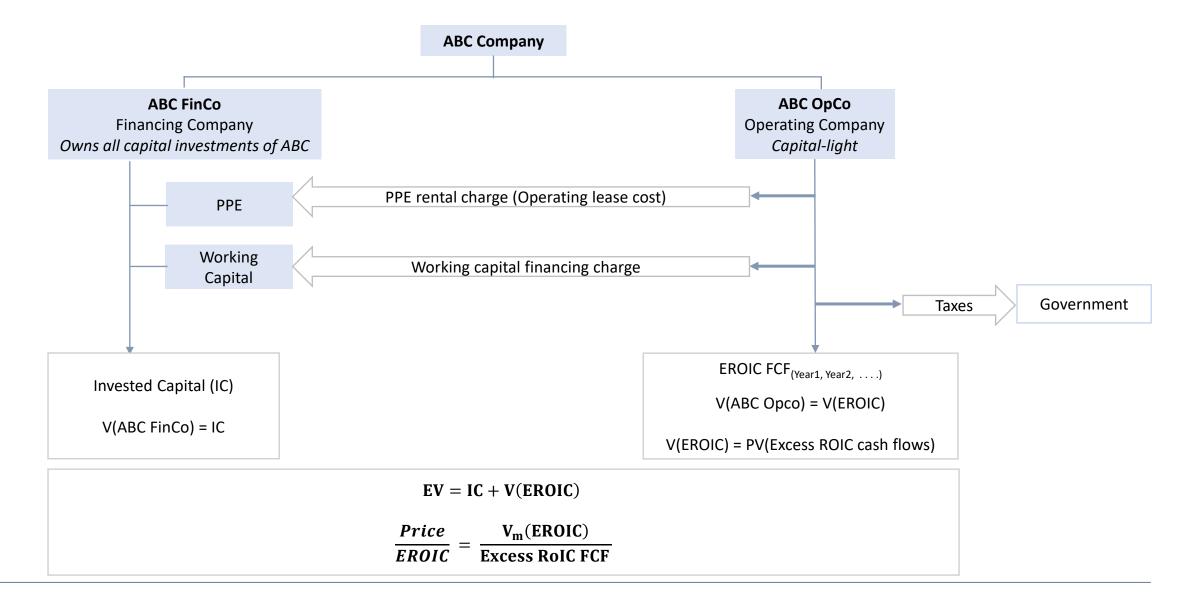


#### Outsized returns can be earned over time by investing in great businesses at attractive valuations



### **OpcoFinco™ Framework**





### **Investment Philosophy**



#### Aim to avoid businesses with weaker characteristics

Poor
corporate governance

Siphoning of cash or value

Manipulation of stock prices

Unethical business practices

Misaligned interests

<u>Examples</u> Numerous across sectors Certain commodity companies Weak returns on incremental capital

Excessive competition in capitalintensive industry

Misallocation of capital

Empire building

Examples Conglomeration without capabilities

#### Substitution or obsolescence risk

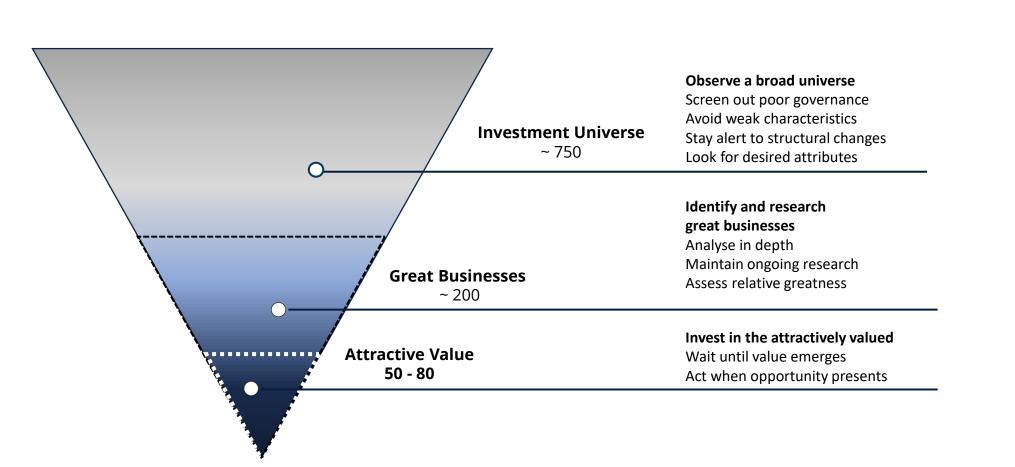
Existential threat from technological developments

Examples Print media from online Wind energy from solar Combustion engine from electric vehicles

Beware of value traps

### **Investment Process**

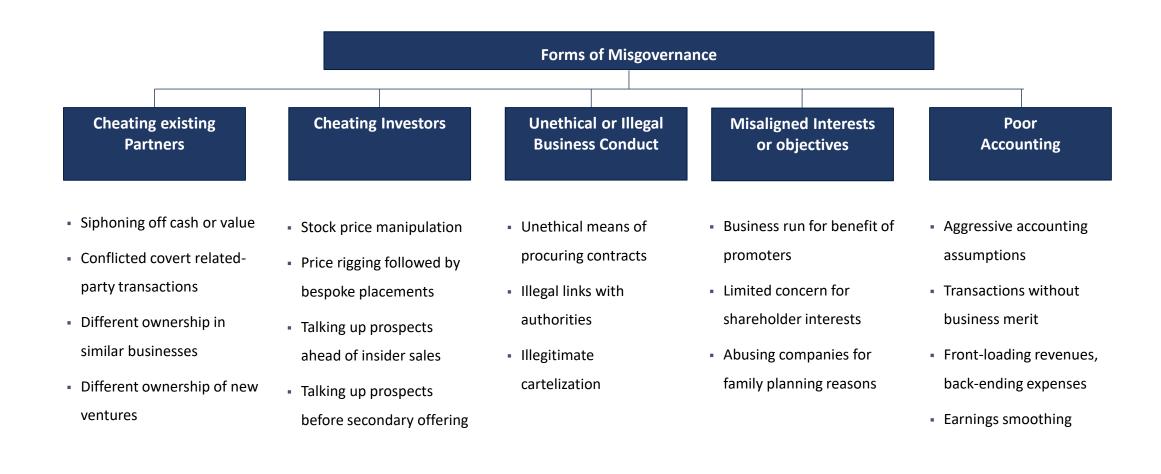
We distil from a broad investible universe



### **Investment Process**



#### We aim to avoid misgoverned companies

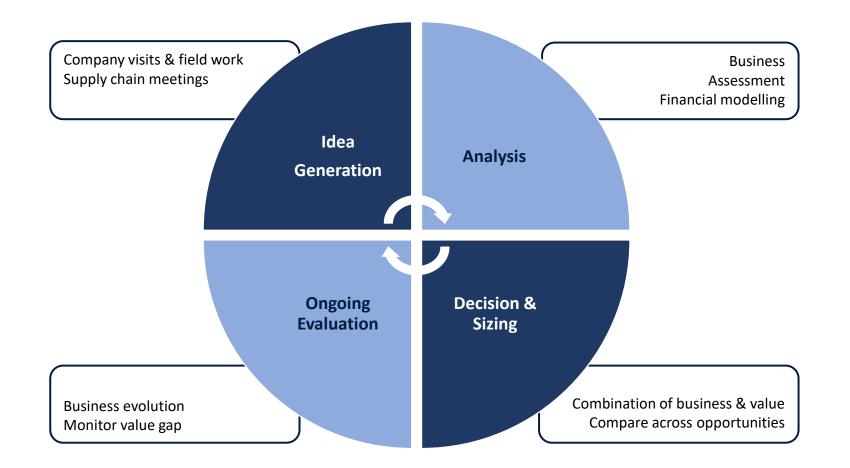


He that lieth down with dogs shall rise up with fleas – Benjamin Franklin

### **Investment Process**



#### We aim to adhere to a time tested analytical framework in a disciplined manner



Keep perspective of business cycles, rather than accounting years





# Portfolio Construction & Risk Management

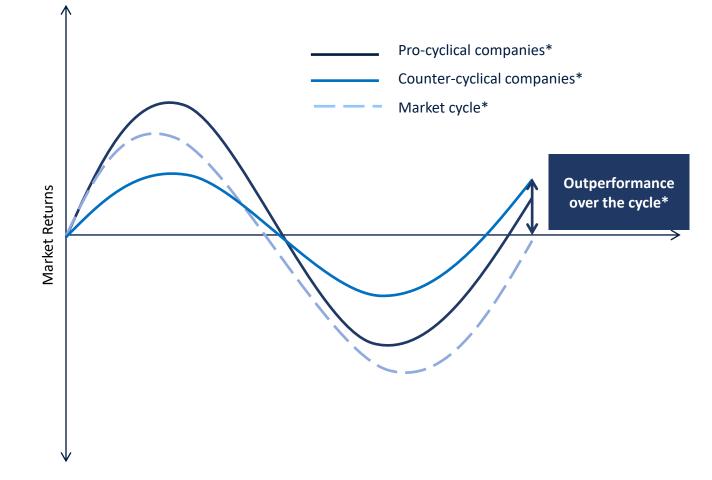
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# **Portfolio Construction & Risk Management**



#### We aim to ensure performance is a result of skill rather than chance

- Balanced portfolio of select companies agnostic to benchmark
- Focus on ensuring alpha generation is a function of **stock selection**
- Aim to consciously **avoid market timing** or **sector rotation** or other such top-down bets
- Understand, monitor, and aim to contain residual factor risks that are by-product of stock selection
- Typical exposure limits
  - Single stock: 10% at market value
  - Single promoter group: 25%



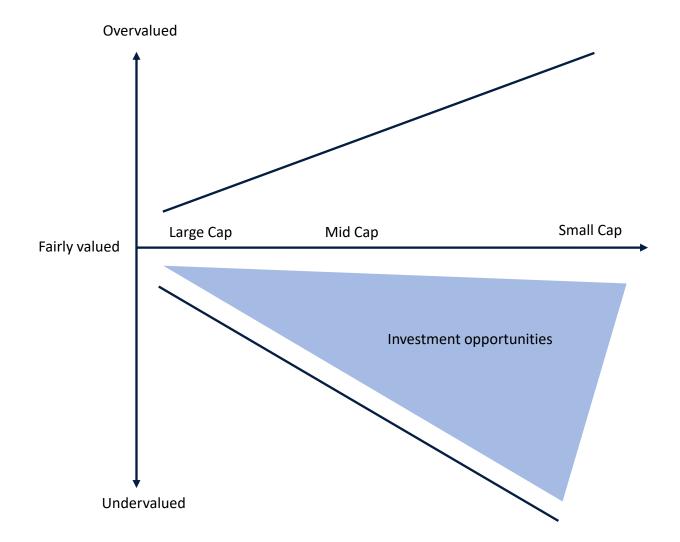
We never forget that in macro, we only have hunches: in the micro, we can develop justifiably deep conviction - Seth Klarman

\*For Illustration Purpose only

### **Opportunity Funnel**



Higher inefficiencies in mid and small cap

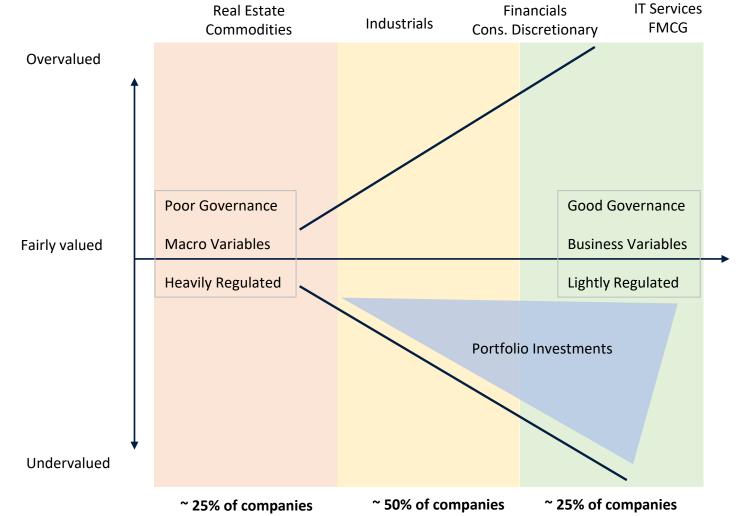


Large, Mid and Small cap categorization as per the Securities and Exchange Board of India

### **Opportunity Funnel**



#### No sanctity of cash flows or valuations of poorly governed companies



#### Note:

Graphical representation is for illustration purpose only and not supposed to be precise or accurate.

For example, not all real estate companies are poorly governed, and not all IT Services companies are wellgoverned.





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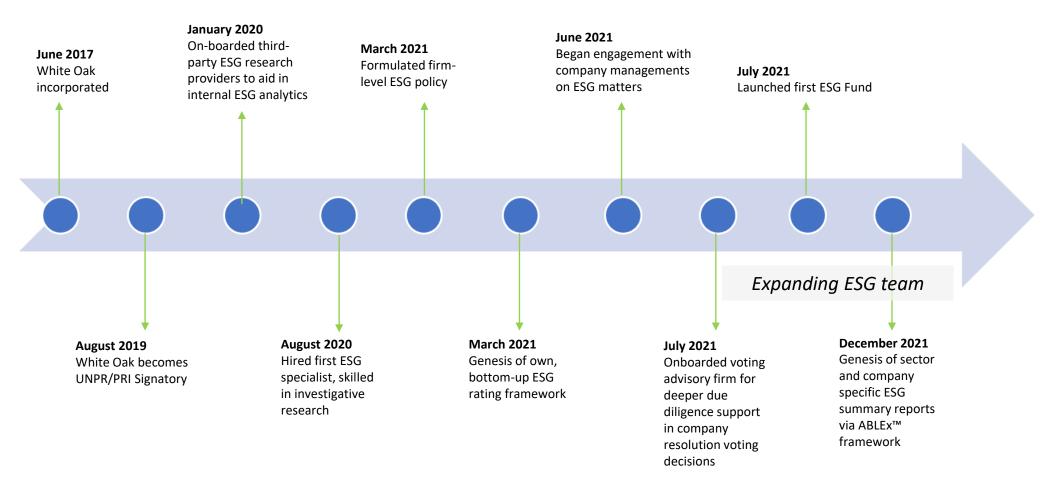
# White Oak's ESG Journey

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# **Evolution of ESG at White Oak**



#### Roots in deep due diligence in governance assessment is now extended to E&S factors



The PRI is an investor initiative in partnership with UNEP Finance Initiative and UN Global Compact. UN PRI Signatories have committed to invest in a manner that demonstrates their implementation of the Six Principles for Responsible Investment. Signatories are required to report on their responsible investment activities annually by responding to asset-specific modules in the reporting framework. Each module houses a variety of indicators that address specific topics of responsible investment. Signatories are then assessed by PRI and results are compiled into an assessment report to help demonstrate how signatories are meeting these. Module scores are assigned to one of six performance bands, lowest to highest, from E to A+. Methodology and definitions can be found at: <a href="https://www.unpri.org/signatories/reporting-and-assessment">https://www.unpri.org/signatories/reporting-and-assessment</a>

# **Diagnosing India's ESG landscape**



Analysis of India's current ESG landscape suggests the way forward for improved ESG culture

Current Policies and Regulatory Framework	<ul> <li>Existing Business Responsibility Statement –Qualitative</li> <li>Business Responsibility &amp; Sustainability Reporting (FY23e) – Quantitative         <ul> <li>GHG emissions disclosure</li> </ul> </li> <li>Mandated Corporate Social Responsibility Spends</li> <li>Policy thrust, Incentives for climate and sustainability goals</li> </ul>
Challenges	<ul> <li>Scattered and ad-hoc disclosures of ESG relevant information</li> <li>Limited coverage and depth of ESG research in ecosystem</li> </ul>
Scope for Improvement	<ul> <li>Better awareness of ESG issues, risk management</li> <li>More useful ESG disclosures to track progress</li> <li>Increased dialogue on ESG matters within entire ecosystem</li> </ul>

Need for engagement focused approach for better awareness, disclosures, practices

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Third party ESG research providers have limited coverage of White Oak's investable universe

Parameter	MSCI	Bloomberg	Sustainalytics
Relevant Data	35 ESG Key ESG Issue Metrics, Controversies History	Time-series of key ESG metrics	Sector-specific risk exposures, controversies history
Insights	Company, Portfolio ESG Ratings, Case Studies	ESG Ratings	ESG Risk Ratings
Timeliness	Low	Low	Low
Transparency of data sources, analysis	Medium	Low	Low
Coverage of Investment Universe	75% of companies do not have an MSCI ESG Score	54% of companies do not have a Bloomberg ESG Score	NA
Assessment	Broad coverage, but lacks timeliness	Historical data series is more useful for companies that disclose in standardized form	Broad coverage, but lacks depth

In our view, third party ESG research providers lack depth of coverage and lag in terms of timeliness of updates.

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### Case Studies: Challenges posed by Third Party ESG Research



#### Case Study 1: ICICI Prudential Life Insurance

#### **MSCI Evaluation**

- January 2022: The insurer was rated a 'B'- second lowest MSCI ESG Rating
- February 2022: ESG Rating upgraded by **three notches** to 'A'- **third highest MSCI ESG Rating**
- This revised MSCI ESG rating lagged the company's disclosures filing by eight months

#### Case Study 2: Cipla

#### **MSCI Evaluation**

 December 2021: MSCI assigned a score of 3.1/10 in the Environmental aspect, claiming "No evidence of environmental targets"

#### **ABLEx<sup>™</sup> Evaluation**

White Oak's ESG sector competitor analysis showed ICICI Prudential Life Insurance to have the best disclosures and practices in the industry based on their FY21 ESG report filed in June 2021

Timeliness of updates by third party ESG research providers may pose a concern

#### **ABLEx<sup>™</sup> Evaluation**

CIPLA's FY21 Annual Report filed in July 2021 highlighted some key environmental targets such as carbon neutral by 2025, water neutrality by 2025 and zero waste landfill by 2025

# We rely on our bottom-up due diligence as third party ESG research may miss key details

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### **ESG** Team



Well-resourced and growing ESG team





Ayush Abhijeet ESG Lead



Aman Kapadia ESG Specialist



Dipojjal Saha ESG Macro Analyst



# Transformation of White Oak ESG Research



#### Bottom-up, investigative focus on all aspects of E, S and G due diligence

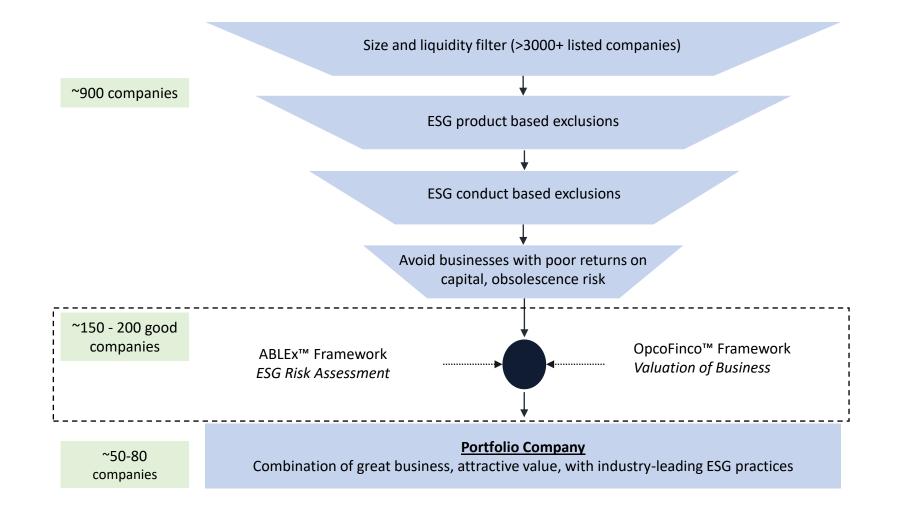
	Before	Now
Team Resources	Two Team members	Five ESG Champions, Five ESG Sector Analysts
Framework	Driven largely by MSCI Ratings	Proprietary approach using ABLEx <sup>™</sup> framework
Third party ESG data	High reliance	Minimal reliance
Analysis	Focussed on secondary data for E&S factors	Bottom-up primary focus for all E, S and G factors
Engagement Frequency	Sporadic, low documentation	Regular, scheduled, documented

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### **ESG Integration into Investment Universe Funnel**



Portfolio companies are attractively valued, pass strict exclusion filters and bottom-up due diligence tests





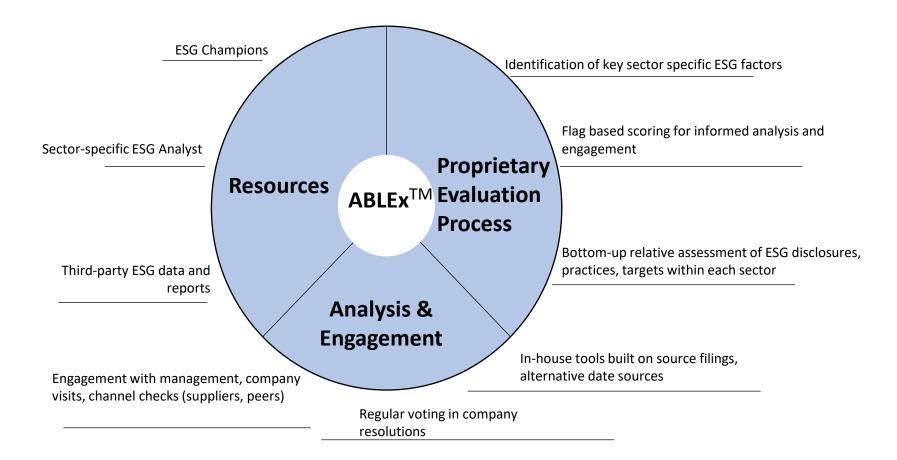


Assessment of Business Longevity & Excellence (ABLExTM\*)

# Proprietary bottom-up framework for ESG risk assessment



Bottom-up, investigative focus on all aspects of E, S and G due diligence

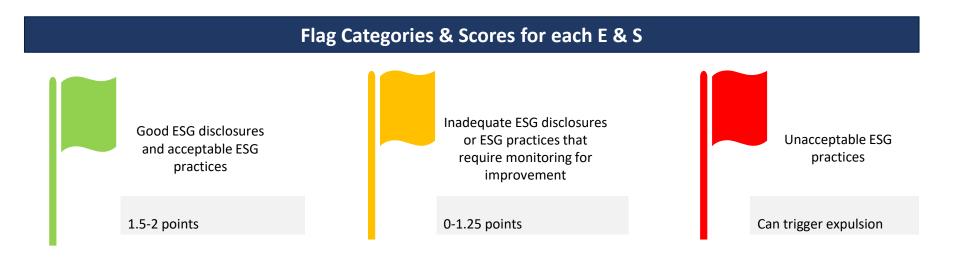




Financials	Pharma	Chemical	Retail	Consumer	Technology	Health Care	Materials	Defence		
Responsible Credit	Waste Disposal	GHG Emissions	Sustainable Supply Chain	Resource Optimization	Human Capital	Waste Disposal	Raw Material Sourcing	Compliance with Geneva convention <sup>1</sup>	Arranged in order of importance (high to low)	
Involvement in underserved segments	Product Safety	Waste Disposal	Data Security	Waste Disposal	Data Protection	Product Safety	Human Capital			
Human Capital	GHG Emissions	Resource Optimization	Human Capital	Sustainable Product/ Packaging	Energy Efficiency	Human Capital	Waste Disposal			
Data Protection	Resource Optimization	Third party certification for Environment Management System	Waste Disposal	Third party certification for Environment Management System		Data Protection	GHG Emissions			
Product Safety/ Mis- selling Risk	Renewable Energy	Renewable Energy	GHG Emissions	Renewable Energy		Resource Optimization	Energy Efficiency			
Energy Efficiency	Human Capital	Human Capital		Human Capital						
	Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)									

<sup>1</sup>Geneva convention agreement, for which India is a signatory, bans use of certain chemical, biological, nuclear weapons. The above is not exhaustive and is for illustrative purposes only





#### Flags and the associated scoring system serve multiple purposes

- Tag and monitor ESG issues
- Identify ESG leaders and laggards
- Evaluate portfolio wide ESG health
- Prioritize and focus on engagement initiatives with company management

## Step 3: ESG Factor Score Multipliers



Differential multiplier-based scoring system based on sector-specific considerations of ESG risks

Example (Banks)	Multiplier*	Rationale
Responsible Credit	1.5x	ESG issues affect companies, assets, and projects funded, subject to credit risks
Opportunities	1.5x	Financial inclusion to enhance social capital
Human Capital	1.0x	Loss of competitiveness and increased cost owing to high turnover
Data Protection	1.0x	Reputation and legal risk
Product Safety/ Mis-selling Risk	1.0x	Reputation and regulatory risks
Energy Efficiency	1.0x	Efficiency maximization
Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)	1.0x	Mandated by law

Arranged in order of importance (high to low)

\*Maximum multiplier of 1.5x

# Example: Flag Scoring System (Banks)



Key Issues/ Opportunities	Key Questions	Bank 1	Bank 2	Bank 3	Bank 4
Responsible Credit	<ul> <li>Does the bank incorporate ESG considerations in its credit decisions?</li> <li>Disclosures on Green/Sustainable financing?</li> </ul>				
Opportunities	<ul> <li>Products to meet the needs of underserved communities?</li> <li>Microfinance, affordable housing lending</li> </ul>				
Human Capital	<ul> <li>How many employees received training during the year? (% of total)</li> <li>Average training hours trend over the last three years?</li> <li>Has there been an improvement in Diversity?</li> </ul>				
Data Protection	<ul> <li>Is the bank certified by an external agency for its data security related processes?</li> <li>Are employees trained on data security and privacy?</li> <li>Third party audits of IT systems?</li> </ul>				
Product Safety/ Mis-selling Risk	- Trend in customer complaints over the last three years?				
Energy Efficiency	<ul> <li>What are the efforts made towards reducing energy consumption?</li> <li>Targets set for reducing energy intensity?</li> </ul>				
Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)	<ul> <li>Does the bank meet the mandated spends of 2% of Net profit criterion?</li> <li>What are the specific areas of CSR spending?</li> </ul>				

Flag Scoring System is used for comparison of ESG risk across companies

As at Sep 2022. For illustrative purposes only. Source: White Oak

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#### Example: Banks

Key ESG Factors		Flag base	ed Scores		Multiplier	Multiplier Adjusted Flag Based Score				
,	Bank 1 Bank 2 Bank 3 Bank 4		Bank 4		Bank 1	Bank 2	Bank 3	Bank 4		
Responsible Credit	2	2	2	2	1.5	3	3	3	3	
Opportunities	2	2	2	2	1.5	3	3	3	3	
Human Capital	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	
Data Protection	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	
Product Safety/ Mis-selling Risk	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	
Energy Efficiency	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	
Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	
Total					8.0	15.0	15.0	14.0	14.0	
Score (Out of 10)						9.4	9.4	8.8	8.8	

Multipliers are used to emphasize more important ES factors' Flag Scores

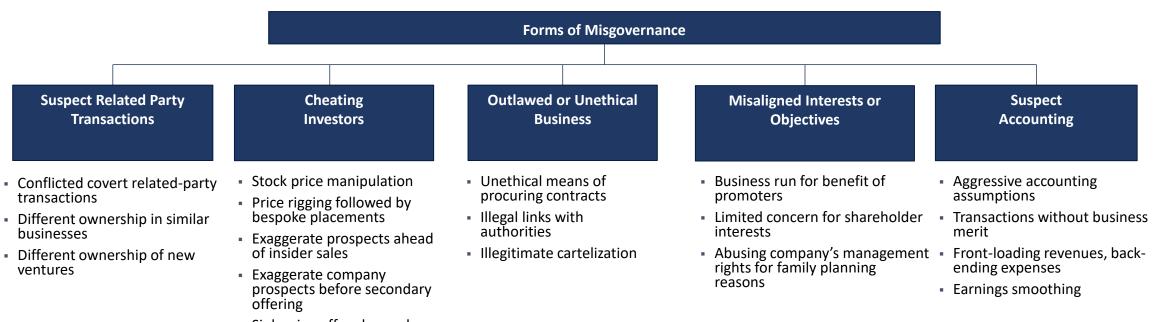
Each bank's ES practices is translated to a rating out of 10

For illustrative purposes only.

### Step 5: G-Score



#### We aim to avoid misgoverned companies



Siphoning off cash or value

He that lieth down with dogs shall rise up with fleas - Benjamin Franklin



Key ESG Factors		Gov	ernance Sc	ore (Out of	f 10)	Weight	Weight Adjusted Score				
		Bank 1	Bank 2	Bank 3	Bank 4	Ŭ	Bank 1	Bank 2	Bank 3	Bank 4	
Board		8.8	7.5	7.5	8.8	20%	1.75	1.5	1.5	1.75	
Practices	•	6.9	8.8	6.9	8.1	80%	5.5	6.5	5.5	6.5	
Governance Score						33%	7.25	8	7	8.25	
E&S Score (Out of 10)	E&S Score (Out of 10)					67%	9.4	9.4	8.8	8.8	
Total	Total					$\langle$	8.7	8.9	8.2	8.6	

Other practices which including accounting, RPT (related party transactions), minority treatment, etc.

١.

Each bank's ESG practices is translated to a rating out of 10

For illustrative purposes only.





# White Oak India Pioneers Equity ESG Portfolio

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### **Portfolio Performance: White Oak Pioneers Equity ESG Portfolio**



#### 1 September 2021 – 31 October 2023, Net of Fees in INR

	Portfolio	Benchmark % S&P BSE 500 <sup>1</sup>	Excess Returns (bps)	S&P BSE 100 Large cap <sup>1</sup>	S&P BSE 150 Mid cap <sup>1</sup>	S&P BSE 250 Small cap <sup>1</sup>
October 2023	-1.9%	-2.9%	+100	-2.7%	-3.5%	-2.7%
YTD 2023	8.7%	9.4%	-71	5.4%	21.9%	26.4%
2022	-5.2%	4.8%	-1001	5.5%	3.6%	-1.0%
Partial 2021	2.5%	3.1%	-58	2.0%	5.7%	10.1%
Since Inception (CAGR)	2.6%	8.0%	-544	6.0%	14.3%	16.0%
Since Inception (Cumulative)	5.7%	18.2%	-1251	13.5%	33.6%	37.9%

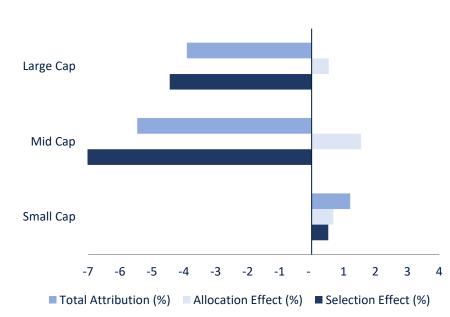
<sup>1</sup>All indices are Net Total Return in INR. Performance is net of all fees and expenses (including taxes). Performance shown since 1 September 2021 as client monies were managed from this date. Performance related information provided herein is not verified by SEBI. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. Please note that performance of your portfolio may vary from that of other investors and that generated by the Investment Approach across all investors because of 1) the timing of inflows and outflows of funds; and 2) differences in the portfolio composition because of restrictions and other constraints. Performance relative to other Portfolio Managers within the selected Strategy : <u>Click Here</u>. CAGR : Compound Annual Growth Rate

## Market Cap Attribution Analysis<sup>1</sup>



Stock selection drives performance : 1 September 2021 – 31 October 2023

Attribution by Market Cap<sup>1</sup>



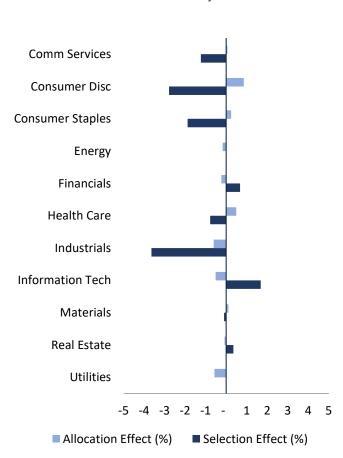
	Portfolio		Benchmark		Attribution			
	Average Weight (%)	Total Return (%)	Average Weight (%)	Total Return (%)	Selection Effect (%)	Allocation Effect (%)	Total Attribution (%)	
Large Cap	59.2	10.0	77.8	15.5	-3.5	0.5	-3.0	
Mid Cap	24.1	-1.4	14.6	27.5	-6.7	1.4	-5.3	
Small Cap	11.6	29.4	7.5	26.3	0.7	0.7	1.4	
Cash/Futures/Others	5.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-1.0	
Total	100.0	10.3	100.0	18.2	-9.4	1.6	-7.9	

<sup>1</sup>FactSet's Attribution Analysis. Performance is gross of fees, taxes and expenses. Market Cap Classification as per Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) guidelines for Mutual Funds. Performance related information provided herein is not verified by SEBI.

### Sector Attribution Analysis<sup>1</sup>



#### Stock selection drives performance : 1 September 2021 – 31 October 2023



Sector	Portfolio		Bench	Benchmark		Attribution		
	Average Weight (%)	Total Return (%)	Average Weight (%)	Total Return (%)	Selection Effect (%)	Allocation Effect (%)	Total Attribution (%)	
Comm Services	3.4	-8.5	2.8	19.9	-1.3	0.1	-1.2	
Consumer Disc	12.0	21.9	9.0	50.0	-2.5	0.9	-1.7	
Consumer Staples	10.2	16.3	8.4	29.0	-1.2	0.3	-1.0	
Energy	0.0	0.0	9.1	19.6	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	
Financials	33.5	15.0	30.2	12.8	0.7	-0.2	0.5	
Health Care	7.7	-10.8	5.3	3.4	-0.6	0.3	-0.2	
Industrials	5.7	-11.9	8.1	54.7	-3.5	-0.5	-4.1	
Information Tech	14.2	5.9	12.0	-5.6	1.8	-0.5	1.3	
Materials	7.1	-4.0	10.2	7.9	-0.2	0.2	0.0	
Real Estate	1.2	68.1	0.9	48.5	0.3	0.0	0.2	
Utilities	0.0	0.0	4.1	29.1	0.0	-0.5	-0.5	
Cash/Futures/Others	5.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-1.0	
Total	100.0	10.3	100.0	18.2	-6.5	-1.4	-7.9	

<sup>1</sup>FactSet's Attribution Analysis: GICS Classification. Performance is gross of fees, taxes and expenses.

### **Portfolio Performance**



#### Top 10 contributors and detractors for 1 September 2021 – 31 October 2023

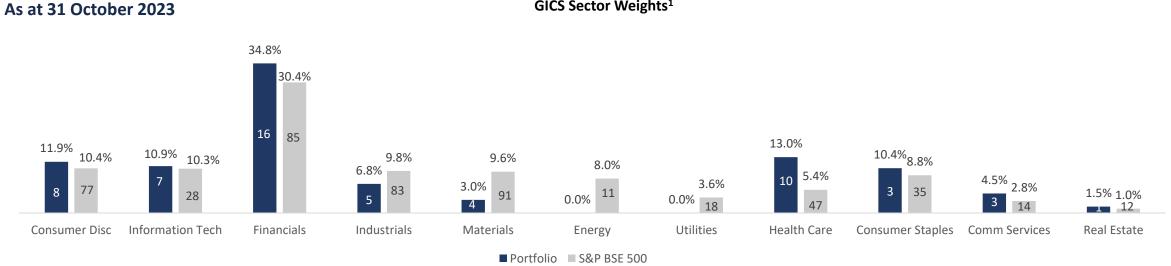
Top 10 Contributors	Ending Weight (%)	Total Return (%)	Contribution to Alpha (bps)
Cholamandalam Investment	3.8	+101.0	+224
Fine Organic Industries	0.7	+56.6	+170
Titan Company	5.3	+65.6	+161
Persistent Systems	2.1	+88.4	+146
ICICI Bank	8.0	+29.0	+62
Rainbow Childrens Medicare	1.9	+137.7	+60
Nestle India	6.5	+24.9	+44
Phoenix Mills	1.5	+68.1	+42
Gokaldas Exports	1.4	+42.7	+38
Vedant Fashions	2.1	+44.2	+34

Top 10 Detractors	Ending Weight (%)	Total Return (%)	Contribution to Alpha (bps)
Indigo Paints	0.7	-45.4	-145
Computer Age Management	1.0	-41.4	-100
Dr. Lal PathLabs	1.3	-41.5	-77
Info Edge India.	3.2	-33.8	-75
Metropolis Healthcare.	0.8	-51.0	-73
FSN E-Commerce Ventures.	0.6	-62.1	-70
Asian Paints.	1.4	-7.9	-69
HDFC Life Insurance .	1.0	-13.4	-64
Mphasis	0.0	-29.1	-57
Crompton Greaves Consumer	0.0	-33.7	-56

Performance related information provided herein is not verified by SEBI..

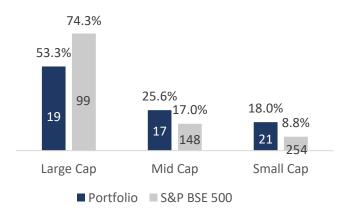
### **Portfolio Composition**





**GICS Sector Weights<sup>1</sup>** 

Market Cap Weights<sup>1,2</sup>



<sup>1</sup>The number inside the bars denote the number of companies in each classification. ETF's and Index futures are included in large cap. <sup>2</sup> Market Cap Classification as per Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) guidelines for Mutual Funds. <sup>3</sup> WhiteOak Research, Bloomberg.

# Recent awards won by WhiteOak Group



REFINITIV LIPPER FUND AWARDS

AIOF won the 2022 and 2023 Refinitiv Lipper Funds Award for the best India fund for a three-year period



Nov 2022: Ashoka India Equity (AIE:LN) Trust wins the Investment Week – Investment Company of the Year Awards



Nov 2022: Ashoka India Equity (AIE:LN) Trust wins the Citywire Investment Trust Insider Emerging Market Single Country award



July 2022: Ashoka India Opportunities Fund (AIOF) wins the Investment Week Fund Manager of the Year Awards 2022



Feb 2022: White Oak Capital India Pioneers Equity wins the Best PMS on 2 Year Performance in Multi Cap Category at Money Managers Awards 2022 by PMS AIF World



Nov 2021: AIOF wins the 2021 HFM Asia Performance Award for the best UCITS fund

Source: White Oak, There is no guarantee that similar awards will be obtained by White Oak with respect to existing or future funds or transactions.

# Structure and Key Terms



Investment Approach	White Oak India Pioneers Equity ESG Portfolio						
Structure	Discretionary Portfolio Management Services	Discretionary Portfolio Management Services					
Portfolio Manager	White Oak Capital Management Consultants LLP						
Investment Objective	The objective of the strategy is to achieve long term capital appreciation by primarily investing in 'listed securities' in India. The investment strategy is long only with a bottom-up stock selection approach. The investment philosophy is, that outsized returns are earned over time by investing in great businesses at attractive values. To assess the quality of a business, we seek to determine the long-term sustainability of return on capital, potential scalability of the business, execution capability of the management, and the organization's corporate governance culture. Since sustainability of returns and corporate governance form an important element of our investment philosophy, the investment approach integrates Environment, Social, and Governance ("ESG") factors in decision-making process in selection of any security in the portfolio. Focus would be on businesses with industry-leading environmental compliance practices and those that demonstrate ethical business conduct and fair dealings with stakeholders.						
Minimum Investment	INR 50 lakhs						
Investment Amount &	< INR 10 cr	> INR 10 cr					
Management Fees	2.50% per annum	2.00% per annum					
Exit Load	Nil						
Operating Expenses	At actuals, capped at maximum prescribed by regulations						
Benchmark	S&P BSE 500 TR Index						
Custodian	ICICI Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited & HDFC Bank Limited						





\*The following case studies are illustrative examples only. The illustrated companies included here may or may not necessarily be held in any portfolio at any time in the past or currently.

### **Case Studies\* - Cholamandalam Investment and Finance**





#### One of India's leading Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs)

- Cholamandalam Investment and Finance (CIFC) is a non-banking financial company (NBFC) belonging to the Chennai-based Murugappa Group. It primarily operates in vehicle finance (including CVs, PVs, 2W and 3Ws), home equity, and affordable home loans category. In terms of customer profile, it caters predominantly to single truck owners and small fleet owners, self-employed non-professionals and MSME businesses in semi-urban and rural India.
- CIFC's strength lies in its ability to reach such customers in rural and semi-urban markets and its ability to underwrite and collect from customers whose income streams are relatively less predictable.
- The company is also scaling up in three new segments Consumer & Small Enterprise Loan, Secured Business & Personal Loan and SME Loan business which are likely to be additional growth drivers going forward.



<sup>\*</sup>The following case studies are illustrative examples only. The illustrated companies included here may or may not necessarily be held in any portfolio at any time in the past or currently.

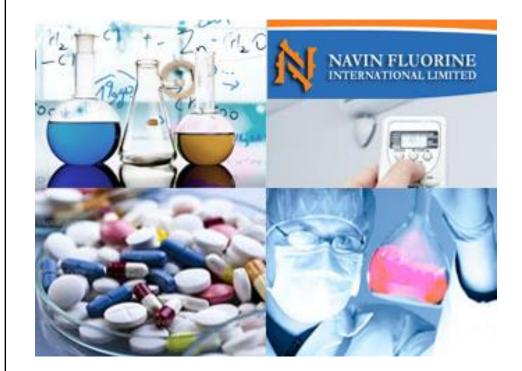
### **Case Studies\* - Navin Fluorine International**





#### **Emerging leader in fluorination**

- Established in 1967, NFIL has successfully transitioned its business model from a domestic focused, commoditised inorganic fluoride manufacturer to a well-established specialty chemical and CRAMS player globally
- Fluorination is one of the fastest growing chemistry globally owing to its lipophilic properties which increases the potency and efficacy of formulations. Development capabilities (esp. multi-step) in fluorine have a long gestation period and hence there are only a handful of players in fluorine chemistry globally
- NFIL has seen renewed aggression under the leadership of Radhesh Welling who has more than 25 years of experience in the speciality chemicals industry. Post his joining, the management has created the right incentive structure for employees at all levels to ensure value accretive growth



\*The following case studies are illustrative examples only. The illustrated companies included here may or may not necessarily be held in any portfolio at any time in the past or currently.

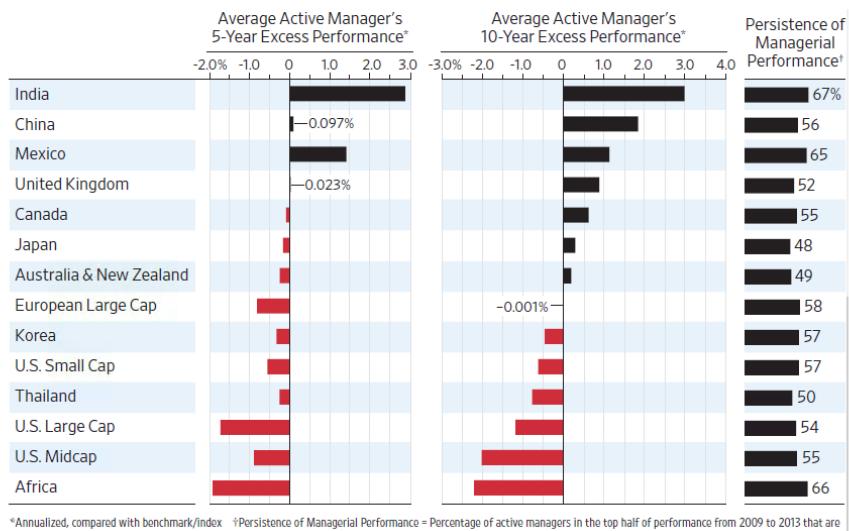




Investment Case for Indian Equities

### Alpha Opportunity – Most Compelling Reason to Invest





in the top half of performers from 2014 to 2018

Source: The Wall Street Journal.

# The Long-term Case for Indian Equities

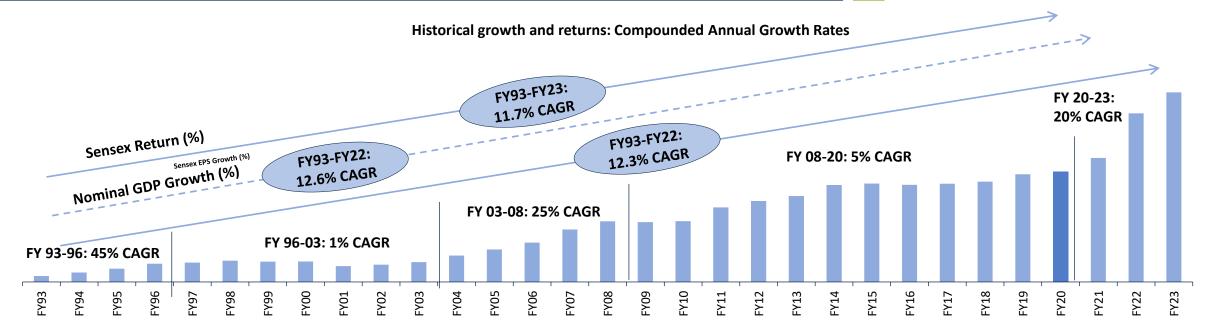


Economic evolution 2022 US\$3.2tn: 5 <sup>th</sup> largest 2030est. US\$6tn: 3 <sup>rd</sup> largest	<ul> <li>Once in an era transformation</li> <li>Multi-generational opportunity</li> </ul>
Strong domestically driven growth Consumption = 58% of GDP	<ul> <li>Key driver for global growth over coming years</li> <li>Attractive demographics, domestic consumption and investment</li> </ul>
Profitable and diverse corporate universe 20-year RoE=17%	<ul> <li>Superior corporate profitability, superior asset mix</li> <li>Entrepreneurially driven capital allocation</li> </ul>
Institutional infrastructure of a mature democracy Net Democracy score 9/10*	<ul> <li>Independent Central Bank, Election Commission and Judiciary</li> <li>Strong property rights under a Common Law system</li> </ul>

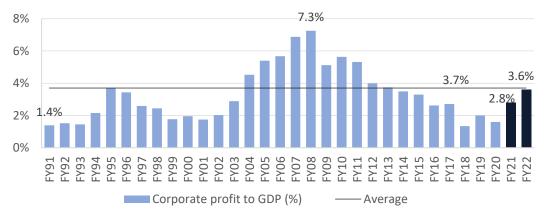
Source: White Oak; 2030 estimates from CEBR (The Centre for Economics and Business Research), \* As per Polity Database. GDP = Gross Domestic Product

### **Corporate Earnings**





**Corporate Profits as a Percentage of GDP** 



#### Average Return on Equity from 2002-2022

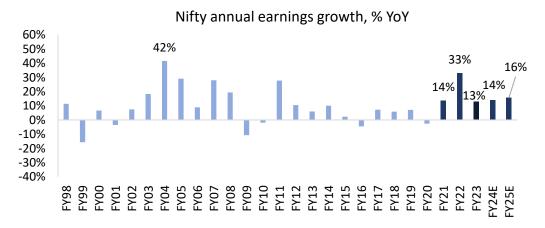
India	16.5%
Asia Pacific ex-Japan	12.0%
Emerging Markets	12.5%
World	11.2%

Source: Motilal Oswal Institutional Research, Spark, Bloomberg, White Oak Research; As at March 2023; CAGR refers to Compounded Annual growth Rate, EPS= Earnings per share, FY=Fiscal Year (ending March). GDP = Gross Domestic Product, FY23 GDP estimate as per the CSO (Central Statistical Office, Government of India).

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# Healthy trend in earnings trajectory

FY21-25e: likely to the best phase of earnings growth in more than a decade

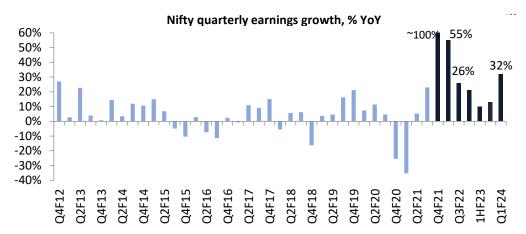


#### Earnings surprises continue albeit at a slower pace

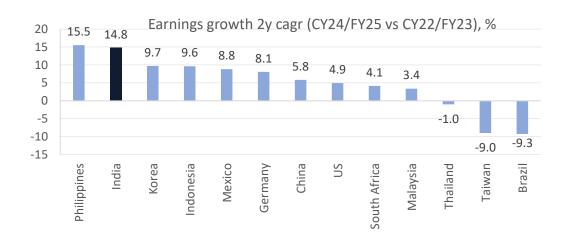
3.0 Beats to misses ratio - Nifty 2.5 Ratio of number of companies beating earnings estimates to number of companies missing earnings estimates 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 1Q16 3Q16 1Q18 ഹ 1Q17 3Q17 3Q18 1Q19 3Q19 1Q20 3Q20 1Q21 3Q21 1Q22 3Q22 1Q23 3Q23 1Q24 3Q1!



Strong earnings growth in 1QFY24



#### India has the strongest earnings growth story over the next two years

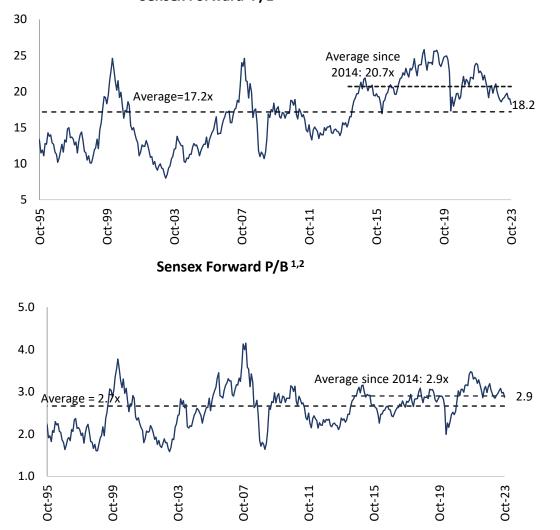


Source: Bloomberg, CLSA, Morgan Stanley, Motilal Oswal, UBS, White Oak; As at October 2023; 1H refers to First half, FY refers to Fiscal year (ending March) CY refers to year over year growth; Q1F12 refers to Q1 or Apr-Jun quarter of 2011 (fiscal year ending March 2012) and so on. Economic and market forecasts presented herein reflect a series of assumptions and judgments as of the date of this presentation and are subject to change without notice.

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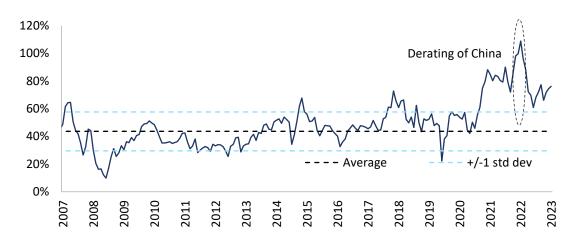
### **Valuation History**

Sensex Forward P/E<sup>1,2</sup>

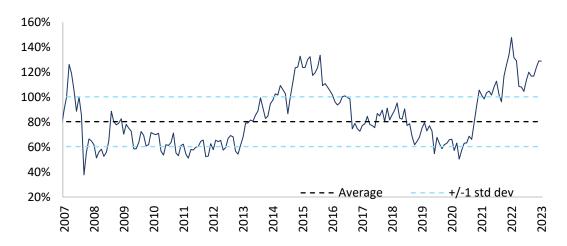




MSCI India P/E premium over MSCI EM %<sup>2,3</sup>



MSCI India P/B premium over MSCI EM %<sup>2,3</sup>

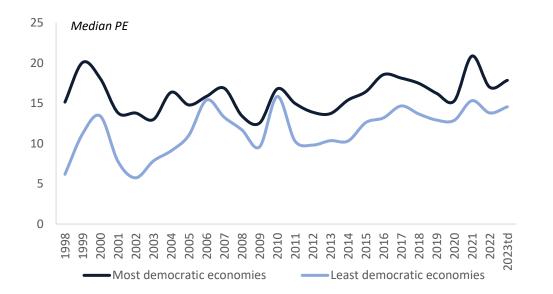


Source: Bloomberg, Motilal Oswal Institutional Research, Credit Suisse. <sup>1</sup>As at Oct 2023. <sup>2</sup> Sensex is the benchmark index of India's Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE). The Sensex is comprised of 30 of the largest and most actively-traded stocks on the BSE, providing a gauge of India's economy. <sup>3</sup>The MSCI India Index is designed to measure the performance of the large and mid cap segments of the Indian market.

### **Democracy and SOE composition impact PE multiples**

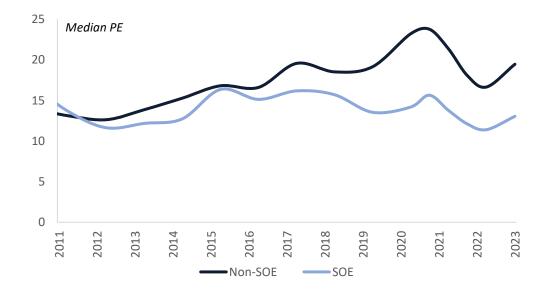


PE differential – Most and Least Democratic countries



Sample list of countries that are most democratic (Net Democracy score >= 8)	India, Taiwan, Indonesia, South Africa, Poland, Brazil, Chile
Sample list of least democratic	China, Egypt, Ukraine, Russia,
economies (Net Democracy score < 5)	Saudi Arabia, Turkey

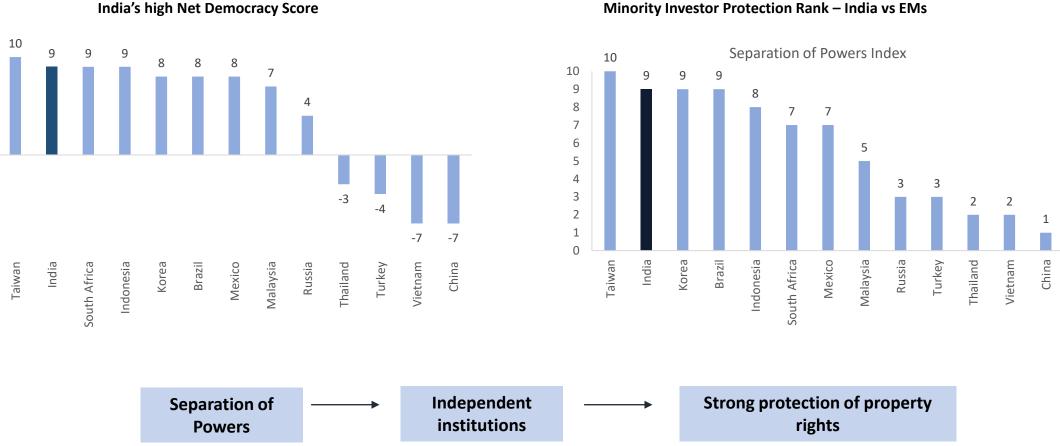
PE differential among EM universe – SOE vs non SOE



Source: Polity Project Database, Factset, data updated till Oct 2023

About Polity Project database (<u>http://www.systemicpeace.org/inscrdata.html</u>) : The Polity Project database was compiled by Ted Robert Gurr, a Political Science expert. The Polity project database is the most widely used resource for monitoring regime change and studying the effects of regime authority. The Democracy or Autocracy Score is based on coding the authority characteristics such as competitiveness of political participation, the openness and competitiveness of executive recruitment and constraints on the chief executive.





#### India's high Net Democracy Score

Source: Polity Project Database; Separation of Powers Index - Transformation Index of the Bertelsmann Stiftung 2020; Note: The question in the survey refers to basic configuration and operation of the separation of powers (institutional differentiation, division of labor according to functions and, most significantly, checks and balances). A higher score suggests there is a clear separation of power with mutual checks and balances.

# ...Which leads to higher stability



#### Unlike other EMs, no instance of currency or political crisis in India

Economy	Currency crisis	Debt crisis <sup>1</sup>	Political crisis/Coups <sup>2</sup>
Argentina	2002, 2013	2014, 2016	
Brazil	1999, 2015	1994	2016
Greece		2012	
Indonesia	1998	1999, 2002	2016
Korea	1998		
Malaysia	1998		
Mexico	1995		
Philippines	1998		2006-2007
Poland		1994	
Russia	1998, 2014	1998, 2000	
South Africa	2015		2018
Thailand	1998		2014
Turkey	1996, 2001, 2021		2016
Vietnam		1997	

Source: Instances of currency crisis and sovereign debt crisis from IMF's Systemic Banking Crises database; Instances of coups, impeachments and political crisis from (1) Powell and Thyne (Global Instances of Coups from 1950 to 2010: A New Dataset) (2) Center for Systemic Peace

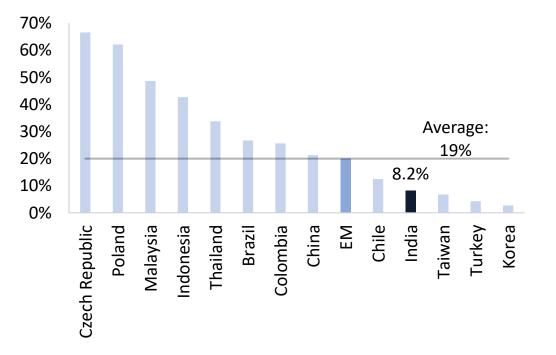
<sup>1</sup> Includes restructuring <sup>2</sup> Includes attempted coups and impeachments



#### MSCI Country IMI Index

% weight	India	China	South Africa	Mexico	Brazil	Taiwan	Korea
Comm. Services	2.9	19.6	6.5	10.8	1.5	2.1	5.7
Cons. Disc.	11.7	29.1	18.6	1.2	4.9	3.4	8.9
Cons. Staples	7.9	5.5	9.9	34.0	8.9	1.9	2.9
Energy	8.6	3.1	1.5		19.2	0.2	1.3
Financials	24.7	15.3	34.0	17.8	23.2	12.3	8.5
Health Care	6.1	6.7	2.7	0.3	3.5	1.1	6.4
Industrials	10.3	5.5	3.1	12.7	10.2	4.6	13.6
Technology	12.0	5.9	0.2		0.9	68.0	41.7
Materials	10.7	3.6	19.7	16.4	17.3	5.8	10.4
Real Estate	1.5	3.4	3.8	6.9	1.2	0.5	0.2
Utilities	3.5	2.4			9.2	0.1	0.5
HHI*	162	348	444	690	706	1,173	1,616

#### State-Owned Enterprise weights in Emerging markets



Source: Factset, White Oak, As at October 2023

\* Herfindahl–Hirschman Index (HHI) as calculated by Factset provides numerical measure of the portfolio concentration of an aggregate. This is measured by summing the squared weights of the constituents. Weights of securities that have the same parent equity are consolidated for this metric.

### **Equity Market Inflows**

30

20

10

0

-10

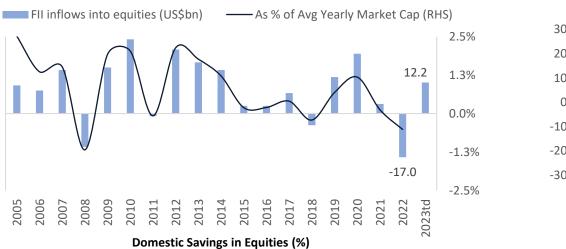
-20

-30

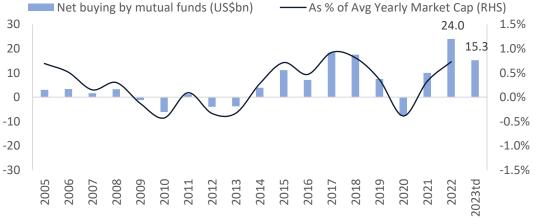


Foreign Institutional Investors (FII) Flows (US\$ billion)

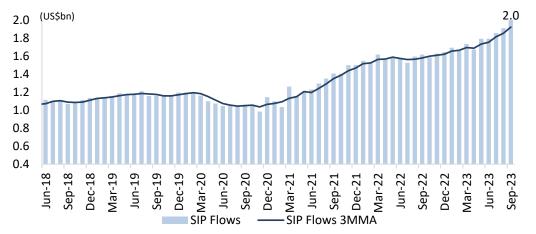
Net buying by domestic mutual funds (US\$ billion)



Equity investments as % of household savings 6.0 5.2 4.7 5.0 4.3 4.2 3.9 3.8 3.7 3.7 3.6 4.0 3.4 3.3 2.9 2.7 2.6 3.0 2.2 2.2 2.2 1.8 2.0 1.5 1.0 FY18 FY19 FY04 FY05 FY06 FY07 FY08 FY09 FY10 FY12 FY13 FY14 FY15 FY16 FY20 FY21 FY22 FY23 FY11 FY17



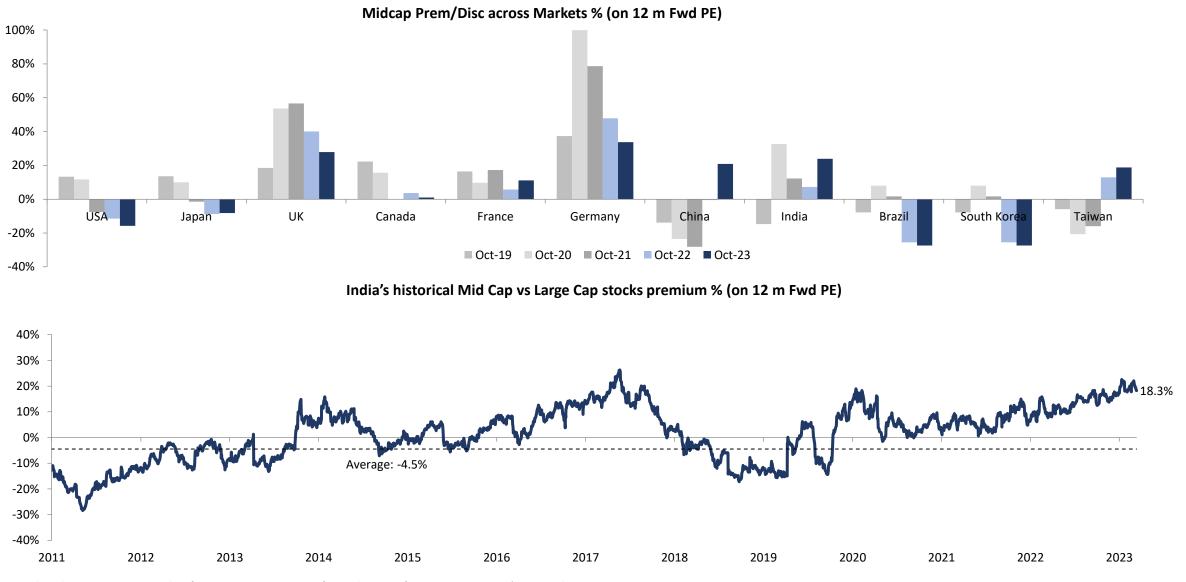
SIP inflows into mutual funds (US\$bn)



Source: Bloomberg, NSDL, SEBI, AMFI. FII and mutual funds inflows data for calendar year; FY refers to Fiscal year (ending March) CY refers to calendar year (ending Dec).

# SMID Cap Premium/Discount





Source: Bloomberg. As at Oct 2023, data for SMID vs Large cap 12m forward PE ratio for respective country's MSCI index.

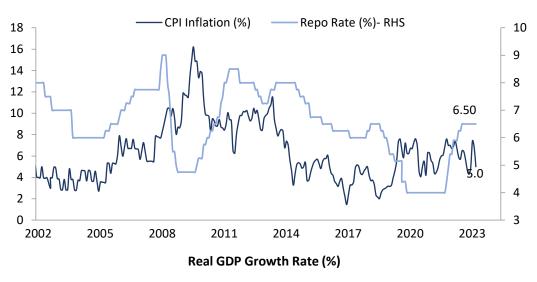


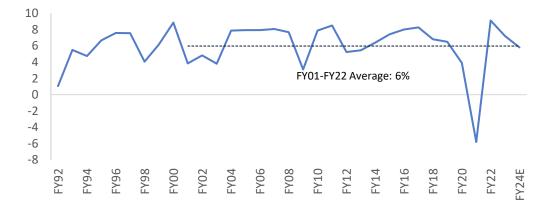


### Macroeconomic Indicators

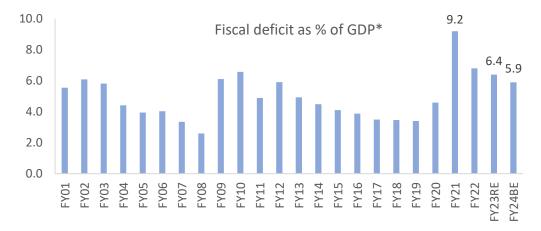




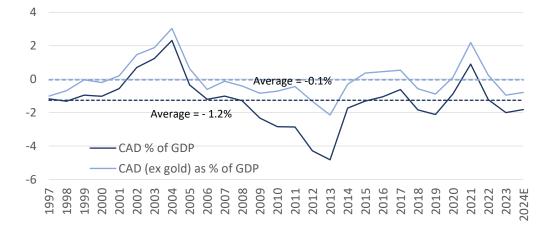




**Fiscal Deficit** 



Current Account Deficit (CAD) to GDP, %

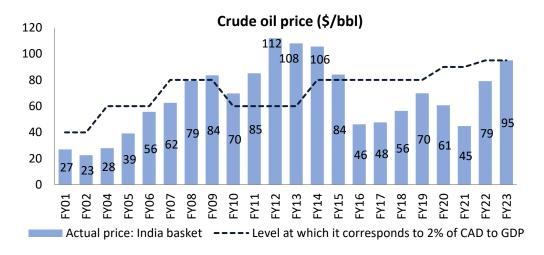


Source: Bloomberg, Reserve Bank of India. \* FY24 budgeted estimate as per FY24 Union Budget announcement, Updated through Sep 2023; FY refers to Fiscal year (ending March) CY refers to calendar year (ending Dec). GDP = Gross Domestic Product

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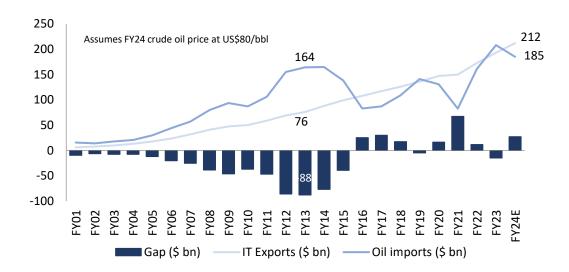
# Improving external sector





Vulnerability to oil prices lower....

#### As IT exports have surpassed the oil import bill



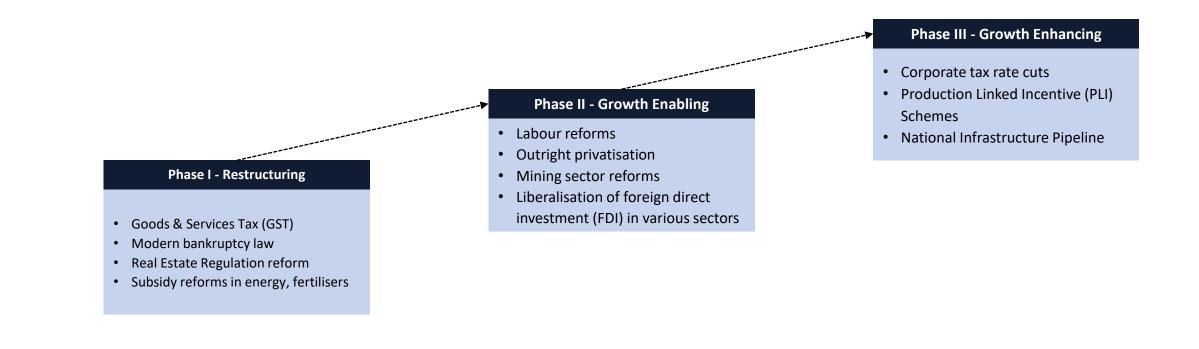
- For every US\$10/bbl increase in crude oil prices, it is estimated that CAD to GDP increases by 40bps
- Over the years, growing software exports and narrowing of non-oil trade deficit due to rising exports in engineering goods, electronics and textiles have reduced India's vulnerability to higher crude oil prices
- Initiatives like Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme likely to further reduce import dependency in manufacturing sector

Source: Bloomberg, Spark, White Oak. CAD= Current Account Deficit; GDP = Gross Domestic Product. Economic and market forecasts presented herein reflect a series of assumptions and judgments as of the date of this presentation and are subject to change without notice.

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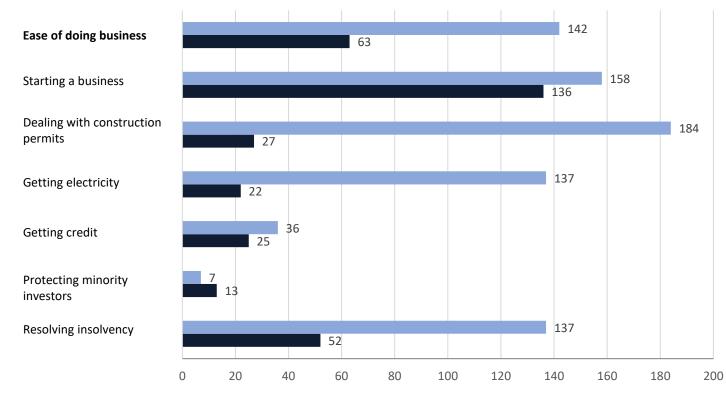
### **Reforms progressing in the right direction...**





## **Improved 'Ease of Doing Business'**





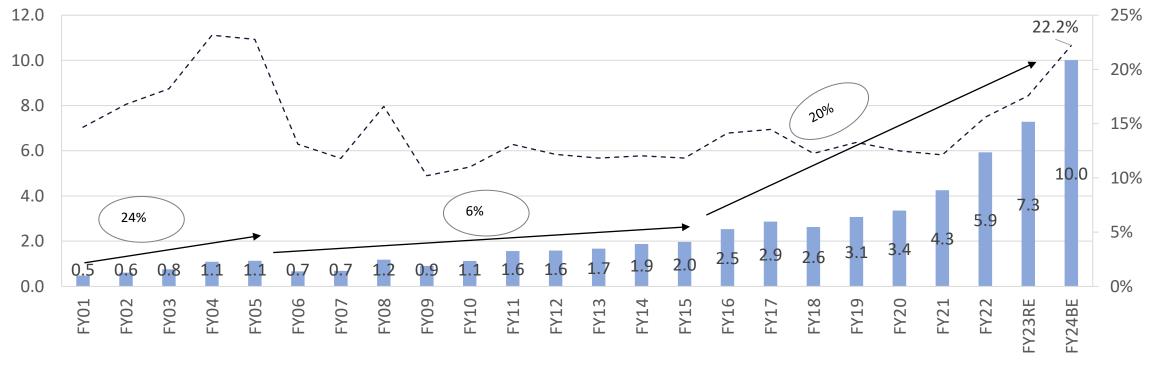
Ranks across various components of Ease of Doing Business (across 189 countries)

2015 2020

Source: World Bank Report as of 2020

## **Increasing thrust on Capital expenditure**





Budgeted Capital Expenditure: INR tn

---- As % of total budgeted expenditure (RHS)

- Total capex projected to grow by 33% YoY in FY24
- Sharp increase in allocation to roads and railways capital outlay on railways up 9x vs 10 yrs ago

Source: Budget Documents, Ambit, Numbers in the circles denote CAGR

### China + 1: India is the preferred alternative

THE ART AND SCIENCE OF INVESTING

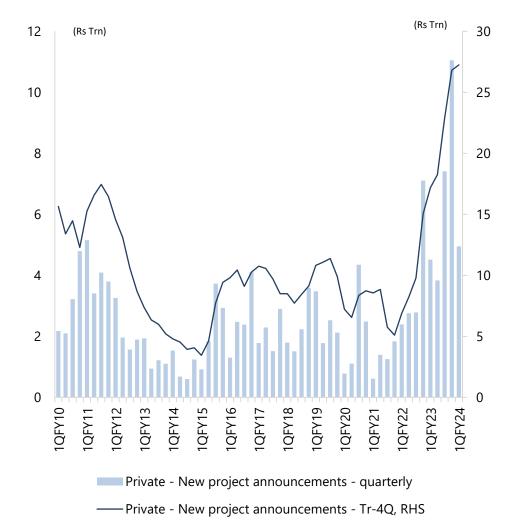
#### • Rapid rise in global companies seeking to expand operations in India.

- For corporate Japan<sup>1</sup>, India is the most preferred destination for expansion.
- Besides diversification from China, growth potential of the large domestic market cited as one of the primary reasons

Most preferred destinations for business expansion over medium term<sup>1</sup>

Country	% Votes as per JBIC Annual Survey		
India	40.3		
China	37.1		
US	32.2		
Vietnam	28.9		
Thailand	23.2		

#### New project announcements surging

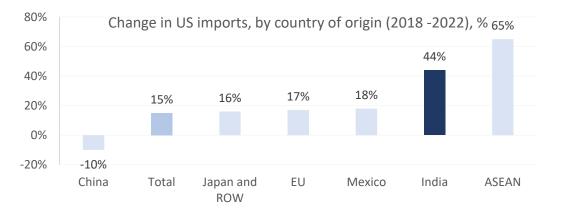


Source: <sup>1</sup> As per Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Survey conducted in 2022; New Projects Announcement data from Ace Equity, Jefferies

# China + 1: Multi decade opportunity



#### India is an early beneficiary of shifts in global production



#### Long runway for market share gain from a small base

% Share (Global Exports)	China	India
Autos	9.6	1.3
Electronics/Electrical goods	26.8	0.5
Furniture	37.4	1.1
Machinery	16.2	1.4
Specialty Chemicals	25.0	4.0
Textiles and Footwear	30-35	2-4
Тоуѕ	66.2	0.2

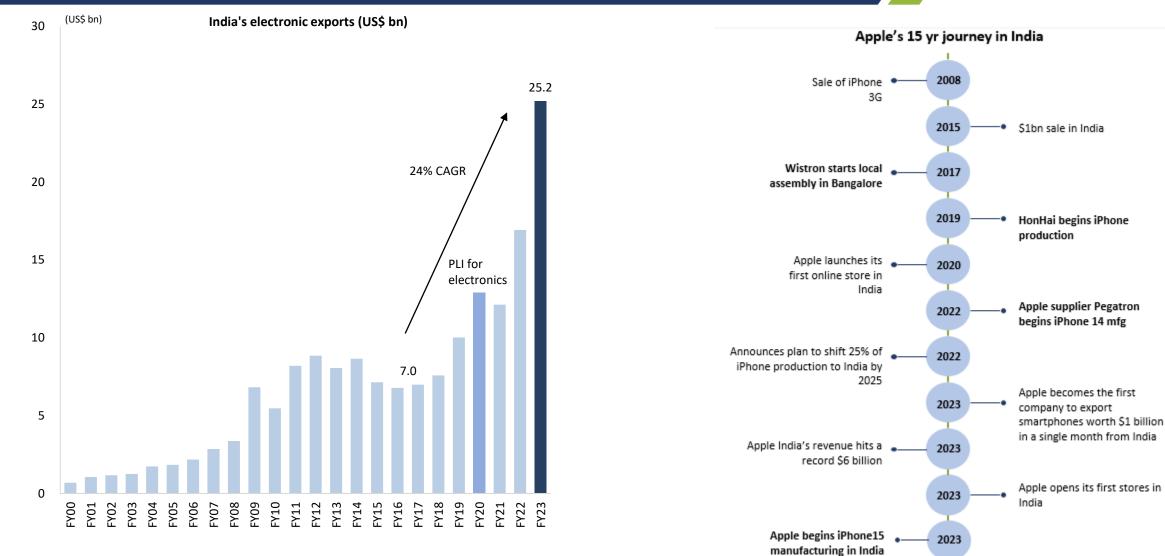
#### Strong rise in greenfield projects in India

Greenfield Projects (\$, bn)	2014	2018	2021	2022
India	27	55	16	78
Vietnam	21	31	12	26
China	83	123	32	18
Thailand	8	7	4	8
Malaysia	20	15	25	17
Indonesia	19	23		
No. of Greenfield Projects	2014	2018	2021	2022
India	718	833	459	1008
Vietnam	261	310	128	181
China	1090	914	482	357
Thailand	177	200	79	91
Malaysia	214	205	123	153
Indonesia	178	140	73	96

Source: BCG Report (Harnessing the Tectonic Shifts in Global Manufacturing), World Investment Report, Avendus Spark Research, Citigroup, WhiteOak

## **China + 1: Surge in Indian Electronics**





Source: PIB, Jefferies, Morgan Stanley, Media articles, White Oak

# All round commitment for 'Make in India'

### 'Boeing to source more parts from India'

### Boeing To Setup Factory To Convert 737 Passenger Planes To Freighters: Report

Sahil Gupte, Boeing India's president, said there was a requirement to convert more than 1,700 passenger planes worldwide into freighters in the next 20 years with over 600 coming from Asia

# Airbus C295 aircraft's manufacturing facility to come up in Vadodara

### GE, HAL To Make Fighter Jet Engines In India As Modi Wins Landmark Deal

Micron commits to setting up semiconductor manufacturing unit in India, bolsters PM Modi's ambitions

# Schaeffler India bolsters "Make in India" initiative with Savli plant expansion

### Attracted by govt support, Alcatel-Lucent hunts partners to Make-in-India

# Apple bets big on India, plans to shift 18 per cent of global iPhone production to India

Samsung, LG shift away from China toward India as production base

### Google seeks suppliers to move Pixel production to India, partner with Indian suppliers

US Tech Giant Hewlett Packard Embraces 'Make In India': Plans to Manufacture High-Volume Servers Under PLI 2.0

#### VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS: A Make in India Success Story

Make In India initiative: Defence ministry go ahead for Rs 84,000 crore projects

### Harley 2.0: Not just Make in India, but Make With Indians: Global CEO Zeitz

Source: <sup>1</sup> As per Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Survey conducted in 2022; New Projects Announcement data from Ace Equity, Jefferies



### Macro Risks to the Investment Case<sup>1</sup>



#### Near term risks

- Uncertainty related to evolving global geo-political situation
- Sharp reversal in global markets
- Central Elections in May 2024

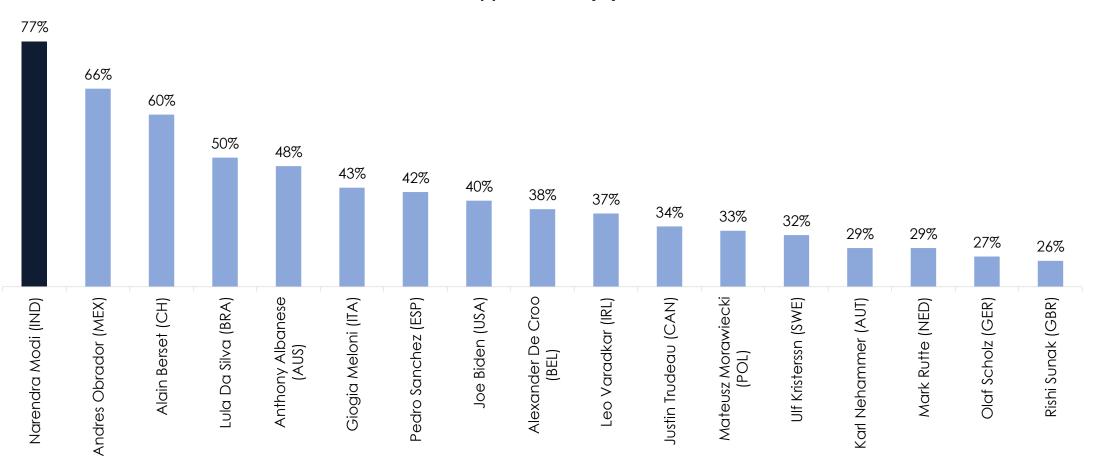
#### Other commonly held concerns

- Weak infrastructure
- Geo-political tensions with neighbours
- Social unrest due to wealth disparity or caste system

Historical returns are no guarantee of future returns. The money placed in the fund can both increase and decrease in value and you may not get back the full invested amount. Important risks: The fund is actively managed and its characteristics may vary. The Funds' investments are subject to normal market fluctuations as well as the risks inherent in all investments and there can be no assurances that appreciation will occur. Equity investment values fluctuate in price so the value of your investment can go down depending on market conditions. e.g. country concentration risks, volatility risk, emerging market risk. 1Note that these are not all the risks to the investment case but only a high level summary of certain key risks.

# PM Modi's popularity rating is the highest globally





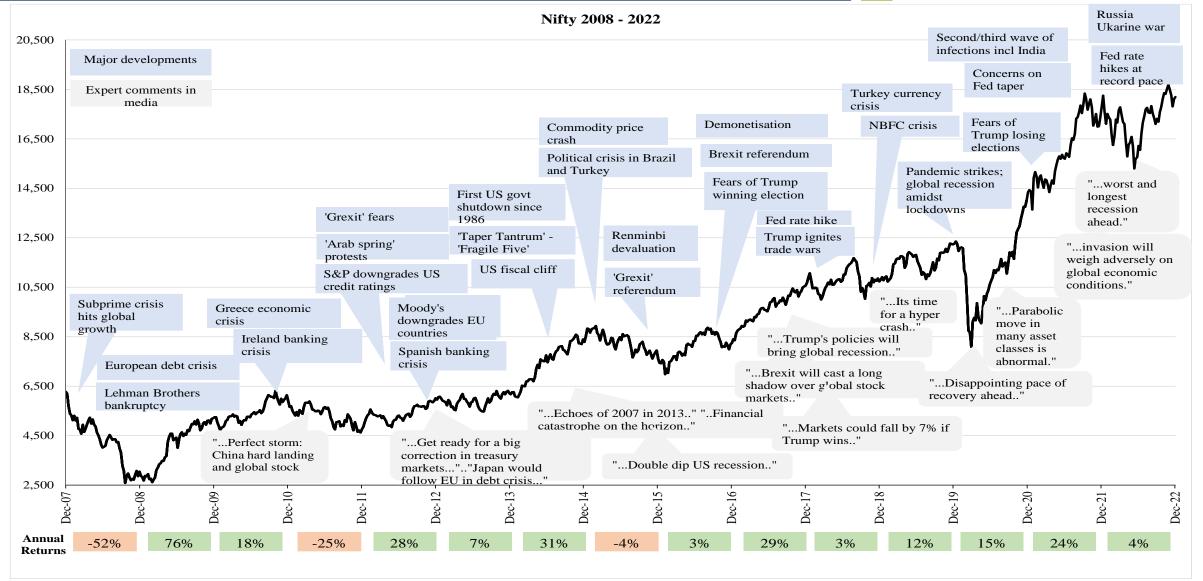
Approval rate (%)

Source: Morning Consult, Ambit Capital research; Note - Approval/ Disapproval rates are based on online interviews conducted with random adults in a country

Nifty 2008 - 2022



#### THE ART AND SCIENCE OF INVESTING



Source: Bloomberg, As of Dec 2022

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## Lessons from 2020



#### Macro-Shacro

20-20 from 2020: The futility of predicting investment returns based on macroeconomic worries and events

#### Lesson #1

- The usual perennial macroeconomic worries of the well-known unknowns variety are a colossal waste of time
- They hardly influence the future returns from equity markets, if any at all

#### Lesson #2

- Nobody has a crystal ball to forecast cataclysmic risk events of the unknown unknown variety, ex: the pandemic
- Market implications remain unpredictable even if one were bestowed with perfect prior knowledge

#### Lesson #3

• Investment decisions bereft of bottom up analysis, and instead driven by macro considerations, are fraught with high risk of substantial absolute and relative losses

# White Oak's Perspective



THE ART AND SCIENCE OF INVESTING

The value of the market at any time is present value of aggregate perpetual future cash flows

The market is fairly valued at all times

### **Relevance of Macro**

- View macros as source of random risks, not as opportunity to add alpha
- Consciously avoid top-down misadventures market timing, sector rotation
- Stay fully invested, with a bottom up approach to investing in great businesses at attractive valuations
- Maintain a balanced portfolio construction approach at all times

For illustrative purposes only; Views and opinions expressed are for informational purposes only and do not constitute a recommendation by White Oak to buy, sell, or hold any security. Views and opinions are current as of the date of this page and may be subject to change, they should not be construed as investment advice.

## **Robust Long-term Market Returns**



	India		United States		
2000	2022	Delta	2000	2022	Delta
477	3,500	7.3x	10,251	25,000	2.4x
451	2,500	5.5x	36,313	75,000	2.1x
7.3	30.3	4.2x	56.2	200.1	3.6x
100	929	9.3x	1,837	8,178	4.5x
		10.7%			7.0%
184	3,330	18.1x	15,226	41,061	2.7x
	477 451 7.3 100	2000         2022           477         3,500           451         2,500           7.3         30.3           100         929	2000         2022         Delta           477         3,500         7.3x           451         2,500         5.5x           7.3         30.3         4.2x           100         929         9.3x           10.7%         10.7%	2000         2022         Delta         2000           477         3,500         7.3x         10,251           451         2,500         5.5x         36,313           7.3         30.3         4.2x         56.2           100         929         9.3x         1,837           10.7%         10.7%         10.7%         10.2%	2000         2022         Delta         2000         2022           477         3,500         7.3x         10,251         25,000           451         2,500         5.5x         36,313         75,000           7.3         30.3         4.2x         56.2         200.1           100         929         9.3x         1,837         8,178

### Major macroeconomic and geopolitical setbacks

- 2000: coming out of Kargil war (1999) with Pakistan
- Terrorist attack on Parliament 2001, Mumbai train attacks in 2006, attacks on Mumbai Hotels in 2008
- 2008: Global Financial Crisis
- Oil Price volatility from US\$25 per bbl to over US\$145
- 2010 2014: Telecom spectrum (2G) scam; Commonwealth Games scam; Coal scam; Bribe-for-loan and other scams
- 2020: Covid pandemic
- 2022: Russia's invasion of Ukraine

Source: Bloomberg, Reserve Bank of India. <sup>1</sup> CY 2022 estimates as per IMF <sup>2</sup>Returns between Dec 2000 – Dec 2022 for MSCI India Net Total Return USD Index (M1IN Index) and S&P 500 Total Return Index (SPTR Index); <sup>3</sup>Data for WCAUINDI Index, WCAUUS Index between Dec 2000 – Dec 2002; GDP = Gross Domestic Product.

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### **Country Risks**

Investments in securities of issuers of different nations and denominated in currencies other than the Base Currency present risks. Such risks include changes in relative currency exchange rates, foreign custody risk, time zone arbitrage, political, economic, legal and regulatory developments, taxation, the imposition of exchange controls; confiscation and other governmental restrictions or changes in policy.

## **Political Risk**

Some economies may be more vulnerable to political changes than others. Political or social instability or diplomatic developments could affect investments in such countries and the Fund may be adversely affected by such possibilities or their realization.

## **Volatility Risk**

Emerging markets are more likely than developed markets to experience periods of extreme volatility. Such volatility could result in substantial losses for a Fund. Other factors that can lead to increased volatility include but are not limited to the investment in debt securities (including corporate and foreign debt), the fixed income market, zero coupon bonds. Events such as health pandemics or outbreaks of disease may lead to increased short-term market volatility.

### **Emerging market Risk**

Investments in developing and emerging market countries are subject to all the risks associated with foreign investing, however, these risks may be magnified in developing and emerging markets. Investments in securities of issuers in developing or emerging market countries are likely to incur a high level of risk.

Note that these are not all the risks to the investment case but only a high level summary of certain key risks





# **Portfolio Performance - India Acorn Fund Limited\***



### 01 September 2017 – 31 October 2023, Net of Fees in INR

	Fund	Benchmark % S&P BSE 500 <sup>1</sup>	Excess Returns (bps)
October 2023	-1.3%	-2.9%	+152
YTD 2023	14.2%	9.4%	+477
2022	-11.0%	4.8%	-1581
2021	37.8%	31.6%	+615
2020	38.9%	18.4%	+2049
2019	13.4%	9.0%	+444
2018	1.3%	-1.8%	+310
Partial 2017	20.6%	9.2%	+1140
S.I. (Annualised) <sup>2</sup>	17.4%	12.7%	+475
S.I. (Cumulative) <sup>2</sup>	169.4%	+108.8%	+6057

S&P BSE 100 Large cap <sup>1</sup>	S&P BSE 150 Mid cap <sup>1</sup>	S&P BSE 250 Small cap <sup>1</sup>
-2.7%	-3.5%	-2.7%
5.4%	21.9%	26.4%
5.5%	3.6%	-1.0%
26.9%	48.6%	59.1%
16.6%	26.3%	27.9%
11.8%	0.9%	-8.4%
3.0%	-13.0%	-23.7%
7.0%	16.7%	17.7%
12.1%	15.5%	12.7%
102.7%	143.0%	109.3%

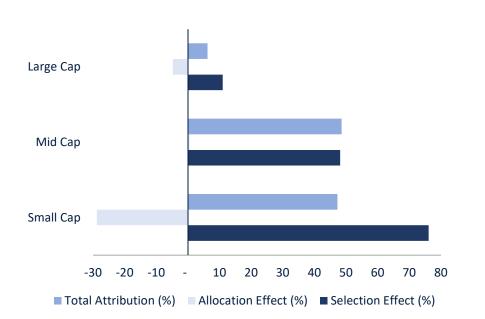
India Acorn Fund (Cayman) : 01 Sept 2017. <sup>1</sup>All indices are Net Total Return. <sup>2</sup>The NAV for 31 October 2023 is based on estimates and hence the performance might be restated post the final valuation. The performance is net of all fees and expenses for Founder class shares at the Master Fund level. Fund performance in INR v/s S&P BSE 500 TR Index. The performance is after accounting for all taxes paid on realized gains but doesn't account for potential taxes on unrealized gains. Please note the published NAV of India Acorn Fund (Cayman) is after adjusting for potential taxes on unrealized gain, and to that extent its performance may differ from the above. Performance is calculated using Net NAV of India Acorn Fund (Cayman). \*White Oak Capital Partners Pte. Ltd acts as an investment manager to India Acorn Fund Limited. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results.

## Market Cap Attribution Analysis - India Acorn Fund Limited\*



Stock selection drives performance : 01 September 2017 – 31 October 2023





	Fu	nd	Bench	nmark	Attribution		
	Average Weight (%)	Total Return (%)	Average Weight (%)	Total Return (%)	Selection Effect (%)	Allocation Effect (%)	Total Attribution (%)
Large Cap	45.0	172.1	79.0	115.7	14.2	-4.8	9.4
Mid Cap	22.2	309.9	13.9	107.7	47.1	0.4	47.5
Small Cap	28.6	304.3	7.0	42.7	78.2	-27.5	50.6
Cash/Futures/Others	4.2	5.4	0.0	0.0	-	-	-8.1
Total	100.0	208.2	100.0	108.7	139.5	-40.0	99.5

<sup>1</sup>FactSet's Attribution Analysis. Performance is gross of fees, taxes and expenses. Market Cap Classification as per Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) guidelines.\* White Oak Capital Partners Pte. Ltd acts as an investment manager to India Acorn Fund Limited

# Sector Attribution Analysis<sup>1</sup>



### Stock selection drives performance : 01 September 2017 – 31 October 2023



**Attribution by Sector** 

<sup>1</sup> FactSet's Attribution Analysis: GICS Classification. Performance is gross of fees, taxes and expenses. \* White Oak Capital Partners Pte. Ltd acts as an investment manager to India Acorn Fund Limited

# **Portfolio Performance - India Acorn Fund Limited\***



### Top 10 contributors and detractors for 01 September 2017 – 31 October 2023

Top 10 Contributors	Ending Weight (%)	Total Return (%)	Contribution to Alpha (bps)
LTIMindtree	0.0	+395.9	+900
Info Edge India	1.5	+304.8	+796
Navin Fluorine International	0.7	+523.3	+621
IPCA Laboratories	0.0	+269.6	+599
V I P Industries	0.0	+15.3	+587
KEI Industries	0.0	+35.6	+567
L&T Technology Services	0.0	+343.3	+542
Dixon Technologies (India)	0.0	+334.3	+506
Balkrishna Industries	0.6	+26.1	+479
Coforge	2.3	+372.1	+427

Top 10 Detractors	Ending Weight (%)	Total Return (%)	Contribution to Alpha (bps)
Dishman Carbogen Amcis	0.0	-65.1	-332
Bharti Airtel	0.0	-12.9	-303
Karur Vysya Bank	0.0	-20.4	-265
Camlin Fine Sciences	0.0	-57.3	-251
CarTrade Tech	0.5	-51.1	-188
PB Fintech	0.0	-20.2	-172
National Stock Exchange	5.7	-5.5	-162
Godrej Industries	0.0	-33.3	-160
Heritage Foods	0.0	-22.1	-155
Indigo Paints	0.0	-31.1	-139

Performance related information provided herein is not verified by SEBI. \* White Oak Capital Partners Pte. Ltd acts as an investment manager to India Acorn Fund Limited

# Assets Under Management or Advisory: US\$ 6.7 bn



DOMESTIC ASSETS INTERNATIONAL ASSETS (~ INR 17,800 crs) (~ INR 38,177 crs) London Stock Exchange (LSE) Listed UCITS Trust Portfolio White Oak India **Equity Fund** WhiteOak Capital Ashoka WhiteOak Institutional Name of Management **India Acorn Fund** Ashoka India Ashoka WhiteOak Ashoka WhiteOak (II, Select, IV, V & Portfolio Services (PMS) and Mutual Fund **Emerging Markets** Mandates India Opportunities **Equity Investment Emerging Markets** Equity Fund, GEM Ex-Advisory VI) Fund, India ESG Fund Trust PLC Trust PLC India Fund A closed-end Trust that collects An open-ended onshore fund offshore fund money from a Separately domiciled in Separately domiciled in India number of Closed-end Investment Company An open-ended ICAV fund domiciled in managed individual as a Category III investors who Mauritius as a Managed Details (Listed on LSE) Ireland as a Collective Investment Scheme Alternative share a common Collective Accounts accounts Investment Fund investment Investment Scheme (AIF) objective March 2019, May 2020, April 2021, June 2022 and Dec Launch date Various July 2022 September 2017 July 2018 May 2023 December 2018 Various Feb 2022 and Nov 2022 2022 AUM<sup>1</sup> \$935 m \$501 m \$701 m \$246 m \$340 m \$38 m \$1,544 m \$54 m \$2,362 m 50-65% large cap 50-65% large cap Market Cap 60-40% mid/small 60-40% mid/small 60-40% mid/small 60-40% mid/small 35-50% mid/small 35-50% mid/small Various Various Various Composition cap cap cap cap cap cap **Onshore Indian Onshore Indian** US/Europe/Asia Onshore Indian **UK HNIs & family UK HNIs & family** European private European private Institutions. family offices & family offices & retail clients, family institutions, family Core client base banks & family offices banks & family offices family offices offices offices HNIS HNIS offices & HNIs offices and HNIs

<sup>1</sup> Data as on 31 October 2023

#### Prashant Khemka, CFA

#### Founder, White Oak Group

Prashant founded White Oak Capital Management in June 2017. Prior to this he was the CIO and lead portfolio manager of GS India Equity Strategy at Goldman Sachs Asset Management (GSAM) during March 2007 to March 2017, and also for the Global Emerging Markets (GEM) Equity during June 2013 to March 2017. As lead PM, he managed all mutual funds and separate accounts under these strategies. Prashant started his professional investing career in 1998 at SSGA in Boston as senior portfolio officer of Enhanced International equity in the quant group. He started his career at GSAM in 2000 as a research analyst in US Growth Equity, and by 2004 he rose to become Senior Portfolio Manager and Co-Chair of the Investment Committee. Prashant returned to Mumbai in 2006 to start GSAM India business and served as the CIO and CEO/Co-CEO of their domestic Asset Management Company. In 2013, in addition to India he was also made the CIO and lead PM of GEM equity. He won several accolades as the CIO and Lead PM of GS India Equity. He and his fund won several awards including AAA rating from Citywire and Elite rating from Fund calibre among others. Prashant graduated with honors from Mumbai University with a BE in Mechanical Engineering and earned an MBA in Finance from Vanderbilt University, where he received the Matt Wigginton Leadership Award for outstanding performance in Finance. He was awarded the CFA designation in 2001 and is a fellow of the Ananta Aspen Centre, India.

### Manoj Garg

Manoj is responsible for Pharma, Auto and Chemicals sectors. He has 26 years of relevant experience and has been in White Oak since 2017. He has a strong track record in equity research in healthcare and pharmaceuticals over the last 11 years working as lead analyst at leading brokerage houses in India. Prior to joining White Oak, he was with Merrill Lynch where he was highest voted analyst by external as well as internal clients. He ranked #1 / #2 in the All Asia Institutional Survey 2015/2016 in the Healthcare category. He began his career in the pharmaceutical industry working with companies like Cipla and Ipca for 10 years. He graduated as Gold medallist from Nagpur University with an MBA in Finance.

#### Ramesh Mantri, CIO Equities

Ramesh is responsible for Technology, Building Materials, Industrials and Metals sectors. He has 19 years of experience in investing and financial analysis across sectors and joined White Oak in 2017. Ramesh had founded Ashoka Capital Advisers that advised a fund and family offices on equity investment in South Asia. Earlier, he was part of the two member team which invested in South Asia in equity and debt for Alden Global Capital, a US based hedge fund for over 7 years. Prior to this he was an analyst at CRISIL (majority owned by Standard and Poor's), India's leading rating agency and covered the financial sector. Ramesh is a CFA charter holder, MBA from Faculty of Management Studies, Delhi and passed the Chartered Accountancy course.

#### Parag Jariwala, CFA

Parag is responsible for the Financial Services sector. Parag completed over 13 years in institutional equity research covering the Banking and Financial Services Institutions (BFSI) sector and joined White Oak in 2017. Prior to joining White Oak, he worked as a lead analyst with Religare Capital. Before that he has worked with Macquarie and other domestic sell side firms covering BFSI sector. He was highly rated by marquee institutional clients for his original think pieces and primary research work in the sector. Parag is a chartered accountant and MBA from K J Somaiya Institute of Management of Mumbai University. He also holds CFA charter from the CFA Institute (AIMR).





#### **Rohit Chordia**

Rohit covers the Consumer, Telecom, Energy and Utilities sectors. He has over 18 years of total experience with over 14 years in the investment industry having covered the Indian Telecom, Consumers and IT services sectors as a sell-side analyst at Kotak Institutional Equities. He joined White Oak in 2020. Rohit was consistently ranked amongst the top analysts in both his lead coverage sectors in polls conducted by Institutional Investor and Asia Money. Prior to his sell-side stint, Rohit spent a couple of years working with Ameriprise Financial as a financial analyst on areas like competitive intelligence and cost reengineering.

Rohit holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Management from IIM Calcutta and a B.E. (Honours) degree from BITS, Pilani.

#### **Ayush Abhijeet**

Ayush is responsible for covering the Technology, Consumer discretionary and Metals sectors. He has over 10 years of experience in investment management and trading of structured products and complex derivatives. He joined White Oak in 2017. Prior to joining White Oak Capital Ayush worked as an Investment Analyst at Avendus Capital in Indian public equities. Before starting a career in Investment Management he had stints with Deutsche Bank and Credit Suisse in macro structuring and trading in Mumbai. He also had a short stint with UBS Investment Bank's FICC trading desk in Singapore. He holds a B.Tech from IIT Delhi and a PGDM from IIM Ahmedabad.

#### **Dheeresh Pathak, CFA**

Dheeresh is responsible for covering the Healthcare and Chemical sectors. He has over 15 years of rich experience in investment management. He joined White Oak in June 2022. Prior to joining White Oak, Dheeresh was an Executive Director at Goldman Sachs Asset Management. During his 14 years at Goldman Sachs, he covered a wide range of sectors including Healthcare, Chemicals, Telecom & Media, Logistics, Building Materials and Retail. At Goldman Sachs India Equity Fund, Dheeresh was among the top-rated analysts, generating the highest alpha per unit of capital across the team. He holds a B.E in Electronics Engineering from Punjab Engineering College (Gold Medallist) and a PGDBM from MDI Gurgaon.

### Trupti Agrawal

Trupti is responsible for Retail and Building Materials sectors. She has 14 years of total work experience and joined White Oak in 2017. She has also been an entrepreneur and has run her own ecommerce venture prior to joining White Oak Capital. She started her career as a statutory auditor with Ernst & Young's affiliate in India, S. R. Batliboi & Co. She later joined the credit team at L&T Infrastructure Finance Limited where she was responsible for evaluating credit for large projects and corporate finance deals across Infrastructure, Resources and Capital goods.

Trupti is a Chartered Accountant and a graduate of commerce from Osmania University.

#### Anand Bhavnani, CFA | FRM

Anand is responsible for covering the Financial Services sector. He has more than 10 years of experience across Equity Research, Fund Management and Derivatives. He joined White Oak in 2021. Before joining White Oak, at Unifi Capital he assisted the CIO in managing Blend & Deep Value Discount (DVD) funds and tracked Chemicals, Pharma and select midcaps across sectors. Prior to Unifi Capital, he worked with Sameeksha Capital and had a short stint with Citi Global Markets in London. He started his career in financial markets as a Derivatives trader with Futures First. Anand has done M Sc. in Financial Economics from University of Oxford and graduated with distinction from Nirma Institute of Technology in Electronics & Communication engineering.



#### Neeraj Parkash

Neeraj is responsible for Industrials, Energy and Utilities sectors. He has five years of experience in equity research on the buy side and joined White Oak in 2021. Prior to joining White Oak, he worked as an investment analyst at Nepean Capital, an India focused mid and small-cap fund, where he covered a wide range of sectors including healthcare, chemicals, consumer, and financial services. Prior to Nepean Capital, he was an equity research analyst at Lazard Asset Management, in New York, covering the healthcare sector within US Equities. Neeraj has a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Psychology from Cornell University, New York.

#### Aman Kapadia

Aman is responsible for Forensic accounting, ESG and Primary research. He has over four years of experience and joined White Oak in 2020. Prior to joining White Oak Capital, Aman has worked as an Investigative Journalist with BloombergQuint where he was responsible for research and reportage of corporate governance issues. Prior to that, Aman worked as an Internal Auditor with Sharp & Tannan Associates for a total of 3 years as an articled assistant and later as employee. Aman is a Chartered Accountant and a graduate of commerce from Veer Narmad South Gujarat University.

#### Anupriya Gupta

Anupriya is responsible for analysing Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) related risks within portfolio companies. She has around 10 years of experience in diverse domains. Prior to joining White Oak, she was in ICICI Bank as team lead in ESG related credit research responsible for integration of ESG risks in credit risk management process of corporate portfolio. She began her career with Crisil Global Research and Analytics in equity research covering US Metals and Mining (specifically Precious Metal companies). She graduated from IIM Raipur with PGDM in Finance.

#### Sanjay Vaid, Trading Advisor

Sanjay has over 33 years of experience in the asset management, equity trading, and equities broking industry. Prior to joining us he was Director & Head of Equity Sales Trading at Religare Capital Markets. Before that he was Executive Director – Fundamental Equity trading at Goldman Sachs Asset Management (GSAM), responsible for trading for GS India equity fund. Before joining GSAM, he was Co-Head Equities at SBICAP Securities. Prior to that he was responsible for trading at HSBC Asset Management and SBI Mutual Fund, which are amongst the largest India funds. Sanjay began his career with Unit Trust of India, working in various capacities for 15 years. Sanjay graduated with honors in Economics from Delhi University and earned an MBA in Finance from Faculty of Management Studies, Delhi University. He is a Certified Associate of Indian Institute of Bankers (CAIIB).

#### Ashish Agrawal, Trading

Ashish is responsible for the Equities Dealing function. Ashish has over 17 years' experience on both the buy-side and sell-side, engaging with FPIs/Insurance and domestic AMCs in the institutional Equities business across multiple organizations. Before joining WhiteOak AMC, he was Head of Dealing at Motilal Oswal AMC, overseeing the entire execution across India (Passive and Active) and Overseas (US and EMEA) trades. He also worked as VP - Sales Trading between 2010-16 at Citigroup Global Markets. Before that, he had a brief stint at RBS in 2009-10 and with Edelweiss Capital between 2005-09, in the institutional equities desk. Ashish Is a PGDBM (Finance) from IMT Ghaziabad and a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Lucknow.

#### Chaitanya Kapur, Trading Advisor

Chaitanya has four years of experience and is a Chartered Accountant and has received a Bachelor's degree in Commerce (Accounting and Finance) from Mumbai University. He has worked as an Articled Assistant at Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP where he worked on statutory audits in the Automobile, Financial services, Pharmaceutical, Chemicals and Industrial sectors.



### **Arthur Kadish**

Arthur has 15 years of experience and joins from Eastspring Investments where he was an Asian equity analyst responsible for generating ideas and researching industries across the region. Prior to that, Arthur was a global equity analyst at Orbis Investments in London. Arthur is a Chartered Financial Analyst and obtained his MA in Modern History from University of Oxford.

#### Nori Chiou

Nori joins from Tokio Marine Asset Management where he was an investment analyst with expertise on Information Technology sector across Asia. Prior to that, he was also involved in long/short strategy of the US/Asia investment and different sell-side roles in Hong Kong/Taiwan. He joined the investment industry since 2011.

#### Wen Loong Lim

Loong has nine years of investment experience and currently covers semiconductors and tech hardware at White Oak. His previous position prior to joining White Oak was with Maitri Asset Management as a Senior Equity Analyst. Loong started his career at M&G Investments in London where he spent 7 years on the Global Emerging Markets team. He was a generalist across sectors and geographies but developed a deep understanding of the tech and industrial sectors, particularly in North Asia. During his time at M&G, Loong developed from an analyst to a deputy fund manager and finally managing M&G's China Strategy before leaving the company to return to Singapore. Loong read Philosophy, Politics & Economics at the University of Warwick. He is a CFA Charterholder.

#### Fadrique Balmaseda

Fadrique is responsible for covering Consumer discretionary, Industrials and Diversified Financials. He has over 10 years of experience in investment management. Prior to joining White Oak Capital Fadrique worked as Portfolio Manager at Chronos Global Equity, focusing on global listed equities. Before starting Chronos Fadrique worked at Goldman Sachs Asset Management in London, where he worked as an Equity Analyst for Goldman's Emerging Markets Equity Team. Prior to that he spent 18 months at Goldman Sachs' Fund sales team. He holds a double degree in Law and Business administration from ICADE University in Madrid.

### Jorge Robles

Jorge is responsible for covering Consumer Discretionary, Energy, and Utilities sectors. He has over seven years of experience in investment management. Before joining White Oak, Jorge worked as an Investment Analyst at Chronos Global Equity, focusing on listed global equities. Jorge also worked at Itaú BBA as Associate Director for the Investment Banking Division. He holds a double degree in Law and Business administration from ICADE University in Madrid.

### **Shariq Merchant**

Shariq is responsible for covering the Auto and Consumer (ex-retail) sectors. He has over 11 years of experience in the financial services industry and joined White Oak in 2022. Prior to joining White Oak, Shariq worked as an Investment Analyst with Duro Capital, covering autos, consumer and healthcare. Before that he worked as an analyst with Quest Investment Advisors and the Ambit Group where he worked across multiple roles spanning sell side, strategy and investment management. He is a Chartered Accountant and has cleared all 3 levels of the CFA program.

# Wise Words that Reflect Our Thinking



- Investing is a marathon not a sprint Anonymous
- To time the market is not merely difficult, its *impossible* White Oak
   Borrowed from "Don ko pakadna mushkil hi nahin, namumkin hai "- Bollywood movie Don, 1978
- Investor returns are a function of *time in* the market rather than *timing* the market Anonymous
- We never forget that in macro, we only have hunches: in the micro, we can develop justifiably deep conviction Seth Klarman, 2017
- Don't miss the forest for the trees John Heywood, 1546
- Don't miss the trees for the forest Anonymous
- He that lieth down with dogs shall rise up with fleas Benjamin Franklin, 1739
- Stay hungry. Stay foolish *Whole Earth Catalog, 1971*
- Far more money has been lost by investors preparing for corrections, or trying to anticipate corrections, than has been lost in corrections themselves

   Peter Lynch
- Absent a lot of surprises, stocks are relatively predictable over twenty years. As to whether they're going to be higher or lower in two to three years, you might as well flip a coin to decide.— Peter Lynch
- It is unwise to be too sure of one's own wisdom Mahatma Gandhi

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