

The Eagle Eye - May 2025

Trump's tariff truce lifts global markets

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- MSCI China rallies off lows amid global market turbulence
- DXY weakens; INR, Yuan, and Yen recover from their lows
- India's market cap rebounds from the March lows to reach USD5t
- India-US 10Y yield spread further narrows MoM

#### **DOMESTIC MARKETS**

- Broader markets take a tumble, then stage a sharp recovery
- About 66% of Nifty constituents end higher in Apr'25
- Most sectors climb higher; Technology and Metals lag behind

### **FLOWS AND VOLUMES**

- Key Asian markets, except China, see FII exodus in CY25YTD
- FII flows gather steam; DII inflows slow down
- Monthly average cash and F&O volumes continue to rise MoM
- Private Banks and O&G's weights rise, while Technology's grip weakens

### **KEY RESEARCH REPORTS**

- IC | Hindustan Aeronautics | Charting the next frontier in Defense!
- ❖ IC | Niva Bupa Health Insurance | Citius, Altius, Fortius!
- ❖ IC| Blue Jet Healthcare| Ascending the value chain
- Financials | The Changing Face of BFSI

### **MULTI-YEAR HIGHS/LOWS**

- Nifty seems poised to outperform Gold
- The tides of change: DIIs overtake FIIs in Nifty-500 ownership
- Forex fortunes: Reserves rise for the third consecutive month
- Hiring slowdown: Top service employers put on the brakes

### **VALUATIONS**

- Valuations retreat from the FY25 peak; Pvt. Bank multiples expand
- Nifty's 12-month forward P/E trades near its LTA
- EY/BY accelerates MoM; India's bond yield settles down
- India's market cap-to-GDP ratio moderates from the FY25 highs

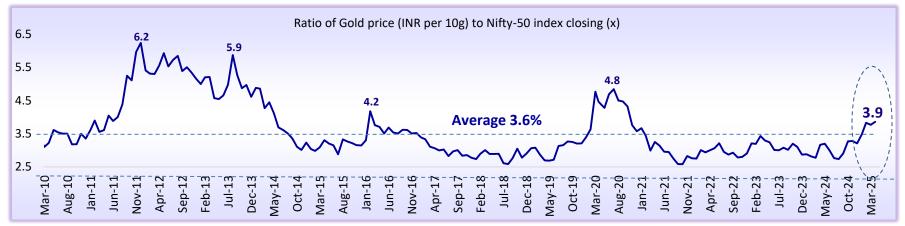


# A view from the EAGLE'S EYE!

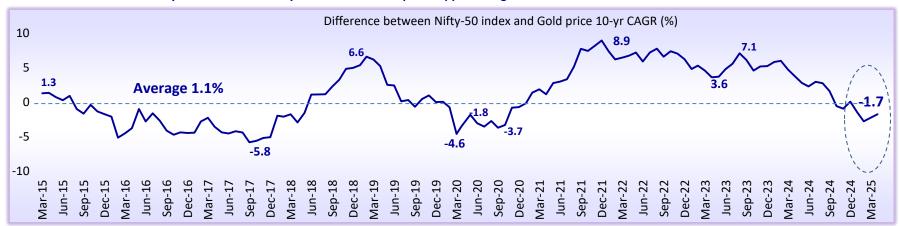
### Nifty seems poised to outperform Gold

- Ongoing geopolitical challenges, weak global equity markets, and strong demand from central banks have driven domestic gold prices to an all-time high of over INR100,000 per 10g.
- The comparison between gold price and Nifty-50 index trends suggests that the prospects of equities outperforming gold have turned higher going forward.

#### Gold price to Nifty-50 trend: The ratio rose above the 15-year average and is nearing the FY16 peak



#### Difference between the 10-year CAGR of the Nifty-50 Index and Gold price: Approaching FY21 lows



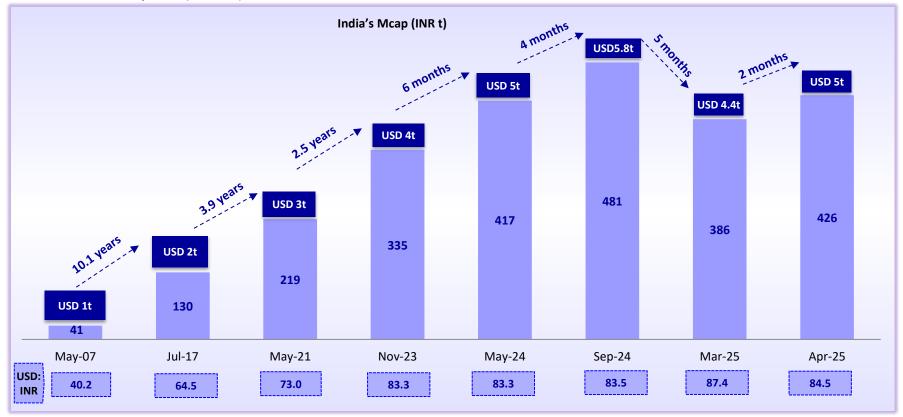
Note: The exhibit shows the difference between the rolling 10-year CAGR of the Nifty 50 and that of gold prices



# **India's market cap rebounds from the March lows to reach USD5t**

India's listed market cap declined 20% from its Sep'24 highs but rebounded 10% from its Mar'24 lows. It is now at the USD5t market cap level.

#### India's listed market cap trend (USD, INR)



Note: Market cap in as of the lows of Mar'03, 2025 and Apr'30, 2025

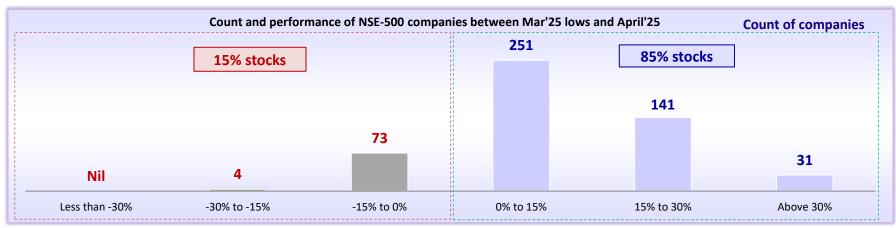
### Broader markets take a tumble, then stage a sharp recovery

- Stock prices of ~92% of NSE-500 companies declined between the Sep'24 highs and Mar'25 lows, while ~85% of the companies posted a stock price increase between the Mar'25 lows and Apr'25.
- While the NSE-500 index is 10% below its Sep'24 highs, about 65% of NSE-500 companies are still 10% below the levels of the Sep'24 market highs.

#### Count and performance of NSE-500 companies between the Sep'24 highs and Mar'25 lows (NSE-500 fell 19%)



### Count and performance of NSE500 companies between the Mar'25 lows and Apr'25 (NSE-500 rose 11%)



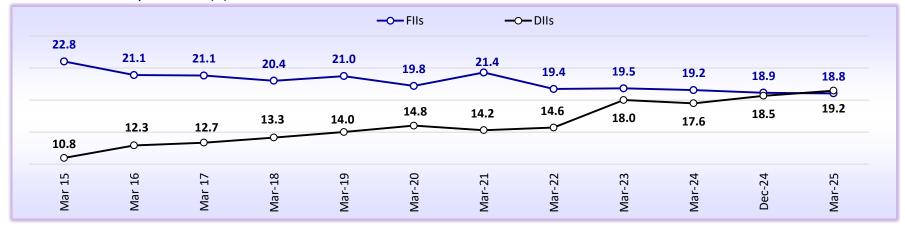
Note: We have used the NSE-500 index for comparing market highs and lows.



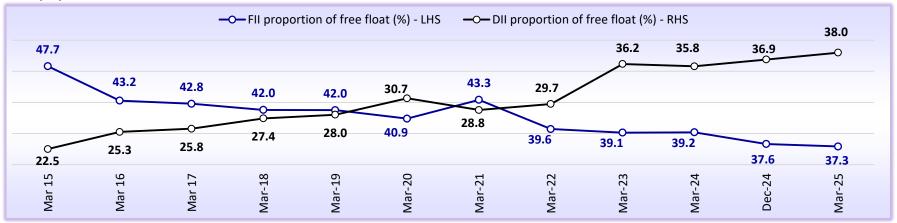
# **KEY EXHIBITS** The tides of change: DIIs overtake FIIs in Nifty-500 ownership

- ❖ The dominance of domestic flows led to a significant shift in institutional holdings across India Inc.
- FII ownership in the Nifty-500 dipped to an all-time low of 18.8%, while DII ownership rose to a record high of 19.2%. As a share of the free float, FIIs' ownership dropped to a historic low of 37.3%, whereas DIIs' ownership jumped to 38% in Mar'25.

#### Institutional ownership in NSE500 (%)



#### As a proportion of free float, FIIs' share declined to an all-time low, while DIIs' share continued to rise



### **KEY EXHIBITS**

### DXY weakens; INR, Yuan, and Yen recover from their lows

- INR, Chinese Yuan, and Yen have strengthened from their lows as the DXY drops from its peak levels in CY25 YTD.
- DXY dips 9.6% from the CY25YTD high of 110, while the INR appreciates from the 3.6% CY25YTD lows from the lows of 87.6.

#### **Exchange rates vs USD: Changes from CY25 highs**



#### **DXY vs INR**



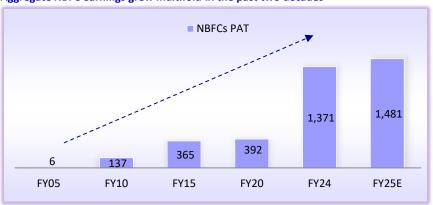
### **KEY EXHIBITS** The Changing Face of BFSI

- \* The BFSI sector has undergone a profound transformation driven by digitalization, regulatory reforms, the growth of fintechs, and demographic dividends.
- \* The Indian banking sector has strengthened significantly over the past decade, driven by improved asset quality, regulatory reforms, and enhanced capital buffers. This has translated into a sharp jump in profitability, with record-high net interest margins and return on assets across both PSB and Private banks.
- We believe that the next phase will witness hyper-personalized banking experiences, driven by AI and decentralized finance, alongside the growing adoption of Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs). Detailed Report link

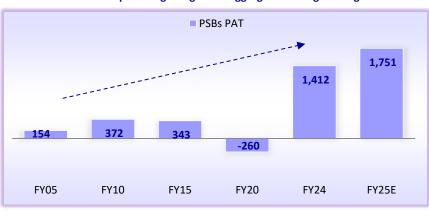
The BFSI sector's market cap has surged over 50x in the past two decades, rising from 6% of GDP to 27% by 2025

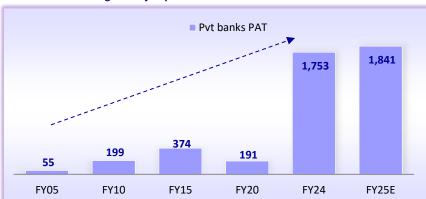


Aggregate NBFC earnings grew multifold in the past two decades



PSBs have shown a sharp earnings surge with aggregate earnings hitting INR1.7t in FY25E Private Bank's earnings have jumped ~10x from the lows of FY20 to INR1.84t in FY25E





Note: Analysis of the Indian BFSI sector is based on 70 BFSI companies under MOFSL coverage.

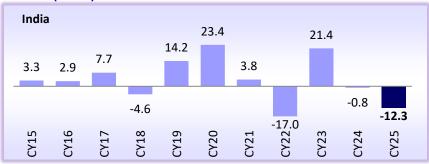


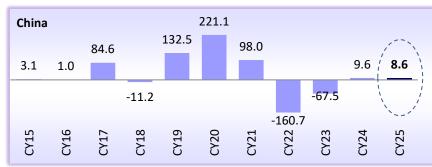
### **KEY EXHIBITS**

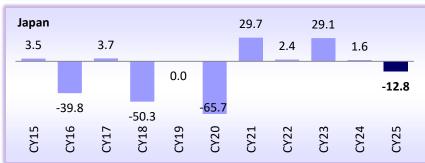
### **Key Asian markets, except China, see FII exodus in CY25YTD**

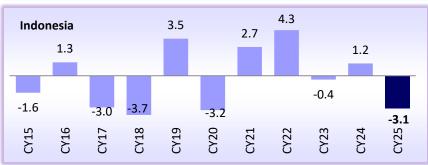
- ❖ Key equity markets have witnessed significant FII outflows in CY25YTD.
- ❖ India/Japan/Indonesia/South Korea/Taiwan have seen FII outflows of USD12.3b/12.8b/3.1b/12.3b/18.5b in CY25YTD.
- India experienced a pickup in FII flows over the past two months, while flows in other countries remained volatile.

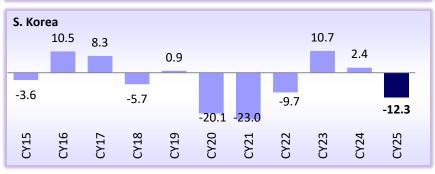
#### FII flows (USD b)

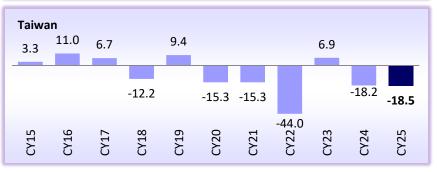












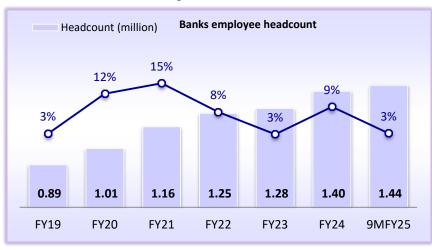
Source: Bloomberg, Note: FII flows for China are as of March 31, 2025, while those for Japan are as of March 18, 2025.



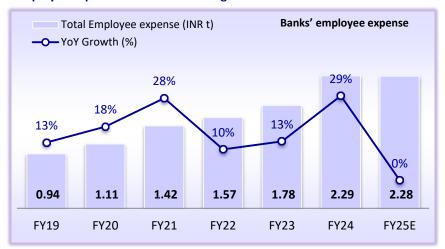
# Hiring slowdown: Top service employers put on the brakes

Aggregate employee headcount growth in India's two large services sectors depicted a significant slowdown.

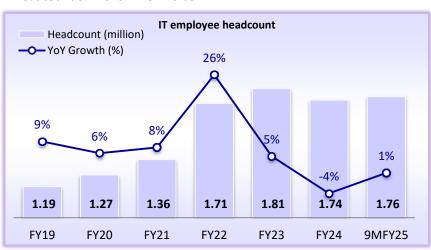
#### **Headcount of MOFSL Banking Universe**



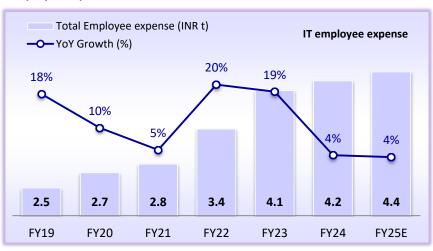
#### **Employee expenses of MOFSL Banking Universe**



#### **Headcount of MOFSL IT Universe**



#### **Employee expenses of MOFSL IT Universe**



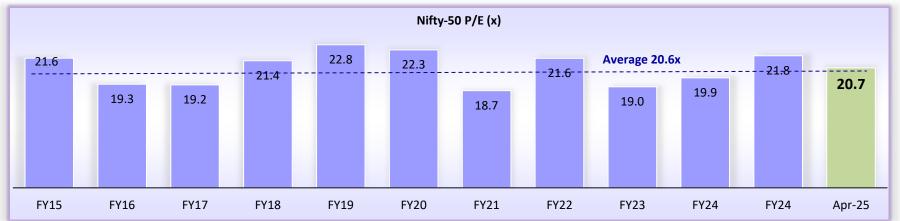
Note: We have considered 12 Private and 8 Public Sector Banks and 12 IT companies under MOFSL coverage to represent industry trends.

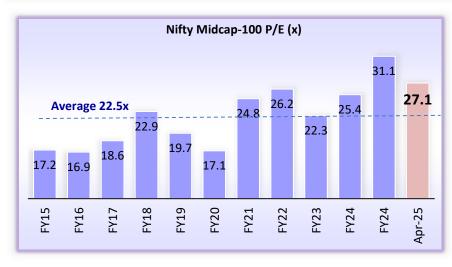


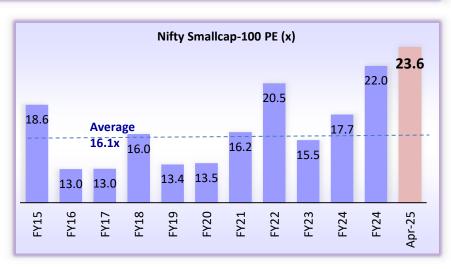
### **KEY EXHIBITS** Large-caps fair; broader markets still expensive

- The 12M forward P/E of Nifty-50 is 12% below its Sep'24 high, while mid- and small-cap valuations have fallen 22% and 1%, respectively, over the same period.
- Nifty-50 is trading at its LTA, while mid- and small-cap indices are trading at 20% and 47% premiums to their LTA, respectively.

#### 12M forward P/E trends across Nifty-50, Nifty Midcap-100 and Nifty Smallcap-100 indices (x)



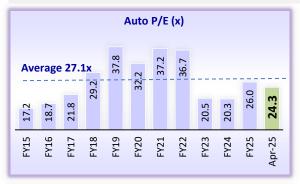




Note: The 12-month average of one-year fwd P/E is considered for the year

# Valuations retreat from the FY25 peak; Pvt. Bank multiples expand

❖ Valuations trading below the 10-year average for Auto, Private Banks, and Oil & Gas. However, remain above the 10-year average for Consumer, Capital Goods, Healthcare, Technology and Metals.

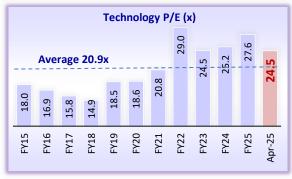


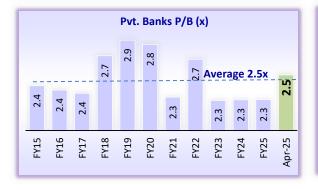
















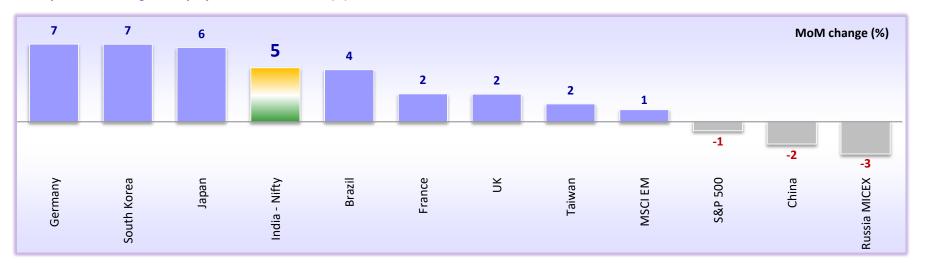
Note: The 12-month average of one-year fwd P/E and P/B has been considered for the year across MOFSL Universe sectors.



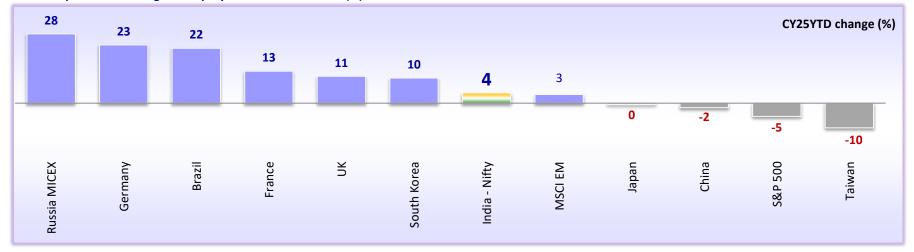
Macro, Markets, and More...

### Global markets recover MoM, while Russia, China, and the US remain in the red

#### MoM performance of global equity indices in USD terms (%)



#### CY25YTD performance of global equity indices in USD terms (%)

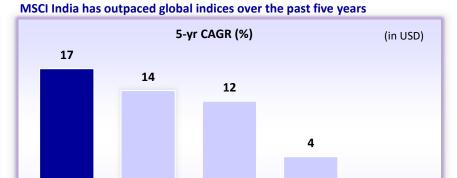


### MSCI China rallies off lows amid global market turbulence

#### Performance of MSCI India vs. MSCI US, MSCI World, MSCI Emerging Market, and MSCI China in USD terms

MSCI India emerges as the second-best performing index in CY25YTD





MSCI World

MSCI EM

MSCI US

MSCI India

MSCI China leads, MSCI India lags on base effect in the past one year



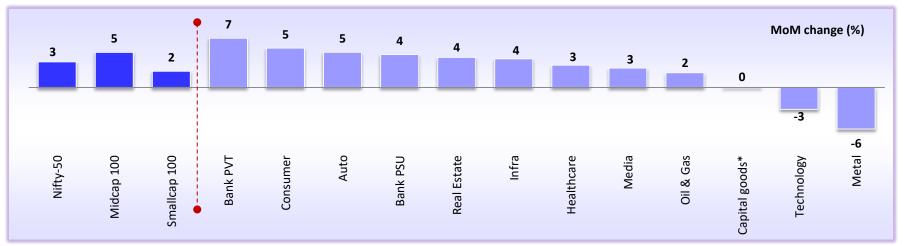
Data as of 30th April'25

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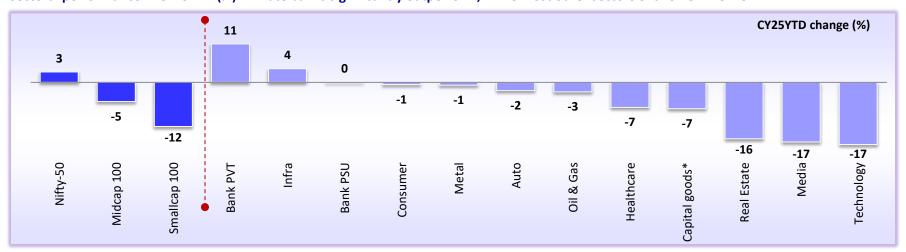
MSCI China

# **Most sectors climb higher; Technology and Metals lag behind**

### Sectoral performance MoM (%): Mid-caps outperform large-caps and small-caps during the month



#### Sectoral performance in CY25YTD (%): Private banks significantly outperform, while most other sectors end lower in CY25YTD

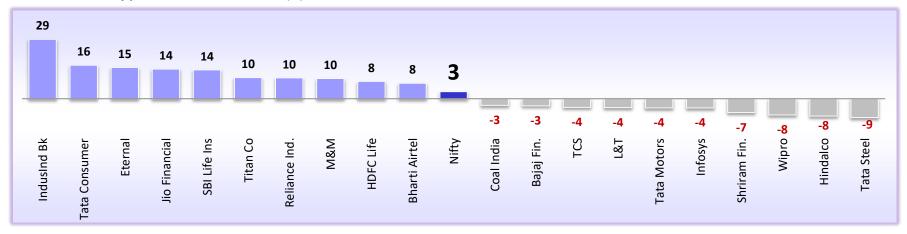


Note: (\*) represents BSE Capital goods index.

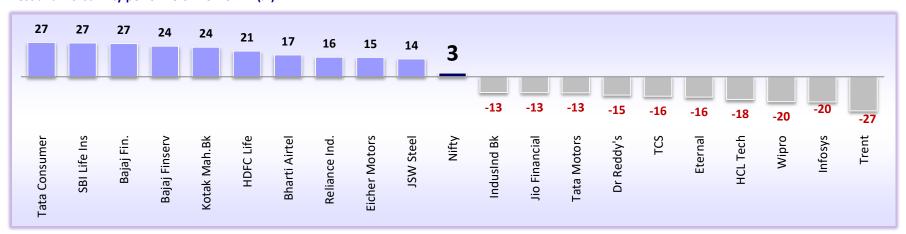
### **About 66% of the Nifty constituents end higher in Apr'25**

- Among Nifty constituents, 33 stocks closed higher MoM and 26 outperformed the benchmark. IndusInd Bank, TATA Consumer, and Eternal posted notable gains, whereas TATA Steel, Hindalco and Wipro were the key laggards.
- About 28 Nifty constituents trade higher in CY25YTD. TATA Consumer, SBI Life and Bajaj Finance are the top gainers, whereas Trent, Infosys, and Wipro are the key laggards.

#### Best and worst Nifty performers on a MoM basis (%)



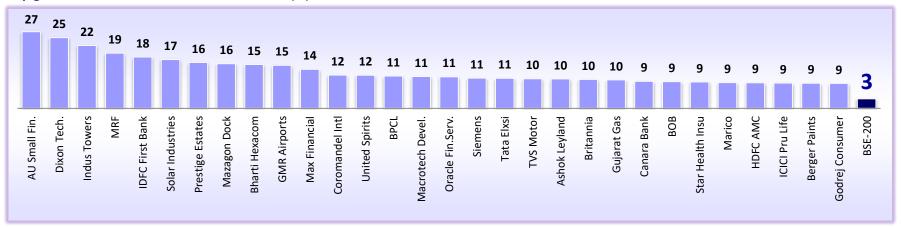
#### Best and worst Nifty performers in CY25YTD (%)



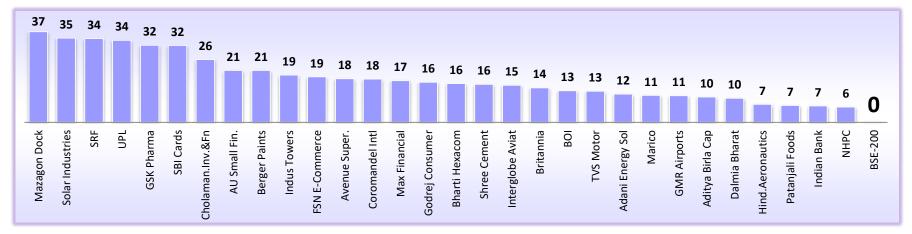
# **About 68% of BSE-200 constituents end higher in Apr'25**

- ❖ In Apr'25, 136 BSE-200 stocks closed higher. AU Small Fin, Dixon Tech and Indus Towers gained the most during the month.
- ❖ About 82 BSE-200 constituents trade higher in CY25YTD. Mazagon Dock, Solar Industries and SRF are the top gainers.

#### Top gainers from the BSE-200 on a MoM basis (%)\*



#### Top gainers from the BSE-200 CY25YTD (%)\*



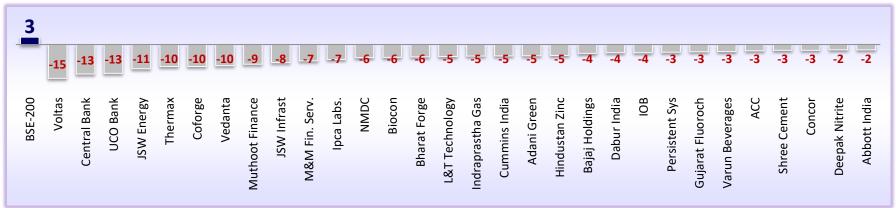
<sup>\*</sup>The list excludes Nifty constituents.



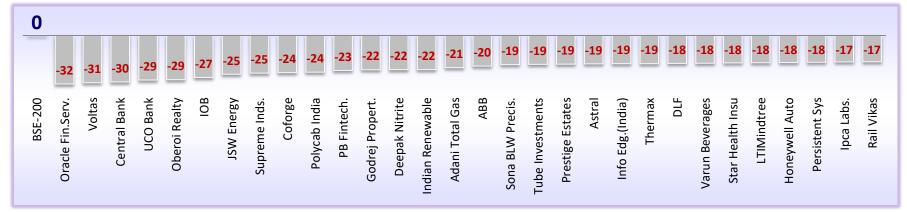
# **About 32% of BSE-200 constituents end lower in Apr'25**

- ❖ In Apr'25, 64 companies closed lower. Voltas, Central Bank, UCO Bank were among the key laggards.
- ❖ About 118 of BSE-200 companies trade lower in CY25YTD. Oracle Finance, Voltas and Central Bank are the key laggards in CY25YTD.

#### Key laggards among the BSE-200 constituents on a MoM basis (%)\*



#### Key laggards among the BSE-200 constituents in CY25YTD (%)\*





<sup>\*</sup>The list excludes Nifty constituents.

# **Private Banks and O&G's weights rise, while Technology's grip weakens**

❖ In Apr'25, the weights of Private Banks and O&G (Reliance) increased 60bp and 50bp MoM, respectively, while Technology's weight saw a sharp reduction of 80bp MoM among the Nifty-50 constituents.

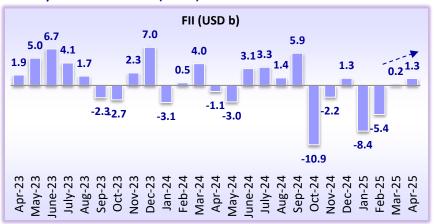
	Weightage in the Nifty (%)							
Sector	Dec'08	Dec'12	Dec'20	Dec'21	Dec'22	Dec'23	Mar'25	Apr'25
Automobiles	2.5	8.8	5.4	5.0	5.3	6.5	6.9	7.0
Banks – Private	5.0	16.9	24.7	21.9	24.2	28.2	28.4	29.0
Banks – Public	5.4	4.7	1.8	2.3	2.9	2.6	2.8	2.8
NBFC + Insurance	2.3	7.9	12.3	11.4	10.6	4.5	6.1	6.0
Capital Goods	7.7	5.9	2.6	3.0	3.1	4.4	4.9	4.6
Cement	1.7	4.2	2.2	2.4	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.2
Consumer	6.5	12.3	10.4	9.4	10.3	10.8	7.8	8.0
Healthcare	2.6	5.0	3.6	3.4	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.9
Metals	4.8	3.8	2.0	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.1	2.8
Oil and Gas	24.5	12.3	12.5	12.3	12.1	10.5	9.0	9.5
Reliance	10.6	7.4	10.7	10.8	11.0	9.2	8.1	8.6
Retail	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.6	2.3	2.3
Telecom	11.6	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.5	2.7	4.4	4.5
Technology	9.0	11.4	16.3	19.1	14.0	13.6	11.9	11.1
Utilities	13.3	4.5	2.1	2.1	2.5	3.6	3.7	3.6
Miscellaneous	3.3	0.5	1.0	1.2	2.6	1.9	2.7	2.8
Nifty	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

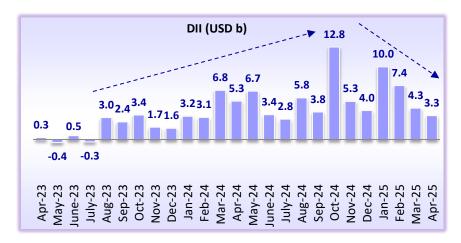
Note: The merger of HDFC Bank and HDFC Ltd. resulted in a shift in weightage from NBFCs to private banks in CY23. Britannia and BPCL were replaced with Jio Financials and Eternal in Mar'25

### FII flows gather steam; DII inflows slow down

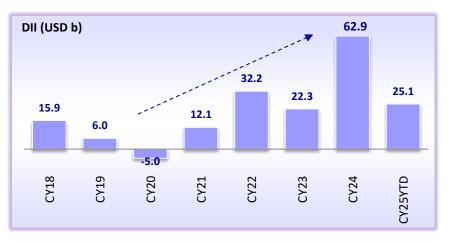
- FII flows remained positive for the second consecutive month. Meanwhile, DIIs invested USD3.3b, marking their 21st consecutive month of inflows.
- ❖ In CY25YTD, DIIs have invested ~USD25.1b, while FIIs have sold ~USD12.3b worth of Indian equities.
- ❖ During CY21-CY25YTD, DII inflows have totaled ~USD155b, whereas net FII outflows stood at ~USD5b.

#### Monthly institutional flows (USD b)



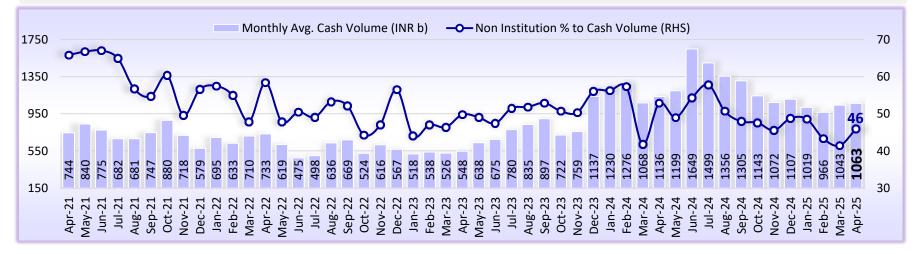






### Monthly average cash and F&O volumes rise MoM

- Monthly average cash volumes rose 2% MoM in Apr'25 to INR1,063b (down 36% from the Jun'24 high). Non-institutional participation, which accounted for 46% of the total cash volumes, was up 500bp MoM.
- ❖ Monthly average F&O volumes were up 5% MoM at INR368t (down 31% from the Sep'24 high).







### **India-US 10Y yield spread further narrows MoM**

The Gol 10-year bond yield slipped 20bp MoM to 6.4% in Apr'25, while the US yield remained flat at 4.2%. As a result, the yield spread dipped 20bp MoM to 2.2%.

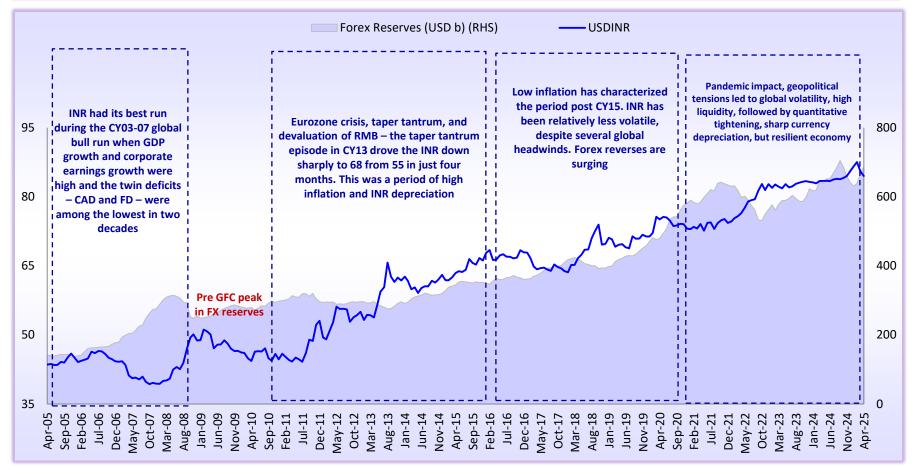
#### India-US 10Y bond yield (%)



Source: Bloomberg, MOFSL

### Forex fortunes: Reserves rise for the third consecutive month

- ❖ India's forex reserves rose 3% MoM to USD686b in Apr'25 (up 9% from the Jan'25 lows of USD631b).
- On the currency front, INR:USD strengthened 1.1% MoM to 84.5 (down 1.5% YoY).



Source: Bloomberg, MOFSL

### **Key reports from MOFSL's research desk in Apr'25**

### Initiating Coverage | Hindustan Aeronautics | Charting the next frontier in Defense!!

#### Report link>>

- Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL) is a market leader in aerospace defense. It boasts a strong order book of INR1.8t as of Mar'25, along with a promising prospect pipeline of INR6t. The company is transitioning from a traditional licensed model to an indigenized model and is currently working on marque projects such as Tejas Mk1, Tejas Mk1a, Su-30 upgrade, Dornier25, and Light Utility Helicopter (LUH), et al. We expect HAL to benefit from 1) a strong pipeline of projects, 2) execution scale-up aided by large platform orders, 3) a stable stream of RoH revenues, 4) backward integration, and 5) a healthy 29%/33%/29% revenue/EBITDA/PAT CAGR over FY25-27.
- We initiate coverage on the stock with a BUY rating with a TP of INR5,100 based on average of DCF and 32x P/E on Mar'27 estimates. We believe that near-term catalysts will emerge when aircraft deliveries commence as engine supplies from GE resume, while medium- to long-term triggers will stem from the finalization of orders for 97 Tejas-Mk1A, Tejas MK-II, LUH, Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), et al.

### Initiating Coverage | Niva Bupa Health Insurance | Citius, Altius, Fortius!

#### Report link>>

- ❖ Niva Bupa Health Insurance (Niva) has emerged as one of the fastest-growing health insurers, delivering a CAGR of ~34% during FY22-25 and garnering the highest incremental market share in the retail health segment. We expect the growth momentum to remain strong and estimate a CAGR of 25% in gross written premium (GWP) over FY25-28E (Pre 1/n).
- ❖ Niva has a diversified product mix, with retail/group health accounting for 68%/31% as of 9MFY25. Consistent innovations and right pricing will boost momentum in its retail health segment (33.5% CAGR in FY22-24). The company has a well-diversified distribution model, with agents/corporate agents/ brokers/direct contributing 30%/28%/29%/13% of the mix in 9MFY25.
- ❖ We expect the company to report a CAGR of 25%/32% in pre-1/n GWP/PAT over FY25-28. We initiate coverage on Niva with a TP of INR100, based on 40x FY27E P/E on IFRS PAT.

### Initiating Coverage | Blue Jet Healthcare | Ascending the value chain

#### Report link>>

- ❖ BLUEJET is on the path to building a legacy business in line with this philosophy. With its niche product offerings in Contrast Media and Pharmaceutical Intermediaries & API, BLUEJET has been changing the way the healthcare industry caters to the therapeutic needs of patients around the globe. The company has established itself as a reliable supplier to its customers for the past three decades and is now working toward moving up the value chain by significantly increasing its investment in R&D.
- ❖ With existing products ramping up and new product launches in sight, we expect BLUEJET to post a CAGR of ~27%/24%/19% in revenues/ EBITDA/ PAT over FY25-27E, with a sharp uptick to be seen in the pharma Intermediaries segment.
- ❖ We expect FCF generation of INR3.6b during FY25-27E, with cumulative capex of INR5b. The stock is trading at a P/E of ~28x on FY27E EPS of INR24.7 and FY27E EV/ EBITDA of ~20x. We initiate coverage with a BUY rating on the stock with a target price of INR865, valuing the company at a P/E of 35x on FY27E EPS of INR24.7.









**Valuations: Key observations** 

# Valuations: Nifty's 12-month trailing P/E rises further MoM

- ❖ The 12-month trailing P/E for Nifty rose 4% MoM to 23.6x (down 7% from the Sep'24 high of 25.5x) and traded 4% above its LTA.
- ❖ At 3.5x, the 12-month trailing P/B was 12% above its historical average of 3.1x.

#### 12-month trailing Nifty P/E (x)



#### 12-month trailing Nifty P/B (x)



# Valuations: Nifty's 12-month forward P/E trades near its LTA

- Nifty's 12-month forward P/E traded at 20.7x, near to its LTA and down 15% from the Sep'24 high.
- ❖ At 3.2x, the 12-month forward P/B traded at a premium of 12% to Nifty's historical average of 3.2x.

### 12-month forward Nifty P/E (x)

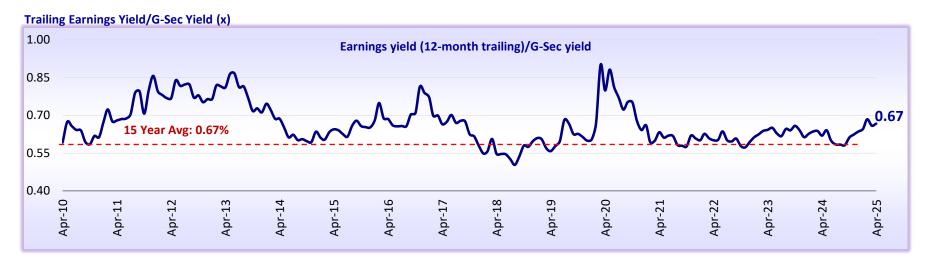


#### 12-month forward Nifty P/B (x)



### EY/BY accelerates MoM; India's bond yield settles down

❖ India's 10Y bond yield stood at 6.4% (down 20bp MoM). As a result, EY/BY traded at its LPA on a trailing basis and was at a premium on a forward basis.



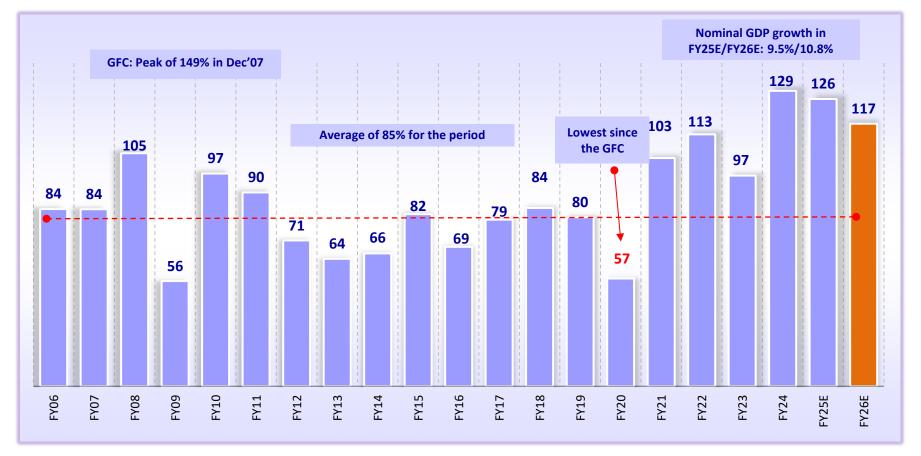
#### Forward Earnings Yield/G-Sec Yield (x)



# **India's market cap-to-GDP ratio moderates from the FY25 highs**

❖ India's market cap-to-GDP ratio is projected at 117% in FY26, down from the high of 146% in Sep'24.

#### Market cap-to-GDP ratio (%)





# **Top ideas**

Company	Mcap (USDb)	СМР	EPS (INR)		EPS CAGR (%)	PF (x)		РВ (х)			ROE (%)				
	(0300)		FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25-27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E	FY25E	FY26E	FY27E
Preferred large-cap stocks															
Reliance Inds.	225.4	1,422	25.7	59.5	66.5	60.7	55.3	23.9	21.4	4.6	2.1	1.9	8.5	9.2	9.4
Bharti Airtel	134.2	1,852	36.5	44.7	62.1	30.5	50.8	41.4	29.8	10.1	7.7	6.6	22.8	22.8	25.6
ICICI Bank	118.8	1,432	66.8	72.9	85.5	13.2	21.4	19.6	16.7	3.5	3.2	2.7	18.0	17.1	17.5
Hind. Unilever	65.0	2,323	44.3	47.8	52.3	8.6	52.4	48.6	44.4	11.1	10.8	10.4	20.7	22.4	23.8
Larsen & Toubro	54.3	3,329	104.9	135.1	156.2	22.0	31.7	24.6	21.3	4.7	4.1	3.6	15.7	17.8	17.9
Kotak Mah. Bank	51.9	2,185	94.3	106.2	126.4	15.8	23.2	20.6	17.3	2.9	2.6	2.2	13.5	13.0	13.5
TCS	146.8	3,444	134.2	142.5	153.1	6.8	25.7	24.2	22.5	13.2	12.6	12.1	52.4	53.3	55.0
M & M	41.5	2,930	98.3	116.4	130.2	15.1	29.8	25.2	22.5	5.7	4.9	4.2	20.8	20.9	20.0
Titan Company	35.5	3,339	42.8	53.1	63.2	21.6	78.0	62.9	52.8	24.6	19.3	15.4	35.5	34.5	32.5
Trent	21.8	5,146	43.2	55.5	68.3	25.8	119.2	92.8	75.3	31.3	23.0	17.3	32.2	30.6	28.1
Preferred mid-cap/small-cap	stocks														
Indian Hotels	13.3	800	11.7	15.1	17.9	23.6	68.4	53.1	44.8	10.1	8.6	7.2	16.1	17.5	17.5
Dixon Tech.	11.7	16,350	124.1	168.2	242.4	39.7	131.7	97.2	67.4	40.4	28.7	20.2	36.1	34.5	35.2
HDFC AMC	11.0	4,382	115.2	131.3	149.0	13.7	38.0	33.4	29.4	11.5	10.6	9.7	32.4	33.1	34.5
SRF	10.6	2,970	42.7	71.6	100.1	53.2	69.6	41.5	29.7	7.2	6.4	5.4	10.7	16.3	19.7
BSE	10.2	6,307	87.2	132.7	150.2	31.2	72.3	47.5	42.0	23.3	20.3	17.8	32.3	42.8	42.3
Suzion Energy	9.1	56	1.0	1.6	2.4	58.6	59.2	34.7	23.5	14.7	10.3	7.4	28.4	35.0	36.6
JSW Infra	7.2	290	7.0	7.5	9.4	16.2	41.5	38.5	30.7	6.2	5.5	4.8	16.3	15.4	16.7
Page Industries	6.0	45,201	616.9	708.4	839.8	16.7	73.3	63.8	53.8	28.7	24.7	21.2	39.2	38.7	39.4
Coforge	5.8	7,387	127.9	233.8	282.1	48.5	57.7	31.6	26.2	11.7	9.9	8.4	21.3	33.8	34.5
IPCA Labs.	4.2	1,378	34.4	45.5	56.1	27.7	40.0	30.3	24.6	4.9	4.3	3.8	13.0	15.3	16.4

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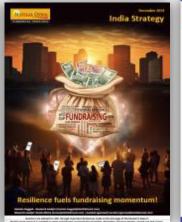
# **Quant Research & India Strategy Gallery**























Explanation of Investment Rating					
Investment Rating	Expected return (over 12-month)				
BUY	>=15%				
SELL	< - 10%				
NEUTRAL	> - 10 % to 15%				
UNDER REVIEW	Rating may undergo a change				
NOT RATED	We have forward looking estimates for the stock but we refrain from assigning recommendation				

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