



Aam Aadmi Ki Kahani





Raj Sharma

Age: 29 years

Profession: Sales Executive

Income: ₹10.5 lakh/annum

Aspiration: Buy a car

Hobbies: Photography, Playing Cricket



In 2024, Raj faced several challenges:

Flashback



1

Food Inflation Surged



2

Wage Growth Slowed Down



3

Reduced Spending to Meet Emergencies



1 Food Inflation Surged

Flashback

In October 2024, Raj was taken aback by the dramatic rise in food prices.

Vegetables have become expensive!

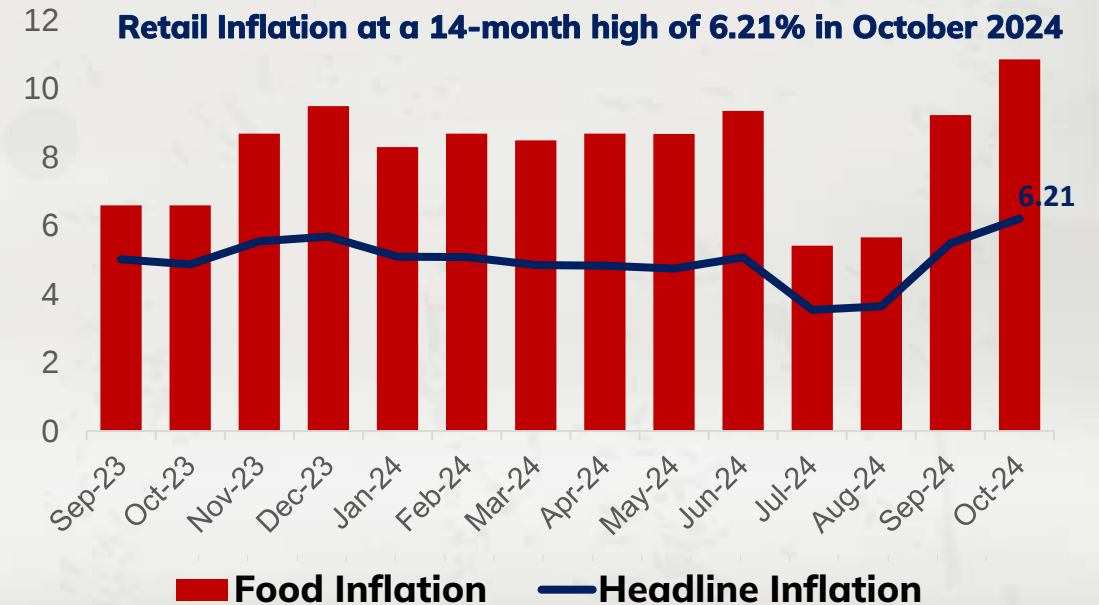


The above prices are for representation purpose only.

Daily News

India's Inflation Rate (%)

Retail Inflation at a 14-month high of 6.21% in October 2024



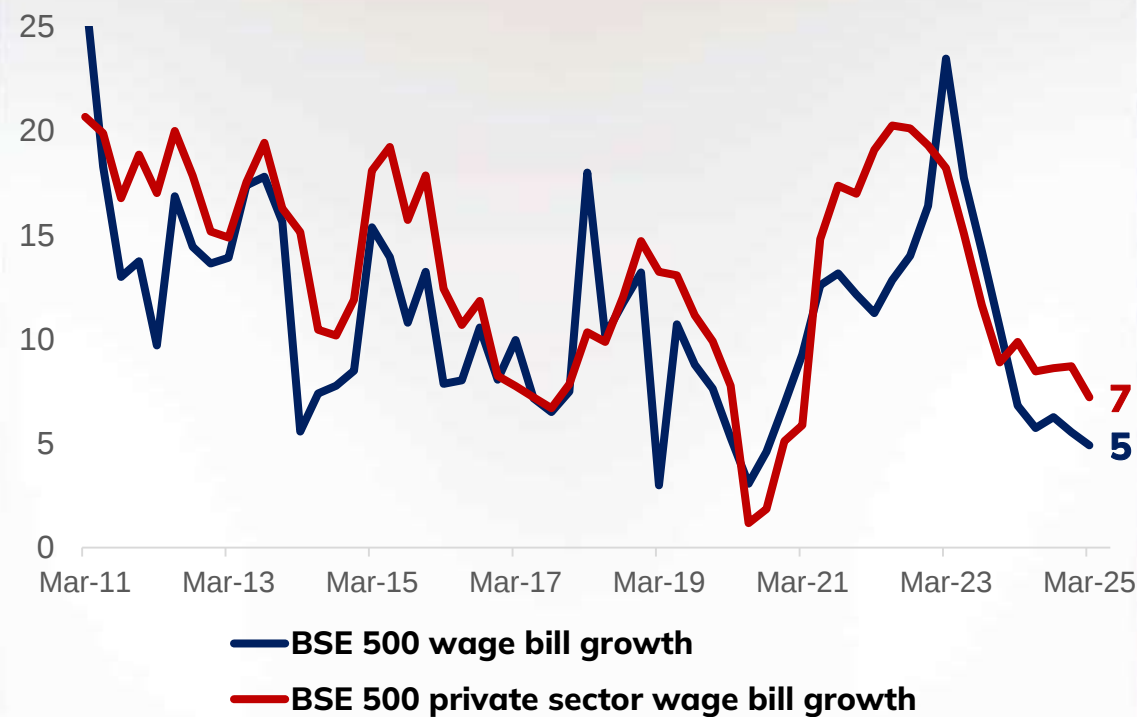
Source: Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI). Data as on October 2024. Year-on Year %. Retail Inflation is based on Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Raj, we can give you an increment of only 2% this year as our company has not performed

Oh no! How will I buy the car I wanted?



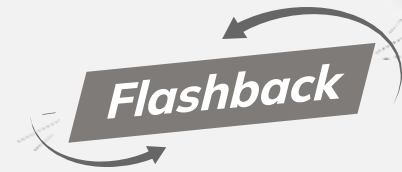
BSE 500 Wage Bill Growth for Private Sector (%)



Source: Nuvama Research, June 2025 report. The above data is Year-on-Year %.

3

With rising inflation and subdued wage growth, Raj had to cut back on spending



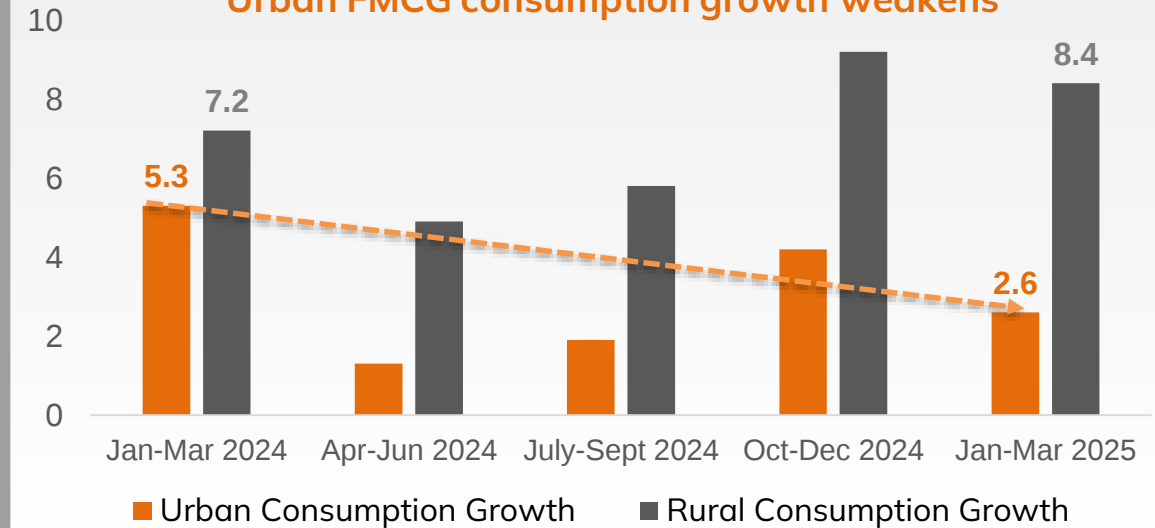
We should buy a washing machine. It is difficult to manage all household chores!

I can't afford it at this stage!



Urban & Rural FMCG Consumption Volume Growth (%)

Urban FMCG consumption growth weakens



The Frantic Call for Help

Just as how the protagonist of a movie gets rescued by the police, Raj was hopeful that some Government initiatives may help combat these challenges.

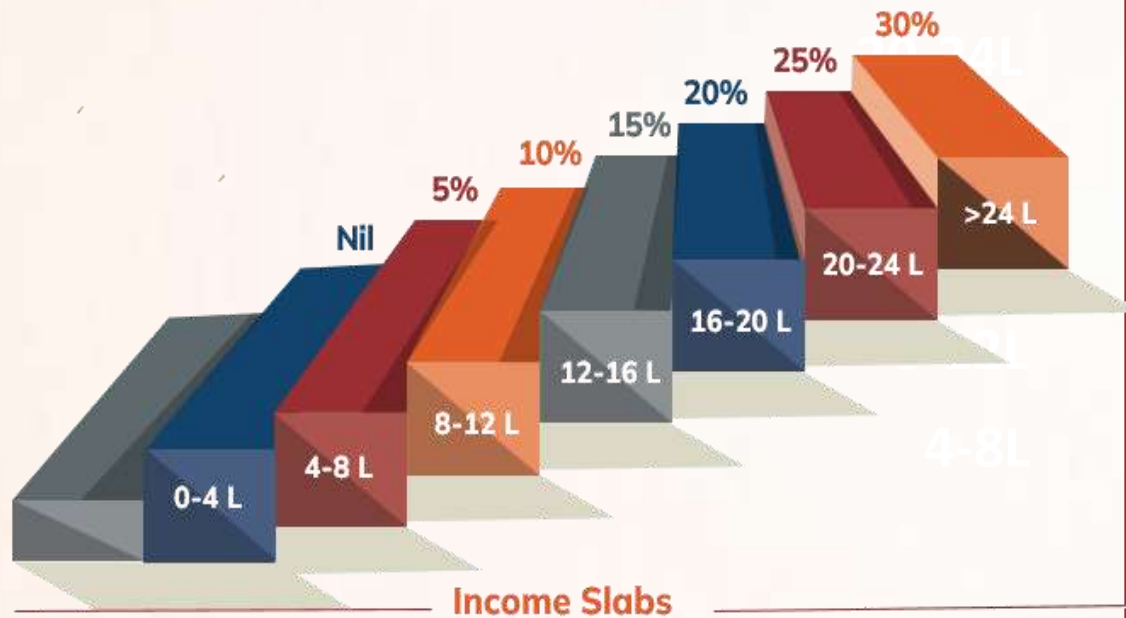


1

The Government provided the much-needed tax relaxation

As announced in the Union Budget 2025-26, there will be no tax payable up to the income* of ₹12 lakh under the new regime (rebate of ₹60,000 can be claimed under 87A[^]).

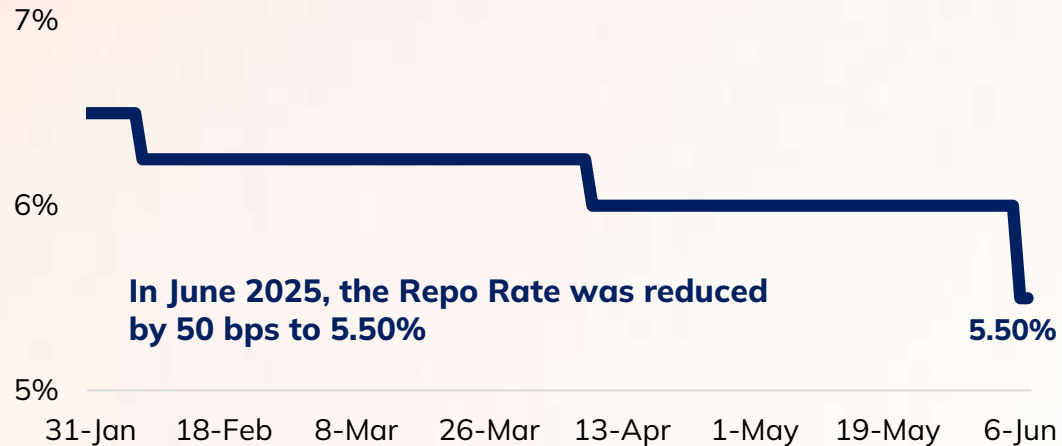
Tax structure under new regime



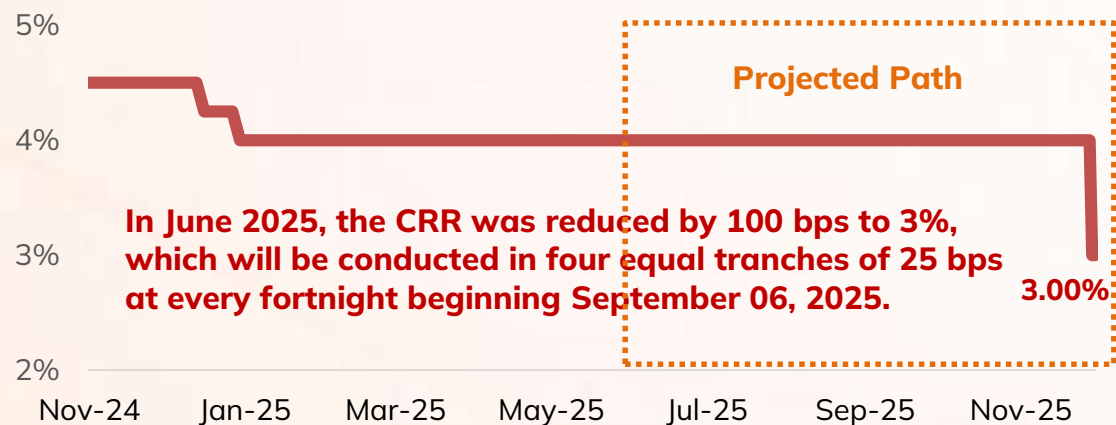
Data Source: Union Budget 2025-26. (<https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/>). *Income other than capital gains. [^]Section 87A of the Income Tax Act, 1961. L: Lakh. Please consult your tax advisors for more details.

Measures directed by the central bank are supportive of credit growth.

Repo Rate (%)



Cash Reserve Ratio (%)



How will a lower interest rate facilitate greater credit flow?



A lower cost of borrowing for banks would reduce interest rates on loans linked to the External Benchmark Rate

A lower interest rate encourages individuals to take loans, such as consumer durables, vehicle, etc.



Businesses would borrow to scale operations

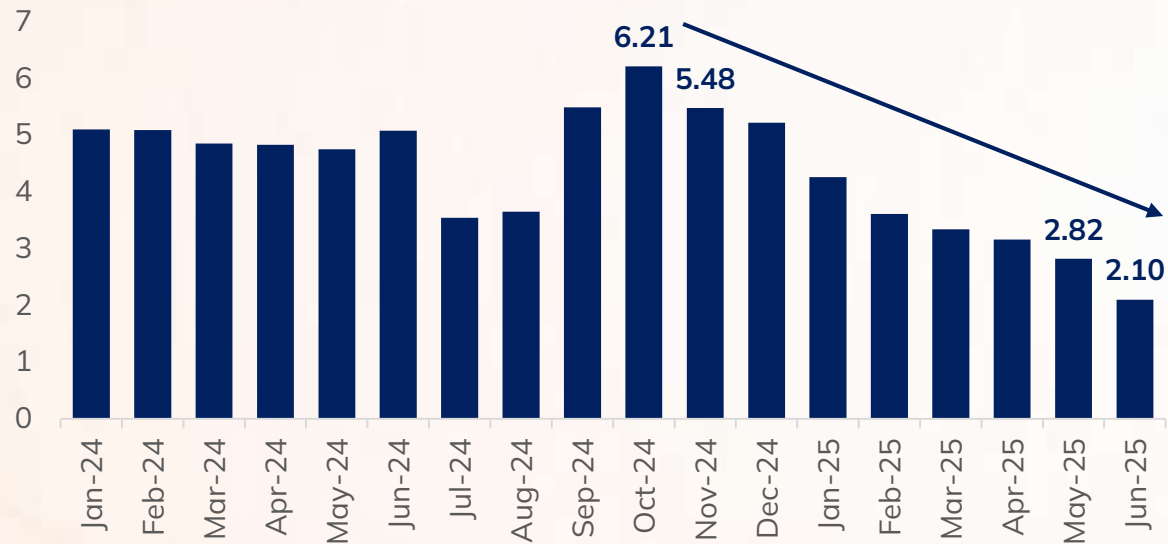


A lower CRR would reduce the cost of funding of the banks and release primary liquidity of about ₹2.5 lakh crore to the banking system by December 2025

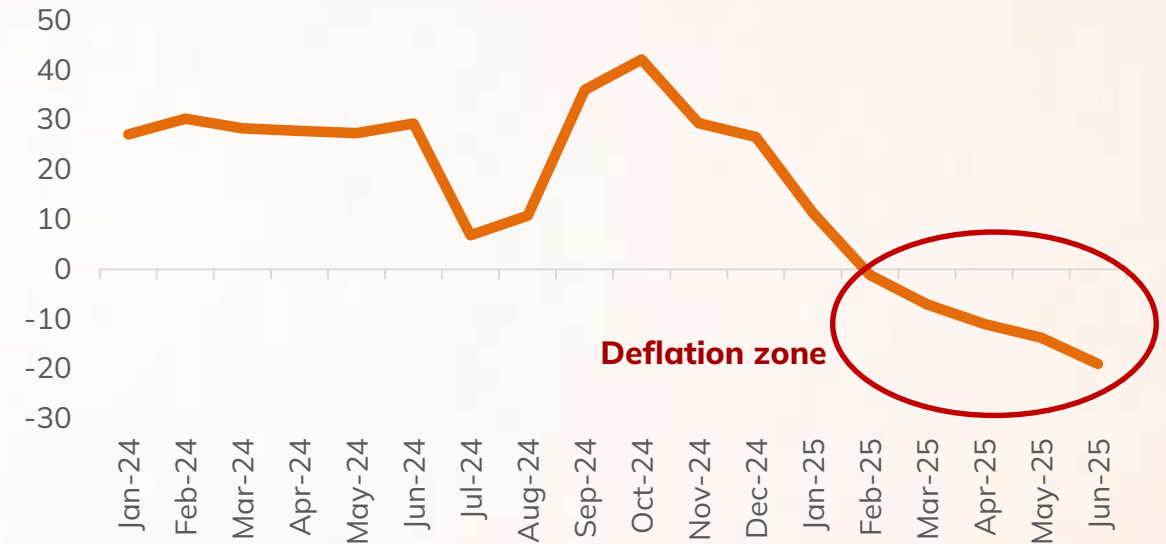
Further, India's Retail Inflation eased, providing relief to households

India's retail inflation cooled to 2.10% in June 2025, primarily driven by sustained moderation in food prices. The encouraging prospects for agricultural production, comfortable reservoir levels and fresh Rabi harvests augur well for food inflation, which would support consumption.

India's Consumer Price Inflation Growth (%)



Vegetables Inflation Rate (%)



Source: Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI). Data as on June 2025. India's retail inflation is measured by Consumer Price Index (CPI).

With higher disposable income and a lower cost of borrowing, the demand for premium products could rise

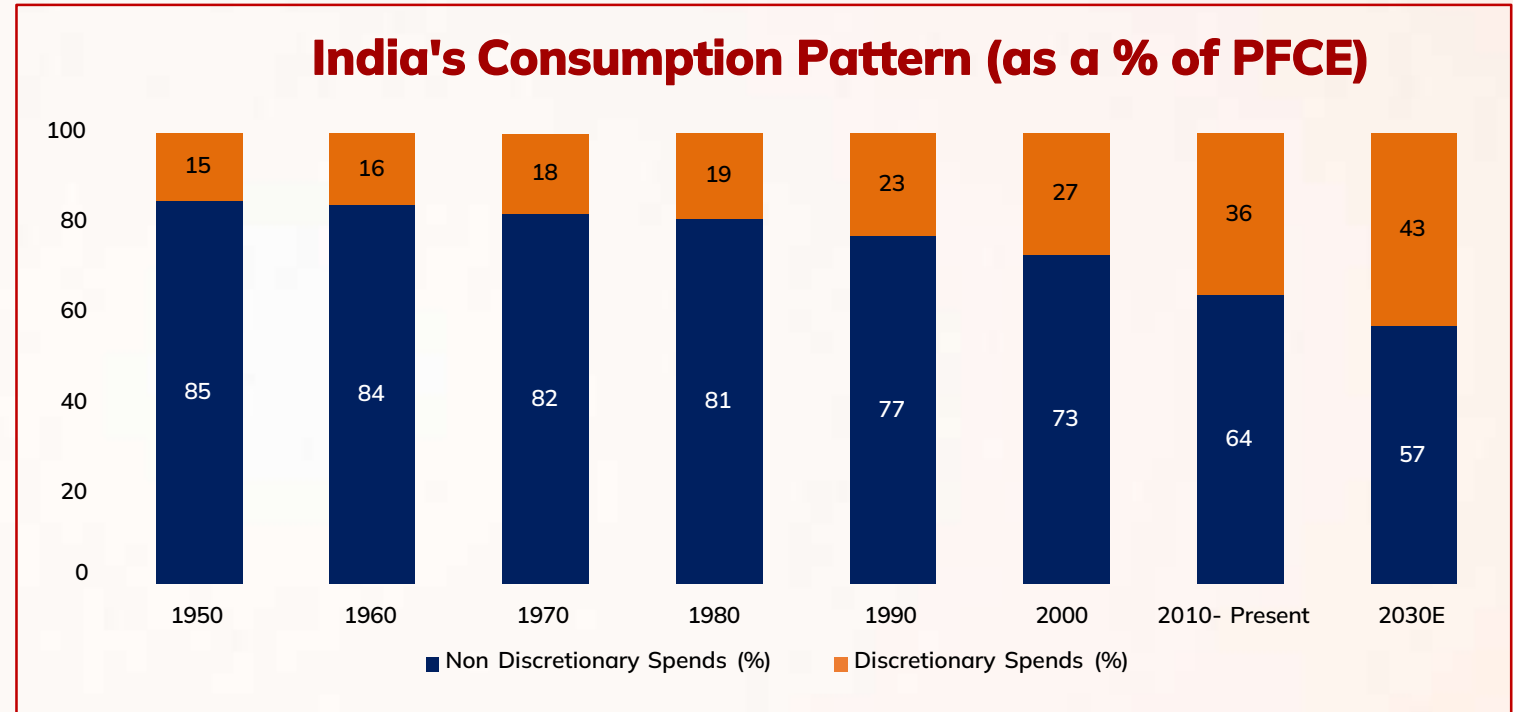


Premiumization: An underpenetrated market coupled with the expanding desire for premium products augurs well for domestic demand.

India's consumption trend displays a shift from basic necessities towards discretionary spending.

PRODUCTS	INDIA	CHINA	U.S.A.
 Auto	4%	15%	81%
 Outbound Trips	6%	9%	42%
 Air Conditioners	8%	60%	90%
 Refrigerators	18%	94%	100%
 Smartphone Users	37%	54%	83%
 Internet Users	58%	60%	95%

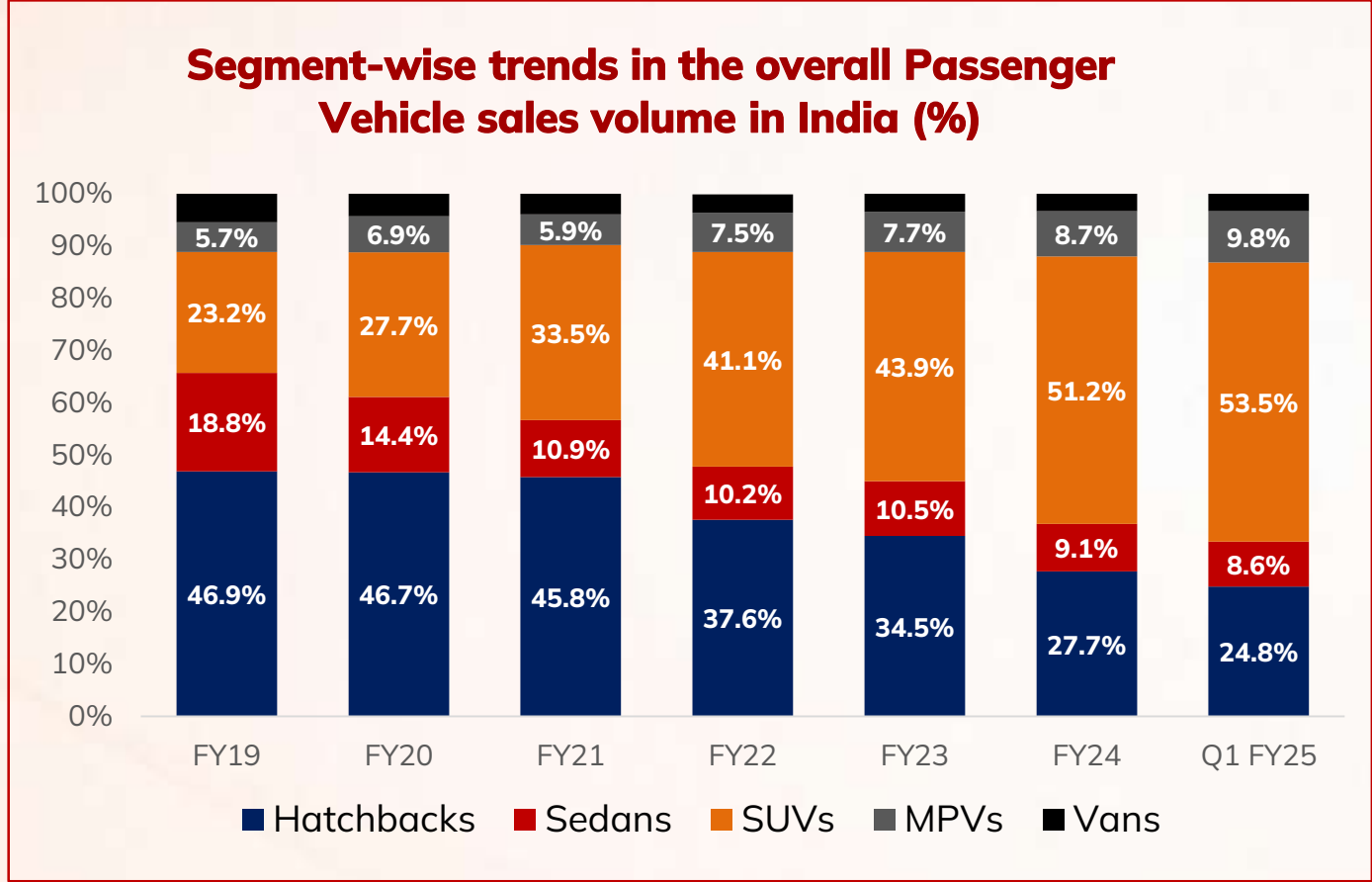
Source: Avendus Spark. U.S.A.: United States of America. Data for white goods consumption is for the Calendar Year 2021.



Source: BOFA Global Research. Data is shown on Financial Year basis. PFCE: Private Final Consumption Expenditure. E: Estimates.

Premiumization: Customers could upgrade to better vehicles

With a larger number of younger buyers in India, the preference towards safety and advanced features has been on the rise, which led to greater demand for SUVs.



Source: SIAM, CRISIL Market Intelligence & Analytics. SUV: Sport Utility Vehicle. MPV: Multi-Purpose Vehicle. FY: Financial Year.

Premiumization: Enhanced Mobility Needs

Domestic and International Footfalls at airports in India have increased over the years.



Source: Airports Authority of India. Total includes domestic and international footfalls.



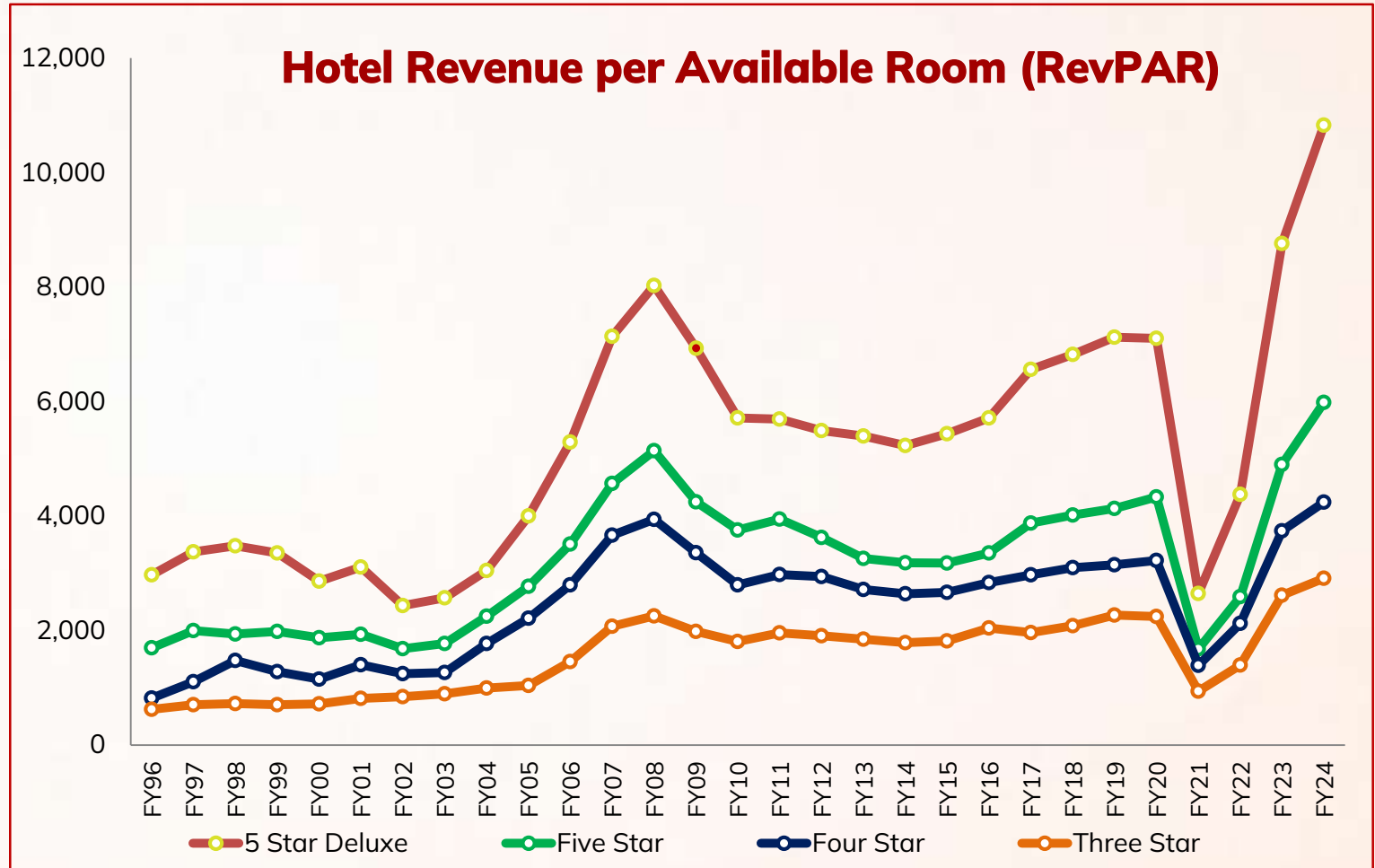
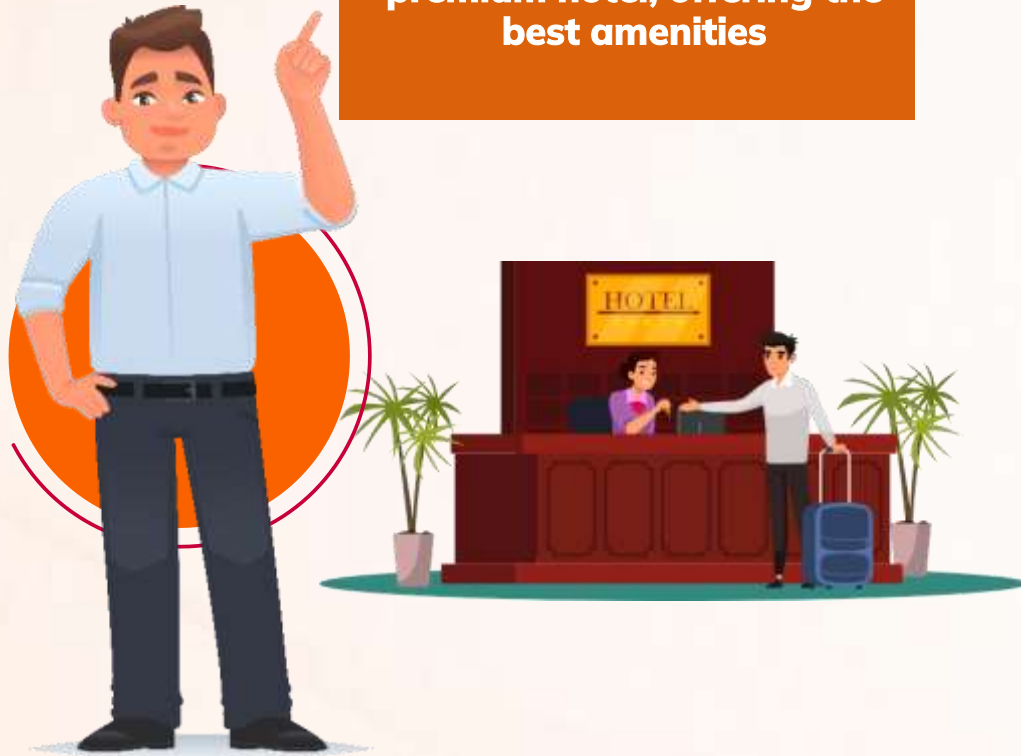
If I start investing now, I can plan for an international trip in the future



Premiumization: Customers prefer premium experiences

With a higher standard of living, the demand for premium hotel accommodation has increased. In recent years, the hotel revenue per available room in India witnessed an upward trend in tandem with the premiumization theme.

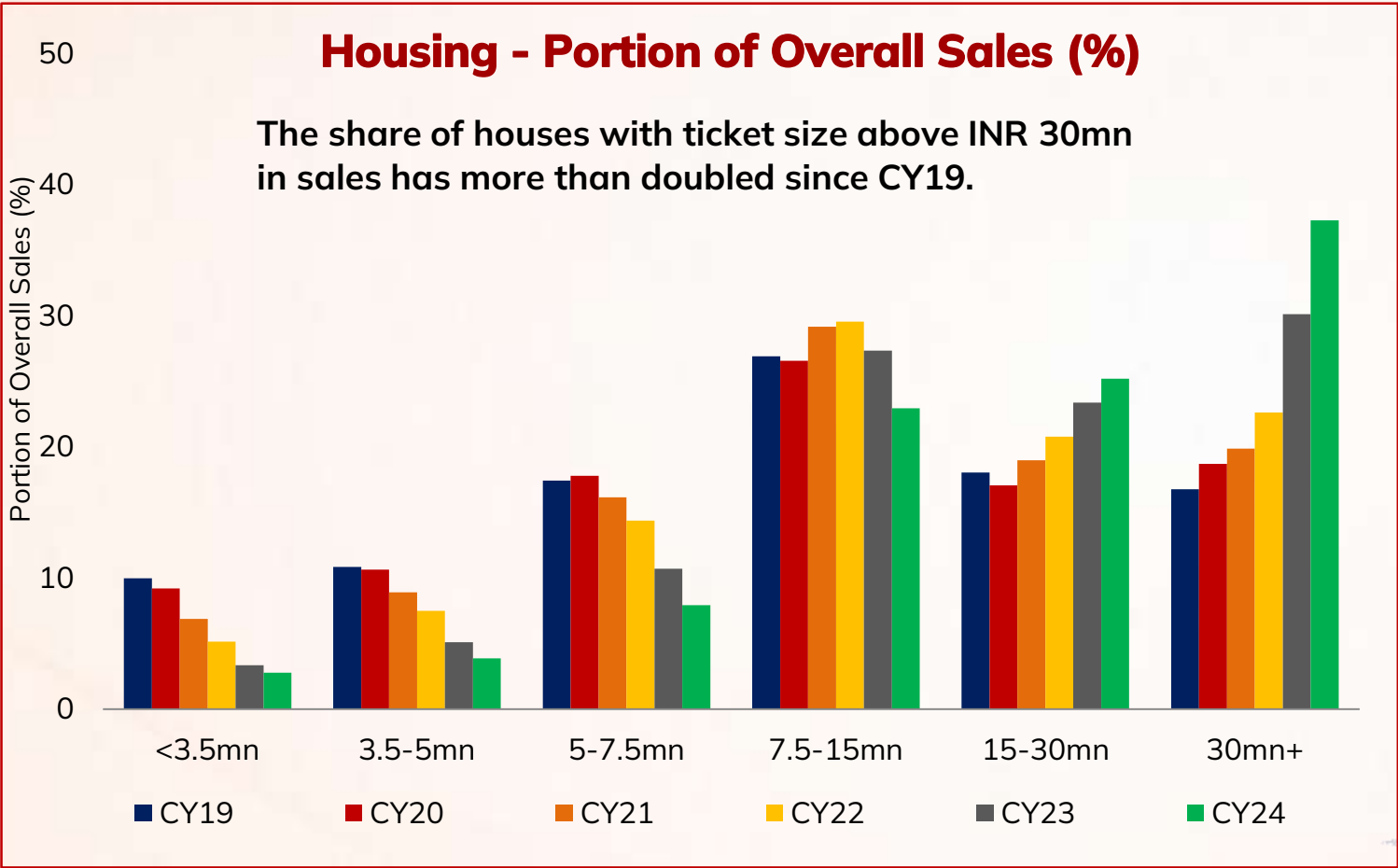
In my next trip, I will select a premium hotel, offering the best amenities



Source: Nuvama Research, Hotelivate. RevPAR: Revenue Per Available Room is a key performance indicator in the hotel industry that measures how well a hotel is generating revenue from available rooms.

Premiumization: With a change in lifestyle, the demand for premium apartments has increased

Demand for luxury housing in India is on the rise on the back of rising disposable income, the need for modern amenities and a refined living experience.



Source: PropEquity, Nuvama Research. Mn: Million. CY: Calendar Year. The above figures on X-axis are in INR Million.

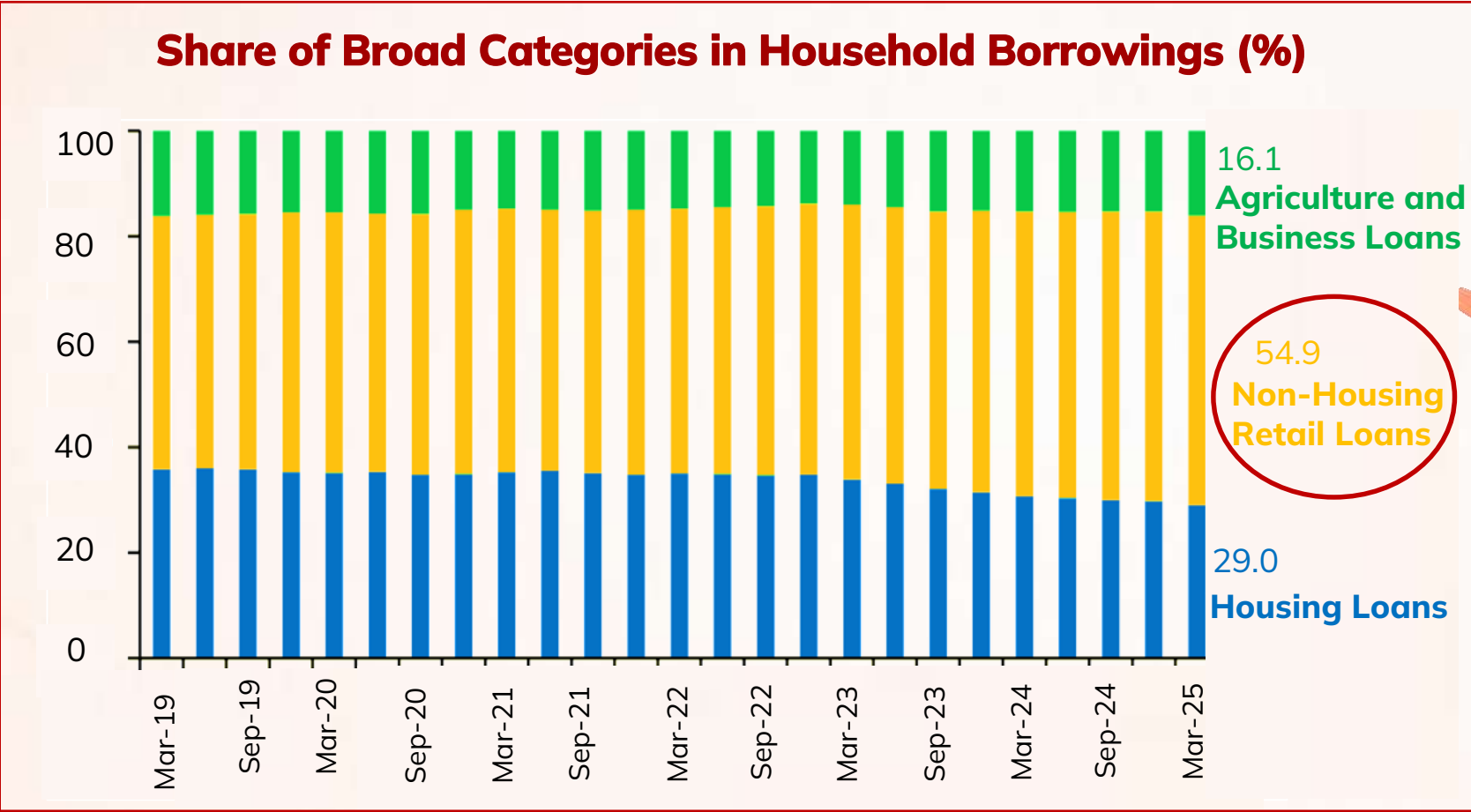
It's time I upgrade the furniture and electric appliances of my house as I continue with a hybrid working model

What is required for living in a House?

- Internet Usage
- Television
- Kitchen Essential
- Washing Machine
- Fan
- Cleaning supplies
- Air Conditioner
- Electric Appliances
- Furniture
- Upholstery
- Apparel and Merchandise

Premiumization: The Growth of Non-Housing Retail Loans

India’s Household Sector – As of March 2025, Non-housing retail loans formed 54.9% of the total household debt,* outpacing agriculture, business and housing loans.



Along with a washing machine, I also need to purchase a new laptop that can we used in client meetings



Source: Reserve Bank of India Financial Stability Report, June 2025. Non-housing retail loans includes personal loans, credit cards, consumer durable loans and other personal loans.
 *Consumer segment loans are used as a proxy for the total household debt and represents about 94% of total household debt as at end-December 2024. Consumer segment loans refer to credit that is extended to individuals in their personal capacity, utilized for either personal or business purposes, and is recorded in the consumer repository of credit bureau(s).

Premiumization: Growth in premium products outpace growth of mass consumption goods

Category	Premium Products Value Growth		Normal Products Value Growth	
	Sub category	10 Yr CAGR (%)	Sub category	10 Yr CAGR (%)
Cleansing	Body Wash / Liquid Soaps	15.8	Bar Soap	8.1
Haircare	Premium Hair care	14.7	Mass Hair Care	7.1
Tea	Green Tea	26.3	Normal Tea	9.4
Deodorant	Premium Deodorant	18.9	Mass Deodorant	12
Beverages	Nutrition Drink	7.1	Non alcoholic beverages	9.2
Footwear	Sports Footwear	16.1	Normal Footwear	9.2



During the day, Raj's relative dropped by his house.



Harsh, my work has finally picked up pace. What about your business?

Government reforms have been a game changer for domestic manufacturing. I plan to build a new textile factory with upgraded technology!



Harsh Sharma

Age: 40 years

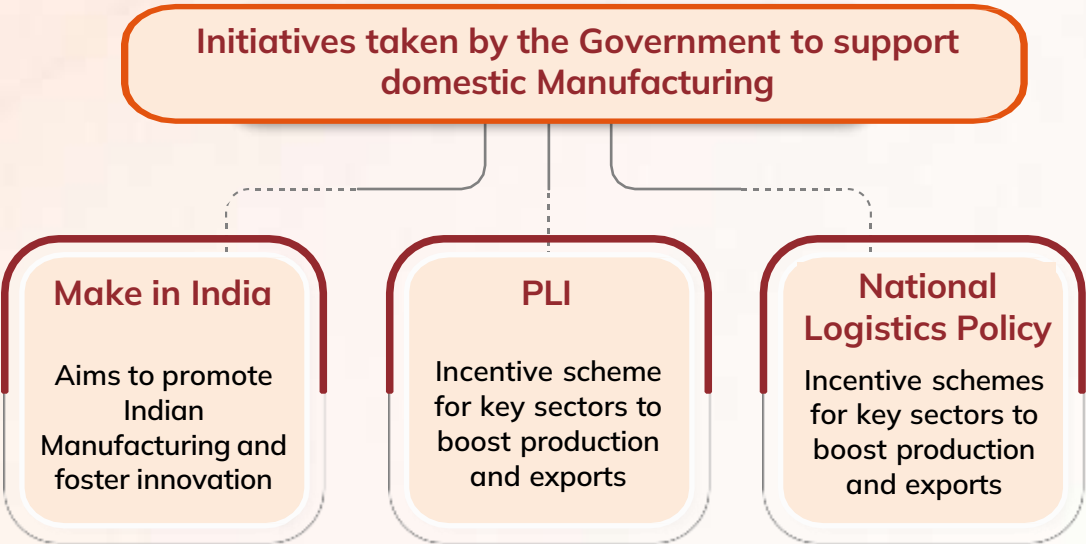
Profession: Textiles Export Business

Income: ₹45 lakh/annum

Aspiration: Buy a Farm House

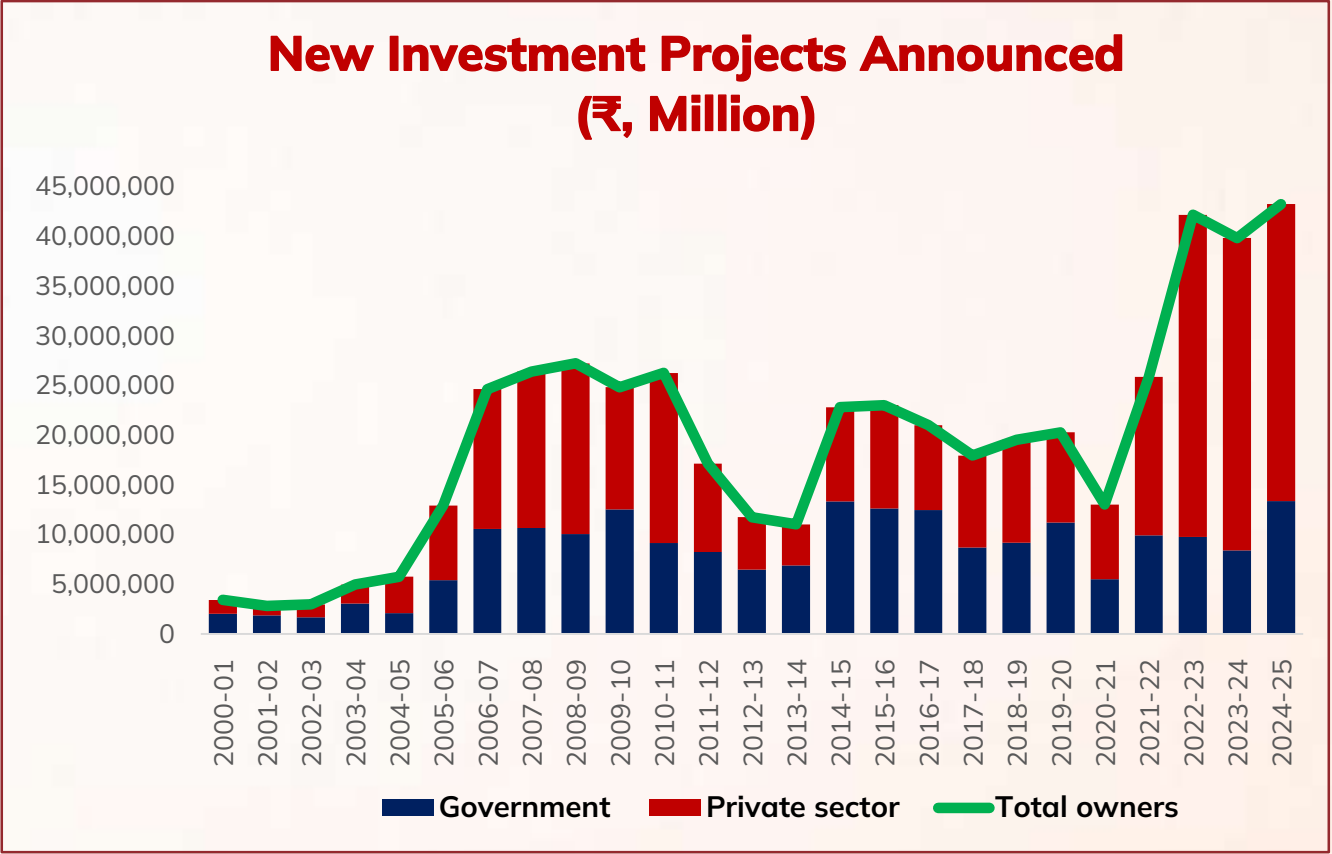
Hobbies: Reading, Swimming

India's Manufacturing Capabilities have strengthened



The PLI Scheme has helped increase production and boost exports

The value of new projects announced, which includes the government and private sector, has more than doubled from ₹20.29 lakh crore in 2019-20 to ₹43.25 lakh crore in 2024-25.



Source: Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). Data as on July 16, 2025. PLI Scheme: Production Linked Incentive Scheme.

Bilateral Trade Talks Would Further Provide An Impetus to Exports

The U.S. and India eye a bilateral trade milestone of \$500 billion by 2030, which could boost export competitiveness.

Aims to deepen collaboration across various sectors, such as defence, energy, semiconductors, artificial intelligence (AI), quantum computing and biotechnology.

The trade pact would provide vast opportunities across different sectors



India and the UK have signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA), targeting to double the current bilateral trade of \$60 billion by 2030.

Benefit to India: India will gain from tariff elimination on about 99% of the tariff lines, covering almost the entire trade value with the UK.

Benefit to UK: Indian tariffs on UK products will be slashed, locking in reductions on 90% of the tariff lines.

Absolutely! You can explore new markets and further strengthen your business



Infrastructure build up augurs well for Economic Activities

National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)

Projected infrastructure investment of around ₹111 lakh crore from FY20 to FY25.

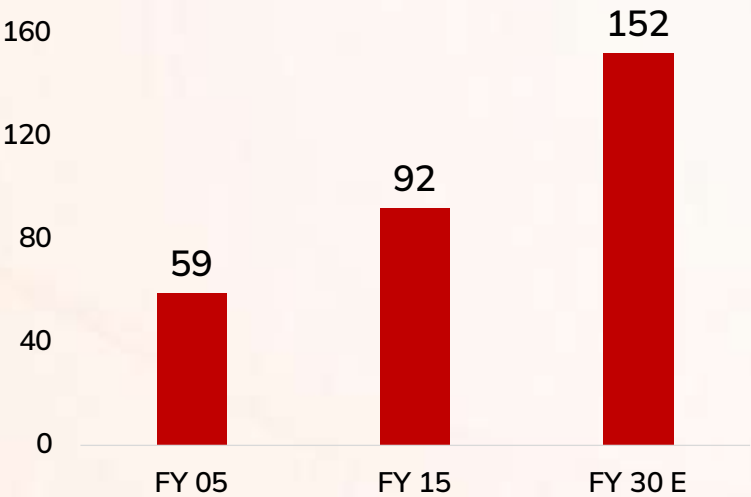
PM Gati Shakti

The government aims to reduce logistics costs from 13%-14% of the GDP to around 8% by 2030.

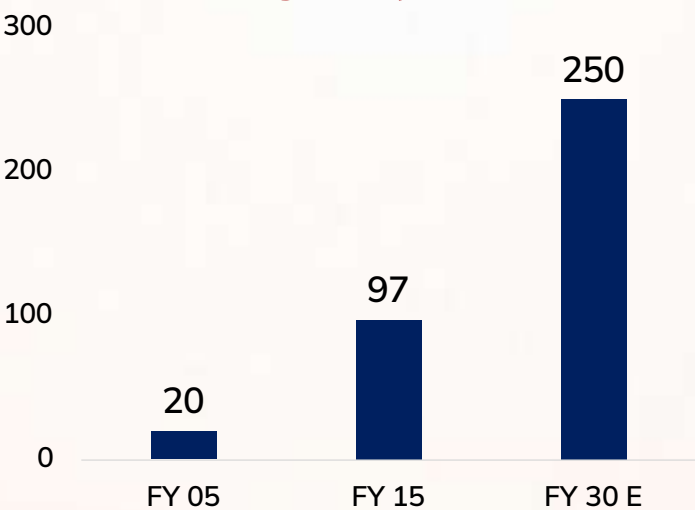


Infrastructural development would improve logistics efficiency

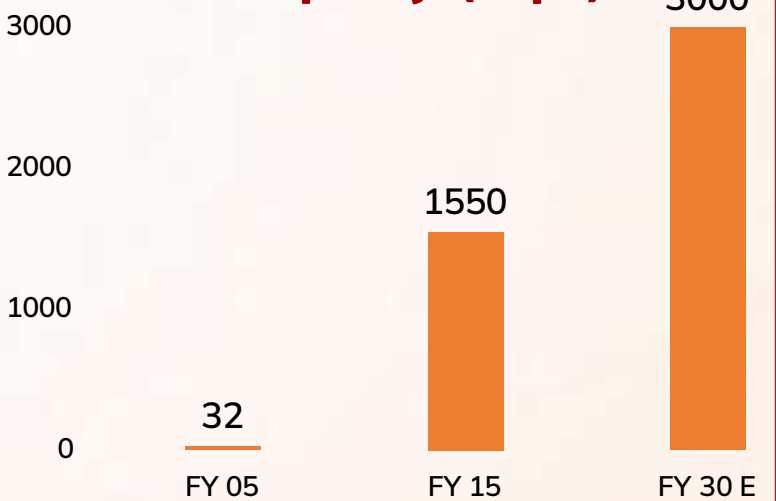
Rail Track (000's kms)



National Highways (000's kms)



Port Capacity (Mtpa)



Source: BoFA Global Research. IBEF. FY: Financial Year, Kms: Kilometers, E: Expectations, GDP: Gross Domestic Product, MTPA: Million Tonnes Per Annum.

Aam Aadmi Ki Kahani

I will have more disposable income due to a lower tax liability

Vegetable prices have now cooled

With a lower interest rate, I can avail a loan to buy consumer durables

I can plan to enhance the furniture and fixtures of my house



Domestic manufacturing has strengthened with the support of Government initiatives

Infrastructure development would facilitate logistics efficiency

With a lower cost of borrowing, I can avail credit to expand my business

The bilateral trade between India and other countries can open doors to new opportunities



The Need to Invest



Since I will have more money in my hands after paying tax, I can invest more to meet my financial goals



Absolutely! With my business doing well, even I have good income to plan for my goal

The Need to Invest



Which schemes should I consider investing in?



Well, equity markets have rallied but valuations are not cheap at these levels.

Hence, you can consider Hybrid Schemes. Since the portfolio is diversified across different asset classes, it would help strike a balance amidst volatile market conditions.



That could be a good strategy to navigate market volatility.



I believe in India's long-term structural story. As a long-term equity investor, you can also consider large cap schemes and equity-oriented schemes with a flexible mandate.

Flexible mandate schemes offer the flexibility to invest across various sectors/themes and market capitalizations.

Scheme Recommendations

Large Cap Category

- ICICI Prudential Large Cap Fund*
- ICICI Prudential Equity Minimum Variance Fund

Hybrid Category

- ICICI Prudential Equity & Debt Fund
- ICICI Prudential Multi-Asset Fund
- ICICI Prudential Balanced Advantage Fund
- ICICI Prudential Asset Allocator Fund (FOF)

Flexible Mandate

- ICICI Prudential Value Fund^
- ICICI Prudential Flexicap Fund
- ICICI Prudential India Opportunities Fund
- ICICI Prudential Business Cycle Fund
- ICICI Prudential Thematic Advantage Fund (FOF)



*Erstwhile ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund
 ^Erstwhile ICICI Prudential Value Discovery Fund

Riskometers

ICICI Prudential Business Cycle Fund (An open ended equity scheme following business cycles based investing theme) is suitable for investors who are seeking*:

- ☐ Long term wealth creation
- ☐ An equity scheme that invests in Indian markets with focus on riding business cycles through dynamic allocation between various sectors and stocks at different stages of business cycles

*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them

ICICI Prudential Flexicap Fund (An open ended dynamic equity scheme investing across large cap, mid cap & small cap stocks) is suitable for investors who are seeking*:

- ☐ Long term wealth creation
- ☐ An open ended dynamic equity scheme investing across large cap, mid cap and small cap stocks

*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them

ICICI Prudential Multi-Asset Fund (An open ended scheme investing in Equity, Debt and Exchange Traded Commodity Derivatives/ units of Gold ETFs/units of Silver ETFs/units of REITs & InvITs/Preference shares) is suitable for investors who are seeking*:

- ☐ Long Term Wealth Creation
- ☐ An open ended scheme investing across asset classes

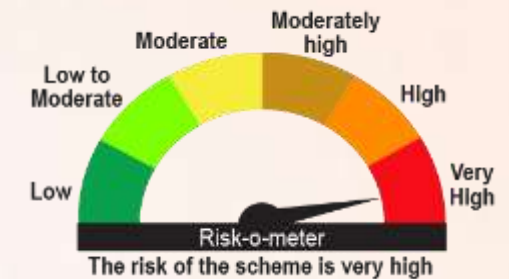
*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them

ICICI Prudential Asset Allocator Fund (FOF) (An open ended fund of funds scheme investing in equity oriented schemes, debt oriented schemes and gold ETFs/schemes) is suitable for investors who are seeking*:

- ☐ Long term wealth creation
- ☐ An open ended fund of funds scheme investing in equity oriented schemes, debt oriented schemes and gold ETF/schemes.

*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them. Investors may please note that they will be bearing the recurring expenses of this Scheme in addition to the expenses of the underlying Schemes in which this Scheme makes investment.

Please note that the Risk-o-meter(s) specified above will be evaluated and updated on a monthly basis. The above riskometers are as on June 30, 2025. Please refer to <https://www.icicipruamc.com/news-and-updates/all-news> for more details.



Riskometers

ICICI Prudential India Opportunities Fund (An open ended equity scheme following special situations theme) is suitable for investors who are seeking*:

- ☐ Long term wealth creation
- ☐ An equity scheme that invests in stocks based on special situations theme

*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them

ICICI Prudential Balanced Advantage Fund (An open ended dynamic asset allocation fund) is suitable for investors who are seeking*:

- ☐ Long term capital appreciation/income
- ☐ Investing in equity and equity related securities and debt instruments

*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them

ICICI Prudential Equity & Debt Fund (An open ended hybrid scheme investing predominantly in equity and equity related instruments) is suitable for investors who are seeking*:

- ☐ Long term wealth creation solution
- ☐ A balanced fund aiming for long term capital appreciation and current income by investing in equity as well as fixed income securities

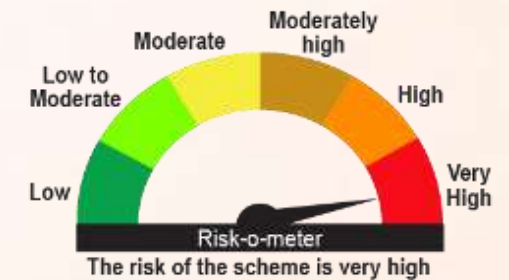
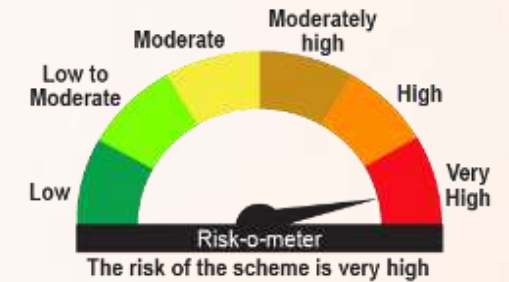
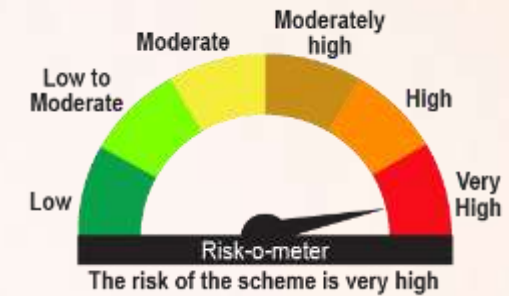
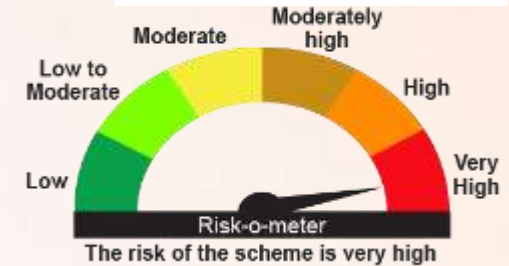
*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them

ICICI Prudential Equity Minimum Variance Fund (An open ended equity scheme following Minimum Variance theme) is suitable for investors who are seeking*:

- ☐ Long Term Wealth Creation
- ☐ To generate long term capital appreciation by investing in Equity & Equity related instruments through a diversified basket with an aim to minimize the portfolio volatility.

*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them

Please note that the Risk-o-meter(s) specified above will be evaluated and updated on a monthly basis. The above riskometers are as on June 30, 2025. Please refer to <https://www.icicipruamc.com/news-and-updates/all-news> for more details.



Riskometers

ICICI Prudential Large Cap Fund (Erstwhile ICICI Prudential Bluechip Fund) (An open ended equity scheme predominantly investing in large cap stocks) is suitable for investors who are seeking*:

- ☐ Long term wealth creation
- ☐ An open ended equity scheme predominantly investing in large cap stocks

*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them

ICICI Prudential Value Fund (Erstwhile ICICI Prudential Value Discovery Fund) (An open ended equity scheme following a value investment strategy) is suitable for investors who are seeking*:

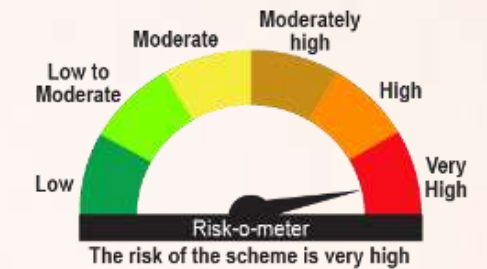
- ☐ Long Term Wealth Creation
- ☐ An open ended equity scheme following a value investment strategy

*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them

ICICI Prudential Thematic Advantage Fund (FOF) (An open ended fund of funds scheme investing predominantly in Sectoral/Thematic schemes) is suitable for investors who are seeking*:

- ☐ Long term wealth creation
- ☐ An open ended fund of funds scheme investing predominantly in Sectoral/Thematic equity oriented schemes.

*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them. Investors may please note that they will be bearing the recurring expenses of this Scheme in addition to the expenses of the underlying Schemes in which this Scheme makes investment.



Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

All figures and other data given in this document are dated as of June 30, 2025 unless stated otherwise. The same may or may not be relevant at a future date. The information shall not be altered in any way, transmitted to, copied or distributed, in part or in whole, to any other person or to the media or reproduced in any form, without prior written consent of ICICI Prudential Asset Management Company Limited (the AMC). Prospective investors are advised to consult their own legal, tax and financial advisors to determine possible tax, legal and other financial implication or consequence of subscribing to the units of ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund.

Disclaimer: In the preparation of the material contained in this document, the AMC has used information that is publicly available, including information developed in-house. Some of the material(s) used in the document may have been obtained from members/persons other than the AMC and/or its affiliates and which may have been made available to the AMC and/or to its affiliates. Information gathered and material used in this document is believed to be from reliable sources. The AMC however does not warrant the accuracy, reasonableness and / or completeness of any information. We have included statements / opinions / recommendations in this document, which contain words, or phrases such as "will", "expect", "should", "believe" and similar expressions or variations of such expressions, that are "forward looking statements". Actual results may differ materially from those suggested by the forward looking statements due to risk or uncertainties associated with our expectations with respect to, but not limited to, exposure to market risks, general economic and political conditions in India and other countries globally, which have an impact on our services and / or investments, the monetary and interest policies of India, inflation, deflation, unanticipated turbulence in interest rates, foreign exchange rates, equity prices or other rates or prices etc. ICICI Prudential Asset Management Company Limited (including its affiliates), the Mutual Fund, The Trust and any of its officers, directors, personnel and employees, shall not be liable for any loss, damage of any nature, including but not limited to direct, indirect, punitive, special, exemplary, consequential, as also any loss of profit in any way arising from the use of this material in any manner. Further, the information contained herein should not be construed as forecast or promise. The recipient alone shall be fully responsible/are liable for any decision taken on this material.