

**MUTUAL FUND UNLOCKED**

# DALAL STREET INVESTMENT JOURNAL

DEMOCRATIZING WEALTH CREATION

Jan 13 - 26, 2025 ■ Pages 68 ■ www.dsij.in ₹ 150

**Cover Story**

## Tax-Efficient Investing in MFs

**Special Report**  
**Reading a MF Factsheet**



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## Optimising Returns with Smart Investment Strategies

As India's economy continues to grow, albeit at a slower pace, fostering an environment that encourages long-term savings and investments is crucial. A vital step towards achieving this goal is restoring indexation benefits for debt funds, which can significantly boost long-term savings and develop the Indian bond market. Historically, debt fund investments held for over three years were eligible for indexation benefits, shielding investors from inflation's impact on capital gains. However, the withdrawal of this benefit in the previous budget made debt funds less attractive.

As such, restoring indexation benefits will not only make the debt funds more competitive but also provide investors with a more tax-efficient way to invest in fixed income instruments. While the fate of these changes remains uncertain, investors can minimise their tax incidence through better planning and execution of their investment and utilising the current tax regulation to their advantage. For instance, tax harvesting involves selling underperforming investments to offset capital gains, reducing tax liability and optimising after-tax returns.

This issue's cover story dives deep into the world of investment return optimisation, exploring the powerful techniques of tax harvesting, asset allocation and asset location. Discover how these expert strategies can help you unlock your portfolio's full potential and achieve long-term financial success. In a special report, we shed light on a crucial step in the mutual fund investment process: understanding the factsheet. This essential document holds the key to making informed investment decisions.

That is because it provides vital information on a fund's performance, portfolio and strategy. Learn how to decipher the factsheet and gain an insight into a fund's performance so that you can make smarter investment choices. By leveraging these strategies and staying informed, investors can navigate the complex world of mutual funds and achieve their long-term financial goals. This will be particularly useful for those investors who sometimes invest in mutual funds on the basis of heresy or out of the fear of missing out. Understanding each of the fund you invest in is crucial to building wealth.

**Shashikant Singh**  
Executive Editor

## Investing in a Falling Market

I have been investing in mutual funds for the last three years. But looking at the current market scenario, please advise as to what should mutual fund investors do in a falling market.

- **Ujjwal Mantri**

**Editor Responds:** Thank you for writing to us. In a falling market, mutual fund investors should stay calm and avoid panic selling. Markets are inherently volatile, and downturns are often temporary. Instead, focus on your long-term financial goals and assess your portfolio's alignment.

If you're investing through SIPs, continue with them to benefit from rupee cost averaging. For long-term investors, a market dip can be an opportunity to invest at lower valuations. However, ensure your portfolio is well-diversified across asset classes to manage risk effectively. If the market fall causes significant anxiety, it might be a sign to review your risk tolerance and adjust your portfolio accordingly. By staying disciplined and focused on your long-term strategy, you can weather market downturns and potentially emerge stronger when the markets recover. If needed, consult a financial advisor to review and rebalance your portfolio.

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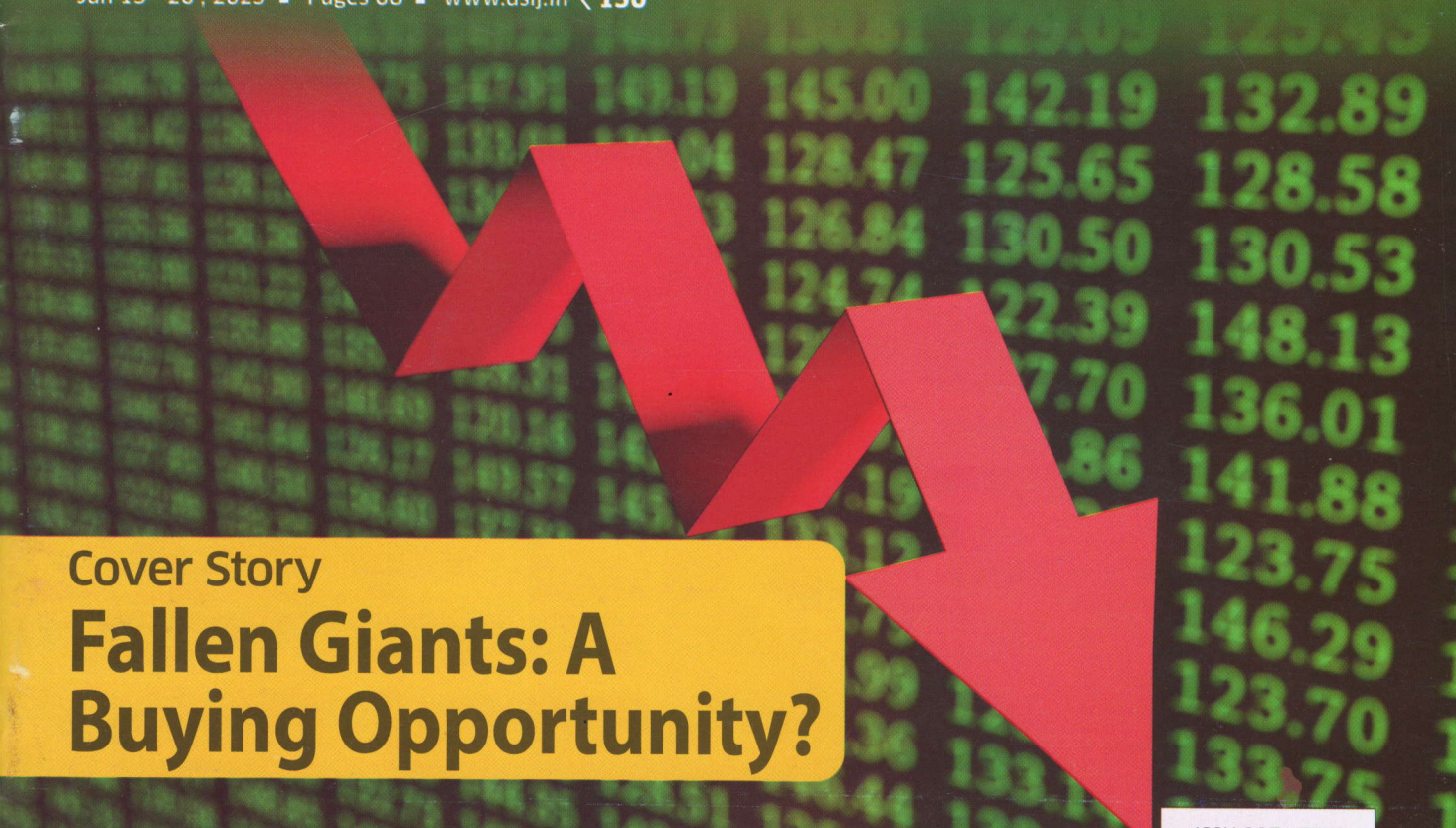
Co-CIO and Head of Equity, Aditya Birla Sun Life AMC



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