# **Axis Corporate Bond Fund**

(An open-ended debt scheme predominantly investing in AA+ and above rated corporate bonds. A relatively high interest rate risk and moderate credit risk)



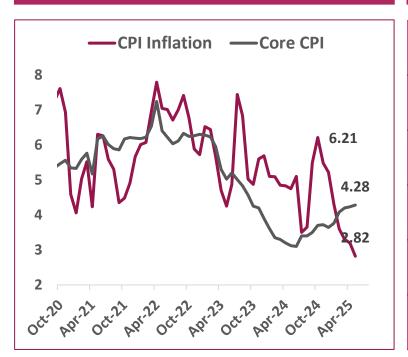
## **Market Outlook**

## **Way Forward**



Local macros conducive for lower rates

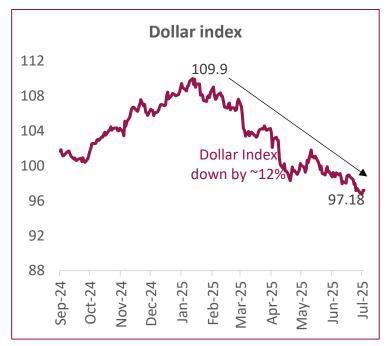
CPI less than 4% for FY26E



GDP for FY26E to remain below 6.5%

Tenure	GDP Growth Projection
FY22	9.7%
FY23	7.6%
FY24	9.2%
FY25	6.5%
FY26E	6.5% (Downward biased)

Rupee to remain stable



With the larger-than-expected repo rate cut, shift to "neutral stance' from 'accommodative', the Central Bank has front-loaded rate cuts, and we do not anticipate further cuts in the next 3-6 months.

## **RBI's Liquidity Playbook**



Banking system at INR 6Tn Liquidity post RBI dividend

Open Market Operations (OMOs) Purchases / FX by sell required to maintain more than 1 % NDTL Liquidity

Changes in Durable liquidity	Amt (In 000 crs)
Net Durable Liquidity as of May 2025	3,20,500
M0 Creation (to Take Y-o-Y Growth to 10%)	-2,00,000
RBI Dividend (Expected in May/Jun 2025)	3,00,000
Currency In circulation Growth (May-Sept 2025)	-20,000
Increase in CRR maintenance on Deposit Growth	-50,000
FX intervention (USD 25 Bn FX swap Maturity upto 3 months)	-2,12,500
Closing Durable Liquidity as of Sept, 2025	1,38,000
Durable Liqudity as per 1% of NDTL liquidity	2,50,000
OMO purchases/FX buy sell Swap facility required to maintain 1% NDTL liquidity	1,12,000

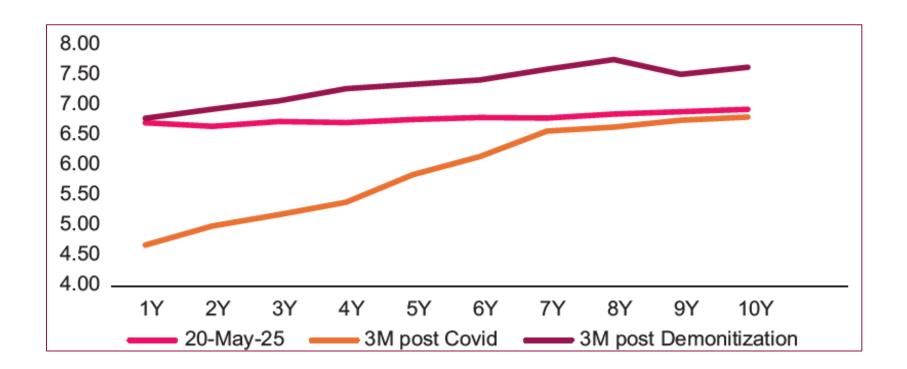
Post RBI dividend announcement, pace of OMOs' purchases could fall significantly; **We do not anticipate more than INR 1-1.5 trillion of OMO's until September 2025**, unless there are substantial FX outflows, which could negatively impact govt. bonds, particularly long duration govt. bonds

Source: RBI website, Bloomberg, Internal Models

## Implications of sustained Banking Liquidity



### Opportunity for spread compression in 1–5-year corporate bonds



### **Spreads Over Repo Rate**

Tenor	Feb-17	Jun-20	Jun-25
Repo	6.25	4.0	5.25*
6M	0.48	0.60	0.25
1Y	0.44	0.69	0.17
2Y	0.45	1.01	1.45
3Y	0.54	1.20	1.59
5Y	0.59	1.86	1.86

Past trends indicates that yield curve tends to steepen over a period of 3- 6 months once sustained liquidity of more than 1% of NDTL is maintained in the Banking system; Corporate bonds spreads over the Repo Rate compress due to a strong demand for short term assets

<sup>\*</sup>Assuming SDF Applicability due to surplus liquidity.

### **Market View**





Headline inflation to remain near 3% or below over the next few months driven by benign food prices and due to favourable outlook for crop production



Limited rally in government bonds going forward, as we expect a shallow rate cut cycle and incremental OMO purchases to be limited to Rs 1-1.5 trillion



With the larger-than-expected repo rate cut, shift to "neutral stance', the Central Bank has front-loaded rate cuts, and we do not anticipate further cuts in the next 3-6 months



Significant part of the bond market rally is behind us and expect macro indicators like GDP, CPI to remain soft for FY26

## **Strategy for Funds**



Short term corporate bond to outperform

#### Short to Medium term funds with tactical allocation to Gilt funds can work well in current scenario

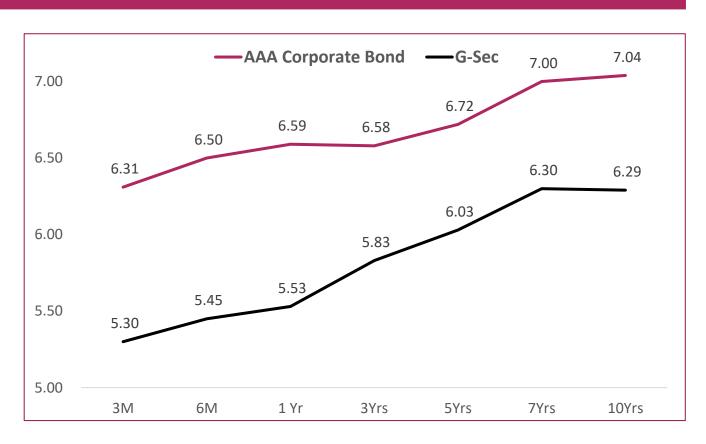
We were positive on long govt bonds throughout 2024 as demand supply dynamics for government bonds were favorable.

Going forward, adding 1–5-year corporate bonds is advisable due to:

- INR 10Th liquidity by RBI, leading to surplus liquidity
- Attractive spreads and valuations

Incrementally, short-term bonds may outperform longterm bonds due to:

- surplus liquidity with improved visibility on CPI
- Shift in focus from govt debt to GDP growth targets





### **Axis Corporate Bond Fund**

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# **Product Offerings**



### **Fund Positioning**

#### Credit Conservative

**Axis Short Duration Fund** 

87% AAA & Equivalent, 13% Non AAA
Residual Maturity – 2.7 years
Mac. Duration – 2.33 years
Annualized YTM – 6.80%\*

Axis Corporate Bond Fund

100% AAA & Equivalent
Residual Maturity – 3.75 years
Mac. Duration – 3.1 years
Annualized YTM – 6.70%\*

Axis Strategic Bond Fund

44% AAA, 56% Non AAA
Residual Maturity – 4.13 years
Mac. Duration – 3.36 years
Annualized YTM – 7.66%\*

Axis Credit Risk Fund

27% AAA, 73% Non AAA
Residual Maturity – 2.78 years
Mac. Duration – 2.36 years
Annualized YTM – 7.90%\*

Strategic Allocation to AA Credits

Data as on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025. Current Portfolio Allocation/Positioning is based on the prevailing market conditions and is subject to changes depending on the fund manager's view of the fixed income markets without any notice to investors. Please refer SID of respective schemes for detailed investment strategies on our website <a href="www.axismf.com">www.axismf.com</a>. \*In case of semi-annualized YTM, it will be annualized. The yield to maturity and Macaulay duration given above is based on the portfolio of funds.

This should not be taken as an indication of the returns that may be generated by the fund and the securities bought by the fund may or may not be held till their respective maturities. \$ Exposure includes Cash & NCA and G-Sec.

# **Axis Corporate Bond Fund**



### **Current Portfolio Strategy**

Axis Corporate Bond Fund endeavours to capture opportunities by investing in best ideas across the corporate bond curve.

The fund will typically maintain duration in the range of 1 - 5 years

High-grade portfolio with 100% AAA/SOV/A1+ rating.

Large portfolio allocation is in corporate bonds having maturity in the range of 1-5 years

Aims to capitalize on the 'carry' play at the shorter end and 'capital gain' from the longer end.

The mispricing of select higher yield AAA bonds offers room for gains from market compression / normalization in yields of such papers.

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# Approach to 'Credits'



We follow a clearly defined process targeting Risk









Well researched credit universe

Spread the exposure across sectors

Lower maturity credits

**Exposure Limits** 

- Based on Liquidity analysis, Indepth review of company financials and regular interactions with the management
- Very cautious at selecting sectors
- Diversifying the exposure to manage potential risk
- Pure accrual play with buy and hold approach
- No active duration call in lower rated papers

 Strict internal limits at issuer level and rating level

### **Portfolio Facts**

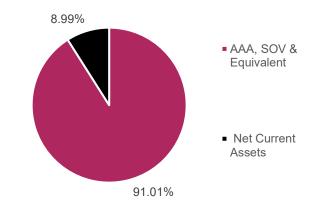
30th June 2025



Portfolio Statistics				
Average Maturity	3.75 years			
Macaulay Duration	3.1 years			
Modified Duration	2.94 years			
YTM	6.70%			

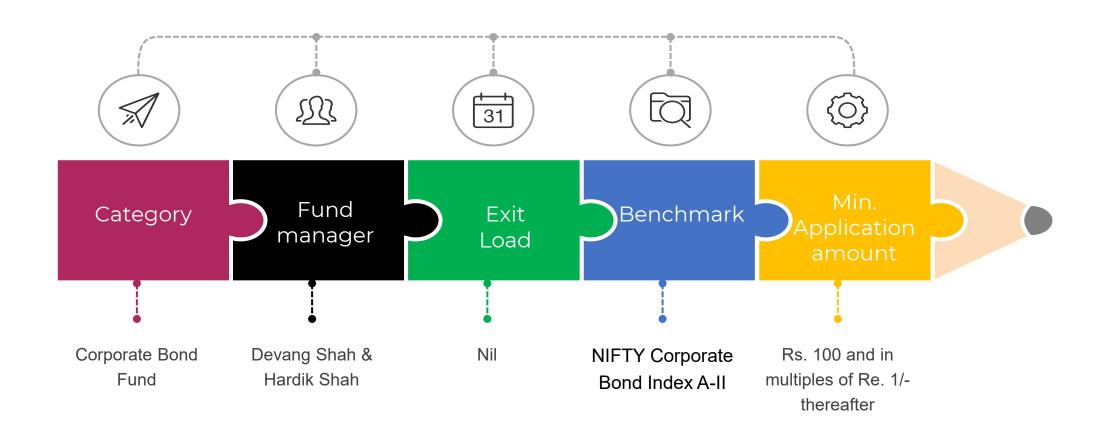
Instrument wise holdings				
Corporate Bond	73.06%			
Government Bond	12.33%			
Pass Through Certificate	2.03%			
Certificate of Deposit	2.62%			
Floating Rate Note	0.54%			
Government Bond Strips	0.43%			
Net Current Assets	8.99%			

### **Rating Profile**



## Features at a glance





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### **Performance**



**30<sup>th</sup> June 2025** 

	1 Year		3 `	3 Year 5		S Year Since I		Inception	
	Inception	CAGR (%)	Current Value of investment of Rs. 10,000	CAGR (%)	Current Value of investment of Rs.10,000	CAGR (%)	Current Value of investment of Rs. 10,000	CAGR (%)	Current Value of investment of Rs. 10,000
Axis Corporate Bond Fund - Regular Plan - Growth		9.56%	10,961	7.75%	12,511	6.44%	13,662	7.00%	17,151
NIFTY Corporate Bond Index A-II (Benchmark)	13-Jul-17	8.53%	10,858	7.42%	12,398	6.04%	13,408	6.91%	17,037
NIFTY 10 yr Benchmark G-Sec (Additional Benchmark)		11.25%	11,132	9.32%	13,070	5.51%	13,080	5.81%	15,685

Past performance may or may not be sustained in future. Different plans have different expense structure. Inception Date: 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017. Devang Shah is managing the scheme since 13th July 2017 and he manages 21 schemes of Axis Mutual Fund & Hardik Shah is managing the scheme since 31st January 2022 and he manages 18 schemes of Axis Mutual Fund Returns greater than 1 year are Compounded Annual Growth Rates (CAGR). Inception date of the fund 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017. Face value per unit is Rs 10. Calculations are based on Regular Plan - Growth Option NAV and Direct Plan - Growth Option NAV, as applicable. Different plans have different expense structure.

Please click on link <a href="https://www.axismf.com/cms/sites/default/files/Statutory/WDP">https://www.axismf.com/cms/sites/default/files/Statutory/WDP</a> Annexure Jun.pdf to view the performance of other schemes currently managed by the fund manager. Note: In case you require physical copy of this document request you to kindly take the printout to review the fund managers performance of other schemes managed by him from the above link given.



Fund Name & Benchmark	Product Labelling	Product Riskometer	Benchmark Riskometer	Potential Risk	Matrix (PRC)
Axis Corporate Bond Fund	This product is suitable for investors who are seeking*			Potential	Risk Class
(An Open Ended Debt	Regular income over short	Moderate Risk Moderately High Risk	Moderate Risk Moderately High Risk	Credit Risk → Relatively	Moderate
Scheme Predominantly Investing In AA+ And Above	to medium term.	Low to Moderate Risk	Low to Moderate Risk	Interest Rate (Class A)	(Class B) High (Class C)
Rated Corporate Bonds. A relatively high interest rate	Predominantly investing in corporate debt	Low Risk	Law Risk	Relatively Low (Class I)	
risk and moderate credit risk)	*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable	Scheme Riskometer The risk of the scheme is moderate	Benchmark Riskometer The risk of the benchmark is low to moderate	Moderate (Class II)	
Benchmark: NIFTY Corporate Bond Index A-II	for them			Relatively High (Class III)	B-III



Fund Name & Benchmark	Product Labelling	Product Riskometer	Benchmark Riskometer	Potential Risk Matrix (PRC)
Axis Short Duration Fund	This product is suitable for investors who are seeking*			Potential Risk Class
(An open ended short term	Regular income while			Credit Risk → Relatively Moderate Relative
debt scheme investing in instruments such that the	maintaining liquidity over short term.	Moderate Risk Moderately High Risk Low to Moderate Risk High Risk	Moderate Risk Moderately High Risk  Low to Moderate Risk High Risk	Interest Rate (Class A) (Class B) (Class C
Macaulay duration of the portfolio is between 1 year	Investment in debt and money market instruments	Low Risk	Low Risk	Relatively Low (Class I)
to 3 years. A relatively high interest rate risk and	*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about	Scheme Riskometer The risk of the scheme is moderate	Benchmark Riskometer The risk of the benchmark is low to moderate	Moderate (Class II)
moderate credit risk)	whether the product is suitable			Relatively B-III
Benchmark: NIFTY Short Duration Debt Index A-II	for them			High (Class III)



Fund Name & Benchmark	Product Labelling	Product Riskometer	Benchmark Riskometer	Potential Risk M	atrix (PRC)
Axis Strategic Bond Fund	This product is suitable for investors who are seeking*			Potential Ris	k Class
(An open ended medium	Optimal returns over			Credit Risk → Relatively	Noderate Relatively
term debt scheme investing in instruments such that	medium term	Moderate Risk  Low to Moderate Risk  High Risk  Very High Risk  Scheme Riskometer  The risk of the scheme is moderately high	Moderate Risk Moderately High Risk	1000	Class B) (Class C)
the Macaulay duration of the portfolio is between 3	Investment in diversified portfolio of debt and		Moderate Risk High Risk	Relatively Low (Class I)	
years to 4 years. A relatively high interest rate risk and relatively high credit risk.)	money market securities to generate optimal risk adjusted returns while		Low Risk  Benchmark Riskometer  The risk of the benchmark is moderate	Moderate (Class II)	
	maintaining liquidity.			Relatively High (Class III)	C-III
Benchmark: NIFTY Medium Duration Debt Index A-III	*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them				



Fund Name & Benchmark	Product Labelling	Product Riskometer	Benchmark Riskometer	Potential Risk Matrix (PRC)
Axis Credit Risk Fund  (An Open Ended Debt Scheme Predominantly Investing In AA And Below Rated Corporate Bonds (Excluding AA+ Rated Corporate Bonds). A relatively high interest rate risk and relatively high credit	This product is suitable for investors who are seeking*  • Stable returns in the short to medium term.  • Investment in debt and money market instruments across the yield curve and credit spectrum  *Investors should consult their	Moderate Risk  Low to Moderate Risk  Low Risk  Scheme Riskometer  The risk of the scheme is high	Moderate Risk  Low to Moderate Risk  High Risk  Low Risk  Benchmark Riskometer  The risk of the benchmark is moderately high	Potential Risk Class  Credit Risk → Interest Rate Risk ↓  Relatively Low (Class A)  Relatively High (Class C)  Relatively Low (Class I)
risk)) <b>Benchmark:</b> CRISIL Credit Risk Debt B-II Index	financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them			High (Class III)

## **Statutory Details and Risk Factors**



#### Past performance may or may not be sustained in the future.

Sector(s) / Stock(s) / Issuer(s) mentioned above are for the purpose of disclosure of the portfolio of the Scheme(s) and should not be construed as recommendation. The fund manager(s) may or may not choose to hold the stock mentioned, from time to time.

#### Axis Bank Ltd. is not liable or responsible for any loss or shortfall resulting from the operation of the scheme.

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

## **Thank You**

