

# Axis Arbitrage Fund

(An open-ended scheme investing in arbitrage opportunities) Fund Manager: Karthik Kumar, Devang Shah & Sachin Jain

# Fund Facts - As of 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025

- Month-end arbitrage exposure 66%
- Average net rolls for the current month 52 bps

# Monthly Recap

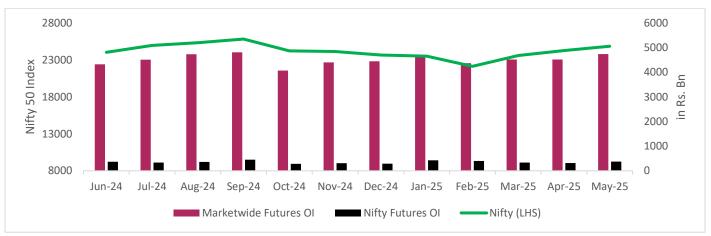
From the lowest point in end February 2025, equities have recouped close to three fourths of their losses. The SMIDs have recovered 17-18% since February 2025. this has been despite a relatively subdued growth environment. FY25 Q4 Earnings season has largely been in line to better than expected, especially when compared to earlier concerns.

This supportive earnings backdrop and ease in global tensions further fueled the strong upward momentum in the Indian equity markets. Fils were net buyers to the tune of USD 2.3 Bn, while DIIs continued to support the market with a deployment of USD 6.3 Bn.

Spreads have experienced some compression, primarily driven by increased corporate activity last month, particularly dividend declarations and a decline in interest rates.

Source: Nuvama, Bloomberg and Internal, as on 31st May 2025

For the June series, Market-wide OI and Nifty OI (open interest) increased.



Source: Nuvama Alternative & Quantitative Research; NSE. Data as of  $29^{th}$  May 2025. OI in INR Bn

Nifty futures rollovers stood at 79% vs 80% (last three series). Market-wide futures open interest at the start of the June series stood at Rs. 4,737 Bn. Market-wide rollovers stood at 90%, higher than 3 months average of 89%. Stock futures rollovers stood at 92%, higher than with average rollovers of last three series at 91%. Most frontline names saw their roll cost hovering around 55 bps (Gross)

<b>Month Series</b>	Average Arbitrage Rolls (In bps)	Portfolio yield Annualized %
June-25	52	6.70%
May-25	61	6.47%
April-25	64	7.94%
Mar-25	49	6.72%
Feb-25	55	7.29%
Jan-25	69	7.29%
Dec-24	57	7.43%
Nov-24	61	7.95%



Oct-24	67	7.12%
Sept-24	57	7.45%
Aug-24	67	7.14%
July-24	68	8.43%
June-24	71	8.81%

Source: Bloomberg, Axis MF Research. Roll spreads and Portfolio Yield are not an indication of overall fund returns. Portfolio yield includes annualized yield of the debt portion and annualized Roll spreads for expiry tenure.

### **Debt Allocation**

The allocations in debt are largely marginable securities. The fund today holds investments primarily in the Axis Money Market Fund. The fund also holds high rated money market instruments with a 9 - 12 month maturity profile.

The fund continues to run a conservative portfolio and invest in high quality instruments only. The debt portfolio for the fund will continue to remain actively managed to maximize return potential across the portfolio.

### **Debt Quants**

Residual Maturity	Macaulay Duration	YTM (%)*
228 days	213 days	6.55%

The yield to maturity given above is based on the debt portion of the portfolio of funds as on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025. 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. The calculations are based on the invested corpus. \* in case of semi annual YTM, it will be annualised

# **Going Forward**

Going forward, tariff war and uncertainty related to it could be a key trigger for global and Indian markets. The impact on India's exports may be muted in near-term but global growth and trade slowdown will be negative for India over the medium-term.

FIIs have significantly added Index Shorts while they reduced SSF Long. The HNI/Retail segment has unwounded shorts in Index while adding SSF longs.

As of month end, the fund allocation to hedged equity exposure stands at 66%. Additionally, the remaining allocation continues to be in high-quality papers for the debt portion. We will continue to monitor our allocations closely throughout the month to ensure optimal performance. Timing the entry and exit in arbitrage funds is critical, and investors must remain vigilant throughout their investment cycle in this space.

Source: Nuvama and Internal, as on 31st May 2025



## **Product Labelling & Disclaimers**

# Axis Arbitrage Fund (An Open Ended Scheme Investing In Arbitrage Opportunities) Benchmark: Nifty 50 Arbitrage Index This product is suitable for investors who are seeking\* Income over short to medium term. Investment in arbitrage opportunities in the cash & derivatives segment of the equity market. \*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them. \*Riskometer\* Fund Nifty 50 Arbitrage Index \*Nifty 50 Arbitr



### Disclaimer

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Data updated as on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025. Axis Bank Ltd. is not liable or responsible for any loss or shortfall resulting from the operation of the schemes. This document represents the views of Axis Asset Management Co. Ltd. and must not be taken as the basis for an investment decision. Neither Axis Mutual Fund, Axis Mutual Fund Trustee Limited nor Axis Asset Management Company Limited, its Directors or associates shall be liable for any damages including lost revenue or lost profits that may arise from the use of the information contained herein. No representation or warranty is made as to the accuracy, completeness or fairness of the information and opinions contained herein. The AMC reserves the right to make modifications and alterations to this statement as may be required from time to time.

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