



# SCHEME INFORMATION DOCUMENT SECTION – I

# **HSBC Small Cap Fund**

(An open ended equity scheme predominantly investing in small cap stocks)

# Continuous Offer of Units at NAV based prices

**Product Labeling:** To provide investors an easy understanding of the kind of product/scheme they are investing in and its suitability to them, the product labeling is as under:

This product is suitable for investors who are seeking*:	Scheme Risk-o-meter	Benchmark Risk-o-meter (as applicable)
▶ Long Term capital appreciation ▶ Investment predominantly in equity and equity related securities, including equity derivatives in Indian markets with key theme focus being emerging companies (small cap stocks) and for	RISKOMETER  Investors understand that their principal will be at Very High risk	As per AMFI Tier I Benchmark i.e. Benchmark Index: Nifty Smallcap 250 TRI

<sup>\*</sup> Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them.

Name of Mutual Fund	Name of Asset Management Company	Name of Trustee Company		
HSBC Mutual Fund 9-11 Floors, NESCO IT Park, Building No. 3, Western Express Highway, Goregaon (East), Mumbai – 400 063, India	HSBC Asset Management (India) Private Limited CIN – U74140MH2001PTC134220 Regd. & Corp. Office: 9-11 Floors, NESCO IT Park, Building No. 3, Western Express Highway, Goregaon (East), Mumbai – 400 063, India	HSBC Trustees (India) Private Limited CIN -U66190MH2024PTC416973 Regd. Office: 52/60 Mahatma Gandhi Road, Fort Mumbai 400001, India		
Website: www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in				

The particulars of the Scheme have been prepared in accordance with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Mutual Funds) Regulations 1996, (herein after referred to as SEBI MF) Regulations) as amended till date and circulars issued thereunder filed with SEBI, along with a Due Diligence Certificate from the AMC. The units being offered for public subscription have not been approved or recommended by SEBI nor has SEBI certified the accuracy or adequacy of the Scheme Information Document.

The Scheme Information Document sets forth concisely the information about the scheme that a prospective investor ought to know before investing. Before investing, investors should also ascertain about any further changes to this Scheme Information Document after the date of this Document from the Mutual Fund/Investor Service Centres/Website/Distributors or Brokers.

The investors are advised to refer to the Statement of Additional Information (SAI) for details of HSBC Mutual Fund, Standard Risk Factors, Special Considerations, Tax and Legal issues and general information on www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in.

SAI is incorporated by reference (is legally a part of the Scheme Information Document). For a free copy of the current SAI, please contact your nearest Investor Service Centre or log on to our website.

The Scheme Information Document (Section I and II) should be read in conjunction with the SAI and not in isolation.

This Scheme Information Document is dated November 29, 2024.

SMS INVEST to 56767 E-mail: investor.line@mutualfunds.hsbc.co.in Website: www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in

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# PART I. HIGHLIGHTS/SUMMARY OF THE SCHEME

Sr. No.	Title	Description		
I.	Name of the scheme	HSBC Small Cap Fund		
II.	Category of the Scheme	Small Cap Fund		
III.	Scheme type	An open ended equity scheme predominantly investing in small cap stocks		
IV.	Scheme code	LTMF/O/E/SCF/14/02/0023		
V.	Investment objective	To generate long term capital growth from an actively managed portfolio of equity and equity related securities of predominantly small cap companies. However, it could move a portion of its assets towards fixed income securities if the fund manager becomes negative on the Indian equity markets. However, there can be no assurance or guarantee that the investment objective of the scheme would be achieved.		
VI.	Liquidity/listing details	Being an open ended Scheme, Units may be purchased or redeemed on every Business Day at NAV based prices, subject to provisions of exit load, if any. As per para 14.1 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, the Fund shall transfer the redemption/repurchase proceeds within 3 working Days, from the date of acceptance of redemption request.  Further, as per AMFI circular no. AMFI/35P/MEM-COR/74/2022-23 dated January 16,		
		2023, in case of exceptional situations the AMC might follow the additional timelines for making redemption payments.		
		Currently, the scheme is not intended to be listed on any stock exchange.		
VII.	Benchmark (Total Return Index)	As per AMFI Tier I benchmark Index – NIFTY Smallcap 250 TRI		
VIII.	NAV disclosure	NAV of the Scheme/Option(s) shall be made available at all Investor Service Centers of the AMC. The AMC shall update the NAVs under a separate head on the website of the Fund <a href="www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in">www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in</a> and of the Association of Mutual Funds in India - AMFI ( <a href="www.amfiindia.com">www.amfiindia.com</a> ) by 11.00 p.m. on every Business Day.		
		NAV of the Segregated Portfolio, if any, shall be declared on daily basis.		
		Refer Section II for further details.		
IX.	Applicable timelines	Timeline for -		
		i. <b>Dispatch of redemption proceeds</b> - As per para 14.2 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, the Fund shall dispatch/transfer the redemption/repurchase proceeds within 3 working days, from the date of acceptance of redemption request at any of the Investor Service Centres.  Further, as per AMFI circular no. AMFI/35P/MEM-COR/74/2022-23 dated January 16, 2023, in case of exceptional situations the AMC might follow the additional timelines for making redemption payments.		
		ii. <b>Dispatch of IDCW (if applicable) etc.</b> - As per para 11.4 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024 the AMC shall dispatch/transfer payment of the dividend proceeds within 7 working days from the record date.		
X.	Plans and Options	Plans- Direct Plan and Regular Plan		
	Plans / Options and sub- options under the Scheme	Options under each Plan(s)  (i) Growth  (ii) Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal (IDCW)		
		Sub-options under IDCW:		
		(i) Payout of IDCW		
		(ii) Reinvestment of IDCW.		
		The Growth Option shall be default Option under the Plans of the Scheme and Reinvestment of IDCW shall be default Sub Option.		

Sr. No.	Title	Description				
			wing table details the Plan vidend frequencies:	ns/Options/Sub-op	tions available	in the Scheme
			Options	Sub-Options	Frequency of dividend declar0ation	Record Date
		Regular and Direct	Growth Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal Option (IDCW)	Payout of IDCW & Reinvestment of IDCW	From time to time	As may be decided by the Trustees^
		^ If such of Business	day is a holiday, then the Day.	record date shall be	e the immediat	ely succeeding
		will be co exdividen	nal amount of Payout of mpulsorily and automatic d date at applicable NAV	cally re-invested by i	ssuing additio	
			nt of dividend reinvested	11		
X/T	I I C		ed disclosure on default p	olans and options, ki	ndly refer SAI	•
XI.	Load Structure	<ul> <li>Exit Load:</li> <li>i. If the units redeemed or switched out are upto 10% of the units purchased or switched in ("the limit") within 1 year from the date of allotment – Nil</li> <li>ii. If units redeemed or switched out are over and above the limit within 1 year from the date of allotment – 1%</li> </ul>			t – Nil	
		iii. If units are redeemed or switched out on or after 1 year from the date of allotment  Nil.				
		<ul> <li>No Exit load will be chargeable in case of switches made between different options of the Scheme.</li> </ul>				
		No Exit load will be chargeable in case of Units allotted on account of IDCW reinvestments, if any.				
		Exit load is not applicable for Segregated Portfolio.				
		Upfront commission shall be paid directly by the investor to the AMFI registered Distributors based on the investor's assessment of various factors including the service rendered by the distributors.				
			oads set forth above is su ges shall be implemented		ne discretion o	f the AMC and
XII.	Minimum Application	On conti	nuous basis			
	Amount/switch-in	For lump	sum investments:			
			- per application and in n	-		
		transactio	otment of units will be don charges, if any.			stamp duty and
XIII.	Minimum Additional Purchase Amount		per application and in m			
XIV.	Minimum Redemption/ switch out amount	Rs. 500/-	and in multiples of Re. 1/	/- or 50 Units in mul	tiples of 0.01	units thereafter
XV.	New Fund Offer Period (This is the period during which a new scheme sells its units to the investors.)					
XVI.	New Fund Offer Price:	Not Appli	cable.			
	(This is the price per unit that the investors have to pay to invest during the NFO.)	The face value is Rs. 10/- per unit.				

Sr. No.	Title	Description	
XVII.	Segregated portfolio/ side pocketing disclosure	The AMC may create segregated portfolio of debt and money market instruments in a mutual fund scheme in case of a credit event/actual default and deal with the liquidity risk. Currently, the scheme does not have any segregated portfolio.	
		For Details, kindly refer SAI	
XVIII	Swing pricing disclosure	Not Applicable	
XIX.	Stock lending/ short selling	The scheme may participate in securities lending as permitted under the Regulations from time to time. The scheme may engage in short selling of securities in accordance with the applicable guidelines. For Details, kindly refer SAI.	
XX.	How to apply and other details	Investor can apply for HSBC Mutual Fund scheme in physical form or Demat form. For Investors, who wish to opt for holding Units in Demat mode, the applicants under the scheme (including a transferee) will be required to have a beneficiary account with a Depository Participant(DP) of NSDL/CDSL Investor can also chose to invest through the Fund's website, i.e, <a href="https://invest.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in">https://invest.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in</a> . or the 'Invest Xpress' mobile application or the website of the Fund's Registrar & Transfer Agent (CAMS), i.e. <a href="https://www.camsonline.com">www.camsonline.com</a>	
		The applications filled up and duly signed by the applicants may be submitted at the AMC Investor Service Centres(ISC)/CAMS Service Centre/Official Points of Acceptance. Please check weblink ( <u>List of Official Point of Acceptance (OPA)</u> , <u>Collection Bankers etc.</u> ) for an updated list of the Official Points of Acceptance, collecting banker of HSBC Mutual Fund.	
		The investor can also apply through website/mobile application of MFUI which shall be eligible to be considered as 'official points of acceptance' for all financial and non-financial transactions in the schemes of HSBC Mutual Fund electronically.	
		Investors are required to complete Common KYC formalities and ensure that the PAN is linked to Aadhaar for all the holders.	
		For more details refer Section II.	
XXI.	Investor services	Contact details for general service requests and complaint resolution:	
		The investor can write to <a href="mailto:investor.line@mutualfunds.hsbc.co.in">investor.line@mutualfunds.hsbc.co.in</a> in for any enquiries and complaints. The Fund will endeavour to resolve them promptly. Please visit our website <a href="https://www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in">www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in</a> for more details on grievance redressal mechanism.	
		Mr. Ankur Banthiya is currently designated as the Investor Relations Officer. His contact details are as follows:	
		HSBC Asset Management (India) Private Limited Address Unit No. 62, 1st Floor, Parade View, Rukmani Lakshmipathi Salai, Egmore, Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600008, India	
		Tel.: 1800-200-2434/1800-4190-200	
		E-mail: investor.line@mutualfunds.hsbc.co.in	
XXII	Specific attribute of the scheme (such as lock in, duration in case of target maturity scheme/ close ended schemes) (as applicable)		
XXIII	Special product/facility available during the NFO and on ongoing basis	Special Products/Facilities available/offered to the investors under the Scheme:	
		Systematic Investment Plan     Units allows of the Salarma and houseful has investigated as a side of the salarma and the	
		Unitholders of the Scheme can benefit by investing specific rupee amounts periodically, for a continuous period. SIP allows the investors to invest a fixed amount every month or quarter for purchasing additional Units of the Scheme at NAV based prices. The requirement of 'Minimum Amount for Application' will not be applicable in case of SIPs.	

Sr. No.	Title	Description
		• SIP Top Up Facility:  Under this facility, the investor can opt to increase the amount of SIP instalment ("Top Up") on a half-yearly or annual basis; thus, the investment amount under SIP will increase every half year/annually by the amount of Top Up specified by the investor.
		<ul> <li>Pause Facility ("SIP Pause Facility")         SIP Pause Facility enables the investors to pause their investments under the Systematic Investment Plan. Under this facility, the investors have an option to pause their investment for a fixed period of time which is a minimum of 1 month and a maximum of 3 months.     </li> <li>Multi Scheme Systematic Investment Plan:         This facility enables investors to start investments under SIP of various schemes using a single application form and payment instruction.     </li> </ul>
		• Systematic Transfer Plan  Unitholders of the Scheme can benefit by transferring specific rupee amounts periodically, for a continuous period. STP allows the investors to transfer a fixed amount at a specified frequency or Capital Appreciation on the 1st Business Day of the month to a particular scheme at NAV based prices. Investors can opt for the Systematic Transfer Plan by investing a lumpsum amount in the any HSBC open ended scheme and providing a standing instruction to transfer sums at monthly intervals (for a minimum period of 3 months) into any open ended Schemes of HSBC Mutual Fund. Investors could also opt for STP from an existing account by quoting their account/folio number. Investors could choose to specify the fixed sum to be transferred every month or opt for capital appreciation option to automatically transfer the incremental amount i.e. appreciation on the original investment.
		• Flex Systematic Transfer Plan ("Flex STP")  Flex STP is a facility available in open ended Schemes of HSBC Mutual Fund.  Under this facility unitholder(s) can opt to transfer variable amount(s) linked to value of investments under Flex STP on the date of transfer at predetermined intervals from designated open ended Scheme(s) of HSBC Mutual Fund except HSBC ELSS Tax Saver Fund & HSBC Tax Saver Equity Fund to the Growth option of all open ended schemes of HSBC Mutual Fund where subscription is allowed.
		• Systematic Withdrawal Plan  Unitholders have the benefit of enrolling themselves under the Systematic Withdrawal Plan. The SWP allows the Unitholder to withdraw sums of money each month/quarter/half-year/annual basis from his investments in the Scheme. SWP is ideal for Unitholders seeking a regular inflow of funds for their needs in a tax efficient manner. It is also suited to retired persons or individuals who wish to invest a lumpsum and withdraw from the investment over a period of time. The Unitholder may avail of this Plan by sending a written request to the Registrar/submit a request online.
		<ul> <li>Money Withdrawal Facility (MWF):         Money Withdrawal Facility (MWF) is the nomenclature of the facility and should not be construed as an assurance of returns/performance of the Scheme.         This facility will enable the Unit Holders to redeem a fixed sum of money at a fixed frequency as per the prevailing NAV, subject to exit load, if applicable, depending on the option chosen by the Unit Holder. Under this facility Unit Holders can redeem amounts under both the Plans (Direct and Regular) of the Growth and IDCW Payout option of the Scheme.</li> </ul>

Sr. No.	Title	Description			
		Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal Plan Transfer Facility			
		Under this facility, the Unit holder/investor can opt to transfer the amount of IDCW the Unit holder/investor is eligible to receive under the Scheme ("Source Scheme") to any other open-ended scheme of the Fund ("Target Scheme").			
		The above Facility will be available in the IDCW options under all the open-ended schemes of the Fund except HSBC ELSS Tax saver Fund wherein the said schemes can only be the Source Scheme (subject to completion of lock-in on units where applicable) and not Target Scheme.			
		<ul> <li>Facilitating transactions through Stock Exchange Mechanism (BSE Star &amp; NSE MFSS)</li> </ul>			
		In terms of para 16.2 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, units of the Scheme can be transacted through all the registered stockbrokers of the National Stock Exchange of India Limited and/or Bombay Stock Exchange Limited who are also registered with Association of Mutual Funds of India and are empanelled as distributors with AMC. Accordingly, such stockbrokers shall be eligible to be considered as 'official points of acceptance' of AMC.			
		For further details of above special products/facilities, kindly refer SAI.			
XXIV.	Weblink	Link for Daily TER and TER for last 6 months: Daily TER and TER for last 6 months			
		Link for Factsheet: Factsheet			

#### DUE DILIGENCE BY THE ASSET MANAGEMENT COMPANY

#### It is confirmed that:

- (i) The Scheme Information Document submitted to SEBI is in accordance with the SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996 and the guidelines and directives issued by SEBI from time to time.
- (ii) All legal requirements connected with the launching of the Scheme as also the guidelines, instructions, etc., issued by the Government and any other competent authority in this behalf, have been duly complied with.
- (iii) The disclosures made in the Scheme Information Document are true, fair and adequate to enable the investors to make a well informed decision regarding investment in the Scheme.
- (iv) The intermediaries named in the Scheme Information Document and Statement of Additional Information are registered with SEBI and their registration is valid, as on date.
- (v) The contents of the Scheme Information Document including figures, data, yields etc. have been checked and are factually correct.
- (vi) A confirmation that the AMC has complied with the compliance checklist applicable for Scheme Information Documents and other than cited deviations/that there are no deviations from the regulations.
- (vii) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Scheme Information Document, the provisions of the SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996 and the guidelines there under shall be applicable.
- (viii) The Board of Directors of Trustee Company have ensured that HSBC Small Cap Fund, approved by them, is a new product offered by HSBC Mutual Fund and is not a minor modification of any existing scheme/fund/product.

For HSBC Asset Management (India) Private Limited (Investment Manager to HSBC Mutual Fund)

Sd/-

Sumesh Kumar Compliance Officer

Date: November 29, 2024

Place: Mumbai

# PART II. INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHEME

#### A. HOW WILL THE SCHEME ALLOCATE ITS ASSETS?

Under normal circumstances, it is anticipated that the asset allocation of the Scheme will be as follows:

Instruments	Indicative allocations (% of total assets)		
instruments	Minimum	Maximum	
Equity and Equity related securities of small cap companies	65	100	
Equity and Equity related securities of other than small cap companies	0	35	
Debt securities & Money Market instruments (including cash & cash	0	35	
equivalents)			
Units issued by REITs/InvITs	0	10	

If the Scheme decides to invest in securitized debt, it is the intention of the Investment Manager that such investments will not normally exceed 20% of the net assets s of the Scheme.

If the Scheme decides to invest in ADRs/GDRs issued by Indian Companies and foreign securities in line with SEBI stipulation, it is the intention of the Investment Manager that such investments will not, normally exceed 30% of the assets of the Scheme.

The Scheme can take covered call positions for stock derivatives, as permitted by SEBI.

For investments in ADRs/GDRs, the Fund Manager would consider the premium/discount to the underlying stock and the possibility of the discount narrowing or the premium expanding, liquidity management of the portfolio, secondary and primary offerings of ADRs/GDRs.

Derivative positions for other than hedging purposes shall not exceed 50% of total equity assets.

The Scheme may engage in short selling and securities lending. The Scheme may also take exposure to Stock lending up to 20% of net assets of the Scheme and not more than 5% of the net assets of the Scheme shall be deployed in stock/securities lending to any single counterparty/intermediary The Scheme will adopt the list of small cap companies as defined by SEBI, from time to time. Para 2.7 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024 small cap companies will comprise of companies from 251st onwards in terms of full market capitalization. The Fund would adopt the list of small cap companies prepared by AMFI for this purpose in accordance with the aforesaid circulars. If there is any updation in the list of small cap companies, the fund would rebalance its portfolio (if required) in line with the updated list, within a period of one month. Investors may note that securities which provide higher returns, typically display higher volatility. Accordingly, the investment portfolio of the Scheme would reflect high volatility in its equity and equity related investments.

The scheme shall not invest in credit default swaps and Structured Obligations/Credit Enhancements.

The gross exposure to repo transactions in corporate debt securities shall not be more than 10% of the net assets of the concerned scheme.

The cumulative gross exposure through equity, debt instruments, REITs & InvITs units and derivative positions and such other permitted securities/assets and such other securities/assets as may be permitted by from time to time, subject to approval, if any, shall not exceed 100% of net assets of the Scheme.

Pending deployment of funds, the Scheme may invest them into deposits of scheduled commercial banks as permitted under the extant Regulations.

The Scheme may participate in instruments with special features including Additional Tier 1 bonds and Additional Tier 2 bonds as prescribed under para 12.2 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024 and any other guidelines issues by SEBI from time to time. As per the extant regulatory guidelines, the scheme shall not invest –

- a. more than 10% of its NAV of the debt portfolio of the scheme in such instruments; and
- b. more than 5% of its NAV of the debt portfolio of the scheme in such instruments issued by a single issuer.

The cumulative gross exposure through equity, debt instruments, REITs & InvITs units and derivative positions and such other permitted securities/assets and such other securities/assets as may be permitted by SEBI from time to time, subject to approval, if any shall not exceed 100% of net assets of the Scheme.

Pending deployment of funds, the Scheme may invest them into deposits of scheduled commercial banks as permitted under the extant Regulations.

Investments will be made in line with the asset allocation of the Scheme and the applicable SEBI and/or AMFI guidelines as specified from time to time.

Indicative Table (Actual instrument/percentages may vary subject to applicable SEBI circulars)

Sl. No	Type of Instrument	Percentage of exposure (% of net assets)	Circular references/clause references of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024
1.	Securities Lending	Permissible Upto 20%	Clause 12.11
2.	Equity Derivatives for non- hedging purposes	Permissible Upto 50% of total equity assets	Clause 12.25
3.	Securitized Debt	Permissible Upto 20%	Clause 12.15
4.	Overseas Securities	Permissible Upto 30%	Clause 12.19
5.	ReITS and InVITS	Permissible Upto 10% of its NAV in the units of REIT and InvITs	Clause 12.21
6.	AT 1 (Additional Tier 1) and AT 2 (Additional Tier 2) Bonds	Permissible Upto 10% of the NAV of the debt portfolio	Clause 12.2
7.	Any other instrument		
a.	Repo transactions in Corporate Debt Securities	Permissible Upto 10%	Clause 12.18
b.	Covered Call positions	Permissible	Clause 12.25.8
c.	Deposits in Scheduled commercial bank	Permissible	Clause 12.16
d.	Credit default Swap	Not Permissible	Clause 12.28 read with SEBI Circular dated September 20, 2024 as amended from time to time.
e.	Structured Obligation/Credit Enhancement	Not Permissible	Clause 12.3

# **Change in Investment Pattern**

Subject to the Regulations, the asset allocation pattern indicated above for the Scheme may change from time to time, keeping in view market conditions, market opportunities, applicable regulations and political and economic factors. It must be clearly understood that the percentages stated above are only indicative and not absolute and that they can vary substantially depending upon the perception of the Investment Manager, the intention being at all times to seek to protect the interests of the Unitholders and meet the objective of the Scheme. Such changes in the investment pattern will be for short term and defensive considerations.

#### Portfolio re-balancing in case of short term defensive consideration

Due to market conditions, the AMC may invest beyond the range set out in the asset allocation. Such deviations shall normally be for a short term and defensive considerations as per para 1.14.1.2 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024 and the fund manager will rebalance the portfolio within 30 calendar days from the date of deviation.

# Portfolio re-balancing in case of passive breaches

Further, as per para 2.9 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, as may be amended from time to time, in the event of deviation from mandated asset allocation due to passive breaches (occurrence of instances not arising out of omission and commission of the AMC), the fund manager shall rebalance the portfolio of the Scheme within 30 Business Days. In case the portfolio of the Scheme is not rebalanced within the period of 30 Business Days, justification in writing, including details of efforts taken to rebalance the portfolio shall be placed before the Investment Committee of the AMC. The Investment Committee, if it so desires, can extend the timeline for rebalancing up to sixty (60) Business Days from the date of completion of mandated rebalancing period. Further, in case the portfolio is not rebalanced within the aforementioned mandated plus extended timelines the AMC shall comply with the prescribed restrictions, the reporting and disclosure requirements as specified in para 2.9 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024.

#### **B. WHERE WILL THE SCHEME INVEST?**

The Scheme will invest predominantly in equity and equity securities. The Scheme may invest its corpus in debt and money market instruments, to manage its liquidity requirements. Subject to the Regulations and other prevailing laws as applicable, the corpus of the Scheme can be invested in any (but not exclusively) of the following securities:

- Equity and equity related securities including convertible bonds and debentures and warrants carrying the right to obtain equity shares.
- ADRs/GDRs issued by the Indian companies, subject to the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India and Securities and Exchange Board of India.
- Units issued by REITs and InvITs
- Derivative Instruments as may be permitted by SEBI/RBI.
- Foreign Securities as may be permitted by SEBI/RBI

- Securities issued/guaranteed by the Central, State and local governments and/or repos/reverse repos/ready forward contracts in such government securities as are or may be permitted under the Regulations and RBI from time to time (including but not limited to coupon bearing bonds, zero coupon bonds and treasury bills)
- Indian Depository Receipts (IDR) issued by foreign companies, subject to the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India and Securities and Exchange Board of India.
- Debt obligations of domestic government agencies and statutory bodies, which may or may not carry a Central/State Government guarantee
- Corporate debt (of both public and private sector undertakings)
- Debt obligations of banks (both public and private sector) and financial institutions
- Money market instruments (which includes but is not limited to commercial papers, commercial bills, treasury bills, usance bills, government securities having unexpired maturity upto one year, certificates of deposit, bills rediscounting, TREPS, repo, call money and any other like instruments as are or may be permitted under the Regulations and RBI from time to time.)
- Cash or cash equivalents with residual maturity of less than 91 days will not be treated as creating any exposure.
- Certificate of Deposits (CDs)
- Commercial Paper (CPs)
- Bills of Exchange/Promissory Notes
- Foreign Securities
- Securitised Debt (asset backed securities, mortgage-backed securities, pass through certificates, collateralised debt obligations or any other instruments as may be prevailing and permissible under the Regulations from time to time)
- ETFs (which includes but is not limited to ETFs that track an index, commodity or basket of assets). instruments including futures (index and stock),
- Debt instruments with special features (Additional Tier 1/Additional Tier 2 Bonds)
- TREPS & reverse repos
- Floating rate debt instruments
- Repurchase and reverse repurchase obligations in securities
- The non-convertible part of convertible securities
- Any other domestic fixed income securities
- Derivatives (which includes but is not limited to stock and index futures or such other derivatives as are or may be permitted under the Regulations and RBI from time to time)
- Pass through, Pay through or other Participation Certificates representing interest in a pool of assets including receivables
- Convertible Debentures
- Deposits of scheduled commercial banks as permitted under the extant Regulations.
- Any other instruments as may be permitted by SEBI from time to time.

The above list is only indicative and the Mutual Fund/AMC reserve the right to change the same in the interest of the investors depending on the market conditions, market opportunities, applicable regulations and political and economic factors, but subject to the investment objective as set out in paragraph "Investment Objective".

All investments in the Scheme shall be made in accordance with the Regulations and Guidelines issued by SEBI/RBI/any other Regulatory Authority. For applicable regulatory investment limits and other restrictions in respect of the various investible securities, please refer paragraph "Investment Restrictions".

(For detailed definition and applicable regulations/guidelines for each instrument refer to Section II)

# C. WHAT ARE THE INVESTMENT STRATEGIES?

# **Investment Approach and Risk Control**

The aim of the scheme is to deliver above benchmark returns by providing long-term capital growth from an actively managed portfolio, primarily comprising of small cap stocks.

The Scheme aims to be predominantly invested in small cap equity and equity related securities and may also invest in equity and equity related securities of other than small cap companies. However, it could move a portion of its assets towards fixed income securities if the fund becomes cautious or negative on equity markets.

A top down and bottom-up approach will be used to invest in equity and equity related instruments. Investments will be pursued in select sectors based on the Investment Team's analysis of business cycles, regulatory reforms, competitive advantage etc. Selective stock picking will be done from these sectors.

The fund manager in selecting scrips will focus on the fundamentals of the business, the industry structure, the quality of management, corporate governance trends, sensitivity to economic factors, the financial strength of the company and the key earnings drivers.

Since investing requires disciplined risk management, the AMC would incorporate adequate safeguards for controlling risks in the portfolio construction process. Risk will also be reduced through adequate diversification of the portfolio. Diversification will be achieved by spreading the investments over a range of industries/sectors.

As per the asset allocation pattern indicated above, for investment in debt securities and money market instruments, the Fund may invest a part of the portfolio in various debt securities issued by corporates and/or state and central government. Such government securities may include securities which are supported by the ability to borrow from the treasury or supported only by the sovereign guarantee or of the state government or supported by Government of India (GOI)/state government in some other way.

With the aim of controlling risks, rigorous in-depth credit evaluation of the instruments proposed to be invested in will be carried out by the Investment Team of the AMC. The credit evaluation includes a study of the operating environment of the company, the past track record as well as the future prospects of the issuer, the short as well as long-term financial health of the issuer. The AMC will also be guided by the ratings of rating agencies such as CRISIL, CARE and ICRA or any other rating agency as approved by the regulators.

In addition, the Investment Team of the AMC will study the macro-economic conditions, including the political, economic environment and factors affecting liquidity and interest rates. The AMC would use this analysis to attempt to predict the likely direction of interest rates and position the portfolio appropriately to take advantage of the same.

The Scheme may invest in other Scheme managed by the AMC or in the schemes of any other mutual fund, provided it is in conformity with the investment objectives of the Scheme and in terms of the prevailing Regulations. As per the Regulations, no investment management fees will be charged for such investments.

# Disclosure on derivatives exposure for non-hedging purpose

SEBI has permitted all mutual funds to participate in derivatives trading subject to observance of guidelines issued by it in this behalf. Pursuant to this, mutual funds may use various derivative products from time to time, as would be available and permitted by SEBI, in an attempt to protect the value of the portfolio and enhance Unitholders' interest.

Accordingly, the Fund may use derivative instruments like stock index futures, options on stocks, stock indices, interest rate swaps, forward rate agreements or such other derivative instruments as may be introduced from time to time as permitted under the SEBI Regulations and guidelines.

Derivative positions in equity instruments for other than hedging purposes shall not exceed 50% of equity total assets. The Scheme shall have derivative exposure as per the SEBI regulations issued and as amended from time to time.

# Disclosure on derivatives products as part of investment strategy

The Scheme will invest in various derivatives instruments including futures (index and stock), options (index and stock) and forward contracts which are available for investment in Indian markets from time to time and which are permissible as per the applicable Regulations, for the purposes of hedging, portfolio balancing and optimizing returns. Hedging does not enhance return of the portfolio but is a strategy to protect the downside to a certain extent and is used to reduce risk.

The investments shall also be subject to limits and restrictions as may be prescribed by the Regulations.

Derivative products are leveraged instruments and can provide disproportionate gains as well as disproportionate losses to the investor. Execution of such strategies depends upon the ability of the fund manager to identify such opportunities. Identification and execution of the strategies to be pursued by the fund manager involve uncertainty and decision of fund manager may not always be profitable. No assurance can be given that the fund manager will be able to identify or execute such strategies. The risks associated with the use of derivatives are different from or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments.

#### **Concepts and Examples:**

Derivatives are financial contracts of pre-determined fixed duration, whose values are derived from the value of an underlying primary financial instrument, commodity or index, such as: interest rates, exchange rates, commodities and equities.

#### **Futures**:

A futures contract is an agreement between the buyer and the seller for the purchase and sale of a particular asset at a specific future date. The price at which the asset would change hands in the future is agreed upon at the time of entering into the contract. The actual purchase or sale of the underlying asset involving payment of cash and delivery of the instrument does not take place until the contracted date of delivery. A futures contract involves an obligation on both the parties to fulfil the terms of the contract.

Currently, futures contracts have a maximum expiration cycle of 3-months. Three contracts are available for trading, with 1 month, 2 months and 3 months expiry respectively. A new contract is introduced on the next trading day following the expiry of the relevant monthly contract. Futures contracts typically expire on the last Thursday (or immediately preceding trading

day if Thursday is a trading holiday) of the month. For example, a contract with the January expiration expires on the last Thursday of January.

#### **Index Futures:**

Index Futures began trading on NSE on June 12, 2000. A futures contract on the stock market index gives its owner the right and obligation to buy or sell the portfolio of stocks characterized by the index. Stock index futures are cash settled and in some cases, settlement is by way of delivery of the underlying stocks.

Let us assume that the Nifty Index at the beginning of the month October 2017 was 9979 and futures indices as under were available:

Month	Bid price	Offer price
October	9997	10032
November	10049	10084
December	10102	10155

The Scheme could buy an index of October 2017 at the offer price of 10032. The Scheme will be required to pay the initial margin as required by the exchanges.

The following is a hypothetical example of a typical trade in index future and the costs associated with the trade.

	Particulars	Index Future	Actual purchase of stocks
	Index as on beginning October 2017	9979	9979
	October 2017 futures price (in Rs.)	10032	_
I.	Execution Cost (Carry cost and other costs associated with the Index Futures - 10032-9979) (in Rs.)	53	NIL
II.	Brokerage Cost - on purchase (Assumed @ 0.04% for index future and 0.05% for spot stocks) (in Rs.) (0.04% of 10032, 0.05% of 9979)	4.01	4.99
III.	Securities Transaction Tax (in Rs.) (STT on purchase of index futures - NIL; STT on purchase of stocks - 0.1% of 2840)	NIL	9.98
IV.	Gain on surplus funds (assumed 5% returns on 90% of the money left after paying margin (10%)) (in Rs.) (5% x 9979 x 90% x 30 days/365)	36.91	NIL
V.	Spot market price at the expiry of October contract (in Rs.)	10032	10032
VI.	Brokerage Cost - on sale (in Rs.) (Assumed @ 0.04% for index future and 0.05% for spot stocks) (0.04% of 10032, 0.05% of 10032)	4.01	5.02
VII.	Securities Transaction Tax (in Rs.) (STT on sale of index futures - 0.01% of 10032; STT on sale of stocks - 0.1% of 10032)	1.00	10.03
	Total Cost (I + II + III - IV + VI +VII) (in Rs.)	25.11	30.02

Please note that the above example is based on assumptions and is used only for illustrative purposes (including an assumption that there will be a gain pursuant to investment in index futures). As can be seen in the above example, the costs associated with the trade in futures are less than that associated with the trade in actual stock. Thus, in the above example the futures trade seems to be more profitable than the trade in actual stock. However, buying of the index future may not be beneficial as compared to buying stocks if the execution and brokerage costs on purchase of index futures are high and the return on surplus funds are low. The actual returns may vary based on actuals and depends on final guidelines/procedures and trading mechanism as envisaged by stock exchanges and other regulatory authorities.

# **Stock Futures:**

Stock futures were launched on 9th November, 2001. A futures contract on a stock gives its owner the right and obligation to buy or sell the stocks. A purchase or sale of futures on a security gives the trader essentially the same price exposure as a purchase or sale of the security itself. In this regard, trading stock futures is no different from trading the security itself.

#### **Example:**

Assume that the spot price of the stock held by Mr. X is Rs. 390. Two-month futures cost him Rs. 402. For the futures contract he pays an initial margin. Now if the price of the security falls any further, he will suffer losses on the stock he holds. However, the losses he suffers on the stock will be offset by the profits he makes on his short futures position. For e.g. if the price of the stock held by him falls to Rs. 350, the fall in the price of the security will result in a fall in the price of futures. Futures will now trade at a price lower than the price at which he entered into a short futures position (assume futures trade at Rs. 340). Hence his short futures position will start making profits. The loss of Rs. 40 incurred on the security he holds, will be made up by the profits of Rs. 62 (the initial margin paid and other related costs are not considered) made on his short futures position.

# **Options:**

An option is a contract which provides the buyer of the option (also called the holder) the right, without the obligation, to buy (call) or sell (put) a specified asset at an agreed price on or upto a particular date. For acquiring this right, the buyer has to pay a premium to the seller. The seller on the other hand has the obligation to buy or sell that specified asset at the agreed price. The premium is determined considering number of factors such as the underlying asset's market price, the number of days to expiration, strike price of the option, the volatility of the underlying asset and the riskfree interest rate. The strike price, the expiration date and the market lots are specified by the exchanges.

An option contract may be of two kinds, viz., a call option or a put option. An option that provides the buyer the right to buy is a call option. The buyer of the call option (known as the holder of the option) can call upon the seller of the option (known as writer of the option) and buy from him the underlying asset at the agreed price at any time on or before the expiry date of the option. The seller of the option has to fulfill the obligation on exercise of the option.

The right to sell is called a put option. Here, the buyer of the option can exercise his right to sell the underlying asset to the seller of the option at the agreed price.

Options are of two types: (a) European and (b) American. In a European option, the holder of the option can only exercise his right on the date of expiration. In an American option, he can exercise this right anytime between the purchase date and the expiration date.

### **Example on options:**

**Buying a Call Option:** Assume that the Scheme buys a call option at the strike price of Rs. 2,000 and pays a premium of Rs. 100. If the market price of the underlying stock is Rs. 1,900, the Scheme will not exercise the option and it shall lose the premium of Rs. 100.

Thus, in the above example, the loss for the Scheme, as the buyer of the option, is limited to the premium paid by him while the gains are unlimited.

**Buying a Put Option:** Assume that the Scheme buys a put option at the strike price of Rs. 2,000 and pays a premium of Rs. 100. If the market price of the underlying stock decreases to Rs. 1,850 the Scheme would be protected from the downside and would be able to gain Rs. 50 (Strike Price – Spot Price of underlying – Premium paid) whereas if the stock price moves up to say Rs. 2,150 the Scheme may let the option expire and forego the premium of Rs. 100.

**Writing a Call Option:** Assume that the Scheme writes a call option at the strike price of Rs. 2,050 and earns a premium of Rs.100. If the market price of the underlying stock on the date of expiry increases to Rs. 2,200 (i.e. more than Rs. 2,050) then the option is exercised. The Scheme earns the premium of Rs. 100 but loses the difference between the market price and the exercise price i.e. Rs. 150. In case the market price of the underlying stock decreases to Rs. 2,000, the Scheme gets to keep the premium of Rs. 100.

Writing a Put Option: Assume that the Scheme writes a put option at the strike price of Rs. 2,050 and earns a premium of Rs. 50. If the market value of the underlying stock decreases to Rs. 2,000 the put option will be exercised and the Scheme will earn the premium of Rs. 50 but losses the difference between the exercise price and the market price which is Rs. 50. However, if the market price of the underlying stock is Rs. 2,100, the option-holder will not exercise the option. As a result of which the option will expire and the Scheme will earn the premium income of Rs. 50.

#### **Forward Contracts:**

A forward contract is a transaction in which the buyer and the seller agree upon the delivery of a specified quality (if commodity) and quantity of underlying asset at a predetermined rate on a specified future date. For example, on forward contracts, please refer below.

Assume that on June 30, 2017, the scheme has invested 1 million dollars in a US treasury security. Fund Manager expects that the yields in the US will come down in the next 6 months and plans to sell the asset on December 31, 2017 to book the gain. Rupee is trading at Rs. 63 to a US Dollar on June 30, 2017. If rupee appreciates compared to the Dollar in these 6 months to say Rs.62.50 per Dollar, the Scheme will earn lower returns in Rupee terms when the fund manager sells the investments on December 31, 2017 and converts the proceeds into Rupees. He can mitigate this exchange rate risk by entering into a forward contract to sell 1 million dollars on June 30, 2017 for value December 31, 2017 (6 month forward) and receive the prevailing premium of say 40 paise per Dollar i.e. he has locked in a rate of Rs. 63.40 per US Dollar for delivery on December 31, 2017. With this the Scheme is not exposed to the loss of Rupee appreciation or profit from Rupee depreciation.

Please note that the above examples are based on assumptions and are used only for illustrative purposes.

#### Strategies for fixed income derivatives

- 1. **Bond** Swap: Under this strategy, the fund manager pays fixed rate on Overnight Indexed Swap (OIS) against an underlying bond of a similar or greater tenor and receives Mumbai Inter- Bank Offer Rate (MIBOR). This is essentially done for hedging interest rate risk or for rebalancing portfolio allocation to fixed and floating rate bonds. Effectively, through this trade the fund manager is able to convert a fixed rate bond into a floating rate MIBOR linked instrument. The trade has exposure to 'basis movement' the relative movement of bond versus OIS.
- 2. **Receive OIS**: Here the fund manager receives fixed rate on OIS against either cash or a floating rate bond of a similar or greater tenor, and pays MIBOR. The objective is to rebalance portfolio in favor of fixed rate exposure.

- 3. **Curve Steepener:** This strategy aims to capture a potential steepening of the curve between any 2 tenors: say, 1 and 5 years. For example, the fund manager can receive fixed rate on 1 year OIS (against cash or floating rate bond) and pay fixed rate on 5 year OIS (against fixed rate bond). However, apart from the relative spread between the 5 year and 1 year OIS, the trade is also exposed to relative duration for the 2 tenors as well as basis risk on the bond-swap (in this example, the 5 year bond-swap).
- 4. **Curve Flattener:** This strategy aims to capture a potential flattening of the curve between any 2 tenors: say 1 and 5 years. For example, the fund manager can pay fixed rate on 1 year OIS (against fixed rate bond) and receive fixed rate 5 year OIS (against cash or floating rate bond). Like mentioned above, the trade is also exposed to duration as well as basis risk.

For detailed derivative strategies, please refer to SAI.

#### Portfolio Turnover

Portfolio turnover is defined as lesser of purchases and sales as a percentage of the average corpus of the Scheme during a specified period of time. The Scheme being an open-ended Scheme, it is expected that there would be a number of subscriptions and redemptions on a daily basis. Consequently, it is difficult to estimate with any reasonable measure of accuracy, the likely turnover in the portfolio(s). Active asset allocation would impact portfolio turnover.

# D. HOW WILL THE SCHEME BENCHMARK ITS PERFORMANCE?

#### Tier 1 Benchmark Index:

The performance of the Scheme/Plan(s) will be benchmarked with Nifty Small Cap 250 TRI

The Boards may review the benchmark selection process from time to time, and make suitable changes as to use of the benchmark, or related to composition of the benchmark, whenever it deems necessary.

# **Justification for Benchmark**

The Scheme is being benchmarked against the Index mentioned above, since the composition of it's Index is in line with the investment objective of the Scheme/Plan(s) and is most suited for comparing performance of the Scheme/Plan(s). It will also enable the investors to arrive at a more informed judgement on scheme's performance.

#### E. WHO MANAGES THE SCHEME?

Venugopal Manghat (Equity) Cheenu Gupta (Equity) and Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities) are the Fund Managers of the Scheme.

# The details of the Fund Manager(s) are:

Name of Fund	Age	Educational	Years of Experience with description	
Manager	(Years)	Qualifications		
Venugopal Manghat	53	MBA Finance, BSC	Over 29 years of experience.	
		(Mathematics)	HSBC Asset Management (India) Private Limited	
			CIO Equity (Since November 26, 2022)	
			Prior Assignments:	
			L&T Investment Management Limited	
			Head of Equity Investments from May 26, 2016 to November	
			25, 2022.	
			L&T Investment Management Limited	
			Co Head – Equities from November 24, 2012 till May 25, 2016	
			L&T Investment Management Limited	
			Vice President and Co-Head - Equity Investments from	
			January 23, 2012 till November 23, 2012	
			Tata Asset Management Limited	
			His last assignment was as Co-Head – Equities from June 19,	
			1995 to January 20, 2012.	

Name of Fund Manager	Age (Years)	Educational Qualifications	Years of Experience with description
Cheenu Gupta	43	CFA Charter (USA), PGDBM (Finance) - SPJIMR, B.E. (I.T)	Over 19 years of experience  HSBC Asset Management (India) Private Limited as SVP Fund Management Equities (Since November 26, 2022)  Prior Assignments: L&T Investment Management Limited as Fund Manager – Equity from July 01, 2021 to November 25, 2022.
			Canara Robeco Asset Management Company Limited as Equity - Fund Manager (March 2018 – June 2021) Tata AIA Life Insurance Company Limited as Equity Fund Manager (from August 2009 - February 2018)
Sonal Gupta	45	CFA Charter from CFA Institute, USA Post Graduate Diploma in Management from Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore. Bachelors in Mechanical Engineering, Delhi College of Engineering, Delhi University	Over 20 years of experience  HSBC Asset Management (India) Private Limited as Head Research – Equities (Since November 26, 2022)  Prior Assignments:  L&T Investment Management Limited as Head of Research – Equity from June 1, 2021 to November 25, 2022  UBS Securities India Pvt Ltd from June 19, 2006 till May 28, 2021 [Director – Equity Research (since Mar' 2010)]

# Other Schemes managed by the Fund Manager(s)

Name of the Scheme(s)	Fund Manager(s)
HSBC Aggressive Hybrid Fund	Cheenu Gupta (Equity), Shriram Ramanathan & Mohd. Asif Rizwi (Fixed Income), Gautam Bhupal (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Asia Pacific (Ex Japan) Dividend Yield Fund	Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Balanced Advantage Fund	Neelotpal Sahai (Equity), Mahesh Chhabria & Kapil Punjabi (Fixed Income), Gautam Bhupal (Equity), Praveen Ayathan (Arbitrage), Hitesh Gondhia (Arbitrage), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Brazil Fund	Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Business Cycle Fund	Gautam Bhupal (Equity), Venugopal Manghat (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Conservative Hybrid Fund	Mahesh Chhabria & Kapil Punjabi (Fixed Income), Cheenu Gupta & Abhishek Gupta (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Consumption Fund	Gautam Bhupal (Equity), Anish Goenka (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC ELSS Tax saver Fund	Abhishek Gupta (Equity), Gautam Bhupal (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Equity Savings Fund	Cheenu Gupta & Abhishek Gupta (Equity), Mahesh Chhabria & Kapil Punjabi (Fixed Income), Praveen Ayathan & Hitesh Gondhia (Arbitrage), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Flexi Cap Fund	Abhishek Gupta (Equity), Venugopal Manghat (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Focused Fund	Neelotpal Sahai (Equity), Cheenu Gupta (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Global Emerging Markets Fund	Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Global Equity Climate Change Fund of Fund	Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities), Kapil Punjabi (Fixed Income)
HSBC India Export Opportunities Fund	Abhishek Gupta (Equity), Siddharth Vora (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Infrastructure Fund	Venugopal Manghat (Equity), Gautam Bhupal (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Large and Midcap Fund	Cheenu Gupta (Equity), Abhishek Gupta (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Large Cap Fund	Neelotpal Sahai (Equity), Gautam Bhupal (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)

Name of the Scheme(s)	Fund Manager(s)
HSBC Managed Solutions -	Gautam Bhupal (Equity), Cheenu Gupta (Equity) Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
Conservative	
HSBC Managed Solutions – Growth	Gautam Bhupal (Equity), Cheenu Gupta (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Managed Solutions -	Gautam Bhupal (Equity), Cheenu Gupta (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
Moderate	
HSBC Mid Cap Fund	Cheenu Gupta (Equity), Venugopal Manghat (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign
	Securities)
HSBC Multi Asset Allocation Fund	Cheenu Gupta (Domestic equities), Dipan Parikh (For Gold/Silver ETFs), Mahesh
	Chhabria & Kapil Punjabi (Fixed Income), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Multi Cap Fund	Venugopal Manghat (Equity), Gautam Bhupal (Equity), Kapil Punjabi (Fixed Income),
	Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Tax Saver Equity Fund	Gautam Bhupal (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign Securities)
HSBC Value Fund	Venugopal Manghat (Equity), Gautam Bhupal (Equity), Sonal Gupta (Foreign
	Securities)

# F. HOW IS THE SCHEME DIFFERENT FROM EXISTING SCHEMES OF THE MUTUAL FUND?

Comparison with other actively managed open ended equity oriented schemes of HSBC Mutual Fund is as under. Please refer to weblink (<u>Product Differentiation</u>) for detailed comparative table.

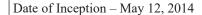
Sr. No.	Scheme Name	Scheme Category	Type of Scheme
1.	HSBC Business Cycle Fund	Thematic Fund	An open ended equity scheme following business cycles based investing theme.
2.	HSBC Consumption Fund	Thematic Fund	An open ended equity scheme following consumption theme.
3.	HSBC ELSS Tax saver Fund	ELSS	An open ended equity linked saving scheme with a statutory lock in of 3 years and tax benefit
4.	HSBC Flexi Cap Fund	Flexi Cap Fund	An open ended dynamic equity scheme investing across large cap, mid cap, small cap stocks.
5.	HSBC Focused Fund	Focused Fund	An open ended equity scheme investing in maximum 30 stocks across market caps (i.e. Multi-Cap)
6.	HSBC Infrastructure Fund	Thematic Fund	An open ended equity scheme following Infrastructure theme
7.	HSBC Large and Mid Cap Fund	Large & Mid Cap Fund	An open ended equity scheme investing in both large cap and mid cap stocks
8.	HSBC Large Cap Fund	Large Cap Fund	An open ended equity scheme predominantly investing in large cap stocks
9.	HSBC Mid Cap Fund	Mid Cap Fund	An open ended equity scheme predominantly investing in mid cap stocks
10.	HSBC Multi Cap Fund	Multi Cap Fund	An open ended equity scheme investing across large cap, mid cap, small cap stocks
11.	HSBC Tax Saver Equity Fund@	ELSS	An Open Ended Equity Linked Savings Scheme with a statutory lock - in of 3 years and tax benefit
12.	HSBC Value Fund	Value Fund	An open ended equity scheme following a value investment strategy
13	HSBC India Export Opportunities Fund	Thematic Fund	An open ended equity scheme following Export theme

<sup>@</sup> Subscriptions stopped with effect from close of business hours of November 25, 2022.

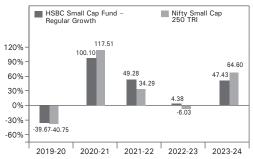
# G. HOW HAS THE SCHEME PERFORMED (if applicable)

Scheme performance as on October 31, 2024.

Compounded Annualised Returns	Scheme Returns %		Benchmark Returns %	
	Regular Plan Direct Plan		Regular Plan	Direct Plan
Returns for the last 1 year	42.51	43.95	48.41	48.41
Returns for the last 3 years	26.18	27.63	24.61	24.61
Returns for the last 5 years	30.43	31.89	31.04	31.04
Returns since inception	22.22	23.22	19.94	19.94



# Absolute Returns for each financial year for the last 5 years



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

Performance of the benchmark is calculated as per the Total Return Index (TRI).

Returns are of growth option. The returns for the respective periods are provided as on last business day of October 2024. Returns 1 year and above are Compounded Annualized. Standard benchmark is prescribed by SEBI and is used for comparison purposes. Different plans shall have a different expense structure.

#### H. ADDITIONAL SCHEME RELATED DISCLOSURES

- i. Scheme's portfolio holdings (top 10 holdings by issuer and fund allocation towards various sectors.
   Refer to the weblink (<u>Top 10 holdings and Fund allocation towards various sectors</u>) for Scheme's portfolio holdings.
- ii. Disclosure of name and exposure to Top 7 issuers, stocks, groups and sectors as a percentage of NAV of the scheme in case of debt and equity ETFs/index funds through a functional website link that contains detailed description Not Applicable for this Scheme.
- iii. Functional website link for Portfolio Disclosure:
  - (Click here for <u>Fortnightly Portfolio</u> Disclosure).
  - (Click here for Monthly Portfolio Disclosure).
  - (Click here for <u>Half Yearly Portfolio</u> Disclosure).
- iv. Portfolio Turnover Rate particularly for equity oriented schemes shall also be disclosed.

The Portfolio Turnover Ratio as on October 31, 2024 is as below.

Fund Name	Portfolio Turnover	
HSBC Small Cap Fund	0.30	

v. Aggregate investment as on October 31, 2024 in the Scheme by:

Sr. No.	Category of Persons	Net V	Market Value (in Rs.)	
	Concerned scheme's Fund Manager(s)	Units	NAV per unit	
1.	Cheenu Gupta	10,344.611	96.101	994,129.53
2.	Sonal Gupta	8,908.810	96.101	856,147.33
3.	Venugopal Manghat	72,728.690	96.101	6,989,314.38
4.	Venugopal Manghat	10,000.000	53.889	538,892.00

For any other disclosure w.r.t investments by key personnel and AMC directors including regulatory provisions in this regard kindly refer SAI.

# vi. Investments of AMC in the Scheme

The AMC shall not invest in any of the schemes unless full disclosure of its intention to invest has been made in the Scheme Information Document and that the AMC shall not be entitled to charge any fees on such investment.

Kindly refer (weblink - Investments of AMC in the Scheme) for Investments of AMC in the Scheme.

# PART III- OTHER DETAILS

#### A. COMPUTATION OF NAV

## i. Computation of NAV

The NAV of Units under the Scheme/Plan(s)/Option(s) shall be calculated as shown below:

Market or Fair Value of Scheme's investments (+) Current Assets (-) Current Liabilities and Provisions

NAV(Rs.) =

No. of Units outstanding under the Scheme/Option

The Direct Plan shall have a separate NAV.

The NAVs of the Scheme/Plan(s)/Option(s) (including Direct Plans) will be calculated and disclosed on every Business Day. The NAVs of the Scheme shall be disclosed up to 4 decimal places. The valuation of the Scheme' assets and calculation of the Scheme' NAV shall be subject to audit on an annual basis and such regulations as may be prescribed by SEBI from time to time.

The NAV of the Segregated Portfolio shall be declared on daily basis.

For other details such as policies w.r.t computation of NAV, rounding off, investment in foreign securities, procedure in case of delay in disclosure of NAV etc. refer to SAI.

#### ii. Methodology for calculation of sale and re-purchase of units –

The Units of the Scheme are available for sale, repurchase and switch at applicable NAV based prices, subject to prevalent load provisions, if any, on every business day.

#### Sale Price

Sale Price = Applicable NAV

Example

If the Applicable NAV is Rs. 15 and the sales load (i.e. Entry Load) is 0%, the sales price is calculated as follows:

Sales Price = 15 \* (1+0)

= 15\*1

 $= 15^{^{^{^{^{}}}}}$ 

(^Pursuant to levy of stamp duty, the number of units allotted on the sale price to the unitholders would be reduced to that extent of @0.005% of the transaction value. Please refer for more details under "Section III  $\rightarrow$  Other Details  $\rightarrow$  C. TRANSACTION CHARGES AND STAMP DUTY" clause of this document.)

#### Repurchase Price

Repurchase Price = Applicable NAV \* (1 - Exit Load, if any)

Example

If the Applicable NAV is Rs. 15 and the exit load applicable is 0.5%, the repurchase price is calculated as follows:

Repurchase Price = 15 \* (1 - 0.005)

= 15 \* 0.995

= 14.925

The repurchase price however, will not be lower than 95% of the NAV subject to SEBI Regulations as amended from time to time.

For other details such as policies w.r.t computation of NAV, rounding off, investment in foreign securities, procedure in case of delay in disclosure of NAV etc. refer to SAI.

## **B. NEW FUND OFFER (NFO) EXPENSES**

These expenses are incurred for the purpose of various activities related to the NFO like sales and distribution fees, paid marketing and advertising, registrar expenses, printing and stationary, bank charges etc.

The NFO expenses of HSBC Small Cap Fund were borne by the AMC and were not charged to the Scheme.

# C. ANNUAL SCHEME RECURRING EXPENSES

These are the fees and expenses for operating the scheme. These expenses include Investment Management and Advisory Fee charged by the AMC, Registrar and Transfer Agents' fee, marketing and selling costs etc. as given in the table below:

The AMC has estimated that upto 2.25% of the daily net assets of the scheme will be charged to the scheme as expenses.

The total recurring expenses of the Scheme shall be as per the limits prescribed under sub-regulation 6 and 6A of Regulation 52 of the SEBI Regulations and shall not exceed the limits prescribed there under as a percentage limit of daily net assets in the table below:

As per the Regulation 52(6), the maximum recurring expenses that can be charged to the Scheme shall be subject to a percentage limit of daily net assets in the table below:

First Rs. 500 Crores	Next Rs. 250 Crores	Next Rs. 1,250 Crores	Next Rs. 3,000 Crores	Next Rs. 5,000 Crores	Next Rs. 40,000 Crores	Balance
2.25%	2.00%	1.75%	1.60%	1.50%	TER reduction of 0.05% for every increase of Rs. 5,000 crores of daily net assets or part thereof	1.05%

Further, as per current Regulation 52 (6A), the additional recurring expenses that can be charged to Scheme shall be subject to a percentage limit of daily net assets as specified below

Regulation 52 (6A) (a)	Brokerage and transaction costs (inclusive of GST) which are incurred for the purpose of execution of trades, shall be charged to the scheme as per Regulation 52(6A)(a) of SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996 not exceeding 0.12 per cent in case of cash market transactions and 0.05 per cent in case of derivatives transactions. With effect from April 01, 2023, to align with Indian Account Standards requirement, transactions cost incurred for the purpose of execution of trades are expensed out (viz. charged to Revenue Account instead of Capitalization (i.e., forming part of cost of investment)). Any payment towards brokerage and transaction cost, over and above the said 0.12 percent and 0.05 percent for cash market transactions and derivatives transactions respectively may be charged to the scheme within the maximum limit of Total Expense Ratio (TER) as prescribed under regulation 52 of the SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996;
Regulation 52 (6A) (b)	Expenses not exceeding of 0.30 per cent of daily net assets, if the new inflows from beyond Top 30 cities (B- 30**) are at least -
	(i) 30 per cent of gross new inflows in the scheme, or
	(ii) 15 per cent of the average assets under management (year to date) of the scheme, whichever is higher.
	Provided that if inflows from such cities are less than the higher of (i) or (ii), such expenses on daily net assets of the scheme shall be charged on proportionate basis.
	Additional TER shall be charged based on inflows from retail investors from beyond top 30 cities (B- 30 cities). Inflows of amount upto Rs. 2,00,000/- per transaction, by individual investors shall be considered as inflows from retail investor.
	Provided further that, expenses so charged shall be utilised for distribution expenses incurred for bringing inflows from beyond Top 30 cities. Provided further that amount incurred as expense on count of inflows from such cities shall be credited back to the scheme in case the said inflows are redeemed within a period of one year from the date of investment.
	** Beyond Top 30 (B30) cities shall mean beyond top 30 cities based on Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) data on 'AUM by Geography - Consolidated Data for Mutual Fund Industry' as at the end of the previous financial year
Regulation 52 (6A) (c)	Additional recurring expenses of upto 0.05% of daily net assets of the scheme towards the investment and advisory fees or various other permissible expenses.
	However, in accordance with para 10.1.7 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, AMC shall not charge any additional expense of upto 0.05% as per Regulation 52(6A) (c), if exit load is not being levied under the Scheme. Accordingly, upon levy or introduction of exit load under the Scheme, the additional expenses upto 0.05% under Regulation 52 (6A) (c) shall be levied, and upon removal of exit load under the Scheme, additional expense upto 0.05% under Regulation 52 (6A) (c) shall be discontinued in compliance with provisions of para 10.1.7 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024

For the actual current expenses being charged, the investor should refer to the website of the mutual fund.

The AMC has estimated the following maximum expenses of the Scheme. Please refer to the table below for indicative details

Expense Head	% p.a. of daily Net Assets* (Estimated p.a.)
Investment Management & Advisory Fee	
Audit fees/fees and expenses of trustees	
Custodial Fees	
Registrar & Transfer Agent Fees including cost of providing account statements/IDCW/redemption cheques/warrants	
Marketing & Selling Expenses including Agents Commission and statutory Advertisement	
Costs related to investor communications	Upto 2.25%
Costs of fund transfer from location to location	
Cost towards investor education & awareness (at least 2 bps)	
Brokerage & transaction cost pertaining to distribution of units#	
Goods & Services Tax on expenses other than investment and advisory fees	
Goods & Services Tax on brokerage and transaction cost@	
Other Expenses (to be specified as per Reg 52 of SEBI MF Regulations)	
Maximum Total expenses ratio (TER) permissible under Regulation 52(6) (c)	Upto 2.25%
Additional expenses under Regulations 52(6A)(c)	Upto 0.05%
Additional expenses for gross new inflows from specified cities^	Upto 0.30%

@GST on brokerage and transaction cost, over and above 12 bps and 5 bps for cash and derivative market transactions charged to the Scheme will be part of Total Expense Ratio limit as defined above.

**Note:** The total recurring expenses of the Direct Plan will be lower to the extent of the abovementioned distribution expenses/commission which is charged in the Regular Plan. For example, in the event that the TER of the Regular option is 1%, the TER of the Direct Plan would not exceed 0.95% p.a.

The AMC may charge the following costs and expenses in addition to the total recurring expense limits as prescribed in the table above:

- (a) #Brokerage and transaction costs (inclusive of GST) which are incurred for the purpose of execution of trades, shall be charged to the scheme as per Regulation 52(6A)(a) of SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996 not exceeding 0.12 per cent in case of cash market transactions and 0.05 per cent in case of derivatives transactions. With effect from April 01, 2023, to align with Indian Account Standards requirement, transactions cost incurred for the purpose of execution of trades are expensed out (viz. charged to Revenue Account instead of Capitalization (i.e., forming part of cost of investment)). Any payment towards brokerage and transaction cost, over and above the said 0.12 percent and 0.05 percent for cash market transactions and derivatives transactions respectively may be charged to the scheme within the maximum limit of Total Expense Ratio (TER) as prescribed under regulation 52 of the SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996;
- (b) GST on investment management and advisory fees.
- (c) ^In terms of AMFI letter no. 35P/MEM-COR/85-a/2022-23 dated March 02, 2023, the B-30 incentive structure is kept in abeyance with effect from March 01, 2023 and shall be re-instated at a later date as per the guidelines received from SEBI/AMFI in this regards.

The expenses of the Direct Plan will be lower than that of Regular Plan of the Scheme. No commission or distribution expenses will be charged under the Direct Plan.

The above expenses are subject to change and may increase/decrease as per actual and/or any change in the Regulations but the total recurring expenses that can be charged to the Scheme will be subject to limits prescribed from time to time under the SEBI (MF) Regulations.

Any other expenses which are directly attributable to the Scheme, may be charged with approval of the Board of Directors of Trustee Company within the overall limits as specified in the Regulations except those expenses which are specifically prohibited.

The AMC reserves the right to vary the expense ratios charged to the Scheme, at such frequencies as the AMC may decide, subject to the maximum SEBI permissible limits. The AMC would update the current expense ratios on the website at least three working days prior to the effective date of the change. This information is available on AMC's website at <a href="https://www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in">www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in</a>.

\*Impact of TER on returns of both Direct plan and Regular plan through an illustration is provided below for reference.

Description	Regular Plan	Direct Plan		
Description	Regular Plan	Direct Plan	100,000,000	100,000,000
Collections at Day Zero		A	100,000,000	100,000,000
Purchase Price per unit		В	10	10
Units allotted to domestic investors	A/B	С	10,000,000.00	10,000,000.00
Amount invested		D	100,000,000	100,000,000
Yield on investment		Е	6%	6%
Expense ratio		F	1.65%	1.00%
AUM after one month	(D*E))/12 +D	G	100,500,000	100,500,000
AUM including Yield	(D*E))/12+D	G	100,500,000	100,500,000
Expenses (for one month) (INR) – approximated at average of opening and closing AUM	((A+G)/2)* F)/12	Н	137,844	83,542
AUM after one month	G-H	I	100,362,156	100,416,458
NAV per unit	I/C	J	10.0362	10.0416
Annualized returns (Pre Expenses) %	(G-D)/D*100*12	K	6.00	6.00
Annualized returns (Post Expenses) %	(I-D)/D*100*12	L	4.35	5.00

All scheme related expenses including commission paid to distributors, by whatever name it may be called and in whatever manner it may be paid, shall be paid from the scheme only within the regulatory limits and not from the books of the Asset Management Company (AMC), its associate, sponsor, trustee company or any other entity through any route. Provided that the expenses that are very small in value but high in volume may be paid out of AMC's books. Such expenses shall be paid out of AMC's books at actuals or not exceeding 2 bps of scheme AUM, whichever is lower. The AMC shall pay from its books only those expenses which are part of the miscellaneous expenses list provided by AMFI. Such expenses incurred by AMC shall be properly recorded and audited in the books of account of AMC at year end.

# Total Expense Ratio (TER) for the Segregated Portfolio

TER for the Segregated Portfolio shall be subject to the following provisions:

- 1. The AMC will not charge investment and advisory fees on the Segregated Portfolio. However, TER (excluding the investment and advisory fees) can be charged, on a pro-rata basis only upon recovery of the investments in Segregated Portfolio.
- 2. The TER so levied shall not exceed the simple average of such expenses (excluding the investment and advisory fees) charged on daily basis on the Main Portfolio (in % terms) during the period for which the Segregated Portfolio was in existence.
- 3. The legal charges related to recovery of the investments of the Segregated Portfolio may be charged to the Segregated Portfolio in proportion to the amount of recovery. However, the same shall be within the maximum TER limit as applicable to the Main Portfolio. The legal charges in excess of the TER limits, if any, shall be borne by the AMC.

The costs related to Segregated Portfolio shall in no case be charged to the Main Portfolio.

#### D. LOAD STRUCTURE

Exit Load is an amount which is paid by the investor to redeem the units from the Scheme. This amount is used by the AMC to pay commissions to the distributor and to take care of other marketing and selling expenses. Load amounts are variable and are subject to change from time to time. For the current applicable structure, please refer to the website of the AMC at <a href="https://www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in">www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in</a> or may call at ISC or your distributor.

Repurchases could attract an exit load (as a % of the Applicable NAV for redemptions). Unitholders should note that the AMC retains the right to change exit load as per the provisions below:

The repurchase price, however, will not be lower than 95% of the NAV subject to SEBI Regulations as amended from time to time.

Type of Load	Load Structure (Including SIP/STP/SWP, wherever applicable) for Scheme/Plans. Load chargeable (as %age of NAV)			
Exit Load	(i) If the units redeemed or switched out are upto 10% of the units purchased or switched in ("the limit") within 1 year from the date of allotment – Nil			
	(ii) If units redeemed or switched out are over and above the limit within 1 year from the date of allotment $-1\%$			
	(iii) If units are redeemed or switched out on or after 1 year from the date of allotment – Nil			
	• No Exit load will be chargeable in case of switches made between different options of the Scheme.			
	<ul> <li>No Exit load will be chargeable in case of Units allotted on account of IDCW reinvestments, if any.</li> </ul>			
	Exit load is not applicable for Segregated Portfolio.			
	Upfront commission shall be paid directly by the investor to the AMFI registered Distributors based on the investor's assessment of various factors including the service rendered by the distributors.			
	The exit load set forth above is subject to change at the discretion of the AMC and such changes shall be implemented prospectively.			

Units issued on reinvestment of dividends shall not be subject to exit load for existing as well as prospective investors. The above mentioned load structure shall be equally applicable to the special products such as HSBC SIP, HSBC SWP and HSBC STP, etc. offered by the AMC.

The exit load charged, if any, will be credited to the schemes. Goods & Service Tax (GST) on exit load, if any, will be paid out of the exit load proceeds and exit load net of GST, if any, will be credited to the scheme.

The investor is requested to check the prevailing load structure of the Scheme before investing. For any change in load structure AMC will issue an addendum and display it on the website/Investor Service Centres.

Subject to the Regulations, the Board of Directors of Trustee Company reserve the right to modify/alter the load structure and may decide to introduce a differential load structure on the Units redeemed on any Business Day. Such changes will be applicable prospectively. The changes may also be disclosed in the Statements of Account issued after the introduction of such load. Further, at the time of changing the Load Structure:

- (i) The addendum detailing the changes will be attached to the SID and Key Information Memorandum. The addendum will be circulated to all the distributors/brokers so that the same can be attached to all the SIDs and Key Information Memorandum already in stock.
- (ii) Arrangements will be made to display the changes/modifications in the SID in the form of a notice in all the Investor Service Centres and distributors/brokers' office.
- (iii) The introduction of the Exit Load along with the details will be stamped in the acknowledgement slip issued to the investors on submission of the application form and will also be disclosed in the Account Statement or in the covering letter issued to the Unit holders after the introduction of such Load.
- (iv) A notice for change in Exit Load shall be uploaded on the website of the Mutual Fund.
- (v) Any other measures which the mutual fund may feel necessary.

# **SECTION II**

#### I. INTRODUCTION

#### A. DEFINITIONS/INTERPRETATION

Investors are requested to refer to weblink (<u>Definition</u>) for detailed descriptions of the words and expressions used in this SID.

#### **INTERPRETATION**

For all purposes of this Scheme Information Document, except as otherwise expressly provided or unless the context otherwise requires:

- The terms defined in this SID include the plural as well as the singular.
- Pronouns having a masculine or feminine gender shall be deemed to include the other.
- All references to "US\$" refer to United States Dollars and "Rs." or "₹" refer to Indian Rupees. A "crore" means "ten million" and a "lakh" means a "hundred thousand".
- The contents of the SID are applicable to all the Scheme covered under this SID, unless specified otherwise.
- All references to timings relate to Indian Standard Time (IST).
- Words/phrases not defined herein shall have meanings as defined under SEBI (MF) Regulations.
- All references to "Master Circular" refer to Master Circular for Mutual Funds issued by SEBI dated June 27, 2024 as amended from time to time.

# **B. RISK FACTORS**

#### Scheme specific risk factors

The scheme may have limited flexibility to deviate from the asset allocation pattern defined and will remain invested in the market cap segments as guided by asset allocation pattern of the scheme regardless of the fundamental outlook, macroeconomic environment, liquidity/prospects of the companies in the segments. These factors may impede the ability of the fund manager to align the portfolio in line with market expectations potentially exposing the Scheme to periods of volatile performance depending on outlook for these market cap segments. The market cap segments invested in by the Scheme is as per current regulatory definition and maybe subject to change in future.

# Risk factors associated with investing in Equity or Equity related Securities:

- Subject to the stated investment objective of the Scheme, the Scheme propose to invest predominantly in equity and equity related securities. Equity instruments by nature are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis due to both macro and micro factors. Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures may restrict the liquidity of these investments. Different segments of financial markets have different settlement periods and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances. The inability of the Scheme to make intended securities' purchases due to settlement problems could cause the Scheme to miss certain investment opportunities. Similarly, the inability to sell securities held in the Scheme's portfolios would result at times, in potential losses to the Scheme, should there be a subsequent decline in the value of securities held in the Scheme's portfolio.
- Investments in equity and equity related securities involve a degree of risks and investors should not invest in the Scheme unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their investment.
- The liquidity and valuation of the Scheme's investments due to its holdings of unlisted securities may be affected if they have to be sold prior to the target date of disinvestment.
- Securities which are not quoted on the stock exchanges are inherently illiquid in nature and carry a larger liquidity risk
  in comparison with securities that are listed on the exchanges or offer other exit options to the investors, including put
  options.
- As the portfolio may invest in stocks of different countries, the portfolio shall be exposed to the political, economic and
  social risks with respect to each country. However, the investment manager shall ensure that his exposure to each country
  is limited so that the portfolio is not exposed to one country. Investments in various economies will also diversify and
  reduce this risk.
- The fund will be exposed to settlement risk, as different countries have different settlement periods.
- The Scheme may also use various derivative products from time to time, as would be available and permitted by SEBI, in an attempt to protect the value of the portfolio and enhance Unitholders' interest.
- In the event that the investible funds of more than 65% of the total proceeds of the Scheme are not invested in equity shares of domestic companies, the tax provisions as applicable for equity schemes may not be available to the Scheme. This is however subject to change as per Income Tax laws of India.

• Scheme's performance may differ from the benchmark index to the extent of the investments held in the debt segment, as per the investment pattern indicated under normal circumstances.

Liquidity risk can be defined as inability of the fund manager to exit securities at their fair value in the secondary market whenever there is a need to generate cash. Equity and equity related instruments are subject to liquidity risk. Liquidity risk is generally observed to be elevated in mid and small cap stocks than in large cap stocks. The scheme may have some exposure to mid and small cap stocks which usually have a higher impact cost. HSBC monitors liquidity risk on an ongoing basis for both assets and liability side.

SEBI, through AMFI, has directed AMCs to disclose certain risk parameters of Mid and Small Cap schemes and upload the results on AMFI and AMC website every month within 15 days from the end of the month. The calculation methodology for liquidity risk and the template for disclosing risk parameters has been provided by AMFI.

#### Risk factor associated with legal, tax and regulatory risk

The Scheme could be exposed to changes in legal, tax and regulatory regime which may adversely affect it and/or the investors. Such changes could also have retrospective effect and could lead to additional taxation imposed on the Scheme which was not contemplated either when investments were made, valued or disposed off.

# Risk factors associated with investing in Fixed Income Securities

Subject to the stated investment objective, the Scheme proposes to invest in debt and related instruments and the risk factors pertinent to the same are:

- The performance of Scheme may be affected by changes in Government policies, general levels of interest rates and risks associated with trading volumes, liquidity and settlement systems.
- Investments in different types of securities are subject to different levels and kinds of risk. Accordingly, the Scheme's risk may increase or decrease depending upon its investment pattern.
  - E.g. investments in corporate bonds carry a higher level of risk than investments in Government securities. Further, even among corporate bonds, bonds which have a higher rating are comparatively less risky than bonds which have a lower rating.
- Price-Risk or Interest Rate Risk: As with all debt securities, changes in interest rates may affect the NAV of the Scheme as the prices of securities increase as interest rates decline and decrease as interest rates rise. Prices of long-term securities generally fluctuate more in response to interest rate changes than do short term securities. Indian debt markets can be volatile leading to the possibility of price movements up or down in fixed income securities and thereby to possible movements in the NAV. The effect is more prominent when the duration of the instrument is higher. Hence the NAV movement of the Scheme consisting of predominantly fixed income securities is likely to have inverse correlation with the movement in interest rates. In case of a floating rate instrument, this risk is lower as a result of periodic reset of the coupon. During the life of floating rate security or a swap the underlying benchmark index may become less active and may not capture the actual movement in the interest rates or at times the benchmark may cease to exist. These types of events may result in loss of value in the portfolio.
- The change in value of a security, for a given change in yield, is higher for a security with higher duration and vice versa. Hence portfolios with higher duration will have higher volatility which leads to duration risk.
- Government securities do carry price risk depending upon the general level of interest rates prevailing from time to time. The extent of fall or rise in the prices is a function of the coupon rate, days to maturity and the increase or decrease in the level of interest rates. The price of the Government securities (existing and new) is influenced only by movements in interest rates in financial systems.
- In the case of floating rate instruments, an additional risk could be due to the change in the spreads of floating rate instruments. If the spreads on floating rate papers rise, then there could be a price loss on these instruments. Secondly in the case of fixed rate instruments that have been swapped for floating rates, any adverse movement in the fixed rate yields vis-à-vis swap rates could result in losses. However, floating rate debt instruments which have periodical interest rate reset, carry a lower interest rate risk as compared to fixed rate debt instruments. In a falling interest rate scenario, the returns on floating rate debt instruments may not be better than those on fixed rate debt instruments.
- Liquidity Risk: This refers to the ease with which a security can be sold at or near to its valuation yield-to-maturity (YTM). The primary measure of liquidity risk is the spread between the bid price and the offer price quoted by a dealer. Liquidity risk is today characteristic of the Indian fixed income market. HSBC monitor liquidity risk on an ongoing basis from both assets and liability side.
- This represents the possibility that the realised price from selling the security might be lesser than the valuation price as a result of illiquid market. If a large outflow from the Scheme is funded by selling some of the illiquid securities, the NAV could fall even if there is no change in interest rates. Illiquid securities are typically quoted at a higher yield than the liquid securities and have higher bid offer spreads. Investment in illiquid securities results in higher current yield for the portfolio. In addition, money market securities, while fairly liquid, lack a well- developed secondary market, which may restrict the selling ability of the Scheme and may lead to the Scheme incurring losses till the security is finally sold.

- The corporate debt market is relatively illiquid vis-a-vis the government securities market. Even though the government securities market is more liquid compared to that of other debt instruments, on occasions, there could be difficulties in transacting in the market due to extreme volatility or unusual constriction in market volumes or on occasions when an unusually large transaction has to be put through.
  - HSBC monitors liquidity risk on an ongoing basis from both assets and liability side.
- Spread risk: Though the sovereign yield curve might remain constant, investments in corporate bonds are exposed to the risk of spread widening between corporate bonds and gilts. Typically, if this spread widens, the prices of the corporate bonds tend to fall and so could the NAV of the Schemes. Similar risk prevails for the investments in the floating rate bonds, where the benchmark might remain unchanged, but the spread over the benchmark might vary. In such an event, if the spread widens, the price and the NAV of the Schemes could fall.
- Credit Risk: Credit risk or default risk refers to the risk that an issuer of a fixed income security may default (i.e. will be unable to make timely principal and interest payments on the security). A sovereign security carries no default risk since Government raises money to meet its capital and revenue expenditure by issuing these debt or discounted securities. As the payment of interest and principal amount has a sovereign status implying no default, such securities are popularly known as "risk-free security" or "Zero Risk security". Thus Zero-Risk is the lowest risk, even lower than a security with "AAA" rating and hence commands a yield, which is lower than a yield on "AAA" security. Normally, the value of a fixed income security will fluctuate depending upon the changes in the perceived level of credit risk as well as any actual event of default. The greater the credit risk, the greater the yield required for someone to be compensated for the increased risk. Because of this risk, corporate debentures are sold at a yield above those offered on Government Securities, which are sovereign obligations.
- Reinvestment Risk: This risk refers to the interest rate levels at which cash flows received from the securities in the Scheme are reinvested. The additional income from reinvestment is the "interest on interest" component. The risk is that the rate at which interim cash flows can be reinvested may be lower than that originally assumed. However, declining interest rates normally lead to increase in bond prices which may help cushion the impact of reinvestment risk to some extent.
- **Benchmark Risk:** The floating rate segment of the domestic debt market is not very developed. Currently, majority of the issuance of floating rate papers is linked to NSE MIBOR. As the floating rate segment develops further, more benchmark rates for floating papers may be available in future. The fewer number of benchmark rates could result in limited diversification of the benchmark risk.
- **Prepayment Risk:** The risk associated with the early unscheduled return of principal on a fixed- income security. The early unscheduled return of principal may result in reinvestment risk.
- Settlement risk: Different segments of Indian financial markets have different settlement periods and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances. Delays or other problems in settlement of transactions could result in temporary periods when the assets of the Scheme are uninvested and no return is earned thereon. The inability of the Scheme to make intended securities purchases, due to settlement problems, could cause the Scheme, to miss certain investment opportunities. Similarly, the inability to sell securities held in the Scheme's portfolio, due to the absence of a well-developed and liquid secondary market for debt securities, may result at times in potential losses to the Scheme in the event of a subsequent decline in the value of securities held in the portfolio of the Scheme.
- Market risk: Lower rated or unrated securities are more likely to react to developments affecting the market and the credit risk than the highly rated securities which react primarily to movements in the general level of interest rates. Lower rated or unrated securities also tend to be more sensitive to economic conditions than higher rated securities.
- In addition to the factors that affect the values of securities, the NAV of Units of the Scheme will fluctuate with the movement in the broader fixed income market, money market and derivatives market and may be influenced by factors influencing such markets in general including but not limited to economic conditions, changes in interest rates, price and volume volatility in the bond and stock markets, changes in taxation, currency exchange rates, foreign investments, political, economic or other developments and closure of the stock exchanges.

#### Risk Factors associated with investments in Money Market instruments

- Investments in money market instruments would involve a moderate credit risk i.e. risk of an issuer's liability to meet the
  principal payments. Additionally, money market securities, while fairly liquid, lack a well-developed secondary market,
  which may restrict the selling ability of the Scheme and may lead to the Scheme incurring losses till the security is finally
  sold.
- Money market instruments may also be subject to price volatility due to factors such as changes in interest rates (when interest rates in the market rise, the value of a portfolio of money market instruments can be expected to decline), general level of market liquidity and market perception of credit worthiness of the issuer of such instruments and risks associated with settlement of transactions and reinvestment of intermediate cash flows. The NAV of the Scheme's Units, to the extent that the Scheme is invested in money market instruments, will consequently be affected by the aforesaid factors. The AMC endeavours to manage such risk by the use of in- house credit analysis.

• The NAV of the Scheme's Units, to the extent that the corpus of the Scheme is invested in money market instruments, will be affected by the changes in the level of interest rates. When interest rates in the market rise, the value of a portfolio of money market instruments can be expected to decline.

### Risks associated with investing in Foreign Securities

- Foreign Securities: Subject to necessary approvals and within the investment objectives of the Scheme, the Scheme may invest in overseas markets which carry risks related to fluctuations in the foreign exchange rates, the nature of the securities market of the country, repatriation of capital due to exchange controls and political circumstances.
- It is the AMC's belief that investment in foreign securities offers new investment and portfolio diversification opportunities into multi-market and multi-currency products. However, such investments also entail additional risks. Such investment opportunities may be pursued by the AMC provided they are considered appropriate in terms of the overall investment objectives of the Scheme. Since the Scheme would invest only partially in foreign securities, there may not be readily available and widely accepted benchmarks to measure performance of the Scheme. To manage risks associated with foreign currency and interest rate exposure, the Fund may use derivatives for efficient portfolio management including hedging and in accordance with conditions as may be stipulated by SEBI/RBI from time to time.
- Offshore investments will be made subject to any/all approvals, conditions thereof as may be stipulated by SEBI/RBI and provided such investments do not result in expenses to the Fund in excess of the ceiling on expenses prescribed by and consistent with costs and expenses attendant to international investing. The Fund may, where necessary, appoint other intermediaries of repute as advisors, custodian/sub-custodians etc. for managing and administering such investments. The appointment of such intermediaries shall be in accordance with the applicable requirements of SEBI and within the permissible ceiling of expenses. The fees and expenses would illustratively include, besides the investment management fees, custody fees and costs, fees of appointed advisors and sub-managers, transaction costs and overseas regulatory costs.
- To the extent that the assets of the Scheme will be invested in foreign securities denominated in foreign currencies, the
  Indian Rupee equivalent of the net assets, distributions and income may be adversely affected by changes in the value
  of certain foreign currencies relative to the Indian Rupee. The repatriation of capital to India may also be hampered by
  changes in regulations concerning exchange controls or political circumstances as well as the application to it of other
  restrictions on investment.

# Risks associated with investing in Derivatives

- The Fund may use derivative instruments like stock index futures, option on stocks, stock indices, interest rate swaps, forward rate agreements or other derivative instruments as permitted under the Regulations and guidelines.
- As and when the Scheme trade in the derivatives market, there are risk factors and issues concerning the use of derivatives that investors should understand. Derivative products are specialised instruments that require investment techniques and risk analyses different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a derivative requires an understanding not only of the underlying instrument but also of the derivative itself. Derivatives require the maintenance of adequate controls to monitor the transactions entered into, the ability to assess the risk that a derivative adds to the portfolio and the ability to forecast price or interest rate movements correctly. There is the possibility that a loss may be sustained by the portfolio as a result of the failure of another party (usually referred to as the "counter party") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract. Other risks in using derivatives include the risk of mispricing or improper valuation of derivatives and the inability of derivatives to correlate perfectly with underlying assets, rates and indices. Thus, derivatives are highly leveraged instruments. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have a large impact on their value. Also, the market for derivative instruments is nascent in India.
- The Scheme may face execution risk, whereby the rates seen on the screen may not be the rate at which the ultimate execution of the derivative transaction takes place.
- The Scheme may find it difficult or impossible to execute derivative transactions in certain circumstances. For example, when there are insufficient bids or suspension of trading due to price limit or circuit breakers, the Scheme may face a liquidity issue.
- The options buyer's risk is limited to the premium paid, while the risk of an options writer is unlimited. However, the gains of an options writer are limited to the premiums earned. Since in case of the Scheme all option positions will have underlying assets, all losses due to price movement beyond the strike price will actually be an opportunity loss.
- The exchange may impose restrictions on exercise of options and may also restrict the exercise of options at certain times in specified circumstances and this could impact the value of the portfolio.
- Investments in index futures face the same risk as the investments in a portfolio of shares representing an index. The extent of loss is the same as in the underlying stocks.
- The Scheme bears a risk that it may not be able to correctly forecast future market trends or the value of assets, indices or other financial or economic factors in establishing derivative positions for the Scheme.
- The risk of loss in trading futures contracts can be substantial, because of the low margin deposits required, the extremely high degree of leverage involved in futures pricing and the potential high volatility of the futures markets.

- There is the possibility that a loss may be sustained by the portfolio as a result of the failure of another party (usually referred to as the "counterparty") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract.
- Other risks in using derivatives include the risk of mispricing or improper valuation of derivatives and the inability of derivatives to correlate perfectly with underlying assets, rates and indices.
- Interest Rate Swaps (IRS) are highly specialized instruments that require investment technique and risk analysis different from those associated with equity shares and other traditional securities. The use of an Interest Rate Swap (IRS) requires not only an understanding of the referenced asset, reference rate or index but also of the swap itself, without the benefit of observing the performance of the swap under all possible market conditions. Swap agreements are also subject to liquidity risk, which exists when a particular swap is difficult to purchase or sell. Swap agreements may be subject to pricing risk, which exists when a particular swap becomes extraordinarily expensive (or cheap) relative to historical prices or the prices of corresponding cash market instruments. IRS agreements are also subject to counterparty risk on account of insolvency or bankruptcy or failure of the counterparty to make required payments or otherwise comply with the terms of the agreement.
- Derivative products are leveraged instruments and can provide disproportionate gains as well as disproportionate losses
  to the investor. Execution of such strategies depends upon the ability of the fund manager to identify such opportunities.
  Identification and execution of the strategies to be perused by the fund manager involve uncertainty and decision of fund
  manager(s) may not always be profitable. No assurance can be given that the fund manager(s) will be able to identify or
  execute such strategies.
- The risks associated with the use of derivatives are different from or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments.

# Risks associated with investing in securitized debt

**Securitized Debt:** Securitized debt papers carry credit risk of the Obligors and are dependent on the servicing of the PTC/Contributions etc. However, these are offset suitably by appropriate pool selection as well as credit enhancements specified by Rating Agencies. In cases where the underlying facilities are linked to benchmark rates, the securitized debt papers may be adversely impacted by adverse movements in benchmark rates. However, this risk is mitigated to an extent by appropriate credit enhancement specified by rating agencies. Securitized debt papers also carry the risks of prepayment by the obligors. In case of prepayments of securities debt papers, it may result in reduced actual duration as compared to the expected duration of the paper at the time of purchase, which may adversely impact the portfolio yield. These papers also carry risk associated with the collection agent who is responsible for collection of receivables and depositing them. The Investment team evaluates the risks associated with such investments before making an investment decision.

The underlying assets in the case of investment in securitized debt could be mortgages or other assets like credit card receivables, automobile/vehicle/personal/commercial/corporate loans and any other receivables/loans/debt.

- The underlying assets in securitised debt may assume different forms and the general types of receivables include auto finance, credit cards, home loans or any such receipts. Credit risks relating to such receivables depend upon various factors, including macro-economic factors of these industries and economies. Further, specific factors like the nature and adequacy of property mortgaged against these borrowings, the nature of loan agreement/mortgage deed in case of home loans, adequacy of documentation in case of auto finance and home loans, capacity of a borrower to meet his obligations on borrowings in case of credit cards and intentions of the borrower also influence the risks relating to asset borrowings underlying securitised debt. Additionally, the nature of the asset borrowings underlying the securitised debt also influences the underlying risk, for instance while residential mortgages tend to have lower default rates, repossession and recovery is easier in case of commercial vehicles. Credit rating agencies take into account a series of such factors and follow an elaborate system involving stipulation of margins, over-collateralisation and guarantees to provide a rating for securitised debt.
- In case of securitised debt, changes in market interest rates and pre-payments may not change the absolute amount of
  receivables for the investors but may have an impact on the reinvestment of the periodic cash flows that an investor
  receives on securitised papers.

# The risks associated with the underlying assets can be described as under:

Credit card receivables are unsecured. Automobile/vehicle loan receivables are usually secured by the underlying automobile/vehicle and sometimes by a guarantor. Mortgages are secured by the underlying property. Personal loans are usually unsecured. Corporate loans could be unsecured or secured by a charge on fixed assets/receivables of the company or a letter of comfort from the parent company or a guarantee from a bank/financial institution. As a rule of thumb, underlying assets which are secured by a physical asset/guarantor are perceived to be less risky than those which are unsecured. By virtue of this, the risk and therefore the yield in descending order of magnitude would be credit card receivables, personal loans, vehicle/automobile loans, mortgages and corporate loans assuming the same rating.

• In case of securitised debt, changes in market interest rates and pre-payments may not change the absolute amount of receivables for the investors but may have an impact on the reinvestment of the periodic cash flows that an investor receives on securitised papers.

- **Tenor risk:** While building the planned amortization schedule for a PTC, there can be a clause stating a minimum percentage of receivable by the issue to stick to the initial cash flows. If the receivables are less than the minimum stated receivables then the tenor of the PTC can get elongated or vice versa.
- **Risk due to prepayment:** Asset securitization is a process whereby commercial or consumer credits are packaged and sold in the form of financial instruments. In the event of pre-payment of the underlying debt, investors may be exposed to changes in tenor and yield.
- Liquidity Risk: Presently, despite recent legal developments permitting the listing of securitised debt instruments, the secondary market for securitised debt in India is not very liquid. Even if a more liquid market develops in the future, secondary transactions in such instruments may be at a discount to initial issue price due to changes in the interest rate structure.
- Limited Recourse, Delinquency and Credit Risk: Certificates issued on investment in securitised debt represent a beneficial interest in the underlying receivables and there is no obligation on the issuer, seller or the originator in that regard. Defaults on the underlying loan/decline in project SPV's receivables can adversely affect the pay outs to the investors and thereby, adversely affect the NAV of the Scheme. While it is possible to repossess and sell the underlying asset, various factors can delay or prevent repossession and the price obtained on sale of such assets may be low. Delinquencies and credit losses may cause depletion of the amount available under the Credit Enhancement and thereby the Investor Payouts may get affected if the amount available in the Credit Enhancement facility is not enough to cover the shortfall. On persistent default of an Obligor to repay his obligation, the Servicer may repossess and sell the underlying Asset. However, many factors may affect, delay or prevent the repossession of such Asset or the length of time required to realize the sale proceeds on such sales. In addition, the price at which such Asset may be sold may be lower than the amount due from that Obligor.
- Bankruptcy Risk: If the originator of securitised debt instruments in which the Scheme invests is subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in such proceedings concludes that the sale of the assets from originator to the trust was not a 'true sale', then the Scheme could experience losses or delays in the payments due. Normally, care is taken in structuring the securitization transaction so as to minimize the risk of the sale to the trust not being construed as a 'true sale'.
- Risk of Co-mingling: Servicers in a securitization transaction normally deposit all payments received from the obligors into a collection account. However, there could be a time gap between collection by a servicer and depositing the same into the collection account. In this interim period, collections from the loan agreements by the servicer may not be segregated from other funds of the servicer. If the servicer fails to remit such funds due to investors, investors in the Scheme may be exposed to a potential loss.

# Risks associated with investments in repo transactions in corporate bonds

In repo transactions, also known as a repo or sale repurchase agreement, securities are sold with the seller agreeing to buy them back at later date. The repurchase price should be greater than the original sale price, the difference effectively representing interest. A repo is economically similar to a secured loan, with the buyer receiving corporate debt securities as collateral to protect against default. The Scheme may invest in repo of corporate debt securities which are subject to the following risks:

- a. Counterparty Risk: This refers to the inability of the seller to meet the obligation to buy back securities at the contracted price on the contracted date. The Investment Manager will endeavour to manage counterparty risk by dealing only with counterparties, having strong credit profiles, approved by our credit risk analysis team. The exposure to each counterparty will be within the overall approved credit limits. Also, the counterparty risk is to an extent mitigated by taking collateral equivalent in value to the transaction after knocking off a minimum haircut on the intrinsic value of the collateral. In the event of default by the repo counterparty, the scheme shall have recourse to the corporate debt securities.
- b. Collateral Risk: Collateral risk arises when the market value of the securities is inadequate to meet the repo obligations. This risk is mitigated by restricting participation in repo transactions with collateral bearing a minimum rating as prescribed by the regulators (currently AA or equivalent and above rated money market and corporate debt securities). Any rating downgrade will tantamount to either an early termination of the repo agreement or a call for fresh margin to meet the minimum haircut requirement. In addition, the Investment manager may apply a higher haircut on the underlying security than mentioned above to adjust for the illiquidity and interest rate risk on the underlying instrument. The adequacy of the collateral will be monitored on a daily basis by considering the daily market value & applying the prescribed haircut. In the event of shortfall in the collateral, the counterparty shall be asked to replenish the same. If the counterparty is not able to top-up either in form of cash/collateral, it shall tantamount to early termination of the repo agreement.
- c. Settlement Risk: Corporate Bond Repo shall be settled between two counterparties in the OTC segment unlike in the case of Government securities repo transactions where CCIL stands as central counterparty on all transactions which neutralizes the settlement risk. However, the settlement risk pertaining to CDRs shall be mitigated through Delivery versus Payment (DvP) mechanism which is followed by all clearing members.

#### Risk Factors of covered call strategy

**Volatility risk:** Volatility risk arises when market is more volatile than the Fund Manager's estimation. The investment manager holds view of range bound market and the market volatility breaches these limits, thereby increasing risk to the portfolio. This risk is mitigated as we have covered with the stocks we hold.

**Opportunity loss:** Writing a call option means investment manager are obligated to deliver the stock at a predetermined price called as Strike Price. In case when the stock price moves above the threshold of strike price plus premium of the call option, the upside opportunity is lost on the stock, because we have written call option.

Writing call options are highly specialized activities and entail higher than ordinary investment risks. In such investment strategy, the profits from call option writing is capped at the option premium, however the downside depends upon the increase in value of the underlying equity shares which could be unlimited.

#### Risk factors associated with investing in REITs and InvITs:

**Market Risk:** REITs and InvITs Investments are volatile instruments and are subject to price fluctuations on a daily basis owing to the market conditions and factors impacting the underlying assets. Fund Manager will do the necessary due diligence but actual market movements may be at variance with the anticipated trends.

**Liquidity Risk:** As the liquidity of the investments made by the Scheme(s) could, at times, be restricted by trading volumes, settlement periods, dissolution of the trust, potential delisting of units on the exchange etc., the time taken by the Mutual Fund for liquidating the investments in the scheme may be long in the event of immediate redemption requirement. Investment in such securities may lead to increase in the scheme portfolio risk. As these products are new to the market they are likely to be exposed to liquidity risk.

**Reinvestment Risk:** Investments in REITs & InvITs may carry reinvestment risk as there could be repatriation of funds by the Trusts in form of buyback of units or dividend pay-outs, interest payments etc. Depending upon the market conditions, interest rates prevailing on the interest or maturity due dates may differ from the original coupon of the bond. As a result, the proceeds may get invested at a lower rate.

Credit Risk: REITs & InvITs are likely to have volatile cash flows as the repayment dates would not necessarily be pre scheduled.

**Regulatory**/**Legal Risk:** REITs and InvITs being new asset classes, regulatory guidelines may be evolving in nature which may impact the investments in REITs and InvITs.

# Risk factors associated with investments in Perpetual Debt Instruments (PDI) including Additional Tier-1 and Tier-2 bonds

The scheme may invest in certain debt instruments with special features viz. subordination to equity (absorbs losses before equity capital) and/or convertible to equity upon trigger of a pre-specified event for loss absorption including Additional Tier I bonds and Tier 2 bonds issued under Basel III framework (known as perpetual debt instruments). PDIs are instruments issued by the borrower to strengthen their capital structure and as the name suggests these instruments do not have a specific maturity date but have an embedded call option instead and maybe less liquid than conventional debt instruments. These bonds are subordinate to all other debt and only senior to equity capital. The issuer may call or redeem the bonds on the call exercise date if they can refinance the issue at a cheaper rate, especially when interest rates are declining. The issuers of such instruments could be Banks, NBFCs and Corporates. PDIs issued by Banks and NBFCs fall under scope of Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s guidelines for Basel III capital regulations. These are also referred to as Additional Tier I (AT1 bonds). However, there are no regulatory guidelines for issuance of PDIs by Corporates.

Since PDIs have special features other than usual non-convertible bonds, there are additional risks associated with such instruments which are listed below –

#### Risk related to coupon servicing –

**Banks** - As per the terms of the instruments, Banks may have discretion at all times to cancel distributions/payment of coupons. In the event of non-availability of adequate distributable reserves and surpluses or inadequacy in terms of capital requirements, RBI may not allow banks to make payment of coupons. These bonds may not be permitted to pay these coupons if the Bank's financial position improves subsequently (non-cumulative).

**NBFCs** - While NBFCs can defer/postpone payment of coupon in case paying the coupon leads to breach of capital ratios, they also have discretion at all times to cancel payment of coupon.

**Corporates** - Corporates usually have discretion to defer the payment of coupon. However, the coupon is usually cumulative and any deferred coupon shall accrue interest at the original coupon rate of the PDI.

# Risk of write down or conversion to equity -

In the event of shortfall in maintenance of capital adequacy ratios and/or Point of Non Viability Trigger (PONV – a point defined by RBI when a bank is deemed to have become non-viable unless appropriate measures are taken to revive its operations or infusion of public sector capital), PDIs issued by Banks could be written down or converted to common equity. This risk does not exist in case of PDIs issued by NBFCs and Corporates.

# Risk of call option not exercised by the issuer -

Banks and NBFCs - The issuing Banks and NBFCs have an option to call back the instrument after minimum period as per the regulatory requirement from the date of issuance and specified period thereafter, subject to meeting the RBI guidelines. However, if the issuer does not exercise the call on first call date, the Scheme may have to hold the instruments for a period beyond the first call exercise date and hence maybe exposed valuation impacts.

**Corporates** – Unlike Banks and NBFCs there is no minimum period for call date for Corporate issuers. However, if the corporate does not exercise the call option, the Scheme may have to hold the instruments for a period beyond the call exercise date and hence maybe exposed to valuation impacts.

**Risk Mitigation** – The Scheme will not invest more than 10% of the NAV of the scheme in such instruments and will limit exposure to 5% of the NAV of the Scheme for such instruments issued by a single issuer.

### Risks associated with Segregated Portfolio

Liquidity risk - Segregated Portfolio is created to separate debt and money market instruments affected by a Credit Event from the Main Portfolio of the Scheme to ensure fair treatment to existing, entering and exiting investors of the scheme. The Fund will not permit redemption of the Segregated Portfolio units, but the units will be listed on a recognized stock exchange. The Fund is not assuring any liquidity of such units on the stock exchange which may subject investors to impact cost. Further, trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing NAV. Investors can continue to transact (subscribe/redeem) from the Main Portfolio.

Credit risk – While the AMC will put in sincere efforts to recover the securities in the Segregated Portfolio and distribute the same to unit holders, since such securities are affected by credit event, it is likely that such securities may not realize any value leading to losses to investors.

#### Risk associated with short selling and securities lending by scheme

**Short Selling Risk:** The risk associated with upward movement in market price of security sold short may result in loss. The losses on short position may be unlimited as there is no upper limit on rise in price of a security.

Securities Lending: The risks in lending portfolio securities, as with other extensions of credit, consist of the failure of another party, in this case the approved intermediary, to comply with the terms of agreement entered into between the lender of securities i.e. the Scheme and the approved intermediary. Such failure to comply can result in the possible loss of rights in the collateral put up by the borrower of the securities, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of any corporate benefits accruing to the lender from the securities deposited with the approved intermediary. The Mutual Fund may not be able to sell such lent securities and this can lead to temporary illiquidity.

# Risks associated with transaction in Units through Stock Exchange mechanism

In respect of transactions in Units of the Scheme routed through the BSE StAR MF platform or any other recognized stock exchange platform as intimated by the AMC, allotment and redemption of Units on any Business Day will depend upon the order processing/settlement by BSE, or such other exchange and their respective clearing corporations on which the Fund has no control. Further, transactions conducted through the stock exchange mechanism shall be governed by the operating guidelines and directives issued by BSE or such other recognized exchange in this regard.

# C. RISK MITIGATION STRATEGIES

The Fund by utilizing a holistic risk management strategy will endeavor to manage risks associated with investing in equity and debt instruments. The risk control process involves identifying & measuring the risk process involves identifying & measuring the risk through various risk measurement tools.

Risks & Description	Risk Mitigants/Management Strategy	
Market Risk: Value of holdings may fall as a result of market movements	Investment approach supported by comprehensive research	
Currency Risk: Risk on account of exchange rate fluctuations	Investment manager could use (there is no obligation) derivatives to hedge currency risk	
Country Risk: Risk on account of exposure to a single country	Investments in various economies to reduce the risk through diversification	
Liquidity Risk: High impact costs	Robust process for periodic monitoring of liquidity	
Concentration Risk: Risk on account of high exposure to a risk class	Investment across industries/sectors	
Legal/Tax/Regulatory Risk: Risk on account of changes in regulations	This risk is dependent upon a future event and will be clearly communicated to the investor. Comprehensive documentation including disclosures and disclaimers.	
Event Risk: Price risk as a result of company or sector specific event	Usage of derivatives to hedge portfolios if required, in case of predictable events.	
Valuation Risk: Risk on account of incorrect valuation	Valuation as per guidelines of Pricing and Valuation policy. Usage of third-party valuation agent	
Interest Rate Risk: Value of holdings may fall as a result of movements in interest rate	Determination of duration bands based on extensive macro-economic analysis.	
Credit Risk: inability of the issuer to make timely principal and interest payments on the security	Internal Credit assessment to determine the repayment capabilities of the issuer with a reduced reliance on external ratings	

#### II. INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHEME

#### A. WHERE WILL THE SCHEME INVEST?

The Scheme will invest predominantly in equity and equity securities. The Scheme may invest its corpus in debt and money market instruments, to manage its liquidity requirements. Subject to the Regulations and other prevailing laws as applicable, the corpus of the Scheme can be invested in any (but not exclusively) of the following securities:

- Equity and equity related securities including convertible bonds and debentures and warrants carrying the right to obtain equity shares.
- ADRs/GDRs issued by the Indian companies, subject to the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India and Securities and Exchange Board of India.
- Units issued by REITs and InvITs
- Derivative Instruments as may be permitted by SEBI/RBI.
- Foreign Securities as may be permitted by SEBI/RBI
- Securities issued/guaranteed by the Central, State and local governments and/or repos/reverse repos/ready forward contracts in such government securities as are or may be permitted under the Regulations and RBI from time to time (including but not limited to coupon bearing bonds, zero coupon bonds and treasury bills)
- Indian Depository Receipts (IDR) issued by foreign companies, subject to the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India and Securities and Exchange Board of India.
- Debt obligations of domestic government agencies and statutory bodies, which may or may not carry a Central/State Government guarantee.
- Corporate debt (of both public and private sector undertakings)
- Debt obligations of banks (both public and private sector) and financial institutions
- Money market instruments (which includes but is not limited to commercial papers, commercial bills, treasury bills, usance bills, government securities having unexpired maturity upto one year, certificates of deposit, bills rediscounting, TREPS, repo, call money and any other like instruments as are or may be permitted under the Regulations and RBI from time to time.)
- Cash or cash equivalents with residual maturity of less than 91 days will not be treated as creating any exposure.
- Certificate of Deposits (CDs)
- Commercial Paper (CPs)
- Bills of Exchange/Promissory Notes
- Foreign Securities
- Securitised Debt (asset backed securities, mortgage-backed securities, pass through certificates, collateralised debt obligations or any other instruments as may be prevailing and permissible under the Regulations from time to time)
- ETFs (which includes but is not limited to ETFs that track an index, commodity or basket of assets). instruments including futures (index and stock),
- Debt instruments with special features (Additional Tier 1/Additional Tier 2 Bonds)
- TREPS & reverse repos
- Floating rate debt instruments
- Repurchase and reverse repurchase obligations in securities
- The non-convertible part of convertible securities
- Any other domestic fixed income securities
- Derivatives (which includes but is not limited to stock and index futures or such other derivatives as are or may be permitted under the Regulations and RBI from time to time)
- Pass through, Pay through or other Participation Certificates representing interest in a pool of assets including receivables
- Convertible Debentures
- Deposits of scheduled commercial banks as permitted under the extant Regulations.
- Any other instruments as may be permitted by SEBI from time to time.
- The scheme may invest though Inter Scheme Transfers (IST) in compliance with para 12.30 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024. The key extracts are as follows:
  - ISTs shall be permitted only if other resources such as cash and cash equivalent, market borrowing, and selling securities in the market are exhausted.

- ISTs will be permitted for rebalancing of portfolio only if there is a passive breach of regulatory limits or where duration, issuer, sector, and group rebalancing are required in both the transferor and transferee schemes.
- No inter-scheme transfer of a security shall be allowed, if there is negative news or rumors in the mainstream media
  or an alert is generated about the security, based on internal credit risk assessment.
- If the security gets downgraded within a period of four months following such a transfer, the fund manager of the buying scheme will have to provide detailed justification to the Board of Directors of Trustee Company for buying such a security.

The Scheme may invest in various derivatives instruments including futures (index and stock), options (index and stock) and forward contracts which are available for investment in India from time to time and which are permissible as per the applicable Regulations. The Scheme may also invest in derivative instruments in international markets as and when they are permissible as per the applicable Regulations. Investment in such instruments will be made in accordance with the investment objective and the strategy of the Scheme and in accordance with the applicable Regulations, including for the purposes of hedging, portfolio balancing and optimizing returns.

Initially the Scheme would invest only in 'stock and/or index futures'. Investments in other equity derivative instruments may be done by the Scheme only once the Board of Directors of Trustee Company are comfortable that the systems for dealing, back office and accounting are in place for derivative instruments other than 'stock and/or index futures'. Before commencing the use of other equity derivative instruments, the Board of Directors of Trustee Company will submit a separate confirmation to SEBI that the AMC has the necessary systems for dealing, back office and accounting in place for using other equity derivative instruments.

The Scheme shall invest in Foreign Securities in accordance with requirements specified by SEBI and RBI from time to time.

The securities mentioned above could be listed, unlisted, privately placed, secured, unsecured, rated or unrated and of any maturity as enabled under SEBI MF Regulations/circulars/RBI. The securities may be acquired through New Fund Offer (NFOs), secondary market operations and private placement, rights offer or negotiated deals.

The Scheme may participate in short selling and securities lending as permitted under the Regulations.

The above list is only indicative and the Mutual Fund/AMC reserve the right to change the same in the interest of the investors depending on the market conditions, market opportunities, applicable regulations and political and economic factors, but subject to the investment objective as set out in paragraph "Investment Objective".

All investments in the Scheme shall be made in accordance with the Regulations and Guidelines issued by SEBI/RBI/any other Regulatory Authority. For applicable regulatory investment limits and other restrictions in respect of the various investible securities, please refer paragraph "Investment Restrictions".

# Securities/Stock Lending by the Mutual Fund

Subject to the Regulations and the applicable guidelines, the Scheme and the Plan(s) there under may, if the Board of Directors of Trustee Company permit, engage in securities/stock lending. Securities/stock lending means the lending of securities/stocks to another person or entity for a fixed period of time, at a negotiated compensation. The borrower will return the securities/stock lent on expiry of the stipulated period. Please refer to risks attached with securities lending. Each Scheme, under normal circumstances, shall not have exposure of more than 20% of its net assets in securities/stock lending. The Scheme may also not lend more than 5% of its net assets to any one intermediary to whom securities/stocks will be lent. Securities/Stock Lending could be considered for the purpose of generating additional income to unit holders on the longer-term holdings of the Scheme. The AMC shall report to the Board of Directors of Trustee Company on a quarterly basis as to the level of lending in terms of value, volume and the names of the intermediaries and the earnings/losses arising out of the transactions, the value of collateral security offered etc.

#### **Procedure followed for Investment Decisions**

The Fund Manager of the Scheme is responsible for making buy/sell decisions in respect of the securities in the Scheme's portfolio and to develop a well-diversified portfolio with the aim of achieving the investment objective of the Scheme. The investment decisions are made after taking into consideration the market conditions and all relevant aspects.

The Board of the AMC has constituted an Investment Management Committee that meets at periodic intervals. The Investment Management Committee, at its meetings, reviews investments, including investments in unrated debt instruments. The approval of unrated debt instruments is based on parameters laid down by the Board of the AMC and the Trustee Company. The details of such investments are communicated by the AMC to the Trustee Company in their periodical reports along with a disclosure regarding how the parameters have been complied with. Such reporting shall be in the manner prescribed by SEBI from time to time. The Committee also reviews the performance of the Scheme and general market outlook and formulates the broad investment strategy at their meetings.

It is the responsibility of the AMC to ensure that the investments are made as per the internal /Regulatory guidelines, Scheme investment objective and in the best interest of the Unitholders of the Scheme. The Fund may follow internal guidelines as approved by the Board of the AMC and the Trustee Company from time to time.

The AMC reserves the right to modify, alter, add, delete any internal limits from time to time, in accordance with HSBC Group's policies.

The Chief Investment Officer and Fund Manager - Equities present to the Board of the AMC and the Trustee Company periodically, the performance of the Scheme. The performance of the Scheme will be reviewed by the Boards with reference to its appropriate benchmark.

However, the Scheme's performance may not be strictly comparable with the performance of its benchmark due to the inherent differences in the construction of the portfolios. The Boards may review the benchmark selection process from time to time and make suitable changes as to use of the benchmark, whenever it deems necessary.

The Chief Investment Officer and Fund Manager - Equities will bring to the notice of the AMC Board, specific factors if any, which are impacting the performance of the Scheme. The Board on consideration of all relevant factors may, if necessary, give appropriate directions to the AMC. Similarly, the performance of the Scheme will be submitted to the Board of Directors of Trustee Company. The Head of Fund Management - Equities will explain to the Board of Directors of Trustee Company, the details on the Scheme's performance vis-à-vis the benchmark returns.

The AMC will keep a record of all investment decisions.

#### Position of Debt Markets in India

The major players in the Indian debt markets today are banks, financial institutions, insurance companies and mutual funds. The instruments in the market can be broadly categorised as those issued by corporates, banks, financial institutions and those issued by state/central governments. The risks associated with any investment are - credit risk, interest rate risk and liquidity risk. While corporate papers carry credit risk due to changing business conditions, government securities are perceived to have zero credit risk. Interest rate risk is present in all debt securities and depends on a variety of macroeconomic factors. The liquidity risk in the corporate securities market is higher as compared to that in case of government securities. Liquidity in the corporate debt market has been improving due to the entry of more players and due to various measures taken by the regulators in this direction over a period of time. SEBI's directive of a compulsory rating by a rating agency for any public issuance over 18 months, dematerialisation, entry of private insurance companies, listing of debt securities and growth of fixed income mutual funds have enhanced liquidity in the corporate debt market. The setting up of clearing corporations, real time gross settlement and electronic clearing system for government securities have considerably enhanced the depth and width of the Indian debt markets and bringing it at par with developed markets.

The following table attempts to give a broad overview of the available instruments in the financial markets and their risk return profile. The data is based on the market conditions as on the date of the Offer Document and may vary substantially depending upon the factors and forces affecting the securities market including the fluctuations in the interest rates.

The indicative yields and liquidity on various securities as on October 31, 2024 are as under:-

Issuer	Instrument	Maturity	Yields in %	Liquidity
GOI	Treasury Bill	91 days	6.50 - 6.55	Medium to High
GOI	Treasury Bill	364 days	6.55 - 6.60	Medium to High
GOI	Short Dated	1 – 3 Yrs	6.62 - 6.70	Medium
GOI	Medium Dated	3 – 5 Yrs	6.70 - 6.77	Medium to High
GOI	Medium Dated	5 – 10 Yrs	6.75 - 6.88	High
GOI	Long Dated	10 – 15Yrs	6.80 - 6.88	High
GOI	Long Dated	>15Yrs	6.88 - 7.02	Low to Medium
GOI	Reverse Repo/TREPS	1 – 14 days	6.25 - 6.75	High
Corporate Debt	Taxable Bonds (AAA)	364 days	7.35 - 8.13	Low to Medium
Corporate Debt	Taxable Bonds (AAA)	1 – 3 Yrs	7.35 - 8.20	Medium
Corporate Debt	Taxable Bonds (AAA)	3 – 5 Yrs	7.15 - 7.80	Medium
Corporate Debt	Taxable Bonds (AAA)	5 – 10 Yrs	7.10 - 8.15	Medium
Corporate Debt	CPs (A1+)	3 months	7.15 - 9.90	Low to Medium
Corporate Debt	CPs (A1+)	1 Year	7.60 - 9.30	Low to medium

#### **B. WHAT ARE THE INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS?**

#### Investment Restrictions for the Scheme

All investments by the Scheme and the Mutual Fund, will always be within the investment restrictions as specified in the SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996, as amended from time to time. Pursuant to the Regulations, the following investment and other restrictions are presently applicable to the Scheme:

- 1. A mutual fund scheme shall not invest more than:
  - a. 10% of its NAV in debt and money market securities rated AAA; or

- b. 8% of its NAV in debt and money market securities rated AA; or
- c. 6% of its NAV in debt and money market securities rated A and below; issued by a single issuer.

The above investment limits may be extended by up to 2% of the NAV of the scheme with prior approval of the Trustee Company and Board of Directors of the AMC, subject to compliance with the overall 12% limit specified in clause 1 of Seventh Schedule of MF Regulation.

The long term rating of issuers shall be considered for the money market instruments. However, if there is no long term rating available for the same issuer, then based on credit rating mapping of CRAs between short term and long term ratings, the most conservative long term rating shall be taken for a given short term rating. Exposure to government money market instruments such as TREPS on G-Sec/T-bills shall be treated as exposure to government securities.

2. A mutual fund scheme shall not invest in unlisted debt instruments including commercial papers, except Government Securities, other money market instruments and derivative products such as Interest Rate Swaps (IRS), Interest Rate Futures (IRF), etc. which are used by mutual funds for hedging.

Provided that Mutual Fund Schemes may invest in unlisted nonconvertible debentures up to a maximum of 10% of the debt portfolio of the scheme subject to such conditions as may be specified by the Board from time to time:

Provided further that mutual fund schemes shall comply with the norms under this clause within the time and in the manner as may be specified by the Board:

Provided further that the norms for investments by mutual fund schemes in unrated debt instruments shall be specified by the Board from time to time.

In accordance with the para 12.1.5. of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, investment in unrated debt and money market instruments, other than government securities, treasury bills, derivative products such as Interest Rate Swaps (IRS), Interest Rate Futures (IRF), etc. by mutual fund schemes shall be subject to the following:

- a. Investments should only be made in such instruments, including bills re-discounting, usance bills, etc., that are generally not rated and for which separate investment norms or limits are not provided in SEBI (Mutual Fund) Regulations,1996 and various circulars issued thereunder.
- b. Exposure of mutual fund schemes in such instruments, shall not exceed 5% of the net assets of the schemes.
- c. All such investments shall be made with the prior approval of the Board of AMC and the Trustee Company.
- 3. The Fund under all its Schemes shall not own more than 10% of any company's paid up capital carrying voting rights. Provided that, the limit of 10 per cent shall not be applicable for investments in [case of] index fund [or exchange traded fund] or sector or industry specific scheme.

For the purpose of determining the above limit, a combination of positions of the underlying securities and stock derivatives will be considered.

- 4. Transfer of investments from one Scheme to another Scheme in the Mutual Fund is permitted provided:
  - (a) Such transfers are done at the prevailing market price for quoted instruments on spot basis (spot basis shall have the same meaning as specified by a Stock Exchange for spot transactions); and
  - (b) The securities so transferred shall be in conformity with the investment objective of the Scheme to which such transfer has been made.

Further, para 12.30 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024 has prescribed elaborate guidelines for inter-scheme transfers (IST). The key extracts are as follows:

- ISTs shall be permitted only if other resources such as cash and cash equivalent, market borrowing, and selling securities in the market are exhausted.
- ISTs will be permitted for rebalancing of portfolio only if there is a passive breach of regulatory limits or where duration, issuer, sector, and group rebalancing are required in both the transferor and transferee schemes.
- No inter-scheme transfer of a security shall be allowed, if there is negative news or rumors in the mainstream media or an alert is generated about the security, based on internal credit risk assessment.
- If the security gets downgraded within a period of four months following such a transfer, the fund manager of the buying scheme will have to provide detailed justification to the Board of Directors of Trustee Company for buying such a security.
- 5. The aggregate inter-scheme investment in line with the investment objectives, made by all the Schemes under the same management or in schemes under management of any other asset management company shall not exceed 5% of the Net Asset Value of the Fund. No investment management fees shall be charged for investing in other Schemes of the Fund or in the Schemes of any other Mutual Fund. Provided that this clause shall not apply to any fund of funds scheme and investments in mutual funds in foreign countries.
- 6. The Scheme shall get the securities purchased or transferred in the name of the Fund on account of the concerned Scheme, wherever investments are intended to be of a long-term nature.

- 7. Every mutual fund shall buy and sell securities on the basis of deliveries and shall in all cases of purchases, take delivery of relevant securities and in all cases of sale, deliver the securities:
  - Provided that a mutual fund may engage in short selling of securities in accordance with the framework relating to short selling and securities lending and borrowing specified by the Board:
  - Provided further that a mutual fund may enter into derivatives transactions in a recognized stock exchange, subject to the framework specified by the Board.
  - Provided further that sale of government security already contracted for purchase shall be permitted in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India in this regard.
- 8. The Mutual Fund shall, get the securities purchased or transferred in the name of the Mutual Fund on account of the Scheme, wherever investments are intended to be of long-term nature.
  - Pending deployment of funds of a Scheme in terms of investment objectives of the scheme, a mutual fund may invest them in short-term deposits of scheduled commercial banks, subject to such Guidelines as may be specified by the Board. The requirements of para 12.16 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024 will be adhered to.

Where the cash in the Scheme is parked in short term deposits of Scheduled Commercial Banks pending deployment, the Scheme shall abide by the following guidelines:

- "Short Term" for parking of funds shall be treated as a period not exceeding 91 days. Such short-term deposits shall be held in the name of the Scheme.
- The Scheme shall not park more than 15% of the net assets in short term deposit(s) of all the scheduled commercial banks put together. However, such limit may be raised to 20% with the approval of the Board of Directors of Trustee Company.
- Parking of funds in short term deposits of associate and sponsor scheduled commercial banks together shall not exceed 20% of total deployment by the Mutual Fund in short term deposits.
- The Scheme shall not park more than 10% of the net assets in short term deposit(s), with any one scheduled commercial bank including its subsidiaries.
- The Scheme shall not park funds in short-term deposit of a bank which has invested in the Scheme.
- The AMC shall not be permitted to charge investment management and advisory fees for parking of funds in short term deposits of scheduled commercial banks.
- The AMC will not charge any investment management and advisory fees for funds under the Debt Schemes parked in short term deposits of scheduled commercial banks.

The above norms do not apply to term deposits placed as margins for trading in cash and derivatives market. However, all term deposits placed as margins shall be disclosed in the half yearly portfolio statements under a separate heading. Details such as name of bank, amount of term deposits, duration of term deposits, percentage of NAV should be disclosed.

- 9. The Scheme shall not make any investment in:
  - (a) Any unlisted security of an associate or group company of the Sponsor; or
  - (b) Any security issued by way of private placement by an associate or group company of the Sponsor; or
  - (c) listed securities of group companies of the Sponsor which is in excess of 25% of the net assets of the Scheme of the Mutual Fund, except for investments by equity-oriented exchange traded funds and index funds, subject to such conditions as specified by SEBI from time to time.
- 10. The Scheme shall not invest more than 10% of its NAV in the equity shares or equity related instruments of any company. Provided that, the limit of 10 per cent shall not be applicable for investments in case of index fund or sector or industry specific scheme.
- 11. All investments by the Scheme in equity shares and equity related instruments shall only be made provided such securities are listed or to be listed.
- 12. The Fund shall not borrow except to meet temporary liquidity needs of the Fund for the purpose of repurchase/redemption of Units or payment of interest and dividend to the Unitholders. Provided that the Fund shall not borrow more than 20% of the net assets of any individual Scheme and the duration of the borrowing shall not exceed a period of 6 months.
- 13. No loans for any purpose shall be advanced by the Scheme.
- 14. The Scheme may lend securities in accordance with the securities lending scheme of SEBI.
- 15. The Scheme shall not invest in a fund of funds scheme.
- 16. Aggregate value of 'illiquid securities' of Scheme, which are defined as non-traded, thinly traded and unlisted equity shares, shall not exceed 15% of the total assets of the Scheme. As this percentage is not significant, in the AMC's view, it will have no material impact on the ability to meet redemptions within 10 days of the date the Scheme's units are tendered.

- 17. The cumulative gross exposure through equity, debt and derivative positions, shall not exceed 100% of net assets of the Scheme. However, the following shall not be considered while calculating the gross exposure:
  - a) Security-wise hedged position and
  - b) Exposure in Cash or Cash equivalents with residual maturity of less than 91 days.
- 18. The investment of scheme in the following instruments shall not exceed 10% of the debt portfolio of the scheme and the group exposure in such instruments shall not exceed 5% of the debt portfolio of the scheme:
  - a. Unsupported rating of debt instruments (i.e. without factoring- in credit enhancements) is below investment grade and
  - b. Supported rating of debt instruments (i.e. after factoring-in credit enhancement) is above investment grade.

For the purpose of this provision, 'Group' shall have the same meaning as defined in para 12.9 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024.

Investment limits as mentioned above shall not be applicable on investments in securitized debt instruments, as defined in SEBI (Public Offer and Listing of Securitized Debt Instruments) Regulations 2008.

Investment in debt instruments, having credit enhancements backed by equity shares directly or indirectly, shall have a minimum cover of 4 times considering the market value of such shares. The AMC may ensure that the investment in debt instruments having credit enhancements are sufficiently covered to address the market volatility and reduce the inefficiencies of invoking of the pledge or cover, whenever required, without impacting the interest of the investors. In case of fall in the value of the cover below the specified limit, necessary steps may be initiated to ensure protection of the interest of the investors.

The Scheme shall not invest in debt securities having structured obligations (SO rating) and/or credit enhancements (CE rating). However, debt securities with government guarantee shall be excluded from such restriction.

- 19. The Scheme will comply with any other regulations applicable to the investments of mutual funds from time to time.
- 20. All investments in equities and fixed income securities should be undertaken in dematerialised form.
- 21. Investments in Foreign Securities are subject to a limit of US \$ 600 million per Mutual Fund, within the overall industry limit of US\$ 7 billion. Further, investments in overseas Exchange Traded Fund (ETF(s)) subject to a maximum of US \$ 200 million per Mutual Fund, within the overall industry limit of US\$ 1 billion and any subsequent amendments thereto specified by SEBI and/or RBI from time to time.
- 22. No term loans for any purpose may be advanced by the Fund and the Fund shall not borrow except to meet temporary liquidity needs of the Scheme for the purpose of repurchase, redemption of Units or payment of interest or dividends to Unit Holders, provided that the Fund shall not borrow more than 20% of the net assets of the Scheme and the duration of such a borrowing shall not exceed a period of 6 months.

AMC shall comply with various investment restrictions and guidelines issued by SEBI from time to time.

The Board of Directors of Trustee Company may alter the above restrictions from time to time to the extent that changes in the Regulations may allow and as deemed fit in the general interest of the Unitholders.

It is the responsibility of the AMC to ensure that the investments are made as per the internal/Regulatory guidelines, Scheme investment objectives and in the best interest of the Unitholders of the Scheme. The Fund may follow internal guidelines as approved by the Board of the AMC and the Trustee Company from time to time. Internal guidelines shall be subject to change and may be amended from time to time in the best interest of the Unitholders. The amendments will be approved by the Board of the AMC and the Trustee Company of the Mutual Fund.

### Restriction in Writing of Covered Call Options by Mutual Fund Schemes

In terms of para 12.25.8 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, mutual funds have been permitted to write call options under a covered call strategy as prescribed below:

Mutual Fund schemes (except Index Funds and ETFs) may write call options only under a covered call strategy for constituent stocks of NIFTY 50 and BSE SENSEX subject to the following:

- a. The total notional value (taking into account strike price as well as premium value) of call options written by a scheme shall not exceed 15% of the total market value of equity shares held in that scheme.
- b. The total number of shares underlying the call options written shall not exceed 30% of the unencumbered shares of a particular company held in the scheme. The unencumbered shares in a scheme shall mean shares that are not part of Securities Lending and Borrowing Mechanism (SLBM), margin or any other kind of encumbrances.
- c. At all points of time the Mutual Fund scheme shall comply with the provisions at paragraphs (a) and (b) above. In case of any passive breach of the requirement at paragraph (a), the respective scheme shall have 7 trading days to rebalance the portfolio. During the rebalancing period, no additional call options can be written in the said scheme.
- d. In case a Mutual Fund scheme needs to sell securities on which a call option is written under a covered call strategy, it must ensure compliance with paragraphs (a) and (b) above while selling the securities.

- e. In no case, a scheme shall write a call option without holding the underlying equity shares. A call option can be written only on shares which are not hedged using other derivative contracts.
- f. The premium received i.e., the total gross exposure related to option premium paid and received must not exceed 20% of the net assets of the scheme.
- g. The exposure on account of the call option written under the covered call strategy shall not be considered in cumulative gross exposure of the Scheme for computing 100% of the net assets of the scheme.
- h. The call option written shall be marked to market daily and the respective gains or losses factored into the daily NAV of the respective scheme(s) until the position is closed or expired.

### Investment restrictions related to REITs & InvITs

The Scheme may invest in the units of REITs and InvITs subject to the following:

- (a) The mutual fund under all its schemes shall own more than 10% of units issued by a single issuer of REIT and InvIT;
- (b) The scheme shall not invest
  - i. more than 10% of its NAV in the units of REIT and InvIT; and
  - ii. more than 5% of its NAV in the units of REIT and InvIT issued by a single issuer.

Provided that the limits mentioned in sub-clauses (i) and (ii) above shall not be applicable for investments in case of index fund or sector or industry specific scheme pertaining to REIT and InvIT.

#### Investment restrictions related to investments in repo transactions in corporate bonds

In terms of para 12.18 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, mutual funds can participate in repos in corporate debt securities as per the guidelines issued by RBI from time to time, subject to the following conditions:

- a. The gross exposure of the Scheme to repo transactions in corporate debt securities shall not be more than 10 % of the net assets of the Scheme.
- b. The scheme shall participate in repos on following corporate debt securities:
  - 1. Listed AA and above rated corporate debt securities
  - 2. Commercial Papers (CPs) and Certificate of Deposits (CDs)
- c. For the purpose of consideration of credit rating of exposure on repo transactions for various purposes including for Potential Risk Class (PRC) matrix, liquidity ratios, Risk-o-meter etc., the same shall be as that of the underlying securities, i.e., on a look through basis.
- d. For transactions where settlement is guaranteed by a Clearing Corporation, the exposure shall not be considered for the purpose of determination of investment limits for single issuer, group issuer and sector level limits.
- e. In terms of Regulation 44 (2) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996, the Scheme shall borrow through repo transactions only if the tenor of the transaction does not exceed a period of six months.

# Risk associated with short selling and securities lending

**Short Selling Risk:** The risk associated with upward movement in market price of security sold short may result in loss. The losses on short position may be unlimited as there is no upper limit on rise in price of a security.

Securities Lending: The risks in lending portfolio securities, as with other extensions of credit, consist of the failure of another party, in this case the approved intermediary, to comply with the terms of agreement entered between the lender of securities i.e., the Scheme and the approved intermediary. Such failure to comply can result in the possible loss of rights in the collateral put up by the borrower of the securities, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of any corporate benefits accruing to the lender from the securities deposited with the approved intermediary. The Mutual Fund may not be able to sell such lent securities and this can lead to temporary illiquidity.

If permitted by SEBI under extant Regulations/guidelines, the Scheme may also engage in scrip lending. The AMC shall comply with all reporting requirements and the Board of Directors of Trustee Company shall carry out periodic review as required by SEBI guidelines. Scrip lending means the lending of stock to another person or entity for a fixed period of time, at a negotiated compensation. The securities lent will be returned by the borrower on expiry of the stipulated period.

The Investment Manager will apply the following limits, should it desire to engage in scrip lending:

- 1. not more than 20% of the net assets of the Scheme can generally be deployed in scrip lending; and
- 2. Not more than 5% of the net assets of the Scheme can generally be deployed in scrip lending to any single counterparty.

Various risks associated with scrip lending, such as counter-party risks, liquidity and other market risks, are described in paragraph "Risk associated with short selling and securities/scrip lending".

#### Disclosure on internal norms w.r.t. exposure limits:

HSBC Holdings plc, the ultimate parent company of the AMC, is regulated by the Federal Reserve in the United States as a Financial Holding Company ("FHC") under "The U.S. Bank Holding Company Act of 1956" (including rules and regulations), as amended from time to time (the "BHCA"). As FHC, the activities of HSBC Holdings plc and its affiliates are subject to certain restrictions imposed by the BHCA. These restrictions may limit the Scheme's ability to purchase or hold certain investments. There can be no assurance that the regulatory requirements applicable to HSBC Group including AMC will not change, or that any such change will not have any material adverse effect on the investments or performance of the Schemes.

### C. FUNDAMENTAL ATTRIBUTES

Following are the Fundamental Attributes of the scheme, in terms of Clause 1.14 of SEBI Master Circular for Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024:

# (i) Type of a scheme:

- o An open ended equity scheme predominantly investing in small cap stocks.
- o Small Cap Fund

# (ii) Investment Objective

- o Main Objective To generate long term capital growth from an actively managed portfolio of equity and equity related securities of predominantly small cap companies. However, it could move a portion of its assets towards fixed income securities if the fund manager becomes negative on the Indian equity markets. However, there can be no assurance or guarantee that the investment objective of the scheme would be achieved.
- o **Investment pattern** The Tentative Equity/Debt/Money Market portfolio break-up with minimum and maximum asset allocation, while retaining the option to alter the asset allocation for a short-term period on defensive considerations. Please refer Section I Part II A. How will the Scheme allocate its assets? for more details.

# (iii) Terms of Issue

- o Liquidity provisions such as listing, repurchase, redemption Please refer to the relevant provisions under "Part III II. Information about the Scheme D. Other Scheme Specific Disclosures"
- o Aggregate fees and expenses charged to the scheme Please refer to "Part III C. Annual Scheme Recurring Expenses."
- o Any safety net or guarantee provided Not applicable, as the scheme does not provide any safety net or guarantee.

In accordance with Regulation 18(15A) of the SEBI (MF) Regulations and Clause 1.14.1.4 of SEBI Master Circular for Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024 the Board of Directors of Trustee Company shall ensure that no change in the fundamental attributes of the Scheme(s) and the Plan(s)/Option(s) thereunder or the trust or fee and expenses payable or any other change which would modify the Scheme(s) and the Plan(s)/Option(s) thereunder and affect the interests of Unitholders is carried out unless:

- SEBI has reviewed and provided its comments on the proposal.
- A written communication about the proposed change is sent to each Unitholder and an advertisement is given in one
  English daily newspaper having nationwide circulation as well as in a newspaper published in the language of the region
  where the Head Office of the Mutual Fund is situated; and
- The Unitholders are given an option for a period of atleast 30 calendar days to exit at the prevailing Net Asset Value without any exit load.

# D. OTHER SCHEME SPECIFIC DISCLOSURES:

Listing and transfer of units	i)	<b>Listing:</b> Being an open ended Scheme under which sale and repurchase of Units will be made on continuous basis by the Mutual Fund, the Units of the Scheme are generally not proposed to be listed on any stock exchange. However, the AMC may at its sole discretion, list the Units under the Scheme on one or more stock exchanges at a later date, if deemed necessary	
	ii)	Transfer of Units	
		The Unit holders are given an option to hold the Units by way of an Account Statement (physical form) or in Dematerialized (demat form).	
		As described below, units held in Demat mode as well as in physical form (account statement) are transferable:	

Transfer of units held in Demat mode: Such units are transferable (subject to lock-in period, if any and subject to lien, if any marked on the units) in accordance with the provisions of SEBI (Depositories and Participants) Regulations, 2018, as may be amended from time to time. Transfer can be made only in favor of transferees who are capable of holding Units and having a Demat Account. The delivery instructions for transfer of Units will have to be lodged with the DP in requisite form as may be required from time to time and transfer will be effected in accordance with such rules/regulations as may be in force governing transfer of securities in dematerialized mode. Further, for the procedure of release of lien, the investors shall contact their respective DP.

Transfer of units held in physical form: Units held in physical form are normally not certified. However, if an applicant so desires to transfer units, the AMC, upon submission of documents which will be prescribed from time to time, shall certify the units and issue a fresh statement/certificate to the extent of certified units to the investor within 5 business days of the receipt of request. If the investor intends to transfer units, it could be done to the extent of certified units mandatorily using the statement/certificate issued post certification of units. Certificate/statement issued post certifying of units must be duly discharged by the Unit holder(s) and surrendered along with the request for Transfer. AMC reserves the right to accept the request for certification of units The AMC reserves the right to reject the application for transfer, post acceptance of the same, if any of the requisite documents/declarations are unavailable or incomplete. Also, unitholders are required to surrender the certificate/statement in case they wish to carry out any other transactions (such as redemption, switch, etc.) post unit certification.

A person becoming entitled to hold the Units in consequence of the death, insolvency, or winding up of the sole holder or the survivors of joint holders, upon producing evidence and documentation to the satisfaction of the Fund and upon executing suitable indemnities in favor of the Fund and the AMC, shall be registered as a Unit holder if the transferee is otherwise eligible to hold the Units.

Where the Units of the Plan(s) are issued in demat form in the Demat account of the investor, the nomination as registered with the DP will be applicable to the Units of the Plan(s). A Nominee/legal heir approaching the Fund for Transmission of Units must have beneficiary account with a DP of CDSL or NSDL, since the Units shall be in demat mode. It may be noted that the nominee/legal heir is required to provide a copy of his/her PAN card as well as fulfill the Know Your Customer (KYC) requirements which is a pre-requisite for the transmission process.

In the event of transmission of units to a Minor, documents submitted including KYC, bank attestation, indemnity etc. should be of the guardian of the minor.

Investor(s) claiming transmission of Units in his/their name(s) are required to submit prescribed documents based on the kind of scenario for transmission. Kindly refer the Fund's website (<a href="www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in">www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in</a>) for a ready reckoner matrix of necessary documents under different transmission scenarios. The Fund may also seek additional documents if the amount involved is above Rs. 5 lacs, on a case to case basis or depending upon the circumstances of each case.

Pursuant to AMFI Best Practice Guidelines Circular No. 135/BP/116/2024-25 dated August 14, 2024, a facility for transfer of mutual fund units held in Statement of Accounts (SoA) mode is made available to investors under the mutual fund schemes (except for ETFs), with effective from **November 14, 2024**, under the following three categories:

- To enable the surviving joint holder to add name(s) in the folio upon demise of one or more joinholder(s);
- To facilitate transfer of units by the nominee of a deceased unitholder to the legal heirs post the transmission of units in the name of the nominee;
- To enable addition of the name of a parent/guardian, sibling, etc. as joint holder(s) in the folio, when a minor unitholder becomes a major and changed the status from a minor to a major.

	This facility shall be available only through online mode via the transaction portals of our Registrar and Transfer Agent (i.e. CAMS) and the MF Central (as and when enabled), i.e., the transfer of units held in SoA mode shall not be allowed through physical/ paper based mode or via the stock exchange platforms, MFU, channel partners and EOPs etc. The Stamp duty for transfer of units, if/where applicable, shall be payable by the transferor.
	Unitholders can refer https://digital.camsonline.com/transfer for more details and can follow the process available on website of our CAMS if intends to transfer of their units in aforesaid scenarios.
	For further details, refer SAI.
Dematerialization of units	Option to hold Units in dematerialized (Demat) form
	An option is available to investors to receive allotment of mutual fund Units in their demat account while subscribing to any scheme of the Fund. Unit holders opting to hold the Units in demat form must provide their demat account details in the specified section of the application form and should furnish Bank Account details linked with their demat account. (Kindly refer the application form for Demat available on the Fund's website, <a href="https://www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in">www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in</a> ). Units will be credited to the investor's demat account after due verification and confirmation from NSDL/CDSL of the demat account details. The bank mandate registered in the demat account will be treated as the valid bank mandate for the purpose of payout by the Fund. The option to subscribe/hold Units in demat form shall be in accordance with the guidelines/procedural requirements laid down by the Depositories (NSDL/CDSL) from time to time.
	The option to hold Units in demat mode also includes allotment of Units made through SIP transactions in any scheme of the Fund, which offers the SIP facility. For SIP transactions, Units will be allotted as per 'Applicable NAV for Sale of Units' as mentioned under <b>Section II. 'Units and Offer'</b> and will be credited to the investor's demat account on a weekly basis upon realization of funds. The demat facility is currently not available in plans/options where the IDCW distribution frequency is less than 1 month.
	In case the Unit holder desires to hold the Units in a dematerialized/rematerialized form at a later date, the request for conversion of Units held in physical form into demat (electronic) form or vice-versa should be submitted along with a Demat/Remat Request Form to the Depository Participant. Unitholders will be required to submit all non-financial requests and redemption requests to their respective Depository Participant, for Units held in demat form. Such Units held in demat form will be transferable subject to the provisions laid down in the SID/SAI and/or KIM of the Fund and in accordance with provisions of Depositories Act, 1996 and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Depositories and Participants) Regulations, 1996, as may be amended from time to time.
	The asset management company shall issue units in dematerialized form to a unit holder in a scheme within two working days of the receipt of request from the unit holder.
Minimum Target amount (This is the minimum amount required to operate the scheme and if this is not collected during the NFO period, then all the investors would be refunded the amount invested without any return.)	Not applicable, as there is continuous offer of Units of the Scheme (s) at NAV based prices.
Maximum Amount to be	Not Applicable
raised (if any)	
Dividend (IDCW) Policy	IDCW Distribution Policy
	The Board of Directors of Trustee Company propose to follow the below dividend distribution policy:
	Declaration of dividend is subject to the availability of distributable surplus. Such dividends if declared, will be paid under normal circumstances, only to those Unitholders who have opted for Income Distribution cum capital withdrawal option (IDCW) with specified suboptions. Further, no entry/exit load shall be charged for units allotted under Reinvestment of IDCW option.

However, it must be distinctly understood that the actual declaration of IDCWs under the Scheme and the frequency thereof will, inter-alia, depend upon the distributable surplus of the Scheme, as computed in accordance with SEBI Regulations. The Board of Directors of Trustee Company reserve the right of IDCW declaration and to change the frequency, date of declaration and the decision of the Board of Directors of Trustee Company in this regard shall be final. There is no assurance or guarantee to Unit holders as to the rate of IDCW distribution nor that IDCW will be regularly paid.

The IDCW that may be paid out of the net surplus of the Scheme will be paid only to those Unit holders whose names appear in the register of Unit holders on the notified record date. In case of Units held in dematerialized mode, the Depositories (NSDL/CDSL) will give the list of demat account holders and the number of units held by them in demat form on the Record Date to the Registrars and Transfer Agent of the Mutual Fund.

The IDCW will be at such rate as may be decided by the AMC in consultation with the Board of Directors of Trustee Company.

Investors may please note that amounts distributed under Income Distributable cum capital withdrawal options and sub-options, can be made out of investors capital (Equalization Reserve), which is a part of sale price that represents realized gains.

Under the Growth Option, income earned on the Scheme's corpus will remain invested in the Scheme and will be reflected in the Net Asset Value (NAV). Unit holders who opt for this Option will not receive any IDCW in normal circumstances. Under the Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal Option (IDCW), it is proposed to distribute IDCWs at regular intervals, subject to availability of distributable profits, as computed in accordance with SEBI Regulations. Investors in the Scheme have the choice of opting for either payout or reinvestment of IDCW, as stated above. Subsequent to the declaration of IDCW, NAV of the Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal Option (IDCW) and Growth Option will be different.

#### **IDCW Distribution Procedure**

In accordance with Chapter 11 and para 13.2 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, the procedure for IDCW Distribution would be as under:

- Quantum of IDCW and the record date will be fixed by the Board of Directors
  of Trustee Company in their meeting. IDCW so decided shall be paid, subject to
  availability of distributable surplus.
- ii. Within one calendar day of decision by the Board of Directors of Trustee Company, the AMC shall issue notice to the public communicating the decision about the IDCW including the record date, in one English daily newspaper having nationwide circulation as well as in a newspaper published in the language of the region where the head office of the Mutual Fund is situated.
- iii. Record date shall be the date which will be considered for the purpose of determining the eligibility of investors whose names appear on the register of Unit holders for receiving IDCWs. As para 11.6.1.3 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, the record date shall be 2 working days from the date of public notice.
- iv. The notice will, in font size 10, bold, categorically state that pursuant to payment of IDCW, the NAV of the Option would fall to the extent of payout and statutory levy (if applicable).
- The NAV will be adjusted to the extent of IDCW distribution and statutory levy, if any, at the close of business hours on record date.
- vi. Before the issue of such notice, no communication indicating the probable date of IDCW declaration in any manner whatsoever will be issued by Mutual Fund.

In case of Liquid/Debt Scheme(s), the requirement of giving notice regarding the quantum and record date of the dividend in two newspapers shall not be compulsory for Scheme(s)/Plan(s)/Option(s) having frequency of dividend distribution from daily up to monthly dividend.

The IDCW proceeds may be paid by way of IDCW warrants/direct credit/Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)/any other manner through the investor's bank account specified in the Registrar's records. The AMC, at its discretion at a later date, may choose to alter or add other modes of payment. As per para 11.4 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024 the AMC shall dispatch/transfer payment of the dividend proceeds within 7 working days from the record date.

If the actual amount of Payout of IDCW is less than Rs. 100/-, then such dividend will be
compulsorily and automatically re-invested by issuing additional units on the ex-dividend
date at applicable NAV. The amount of dividend reinvested will be net of applicable taxes.

Further, AMC may use modes of dispatch such as speed post, courier etc. for payments to unitholders in addition to the registered post with acknowledgement due.

Please refer to the Statement of Additional Information (SAI) and instructions under the Key Information Memorandum cum Application form of the scheme for further details.

# Allotment (Detailed procedure)

#### i. Allotment of Units in the scheme

For allotment of units in the scheme it shall be ensured that:

- i. Application is received before the applicable cut-off time.
- ii. Funds for the entire amount of subscription/purchase as per the application are credited to the bank account of the schemes before the cut-off time.
- iii. The funds are available for utilization before the cut-off time without availing any credit facility whether intra-day or otherwise, by the schemes.

For allotment of units in respect of switch-in to the scheme it shall be ensured that:

- i. Application for switch-in is received before the applicable cut-off time.
- ii. Funds for the entire amount of subscription/purchase as per the switch-in request are credited to the bank account of the respective switch-in schemes before the cut-off time.
- iii. The funds are available for utilization before the cut-off time without availing any credit facility whether intra-day or otherwise, by the switch-in scheme.

The Mutual Fund shall calculate NAV for each business day in respect of the above scheme/plan(s).

Explanation: 'Business Day' does not include a day on which the money markets are closed or otherwise not accessible.

Further, it may be noted that:

- Where funds are transferred/received first and application is submitted thereafter, date and time of receipt of the application shall be considered for NAV applicability.
- 2. In case of systematic transactions, NAV will be applied basis realization of funds in the scheme account. This shall be applicable for all Systematic transactions (Systematic Investment Plans as well as for Systematic Transfer Plans) irrespective of amount and registration date of the systematic transactions.

# **Applicable NAV for Sale of Units**

Particulars	Applicable NAV	
where the application is received upto 3:00 p.m.	closing NAV of the day on which	
on a day and funds are available for utilization	the application is received	
before the cut-off time		
where the application is received after 3:00 p.m.	closing NAV of the next business	
on a day and funds are available for utilization	day	
on the same day		

The Mutual Fund shall calculate NAV for each calendar day in respect of the Scheme/

Valid applications for 'switch-out' shall be treated as applications for Redemption and valid applications for 'switch-in' shall be treated as applications for Purchase, and the provisions of the Cut-off time, purchase/redemption price, minimum amounts for Purchase/Redemption and the Applicable NAV as applicable to Purchase and Redemption, as mentioned in above paragraph, shall be applied respectively to the 'switch-in' and 'switch-out' applications.

**Note:** Repurchase/Redemptions including Switch-outs for Segregated Portfolio is not allowed. However, the unit of Segregated Portfolio will be listed on the recognized Stock Exchange.

# ii. Dispatch of account statements/unit certificates

- a. The AMC shall send an allotment confirmation specifying the units allotted by way of email and/or SMS within 5 working days of receipt of valid application/ transaction to the Unit holders registered e-mail address and/or mobile number (whether units are held in demat mode or in account statement form).
- b. A Consolidated Account Statement (CAS) detailing all the transactions across all mutual funds (including transaction charges paid to the distributor) and holding at the end of the month shall be sent to the Unit holders in whose folio(s) transaction(s) have taken place during the month by mail or email on or before 15th of the succeeding month.
  - The default mode for dispatch of Consolidated Account Statement will be email.
- c. Half-yearly CAS shall be issued at the end of every six months (i.e. September/March) on or before 21st day of succeeding month, to all investors providing the prescribed details across all schemes of mutual funds and securities held in dematerialized form across demat accounts, if applicable

For further details, refer SAI.

#### Refund

#### Who can invest

This is an indicative list and investors shall consult their financial advisor to ascertain whether the scheme is suitable to their risk profile.

Not applicable, as there is continuous offer of Units of the Scheme (s) at NAV based prices.

This is an indicative list and you are requested to consult your financial advisor to ascertain whether the Scheme is suitable to your risk profile.

The following persons are eligible and may apply for subscription to the Units of the Scheme (subject, wherever relevant, to purchase of units of mutual funds being permitted and duly authorised under their respective constitutions, charter documents, corporate/other authorisations and relevant statutory provisions etc):

- Adult individuals resident in India, either singly or jointly
- Karta of Hindu Undivided Family (HUF)
- Minor through parent/lawful guardian
- Companies, Bodies Corporate, Public Sector Undertakings, Association of Persons, Bodies of individuals, Societies registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, mutual fund schemes (so long as the purchase of units is permitted under the respective constitutions)
- Religious and Charitable Trusts, Wakfs or endowments of private trusts (subject to receipt of necessary approvals as required) and Private Trusts authorised to invest in mutual fund schemes under their trust deeds
- Partnership Firms
- Banks (including Co-operative Banks and Regional Rural Banks) & Financial Institutions
- Non-resident Indians (NRIs)/Persons of Indian Origin on full repatriation basis (subject to RBI approval, if required) or on non-repatriation basis
- Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) registered with SEBI on full repatriation basis (subject to RBI approval, if required)
- Army, Air Force, Navy and other para-military funds and eligible institutions
- Scientific and Industrial Research Organizations
- Provident/Pension/Gratuity and such other Funds as and when permitted to invest
- International Multilateral Agencies approved by the Government of India/RBI
- Other schemes of HSBC Mutual Fund subject to the conditions and limits prescribed in SEBI Regulations
- Board of Directors of Trustee Company, AMC or Sponsor or their associates (if eligible and permitted under prevailing laws), may subscribe to the Units under the Scheme.
- Foreign investors (termed as Qualified Foreign Investors) who meet KYC requirement as per PMLA (Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002) and FATF (Financial Action Task Force) standards. Acceptance of subscriptions by Foreign investors will be subject to operational feasibility in accepting the same and compliance with provisions under SEBI circular no. CIR/IMD/DF/14/2011 dated August 9, 2011.
- Sole Proprietorship
- A Mutual Fund through its schemes, including Fund of Funds schemes

#### Who cannot invest

The following persons/entities cannot invest in any schemes of the Fund:

#### Green Card Holder

A Green Card Holder means an individual who is a US permanent resident (even if they do not actually reside in the US).

#### **Non-resident US Investor:**

A Non-resident US Investor means a US Citizen (including a Green Card Holder) of the US who resides outside the US.

#### HS.

US means the United States of America (including the States and the District of Columbia), its territories, possessions and all other areas subject to its jurisdiction.

#### **US Citizen:**

US Citizen means an individual born in the US or an individual whose parent is a US citizen or a former alien who has been naturalised as a US Citizen.

#### US Law:

US Law means the laws of the US, its territories, possessions and all other areas subject to its jurisdiction. US Law shall additionally include all applicable rules and regulations, as supplemented and amended from time to time, as promulgated by any US regulatory authority, including, but not limited to, the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. All references to legislation within this procedure are to US Law.

#### **US Person:**

For the purpose of this procedure the term US Person (or 'USP') shall mean:

- 1. An individual (including a US Citizen or Green Card Holder) who is a resident of the US under any US Law;
- 2. An individual who is a US Citizen or Green Card Holder who has not formally renounced their US citizenship (including a person with dual or multiple nationality) even though they may reside outside of the US;
- A corporation, partnership, limited liability company, collective investment vehicle, investment company, pooled account, or other business, investment, or legal entity:
  - a. Created or organised under US Law; or
  - b. Created (regardless of domicile of formation or organisation) principally for passive investment (for example, an investment company, fund or similar entity excluding employee benefit or pension plans); and
    - I. Owned directly or indirectly by one or more USPs who hold, directly or indirectly, in aggregate a 10% or greater beneficial interest, provided that any such USP is not defined as a Qualified Eligible Person under CFTC Regulation 4.7(a); or
    - II. Where a USP is the general partner, managing member, managing director or other position with authority to direct the entity's activities; or
    - III. Where the entity was formed by or for a USP principally for the purpose of investing in securities not registered with the SEC unless such entity is comprised of Accredited Investors, as defined in Regulation D, 17 CFR 230.501(a), and no such Accredited Investors are individuals or natural persons; or
    - IV. Where more than 50% of its voting ownership interests or non-voting ownership interests are directly or indirectly owned by USPs; or
  - c. That is an agency or branch of a non-US entity located in the US;
  - d. That has its principal place of business in the US.

# 4. A trust:

- a. created or organised under US Law; or
- b. where, regardless of domicile of formation or organisation:
  - I. Any settler, founder, trustee, or other person responsible in whole or in part for investment decisions for the trust is a USP;

- II. the administration of the trust or its formation documents are subject to the supervision of one or more US courts; or
- III. The income of which is subject to US income tax regardless of source.
- 5. An estate of a deceased person:
  - a. who was a resident of the US at the time of death or the income of which is subject to US income tax regardless of source; or
  - b. where, regardless of the deceased person's residence while alive, an executor or administrator having sole or shared investment discretion is a USP or the estate is governed by US Law.
- 6. An employee benefit or pension plan that is:
  - a. established and administered in accordance with US Law; or
  - b. established for employees of a legal entity that is a USP or has its principal place of business in the US.
- A discretionary or non-discretionary or similar account (including a joint account) where:
  - a. one or more beneficial owners is a USP or held for the benefit of one or more USPs; or
  - b. the discretionary or similar account is held by a dealer or fiduciary organised in the US.
- Persons residing in Canada;
- Persons residing in any Financial Action Task Force (FATF) declared non-compliant country or territory.
- Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCBs), being firms and societies, which are held directly/indirectly to the extent of at least 60% by NRIs and/or overseas trusts in which at least 60% of the beneficial interest is similarly held irrevocably by such persons.
  - a) Persons who are, subject to sanctions or residing in or have any of their addresses in countries which are subject to sanctions.
  - b) Persons who are in breach of the laws and regulations relating to KYC, money laundering, terrorist financing or any other Financial Crimes.
- Such other persons as may be specified by AMC from time to time.

#### Note:

- a. Investors are requested to note that if subsequently an investor's status is changed to being a United States Person or investor's folio is updated with a US/Canada address, the AMC reserves the right to redeem such investor's investments.
- b. Non-Resident Indian investors must provide their complete overseas address, including the Country of residence, in the application form, to avoid rejection of the application.
- c. The Board of Directors of Trustee Company and/or AMC shall be entitled to reject any application from investors and/or carry out forceful redemption of Units when it is discovered that the investor is subject to sanctions or any other financial crimes, directly or indirectly.
- d. The AMC and its Group companies (in India and outside India) are required to and may take any action to meet their Compliance Obligations relating to or in connection with the detection, investigation and prevention of Financial Crime and act in accordance with the laws, regulations and requests of public and regulatory authorities operating in various jurisdictions which relate to Financial Crime. The AMC may take and may instruct (or be instructed by) any of its group companies to take, any action which it or such other member, in its sole and absolute discretion, considers appropriate to take in accordance with all such laws, regulations and requests. Such action may include but is not limited to (a) combining investor information with other related information in the possession of HSBC Group, (b) making further enquiries as to the status of a person or entity, whether they are subject to a sanctions regime, or confirming your identity and status and/or (c) share information on a confidential basis with such Group offices whether located in India or overseas in relation to prevention of Financial Crime.

- e. In case an investor who is a foreign national and resident in India, ceases to be resident in India, such investor will be required to redeem his/her investments prior to change in the resident status. The AMC reserves the right to redeem investments of such investors if their resident status is found to have changed to a country other than India. The redemption proceeds will be credited in Indian rupees only. Further, the AMC, its affiliates or service providers reserve the right to seek additional documents, implement controls and/or impose restrictions with respect to acceptance of investments from foreign nationals resident in India including the right to reject applications or subsequently redeem investments which are not in line with the controls deemed necessary by the AMC.
- f. Investors are requested to note that if subsequently an investor's status is changed to being a United States Person or investor's folio is updated with a US/Canada address, the AMC reserves the right to redeem such investor's investments. Even if the AMC, at its sole discretion, allows such categories of investors to continue with the existing investments in the Scheme (i.e. the investments made prior to such status change), the AMC/Fund shall not accept any further transactions requests (other than non-financial transactions and redemptions) from such investors and all existing systematic investment registrations would stand cancelled. In case of investors transferred to HSBC Mutual Fund from the erstwhile L&T Mutual Fund, who are United States Person or Persons residing in Canada, the existing investments from such investors in the Scheme (i.e. the investments made prior to such transfer) shall be allowed to be continued, however all existing systematic investment registrations would stand cancelled. The AMC/Fund shall not accept any further transactions requests (other than non-financial transactions and redemptions) from such investors.

# For the purpose of this clause:

"Compliance Obligations" means obligations of the AMC to comply with: (a) laws or international guidance and internal policies or procedures, (b) any demand or request from authorities or reporting disclosure or other obligations under laws, and (c) laws requiring us to verify the identity of our customers.

"Financial Crime" includes money laundering, terrorist financing bribery, corruption, tax evasion, fraud, evasion of economic or trade sanctions, and/or any acts or attempts to circumvent or violate any laws relating to these matters."

Investors are requested to note that information will be obtained from CVL/SEBI appointed KRA (KYC Registration Agency) database and information in the AMC records will be overwritten. In the event of any discrepancy in the application on account of address or residence status, the application will be rejected and the money will be refunded upon confirmation from CVL/KRA database.

The Fund reserves the right to include/exclude new/existing categories of investors to invest in the Scheme from time to time, subject to SEBI Regulations and other prevailing statutory regulations, if any. Subject to the SEBI Regulations, any application for Units may be accepted or rejected in the sole and absolute discretion of the Board of Directors of Trustee Company. The Board of Directors of Trustee Company may inter-alia reject any application for the purchase of Units if the application is invalid or incomplete or if the Board of Directors of Trustee Company for any other reason does not believe that it would be in the best interest of the Scheme or its Unit holders to accept such an application.

# How to Apply and other details

#### . Availability of Application Form

For Investors, who wish to opt for holding Units in demat mode, the applicants under the scheme (including a transferee) will be required to have a beneficiary account with a DP of NSDL/CDSL and will be required to indicate in the application the DP's name, DP ID Number and its beneficiary owner account number (BO ID) with DP. In the absence of the information (including incomplete/incorrect information) in respect of DP ID/BO ID, the application will be processed with statement option as 'physical'.

Investors subscribing under Direct Plan of a Scheme are required to indicate "Direct Plan" against the Scheme name in the application form e.g. "HSBC Small Cap Fund - Direct Plan". Investors are also required to indicate "Direct" in the ARN column of the application form. However, in case Distributor Code is mentioned in the application form but "Direct Plan" is indicated against the Scheme name, the Distributor Code will be ignored and the application will be processed under Direct Plan.

Further, new investors who are not KYC compliant are requested to use the Common KYC Application form available on the website of the Fund and complete the KYC process including In-Person Verification (IPV), through any SEBI registered intermediary like Mutual Funds, Portfolio Managers, Depository Participants, Venture Capital Funds etc. The Investors can also complete online KYC (eKYC) through our Invest Online section on our website (https://invest.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in).

# Subscription of Units through Online platform:

The Fund allows its investors to invest in any scheme of HSBC Mutual Fund through its website <a href="https://invest.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in">https://invest.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in</a> and mobile application 'Invest Xpress' The Fund will also allow existing investors to transact through the website of the Fund's Registrar & Transfer Agent (CAMS), i.e. <a href="https://www.camsonline.com">www.camsonline.com</a>.

# 2. Link for the list of official points of acceptance, collecting banker details etc.

The applications filled up and duly signed by the applicants may be submitted at the AMC Investor Service Centres(ISC)/CAMS Service Centre/Official Points of Acceptance.

Please check weblink (<u>List of Official Point of Acceptance (OPA)</u>, <u>Collection Bankers etc.</u>) for an updated list of the Official Points of Acceptance, collecting banker of HSBC Mutual Fund. For details on CAMS Service Centres, please visit <u>www.camsonline.com</u>.

Additionally, website/mobile application of MFUI shall be eligible to be considered as 'official points of acceptance' for all financial and non-financial transactions in the schemes of HSBC Mutual Fund electronically. Further, all the authorized Point of Service (POS) of MFUI shall be eligible to be considered as 'official points of acceptance' for all physical financial and non-financial transactions in the schemes of HSBC Mutual Fund For further information kindly refer to the website of MFUI at <a href="www.mfuindia.com">www.mfuindia.com</a>. Investors can also execute financial and non-financial transactions pertaining to Schemes of the Fund electronically on the MF Central portal i.e. <a href="https://www.mfcentral.com/">https://www.mfcentral.com/</a> as and when such facility is made available by MF Central. However, the Fund will not be liable for any failure to act upon electronic instructions or to provide any facility for any cause that is beyond the control of the Fund.

# 3. Details of Registrar and Transfer Agent (R&T) alongwith OPT Computer Age Management Services Limited (CAMS)

HSBC Mutual Fund Unit

Rayala Tower-I, 158, Anna Salai, Chennai 600002.

AMC Call Center: 1800-200-2434/1800-258-2434

AMC Email ID: <u>investor.line@mutualfunds.hsbc.co.in</u>

For details on CAMS Service Centres, please visit www.camsonline.com. For the list of OPT and collecting banker, please click on the weblink provided under point # 2 above.

### **Beneficial Ownership:**

SEBI circular dated January 24, 2013 read with SEBI Circular dated October 13, 2023 on identification of Beneficial Ownership has prescribed a uniform approach to be followed for determination of beneficial owners. A 'Beneficial owner' is defined as a natural person/s who ultimately own, control or influence a client and/or persons on whose behalf a transaction is being conducted, which includes persons who exercise ultimate effective control over a legal person or arrangement. All categories of investors (except individuals, company listed on a stock exchange or majority-owned subsidiary of such company) are requested to provide details about beneficial ownership in the specified section of the Fund's application forms. The Fund reserves the right to reject applications (including switches)/restrict further investments from such investors or seek additional information if the requisite information on beneficial ownership is not duly provided. In the event of change in beneficial ownership, investors are requested to update the details with the Fund/Registrar.

# Third party Cheques

- Third party payments (i.e where payment is made from a source other than that of the first holder) will not be accepted by the Fund, except if made under the following exceptional categories, namely, i) employer on behalf of employee as payroll deductions or deductions out of expense reimbursements for SIP/Lumpsum investments, ii) Custodian on behalf of FPI/client and iii) Payment by Asset Management Company (AMC) to a Distributor empaneled with it on account of commission/incentive etc. in the form of the Mutual Fund Units of the Funds managed by the AMC through Systematic Investment Plans or Lumpsum Investment (w.e.f January 16, 2012). iv) Payment by a Corporate to its Agent/Distributor/Dealer, on account of commission or incentive payable for sale of its goods/services, in the form of the Mutual Fund Units through Systematic Investment Plan or Lumpsum Investment (w.e.f. April 20, 2015). In such cases, KYC acknowledgement along with additional declarations will have to be submitted along with the application form, failing which the application will be rejected. Such declaration to be submitted in original & in the prescribed standard format and unique across each lumpsum investment. (Declaration formats can be obtained from ISCs or downloaded from the Fund's website.)
- iii. Where the payment instrument does not mention the bank account holders name/s or Signature of the units holder as on the investment application does not match with the signature on the payment instrument, investor should attach a cancelled cheque leaf/bank pass book copy to substantiate that the first unit holder is one of the joint holders of the bank account. Where a payment is through a pre-funded instrument, a bank certification of the bank account no. and account holders name should be attached, in the required format. Pre-funded instrument issued against cash shall not be accepted for investments of Rs. 50,000 or more.
- iv. For RTGS/NEFT/online bank transfer etc., a copy of the instruction to the bank stating the account number debited must accompany the purchase application.
- v. The AMC reserves the right to reject the application, post acceptance of the same, if any of the requisite documents/declarations are unavailable or incomplete, in which case the AMC shall refund the subscription money.

#### **Bank Account Numbers**

In order to protect the interest of investors from fraudulent encashment of cheques, cheques specify the name of the Unitholder and the bank name and account number where payments are to be credited. As per the directive issued by SEBI vide its letters IIMARP/MF/CIR/07/826/98 dated April 15, 1998, and para 14.12 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, it is mandatory for applicants to mention their bank details in their applications for purchase or redemption of units.

It is important for applicants to mention their bank name, bank account number, branch address, and account type in their applications for subscription or repurchase of Units. Applications without this information shall be rejected.

Where the Bank Account details provided for the purpose of Redemption/IDCW payout is different from the Bank Account, which is used for Subscription, then a proof of such bank account should be enclosed along with the Subscription application.

Please refer Section II – Bank Mandate for more details.

Please refer to the Statement of Additional Information (SAI) and instructions under the Key Information Memorandum cum Application form of the scheme for further details.

The policy regarding reissue of repurchased units, including the maximum extent, the manner of reissue, the entity (the scheme or the AMC) involved in the same.

Presently the AMC does not intend to reissue the repurchased units. The Board of Directors of Trustee Company reserves the right to reissue the repurchased units at a later date after issuing adequate public notices and taking approvals, if any, from SEBI.

Restrictions, if any, on ithe right to freely retain or dispose of units being offered.

#### i. Lien/Pledge of Mutual Fund units

If in conformity with the guidelines and notifications issued by SEBI/Government of India/any other regulatory body from time to time, Units under the Plan(s) may be offered as security by way of a pledge/charge in favor of scheduled banks, financial institutions, non-banking finance companies (NBFCs), or any other body.

Units held in physical form: The AMC and/or the ISC will note and record such pledged/Lien marked Units. A standard form for this purpose is available on request from any ISC and can be downloaded from the AMC's website. Disbursement of such loans will be at the entire discretion of the bank/financial institution/NBFC or any other body concerned and the Mutual Fund assumes no responsibility thereof. The Pledgor will not be able to redeem/switch Units that are pledged until the entity to which the Units are Lien marked/pledged provides written authorization to the Mutual Fund that the pledge/lien charge may be removed. As long as Units are Lien marked/pledged, the pledgee will have complete authority to redeem such Units.

The distributions in the nature of IDCWs which are paid out on Lien marked/pledged Units shall be made in favor of the investor, unless understood and accepted between the unit holder(s) and financier/lender.

**Units held in dematerialized form:** In case of Units held in dematerialized form, the rules of Depository will be applicable for Lien marking/Pledge of the Units of the Scheme. Units can be Lien marked/pledged by completing the requisite forms/formalities as may be required by the Depository.

The AMC reserves the right to change the procedure for Lien marking/pledge of MF Units from time to time.

#### **Fractional Units**

Since a request for redemption or purchase is generally made in rupee amounts and not in terms of number of Units of the Scheme, an investor may be left with fractional Units. Fractional Units will be computed and accounted for up to three decimal places for the Scheme. However, fractional Units will in no way affect the investor's ability to redeem the Units, either in part or in full, standing to the Unitholder's credit.

### ii. Suspension of Sale/Switch-in of Units

The Mutual Fund at its sole discretion reserves the right to withdraw/suspend sale (via fresh/additional subscriptions/switch- ins/existing or fresh SIP/STP or such other special product) of the Units in the scheme temporarily or indefinitely, if in the opinion of the AMC, the general market conditions are not favourable and/or suitable investment opportunities are not available for deployment of funds.

The sale or switch - in of the Units may be suspended under the following conditions:

- When one or more stock exchanges or markets, which provide basis for valuation for a substantial portion of the assets of the Scheme is closed otherwise than for ordinary holidays.
- In the event of breakdown in the means of communication use for the valuation
  of investments of the Scheme, without which the value of the securities of the
  scheme cannot be accurately calculated.
- During periods of extreme volatility of markets, which in the opinion of the AMC are prejudicial to the interests of the Unitholders of the Scheme.
- When AMC is of the view that further increasing the size of the corpus of the Scheme may prove detrimental to the interest of the existing unit holders.
- In case of natural calamities, strikes, riots and bandhs.
- In the event of any force majeure or disaster that affects the normal functioning of the AMC, ISC or the Registrar.
- If so directed by SEBI."

Further, an order to purchase Units is not binding on and may be rejected by the Board of Directors of Trustee Company, the AMC or their respective agents, until it has been confirmed in writing by the AMC or its agents and payment has been received.

#### iii) Suspension of Redemption of units

 The AMC may, subject to specific approval of the Boards of AMC and Trustee Company, impose restrictions on redemptions (including switch- out) in the scheme(s) if there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets such as:

- a) Liquidity issues in the market at large.
- b) Market failures and/or exchange closures due to unexpected events relating to, but not limited to, political, economic, military, monetary or other emergencies.
- c) Operational issues due to exceptional circumstances like force majeure, unpredictable operational problems and technical failures.
- Restriction on redemption may be imposed for a specific period of time not exceeding 10 working days in any 90 days period.
- Any imposition of restrictions on redemption will be informed to SEBI.
- In the event that redemption restrictions are imposed by the AMC, in addition to above requirements, the AMC will ensure the following:
  - a) Redemption request up to Rs. 2 lakh shall not be subject to such restriction.
  - b) For redemption request above Rs. 2 lakh, the AMC shall redeem the first Rs. 2 lakh without such restriction and the remaining part over and above Rs. 2 lakh, shall be subject to restriction, as may be imposed

# iv) Freezing/Seizure of Accounts

Investors may note that under the following circumstances, the Trustee Company/AMC may at its sole discretion (and without being responsible and/or liable in any manner whatsoever) freeze/seize/do such acts to a Unit holder's account as per instructions (or deal with the same in the manner the Board of Directors of Trustee Company/AMC is directed and/or ordered) under the Scheme:-

- Under any requirement of any law or regulations for the time being in force.
- Under the direction and/or order (including interim orders) of any regulatory/ statutory authority or any judicial authority or any quasi-judicial authority or such other competent authority having the powers to give direction and/or order.

# Cut off timing for subscriptions / redemptions / switches

This is the time before which your application (complete in all respects) should reach the official points of acceptance. This is the time before which an investor's application (complete in all respects) should reach the official points of acceptance.

The cut off timings for determining applicable NAVs for subscriptions/redemptions/switch-ins/switch-outs to be made at the Investor Service Centres/Designated Collection Centres (designated as 'Official Points of Acceptance' from time to time) are as per the following table:

Subscription	Redemption	Switch In	Switch Out
3.00 p.m.	3.00 p.m.	3.00 p.m.	3.00 p.m.

Where a request for redemption/switch is received after the cut-off time as mentioned above, the request will be deemed to have been received on the next Business Day.

#### i. Applicable NAV for Sale of Units

Particulars	Applicable NAV
where the application is received upto 3:00 p.m. on a day and funds are available for utilization before the cut-off time	closing NAV of the day on which the application is received
where the application is received after 3:00 p.m. on a day and funds are available for utilization on the same day	closing NAV of the next business day

#### i. Applicable NAV for Repurchase of Units

Particulars	Applicable NAV	
where the application is received upto 3.00 pm	closing NAV of the day of receipt of application	
where the application is received after 3.00 pm	closing NAV of the next business day.	

The Fund shall calculate NAV for each business day in respect of the Scheme.

Explanation: 'Business Day' does not include a day on which the money markets are closed or otherwise not accessible.

Valid applications for 'switch-out' shall be treated as applications for Redemption and valid applications for 'switch-in' shall be treated as applications for Purchase, and the provisions of the Cut-off time, purchase/redemption price, minimum amounts for Purchase/Redemption and the Applicable NAV as applicable to Purchase and Redemption, as mentioned in above paragraph, shall be applied respectively to the 'switch-in' and 'switch-out' applications.

**Note:** Repurchase/Redemptions including Switch-outs for Segregated Portfolio is not allowed. However, the unit of Segregated Portfolio will be listed on the recognized Stock Exchange.

# Minimum amount for purchase/redemption/switches

# Minimum amount for purchase/switch-ins For Lump sum Investments

Minimum Investment Amount	Additional Investment:
Rs. 5,000/- and in multiples of Re. 1/- thereafter. Minimum application amount	Rs. 1,000/- and in multiples of Re. 1/- thereafter.
is applicable for switch-ins as well.	

#### For SIP Investments

Tor our investments				
Frequency	Minimum Installment Amount#	Minimum number of Installments#	Dates	
Weekly	Rs. 500/-	Minimum 6 instalments subject to aggregate of Rs. 6,000/-		
Monthly	Rs. 500/-	Minimum 6 instalments subject to aggregate of Rs. 6,000/-	Any Dates	
Quarterly	Rs. 1,500/-	Minimum 4 instalments subject to aggregate of Rs. 6,000/-		

<sup>#</sup> in multiples of Re. 1/- thereafter

# ii. Minimum amount for redemption/switch-outs or minimum no. of Units to be redeemed

Rs. 500/- and in multiples of Re. 1/- thereafter or 50 units and in multiples of 0.01 unit thereafter.

Clause 6.10 of SEBI Master circular for Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024 (Alignment of interest of Designated Employees of Asset Management Companies (AMCs) with the Unitholders of the Mutual Fund Schemes) has, inter alia mandated that a minimum of 20% of gross annual CTC net of income tax and any statutory contributions of the Designated Employees of the AMCs shall be invested in units of the scheme(s) of the Fund in which they have a role/oversight. The said guidelines came into effect from the October 1, 2021. In accordance with the regulatory requirement, the minimum redemption amount wherever specified in the SID of the Fund will not be applicable for investment made in schemes of the Fund in compliance with the aforesaid circular.

The AMC reserves the right to change the minimum application/purchase amount, the minimum additional investment amount and the minimum amount for Redemption/Switches under the Scheme from time to time.

# **Accounts Statements**

- i. The AMC shall send an allotment confirmation specifying the units allotted by way of email and/or SMS within 5 working days of receipt of valid application/transaction to the Unit holders registered e-mail address and/or mobile number (whether units are held in demat mode or in account statement form).
- ii. A Consolidated Account Statement (CAS) detailing all the transactions across all mutual funds (including transaction charges paid to the distributor) and holding at the end of the month shall be sent to the Unit holders in whose folio(s) transaction(s) have taken place during the month by mail or email on or before 15th of the succeeding month.

The default mode for dispatch of Consolidated Account Statement will be email.

iii. Half-yearly CAS shall be issued at the end of every six months (i.e. September/March) on or before 21st day of succeeding month, to all investors providing the prescribed details across all schemes of mutual funds and securities held in dematerialized form across demat accounts, if applicable

For further details, refer SAI.

# Dividend/IDCW The payment of dividend/IDCW to the unitholders shall be made within 7 working days from the record date. Redemption As per para 14.2 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, the Fund shall dispatch/transfer the redemption/repurchase proceeds within 3 working Days, from the date of acceptance of redemption or repurchase request at any of the Investor Service Centres/Official Point of Transaction Acceptance. The Fund may close Unitholder's account if the balance in the folio falls below the minimum redemption amount as mentioned above for the scheme. In such a case, entire Units available in the Unitholder's account will mandatorily be redeemed at an Applicable NAV with the applicable load, if any. Further, as per AMFI circular no. AMFI/35P/MEM-COR/74/2022-23 dated January 16, 2023, in case of exceptional situations the AMC might follow the additional timelines for making redemption payments. For list of exceptional circumstances refer para 14.1.3 of SEBI Master Circular for Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024 For NRIs/FPIs The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident Outside India) Regulations, 2000 (the "FEMA Regulations") permit a NRI to purchase on repatriation or non-repatriation basis, without limit, units of domestic mutual funds. Payment for such units must be made either by: (i) inward remittance through normal banking channels; or (ii) out of funds held in the NRE/FCNR account, or (iii) Indian Rupee drafts purchased abroad in the case of purchases on a repatriation basis or out of funds held in the NRE/FCNR/NRO account, in the case of purchases on a non-repatriation basis. In case Indian Rupee drafts are purchased abroad or from FCNR/NRE accounts, an account debit certificate from the bank/financial entity issuing the draft confirming the debit shall also be enclosed. NRIs shall also be required to furnish such other documents as may be necessary and as desired by the AMC/Mutual Fund/Registrar, in connection with the investment in the schemes. The FEMA Regulations also permit a registered FPI to purchase, on repatriation basis, units of domestic mutual funds provided the FPI restricts allocation of its total investment between equity and debt instruments in the ratio as applicable at the time of investments. Payment by the FPI must be made either by inward remittance through normal banking channels or out of funds held in foreign currency account or non-resident rupee account maintained by the FPI with a designated branch of an authorised dealer with the approval of the RBI in terms of paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the FEMA Regulations. Redemption by NRIs/FPIs Units held by an NRI investor and FPIs may be redeemed by such investor by tendering Units to the Mutual Fund or for payment of maturity proceeds, subject to any procedures laid down by RBI from time to time. The Fund will not be liable for any delays or for any loss on account of any exchange fluctuations, while converting the rupee amount in foreign exchange in the case of transactions with NRIs/FPIs. Provisions with respect to NRIs/FPIs stated above, is as per the AMC's understanding of the laws currently prevalent in India. **Bank Mandate Bank Account Numbers** In order to protect the interest of investors from fraudulent encashment of cheques, cheques specify the name of the Unitholder and the bank name and account number where payments are to be credited. As per the directive issued by SEBI vide its letters IIMARP/MF/CIR/07/826/98 dated April 15, 1998, and para 14.12 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, it is mandatory for applicants to mention their bank details in their applications for purchase or redemption of units. It is important for applicants to mention their bank name, bank account number, branch address, account type in their applications for subscription or repurchase of Units. Applications without this information shall be rejected. Where the Bank Account details provided for the purpose of Redemption/IDCW payout is different from the Bank Account which is used for Subscription, then a proof

for the purpose of payout at the time of any corporate action.

of such bank account should be enclosed along with the Subscription application. It may be noted that in case of those Unitholders who hold Units in demat form, the bank mandate available with respective DP will be treated as the valid bank mandate

# ii) Change of Bank mandate

Updation of Bank Account in a customer's account/folio should be submitted either using the Multiple Bank Account Registration Form or the standalone Change of Bank Mandate form only. Any request for change of bank mandate details will be accepted only if the Unit Holder provides any of the following documents along with the designated Multiple Bank Account Registration/Deletion form or a standalone separate Change of Bank Mandate form:

Any one of the following documents to be provided for Existing (Old) as well as New Bank account:

- Cancelled original cheque leaf with first Unit Holder name and bank account number printed on the face of the cheque. OR
- Copy of Bank Passbook having the name, address and account number of the account holder.
- Bank Statement (issued within 3 months for new bank, in case of old bank account the date of statement will not be applicable)

Unit holders are required to submit the supporting document for old bank account as well as new bank account while submitting the request for change of bank mandate.

Important: The above documents should be either in original or copy to be submitted along with original produced for verification. In case if documents for the existing bank account are not available, kindly visit HSBC/CAMS office for In Person Verification along with PAN Card Copy/Photo Identification Proof for PAN Exempt cases. All documents to be self-attested. Kindly carry originals for adding a new bank.

For more details, refer to the Application Form.

# iii) Multiple Bank accounts

The unit holder/investor can register multiple bank account details under its existing folio by submitting separate form available on the website of the AMC at <a href="https://www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in">www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in</a>. Individuals/HUF can register upto 5 different bank accounts for a folio, whereas non-individuals can register upto 10 different bank accounts for a folio.

# Delay in payment of redemption/repurchase proceeds/dividend

# Delay in payment of redemption/repurchase proceeds

In the event of failure to dispatch/credit the redemption proceeds within 3 working days from the date of acceptance of redemption request, the Asset Management Company shall be liable to pay interest to the unitholders at such rate as may be specified by SEBI for the period of such delay (presently @15% per annum).

# Delay in payment of IDCW proceeds

As per para 11.4 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024, the AMC shall dispatch/credit payment of the IDCW proceeds within 7 working days from the record date. However, in the event of failure to despatch/credit the IDCW proceeds within the above time, interest @ 15% per annum or such rate as may be specified by SEBI, would be paid to the Unit holders for the period of delay from the stipulated period for the dispatch/payment of IDCW payments.

# Unclaimed Redemption and Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal Amount

In accordance with clause 14.3 of SEBI Master Circular dated, June 27, 2024, the unclaimed Redemption amount and IDCW amount shall be invested in the separate plan of HSBC Overnight Fund.

Unitholders shall note that in accordance with aforesaid clause of SEBI Master circular, HSBC Overnight Fund has four separate plans for the limited purpose of deploying the unclaimed redemption and dividend amounts. These plans are not available for regular investments/switches by investors. The investment objective, asset allocation pattern, investment strategy, risk factors and portfolio of these Plans are same as other existing plans of HSBC Overnight Fund. These plans will only have Growth option. Further, the Total Expense Ratio of these four plans will be capped, at 50 bps, as per extant SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996 and there will be no exit load charged, as required under the aforesaid circular.

Investors who claim these unclaimed IDCW and redemption amounts during a period of 3 years from the due date shall be paid initial unclaimed amount along with the income earned on its deployment.

Investors who claim these amounts after 3 years, shall be paid initial unclaimed amount along with the income earned on its deployment till the end of the third year. After the third year, the income earned on such unclaimed amounts shall be used for the purpose of investor education. AMC shall play a proactive role in tracing the rightful owner of the unclaimed amounts considering the steps suggested by regulator vide the referred circular. The list of names and address of unitholders in whose folios there are unclaimed amounts along with the process of claiming such unclaimed amounts are available on our website <a href="https://www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in">www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in</a>.

For further details refer to SAI.

# Disclosure w.r.t investment by minors

# Process for Investments made in the name of a Minor through a Guardian

As per SEBI circular dated, May 12, 2023, Payment for investment by any mode shall be accepted from the bank account of the minor, parent or legal guardian of the minor, or from a joint account of the minor with parent or legal guardian else the transaction is liable to get rejected.

Irrespective of the source of payment for subscription, all redemption proceeds shall be credited only in the verified bank account of the minor, i.e. the account the minor may hold with the parent/legal guardian after completing all KYC formalities.

Upon the minor attaining the status of major, the minor in whose name the investment was made, shall be required to provide all the KYC details, updated bank account details including cancelled original cheque leaf of the new account. No further transactions shall be allowed till the status of the minor is changed to major.

The above-mentioned provisions are prescribed by para 17.6 of SEBI Master Circular on Mutual Funds dated June 27, 2024 read with SEBI circular dated May 12, 2023.

Existing unit holders are requested to review the Bank Account registered in the folio and ensure that the registered Bank Mandate is in favour of minor or joint with registered guardian in folio. If the registered Bank Account is not in favour of minor or not joint with registered guardian, unit holders will be required to submit the change of bank mandate, where minor is also a bank account holder (either single or joint with registered guardian), before initiation any redemption transaction in the folio, else the transaction is liable to get rejected.

Unit holders are required to submit the supporting document for old bank account as well as new bank account while submitting the request for change of bank mandate.

Investors are requested to note that information will be obtained from CVL/SEBI appointed KRA (KYC Registration Agency) database and information in the AMC records will be overwritten. In the event of any discrepancy in the application on account of address or residence status, the application will be rejected and the money will be refunded upon confirmation from CVL/KRA database.

The Fund reserves the right to include/exclude new/existing categories of investors to invest in the Scheme from time to time, subject to SEBI Regulations and other prevailing statutory regulations, if any. Subject to the SEBI Regulations, any application for Units may be accepted or rejected in the sole and absolute discretion of the Board of Directors of Trustee Company. The Board of Directors of Trustee Company may inter-alia reject any application for the purchase of Units if the application is invalid or incomplete or if the Board of Directors of Trustee Company for any other reason does not believe that it would be in the best interest of the Scheme or its Unit holders to accept such an application.

# Any other disclosure in terms of Consolidated Checklist on Standard Observations

#### . Risk-o-meter

Based on the scheme characteristics, the Mutual Fund/AMC shall assign risk level for scheme. Any change in risk-o-meter shall be communicated by way of notice and by way of an e-mail or SMS to unitholders of the Scheme. Risk-o-meter shall be evaluated on a monthly basis and Mutual Funds/AMCs shall disclose the Risk-o-meter along with portfolio disclosure for all their schemes on their respective website and on AMFI website within 10 days from the close of each month. Mutual Funds shall disclose the risk level of schemes as on March 31 of every year, along with number of times the risk level has changed over the year, on their website and AMFI website. Mutual Funds shall publish the changes on the Risk-o-meter in the Annual Report and Abridged Summary based on the guidelines prescribed by SEBI from time to time. The AMC shall comply with the requirements of SEBI circulars/guidelines issued in this regard from time to time.

### ii. Scheme Summary Document

The AMC has provided on its website a standalone scheme document called 'Scheme Summary Document' for all the Schemes which contains all the details of the Scheme including but not limited to Scheme features, Fund Manager details, investment details, investment objective, expense ratios, portfolio details, etc. Scheme summary document is uploaded on the websites of AMC, AMFI and stock exchanges in 3 data formats i.e. PDF, Spreadsheet and a machine readable format.

#### iii. Creation of segregated portfolio

In order to ensure fair treatment to all clause 4.4 of Master Circular, as amended from time to time has allowed creation of segregated portfolio of debt and money market instruments by mutual fund schemes.

Segregated Portfolio may be created, in case of a Credit Event at issuer level i.e. downgrade in credit rating by a SEBI registered Credit Rating Agency (CRA). It is aimed at ring fencing a bad asset and restrict cascading effect of illiquidity on the rest of portfolio. This will ensure fair treatment to all investors in case of a Credit Event and allow HSBC AMC to deal with liquidity risk. Creation of segregated portfolio shall be optional and at the sole discretion of the AMC.

The AMC shall make necessary disclosures as mandated by SEBI, in statement of account, monthly/half yearly portfolio statements, KIM, SID, Scheme Advertisements, Scheme Performance data, AMC's website and at other places as may be specified. The NAV of the Segregated Portfolio shall be declared on daily basis.

For more details, refer SAI.

#### Other Disclosures

# i. Requirement of minimum investors in the schemes/plans of mutual funds

The Scheme/Plan (s) shall have a minimum of 20 investors and no single investor shall account for more than 25% of the corpus of the Scheme/Plan(s). However, if such limit is breached during the NFO of the Scheme, the Fund will endeavour to ensure that within a period of three months or the end of the succeeding calendar quarter from the close of the NFO of the Scheme, whichever is earlier, the Scheme complies with these two conditions. In case the Scheme/Plan(s) does not have a minimum of 20 investors in the stipulated period, the provisions of Regulation 39(2) (c) of the SEBI (MF) Regulations would become applicable automatically without any reference from SEBI and accordingly the Scheme/Plan(s) shall be wound up and the units would be redeemed at applicable NAV. The two conditions mentioned above shall also be complied within each subsequent calendar quarter thereafter, on an average basis, as specified by SEBI. If there is a breach of the 25% limit by any investor over the quarter, a rebalancing period of one month would be allowed and thereafter the investor who is in breach of the rule shall be given 15 days notice to redeem his exposure over the 25% limit. Failure on the part of said investor to redeem his exposure over the 25% limit within the aforesaid 15 days would lead to automatic redemption by the Mutual Fund on the applicable Net Asset Value on the 15th day of the notice period. The Fund shall adhere to the requirements prescribed by SEBI from time to time in this regard.

# ii. Compliance under FATCA

India has executed an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) with the U.S. and the Fund intends to take any measures that may be required to ensure compliance under the terms of the IGA and local implementing regulations. In order to comply with its FATCA obligations, the Fund will be required to obtain certain information from its investors so as to ascertain their U.S. tax status. If the investor is a specified U.S. person, U.S. owned non-U.S. entity, non-participating FFI ("NPFFI") or does not provide the requisite documentation, the Fund may need to report information on these investors to the appropriate tax authority, as far as legally permitted. If an investor or an intermediary through which it holds its interest in the Fund either fails to provide the Fund its agents or authorised representatives with any correct, complete and accurate information that may be required for the Fund to comply with FATCA or is a NPFFI, Fund may be required to provide information about payment to NPFFI to upstream payor to enable them to make the appropriate FATCA withholding on NPFFIs. Further, we may be compelled to sell its interest in the Fund or, in certain situations, the investor's interest in the Fund may be sold involuntarily. The Fund

may at its discretion enter into any supplemental agreement without the consent of investors to provide for any measures that the Fund deems appropriate or necessary to comply with FATCA, subject to this being legally permitted under the IGA or the Indian laws and regulations. FATCA is globally applicable from July 1, 2014 and in order to comply with FATCA obligations, the Fund will, seek additional information from investors while accepting applications, in order to ascertain their U.S. Person status. The Fund will not accept applications which are not accompanied with information/documentation required to establish the U.S. Person status of investors. Investors are therefore requested to ensure that the details provided under Section "Confirmation under Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) for determining US person status" of the application form are complete and accurate to avoid rejection of the application (updated forms are available with ISCs or on Fund's website – www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in). Investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding the FATCA requirements with respect to their own situation. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between any of these Terms and Conditions and those in any other service, product, business relationship, account or agreement between investor and HSBC, these terms shall prevail, to the extent permissible by applicable local law. If all or any part of the provisions of these Terms and Conditions become illegal, invalid or unenforceable in any respect under the law of any jurisdiction, that shall not affect or impair the legality, validity or enforceability of such provision in any other jurisdictions or the remainder of these Terms and Conditions in that jurisdiction. These Terms and Conditions shall continue to apply notwithstanding the death, bankruptcy or incapacity of the investor, the closure of any investor account, the termination of HSBC's provision of the Services to the investor or the redemption of the investor's investment in the Fund.

#### iii. Common Reporting Standards

India has joined the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement (MCAA) on automatic exchange of financial information in Tax Matters, commonly known as Common Reporting Standards ('CRS'). All countries which are signatories to the MCAA are obliged to exchange a wide range of financial information after collecting the same from financial institutions in their jurisdiction.

In accordance with Income Tax Act read with SEBI Circular nos. CIR/MIRSD/2/2015 dated August 26, 2015 and CIR/MIRSD/3/2015 dated September 10, 2015 regarding implementation of CRS requirements, it shall be mandatory for all new investors to provide details and declaration pertaining to CRS in the application form, failing which the AMC shall have authority to reject the application.

### iv. Compliance with Volcker Rule

The Volcker Rule is a part of the U.S. Dodd Frank Act which prohibits U.S. banks from proprietary trading and restricts investment in hedge funds and private equity by commercial banks and their affiliates. HSBC Holdings plc, is a U.S. regulated bank holding company and any entity (company, fund, trust, partnership etc.) located anywhere in the world, that is directly or indirectly controlled by the parent company is subject to the Volcker Rule. The Volcker Rule is effective from July 21, 2015. As part of HSBC's Volcker Conformance obligations, the Fund is required to implement a Compliance Programme to ensure on-going compliance with the Volcker Rule and the AMC must ensure that no HSBC affiliate (fund or business entity) invests in the Fund unless it has implemented necessary controls to ensure that the ownership limits, in line with the Volcker Rule, can be met. Hence, the Scheme may not be able to accept subscriptions from HSBC group entities into the Scheme, aggregating to more than 25% of the voting rights of the Scheme. In the event of the aggregate investment by HSBC group entities crossing the above limits, the AMC will have the discretion to reject any subscription/switch applications received or redeem any excess exposure by the group entities in the Scheme, to be in compliance with the Volcker Rule.

#### **Special Considerations**

(Please refer Statement of Additional Information (SAI) for more details) The AMC is also registered as a Portfolio Manager under the SEBI (Portfolio Managers) Regulations, 1993 vide registration no. INP000001322 and is deemed to be registered as such under SEBI (Portfolio Managers) Regulations, 2020. The AMC has proper systems and controls in place to ensure that there is no conflict of interest between the activity of managing the schemes of the Mutual Fund and the activity of Portfolio Management Services and there exist systems to prohibit access to insider information.

Further, an asset management company, subject to certain conditions, may also permitted to undertake activities in the nature of management and advisory services to pooled assets including off shore funds, insurance funds, pension funds, provident funds or such categories of foreign portfolio investor subject to such conditions as may be specified by SEBI from time to time, if any of such activities are not in conflict with the activities of the mutual fund. Accordingly, the AMC provides or may provide non-binding advisory services to offshore funds, through the fund managers managing the schemes of the Fund, as permitted under Regulation 24(b) of the Regulations. SEBI vide its email dated November 26, 2020 and letter dated March 20, 2024, accorded it's no objection to the AMC for providing such non-binding investment advisory services to offshore funds, which are appropriately regulated foreign portfolio investors, by the fund managers of the schemes of the Fund. The AMC has proper systems and controls in place to ensure that (a) there is no conflict of interest between the activities of managing the schemes of the Fund and other activities of the AMC; and (b) interest of the unit holders of the schemes of the Fund are protected at all times. In case of an unavoidable conflict of interest situation, the AMC shall make appropriate disclosures in an appropriate manner, which shall include the source of conflict, potential 'material risk or damage' to the Fund's investors' interests and detailed parameters for the same.

Further, SEBI vide letter dated May 3, 2024, has accorded it's no objection to the AMC to undertake Alternate Investment Funds activity under the SEBI (Alternate Investment Funds) Regulations, 2012. The AMC before the launch of Alternate Investment Funds activity shall ensure that it has proper systems and controls in place to ensure that there is no conflict of interest between the activity of managing the schemes of the Mutual Fund and the activity of Alternate Investment Funds and there exist systems to prohibit access to insider information.

# PART III- OTHER DETAILS

#### A. PERIODIC DISCLOSURES

# i. Half Yearly Portfolio Disclosures

The AMC shall disclose portfolio of the Scheme (along with ISIN and yield of the instruments) as on the last day of every half year, within 10 days of close of each half-year on its website and on the website of AMFI in a user-friendly and downloadable spreadsheet format.

Kindly refer (weblink - Half Yearly Portfolio) for half yearly portfolio disclosures.

#### ii. Half yearly Disclosures: Financial Results

The Fund shall within one month from the close of each half year, that is on 31st March and on 30th September, host a soft copy of its unaudited financial results on AMC's website, containing details as specified in Twelfth Schedule of the Regulations and such other details as are necessary for the purpose of providing a true and fair view of the operations of the Fund.

Kindly refer (weblink - Half yearly Results) for half yearly Financial Results.

# iii. Annual Report

A Scheme wise Annual Report/abridged summary thereof shall be provided to all Unitholders as soon as may be but not later than 4 months from 31 March of each year.

The abridged/full Scheme wise Annual Report shall contain such details as are required under the Regulations/Circulars issued thereafter.

The Fund shall provide the Scheme wise annual report/abridged summary thereof as under:

- (i) By hosting the same on the websites of the AMC and AMFI;
- (ii) The physical copy of the scheme wise annual report/abridged summary thereof shall be made available to the investors at the registered office of the AMC. A link of the scheme annual report or abridged summary shall be displayed prominently on the website of the Fund.
- (iii) By e-mailing the same to those Unit holders' whose e-mail address is registered with the Fund.

Unit holders are therefore requested to update their email address with the Fund to receive annual reports through email.

The AMC shall publish an advertisement every year disclosing the hosting of the scheme wise annual report on its website and on the website of AMFI. Such advertisement shall be published in the all India edition of at least two daily newspapers, one each in English and Hindi. Further, AMC shall provide modes such as SMS, telephone, email or written request (letter), etc. through which unitholders can submit a request for a physical or electronic copy of the scheme wise annual report or abridged summary thereof.

Kindly refer (weblink - Scheme Annual Report) for Annual report.

# B. TRANSPARENCY/NAV DISCLOSURE (DETAILS WITH REFERENCE TO INFORMATION GIVEN IN SECTION I)

This is the value per unit of the Scheme on a particular day. You can ascertain the value of your investments by multiplying the NAV with your unit balance.

NAVs will be calculated and disclosed on every Business Day. The Unit holders may obtain the information on NAV of the prescribed days by calling the office of the AMC or any of the Investor Service Centres or on the website of the AMC at <a href="https://www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in">www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in</a>. Further, AMC has extended the facility of sending latest available NAVs to unit holders through SMS, upon receiving a specific request for the same. For detailed process of receiving the latest NAV through SMS, please visit <a href="https://www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in">www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in</a>.

The AMC shall update the NAVs on the website of Association of Mutual Funds in India - AMFI (<a href="www.amfiindia.com">www.amfiindia.com</a>) and the Fund's website (<a href="www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in">www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in</a>) by 11.00 p.m. of every Business Day. However, the AMC will endeavour to update the NAVs on the above websites daily by 11:00 p.m. of every Business Day, in case of any delay, the reasons for such delay would be explained to AMFI by the next day. If the NAVs are not available before commencement of business hours on the following day due to any reason, the Fund shall issue a press release providing reasons and explaining when the Fund would be able to publish the NAVs.

The NAVs will be determined on every Business Day except under special circumstances specified in this SID.

The NAV of the Segregated Portfolio shall be declared on daily basis.

#### C. TRANSACTION CHARGES AND STAMP DUTY

### a. Transaction charges -

Transaction charges as follows will be deducted by the Fund, from the subscription received from investors and paid to distributors/agents who have opted to receive the transaction charge.

#### i. First Time Investor in Mutual Fund (across all Mutual Funds)

Transaction charge of Rs. 150/- per subscription of Rs. 10,000 and above will be deducted from the subscription amount and paid to the distributor/agent of the first time investor and the balance shall be invested in the relevant scheme opted by the investor.

# ii. Existing Investor in Mutual Fund

Transaction charge of Rs. 100/- per subscription of Rs. 10,000 and above will be deducted by the Fund from the subscription amount and paid to the distributor/agent of the investor and the balance shall be invested in the relevant scheme opted by the investor.

However, transaction charges in case of investments through SIP under (i) and (ii) above shall be deducted only if the total commitment (i.e. amount per SIP installment x No. of installments) amounts to Rs. 10,000/- or more. The transaction charge shall be deducted in 4 equal installments, starting from the 2nd installment to the 5th installment.

#### iii. Transaction charges shall not be deducted for :

- a. Purchases/subscriptions for an amount less than Rs. 10,000;
- b. Transactions other than purchases/subscriptions relating to new inflows such as Switch/STP/SWP etc.;
- c. Purchases/subscriptions made directly with the Fund without any ARN code i.e. not through any distributor/agent.
- d. Purchases/subscriptions carried out through the Stock Exchange Platform in demat mode.

The statement of account to unit holders will clearly provide details of the net investments as gross subscription amount less transaction charge and the number of units allotted against the net investment.

# b. Stamp duty -

With effect from July 1, 2020, investments in the mutual fund units would be subject to levy of stamp duty @0.005% of the amount invested. Further, stamp duty at the rate of 0.015% shall be applicable on the consideration amount stated in the transfer instrument for off market transfer of units held in demat mode as well as units held in physical mode. The rate and levy of stamp duty may vary as amended from time to time.

For more details on transaction charges and stamp duty, please refer to SAI.

# D. ASSOCIATE TRANSACTIONS

For details of Associate transactions including dealing with associate companies, Investors are advised to please refer Statement of Additional Information (SAI).

#### E. TAXATION

For details on taxation please refer to the clause on Taxation in the SAI apart from the following:

The information is provided for general information only. However, in view of the individual nature of the implications, each investor is advised to consult his or her own tax advisors/authorized dealers with respect to the specific amount of tax and other implications arising out of his or her participation in the Schemes.

### **Equity Oriented Fund**

Particulars	Investors	Mutual Fund	
Tax on income distribution	Income distributed would be taxable in the hands of unitholders as per	<b>Resident investor:</b> 10%** tax needs to be deducted on income distributed (not applicable to capital gain)	
	applicable slabs	<b>Non-Resident investor:</b> 20%** tax needs to be deducted in case of payment to NRI and non-Domestic company/Foreign Company	
Capital Gain Tax:			
1) Long Term	10%** (12.5% w.e.f. 23 July 2024)	Resident investor: Nil	
		Non-Resident Indian and Non- Domestic company/Foreign company: TDS at the rate of 10%**@ (12.5% w.e.f. 23 July 2024)	
2) Short Term	15%** (20% w.e.f. 23 July 2024)	Resident investor: No TDS	
		<b>NRI</b> and non-Domestic company/Foreign company: TDS at the rate of 15%**@ (20% w.e.f. 23 July 2024)	

A fund shall be treated as equity oriented mutual fund where the investible funds are invested by way of equity shares in domestic companies to the extent of more than sixty-five per cent of the total proceeds of such fund.

- \*\* The above rates need to be increased by applicable surcharge and health & education cess.
- @ Non-resident investors may be eligible for treaty benefit depending upon the facts of the case. The same has not been captured above.

# **GOODS AND SERVICE TAX**

Goods and Service tax ("GST") on investment and advisory fees shall be charged to the Scheme in addition to the maximum limit of total recurring expenses as permitted under regulation 52 (6) and 52 (6A) of the Regulations. GST on any other fees/expenses shall be borne by the Scheme within the overall limit of the TER. GST shall be levied on the Investment Management & Advisory Fee at the then prevailing GST rate, as per the Taxation Laws in force.

GST on exit load, if any, shall be paid out of exit load proceeds and exit load net of GST, if any, shall be credited to the Scheme. GST on brokerage and transaction cost paid for execution of trade, if any, shall be within the limits prescribed under Regulation 52 of SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations.

### F. RIGHTS OF UNITHOLDERS

Please refer to SAI for details.

# G. LIST OF OFFICIAL POINTS OF ACCEPTANCE

Please check weblink for an updated list of the Official Points of Acceptance of HSBC Mutual Fund. For details on CAMS Service Centres,

Please check weblink (<u>List of Official Point of Acceptance (OPA)</u>, <u>Collection Bankers etc.</u>) for an updated list of the Official Points of Acceptance, collecting banker of HSBC Mutual Fund.

# H. PENALTIES, PENDING LITIGATION OR PROCEEDINGS, FINDINGS OF INSPECTIONS OR INVESTIGATIONS FOR WHICH ACTION MAY HAVE BEEN TAKEN OR IS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING TAKEN BY ANY REGULATORY AUTHORITY

- 1. All disclosures regarding penalties and action(s) taken against foreign Sponsor(s) may be limited to the jurisdiction of the country where the principal activities (in terms of income/revenue) of the Sponsor(s) are carried out or where the headquarters of the Sponsor(s) is situated. Further, monetary penalties exceeding INR 5 Lakhs during the last five years shall be disclosed.
  - The Sponsor of the Mutual Fund is HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Limited (HSCI), a company incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956. The Sponsor being an Indian entity, this section is not applicable. Please refer below point.
- 2. In case of Indian Sponsor(s), details of monetary penalties exceeding INR 5 Lakhs imposed and / or action taken during the last five years or pending with any financial regulatory body or governmental authority, against Sponsor(s) and / or the AMC and / or the Board of Trustees / Trustee Company; for irregularities or for violations in the financial services sector, or for defaults with respect to shareholders or debenture holders and depositors, or for economic offences, or for violation of securities law. Details of settlement, if any, arrived at with the aforesaid authorities during the last five years shall also be disclosed.
  - SEBI had issued a Show Cause Notice dated August 04, 2023 to the AMC & members of Trustees as on that date (hereinafter referred to as "Said Trustees"), alleging violation of Regulation 18(9) of Regulations by the Said Trustees & violation of Clause 5 of the Fifth schedule of Mutual Fund Regulations and Clause 1.3.1 (c) of the SEBI Circular No. SEBI/HO/IMD/DF2/CIR/P/2021/683 dated December 10, 2021 by the AMC. The AMC & the Said Trustees have settled the matter with SEBI under SEBI (Settlement Proceedings) Regulations, 2018, and SEBI vide its settlement order dated May 27, 2024 has disposed of the adjudication proceedings initiated vide Show Cause Notice dated August 04, 2023.
- 3. Details of all enforcement actions taken by SEBI in the last five years and / or pending with SEBI for the violation of SEBI Act, 1992 and Rules and Regulations framed there under including debarment and / or suspension and / or cancellation and / or imposition of monetary penalty exceeding INR 5 Lakhs / adjudication / enquiry proceedings, if any, to which the Sponsor(s) and / or the AMC and / or the Board of Trustees / Trustee Company and / or any of the directors and / or key personnel (especially the fund managers) of the AMC and Trustee Company were / are a party. The details of the violation shall also be disclosed.
  - The AMC had acquired the entire share capital of L&T Investment Management Limited ("L&T AMC"), the asset management company of erstwhile L&T Mutual Fund, on 25 November 2022 and L&T AMC was subsequently merged into the AMC. Pursuant to the SEBI Inspection of L&T AMC for the period April 01, 2019 to March 31, 2021, SEBI had issued Show Cause Notice (SCN) dated March 20, 2023 & Supplementary SCN dated June 16, 2023 alleging L&T AMC of not complying with SEBI circular No. MFD/CIR/6/73/2000 dated July 27, 2000, Regulation 25(2) and Clause 9 of Fifth Schedule-Part A of SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996. Adjudicating Officer (AO) of SEBI vide its order dated August 23, 2023, had disposed of the said SCNs without imposing any penalty. Subsequently, SEBI issued a SCN dated Nov 06, 2023 under Section 15-I(3) of SEBI Act, 1992 calling upon the AMC to show cause as to why the AO order dated Aug 23, 2023 should not be revised under Section 15-I(3) of SEBI Act, 1992. SEBI on July 25, 2024 issued

an adjudication order imposing penalty of INR 5 Lakhs on the AMC under section 15HB of the SEBI Act, 1992. The penalty was paid by the AMC within the stipulated timelines.

- 4. Any pending material civil or criminal litigation incidental to the business of the Mutual Fund to which the Sponsor(s) and/or the AMC and/or the Board of Trustees/Trustee Company and/or any of the directors and/or key personnel are a party should also be disclosed separately.
  - Garnishee Notice from Income Tax Authorities:
    - During the financial year 2011-12, an Income tax demand of Rs. 32.58 crores was purported to be recovered under garnishee proceedings, by Income Tax Authorities in respect of investments made in Pass through Certificates (PTC) by some of the debt schemes (including matured schemes) of HSBC Mutual Fund (HSBC MF), for A.Y. 2009-2010. The said demand, impacting various mutual fund players in the industry, raised originally on the trusts sponsored by IL&FS Trust Company Ltd., (Appellants) was sought to be also recovered u/s 177(3) of the Income Tax Act, from HSBC MF. Similar to AY 2009-10, HSBC MF had received a demand notice from the Income Tax authorities for AY 2010-11 for Rs. 6.95 crores. Further, assessment for the A.Y. 2007-2008 was also been reopened by the Income Tax Authorities and demand of Rs. 2.04 Crores was made on the trust sponsored by IL&FS Trust Company Ltd. HSBC MF has not received any demand notice from the Income Tax authorities for this assessment year. Against all the above demands, an appeal was filed by the Appellant with the first Appellate Authority CIT(A) and thereafter with ITAT. The matter of several Loan Trusts were consolidated and heard by ITAT and vide order dated 17th February 2017, the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) passed an order allowing the appeal of the assessee and dismissed the appeal of the Revenue. The Department filed Miscellaneous Applications (MA) under section 254(2) of the Income Tax Act with ITAT against the favorable orders passed by ITAT on the ground that the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal has failed to consider all aspects of revenue contentions / appeal. The ITAT has vide its order dated March 25th 2022 dismissed the MA filed by department. An appeal filed by Revenue in the High court against the aforesaid order of February 2017 is pending before High Court.
  - The AMC had acquired the entire share capital of L&T Investment Management Limited ("L&T AMC"), the asset management company of erstwhile L&T Mutual Fund, on 25th November 2022 and L&T AMC was subsequently merged into the AMC. On 02nd August 2024, Directorate General of Goods & Services Tax Intelligence has issued a Show Cause Notice (SCN) to the AMC in a matter related to claiming of Input Tax Credit on distributor commission pertaining to mutual fund schemes by L&T AMC for the period July 2017 to Oct. 2018. The AMC has responded to the SCN, and the proceedings are in progress with the authorities.
- 5. Any deficiency in the systems and operations of the Sponsor(s) and / or the AMC and / or the Board of Trustees / Trustee Company which SEBI has specifically advised to be disclosed in the SID, or which has been notified by any other regulatory agency, shall be disclosed.

There are no deficiencies in the systems and operations of the Sponsor of the Mutual Fund and / or the AMC and / or the Board of Trustees which SEBI has specifically advised to be disclosed in the SID, or which has been notified by any other regulatory agency to be disclosed in SID.

The above information has been disclosed in good faith as per the information available to the AMC.

Please refer to the weblink (<u>Penalties and related disclosures</u>) for updated details of pending litigations.

Notwithstanding anything contained in this SID, the provisions of the SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996 and the guidelines there under shall be applicable.

**Notes:** Any amendments/replacement/re-enactment of SEBI (MF) Regulations subsequent to the date of this SID shall prevail over those specified in this SID.

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# OFFICIAL POINTS OF ACCEPTANCE OF TRANSACTION REQUESTS

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

# **HSBC** Asset Management (India) Private Limited

CIN NO: U74140MH2001PTC134220

9-11 Floors, NESCO IT Park, Building No. 3, Western Express Highway, Goregaon (East), Mumbai 400 063, India

Website: www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in

Description	Investor related queries	Distributor related queries	Online related queries	Investor (Dialing from abroad)
Toll Free Number	1800-4190-200/1800-200-2434	1800-419-9800	1800-4190-200/1800-200-2434	+91 44 39923900
Email ID	investor.line@mutualfunds.hsbc.co.in	partner.line@mutualfunds.hsbc.co.in	onlinemf@mutualfunds.hsbc.co.in	investor.line@mutualfunds.hsbc.co.in

To get your updated account statement email us at : "mfsoa@mutualfunds.hsbc.co.in"

We're always here to help you, so feel free to reach out to us

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Please check our website www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in for an updated list of Official Points of Acceptance of HSBC Mutual Fund. CAMS SERVICE CENTRES/CAMS LIMITED TRANSACTION POINTS/CAMS COLLECTION CENTRES

For details on CAMS Service Centres, please visit www.camsonline.com



# **HSBC** Asset Management (India) Private Limited

CIN: U74140MH2001PTC134220

Registered Office: 9-11 Floors, NESCO IT Park, Building No. 3, Western Express Highway, Goregaon (East), Mumbai 400 063, India

**Toll Free Numbers**: 1800-4190-200/1800-200-2434 (within India)

Fax: 022-49146033

 $\label{lem:mail_continuous} \begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Email IDs}: investor.line@mutualfunds.hsbc.co.in \\ \begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Website}: www.assetmanagement.hsbc.co.in \\ \end{tabular}$