(Funds with AUM of more than ₹125 crores as on 31st October 2013)

IN THIS POLICY, THE INVESTMENT RISK IN INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO IS BORNE BY THE POLICYHOLDER.

Investment Report

The month of October 2013 saw the benchmark indices; BSE Sensex and CNX Nifty surge 9.21% and 9.83% respectively, even as the Mid-cap index, CNX Mid-cap gained 7.67% during the same period.

Equity Funds

Equity Fund (ULIF 001 04/02/04 TEL 110)

| Fund Details | | Fund | Perfo | rmance | • | | Asset Allocation |
|---|--|-----------|---------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Investment Objective : The primary investment objective of the Fund is to generate long term capital appreciation from a portfolio that is invested predominantly in equity and equity linked | PERIOD | DATE | NAV | BSE Sensex | NAV Change | INDEX Change | |
| securities. | Last 6 Months | 30-Apr-13 | 33.9478 | 19504.18 | 9.57% | 8.51% | |
| | Last 1 Year | 31-Oct-12 | 32.0204 | 18505.38 | 16.17% | 14.37% | 1 |
| NAV as on 31 Oct, 13 : ₹37.1965 | Last 2 Years | 31-Oct-11 | 30.6328 | 17705.01 | 10.19% | 9.33% | C |
| Benchmark : BSE Sensex - 100% | Last 3 Years | 29-Oct-10 | 35.6801 | 20032.34 | 1.40% | 1.85% | 20.100 |
| | Last 4 Years | 30-Oct-09 | 27.8780 | 15896.28 | 7.48% | 7.42% | 98.15% |
| Corpus as on 31 Oct, 13 : ₹2,313.87 Crs. | Last 5 Years | 31-Oct-08 | 17.9120 | 9788.06 | 15.74% | 16.68% | |
| | Since Inception | 02-Mar-04 | 10.0000 | 5823.17 | 14.55% | 14.27% | |
| | Note : The investment and returns above "1 | | | | ll as up. "Sind | ce Inception" | ■Equity ■Unit Funds ■Cash Bank 8 |

Cash Bank & Others

Whole Life Mid-Cap Equity Fund (ULIF 009 04/01/07 WLE 110)

| Fund Details | | Fund | Perfo | rmance | • | | Asset Allocation |
|---|---|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Investment Objective : The primary investment objective of the Fund is to generate long term capital appreciation from a portfolio that is invested predominantly in Mid Cap Equity and Mid | PERIOD | DATE | NAV | NSE CNX MIDCAP | NAV Change | INDEX Change | |
| Cap Equity linked securities. | Last 6 Months Last 1 Year | 30-Apr-13 31-Oct-12 | 15.2880 14.5770 | 7818.60 7763.05 | 5.04% 10.16% | -3.63% -2.94% | 3.62% |
| NAV as on 31 Oct, 13 : ₹16.0585 Benchmark : NSE CNX MIDCAP-100% | Last 2 Years Last 3 Years | 31-Oct-11 29-Oct-10 | 12.8984 15.2196 | 7267.15 9360.70 | 11.58% 1.80% | 1.82% -6.98% | 1.20% |
| Benchmark : NSE CNX MIDCAP-100% Corpus as on 31 Oct, 13 : ₹1,603.38 Crs. | Last 4 Years Last 5 Years | 30-Oct-09 31-Oct-08 | 10.9220 6.5950 | 6579.80 3506.40 | 10.12% 19.48% | 3.45% 16.53% | 95.19% |
| | Since Inception Note: The investmen and returns above "1 | | | | 7.20% Il as up. "Sino | 5.72% ce Inception" | ■Equity ■Unit Funds Cash Bank & Others |

Large Cap Equity Fund (ULIF 017 07/01/08 TLC 110)

| Fund Details | | Fund | Perfo | rmance |) | | Asset Allocation |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Investment Objective : The primary investment objective of the Fund is to generate long term capital appreciation from a portfolio that is invested predominantly in equity and equity linked | PERIOD | DATE | NAV | CNX Nifty | NAV Change | INDEX Change | |
| securities. | Last 6 Months Last 1 Year | 30-Apr-13 31-Oct-12 | 12.0030 11.3347 | 5930.20 5619.70 | 8.79% 15.20% | 6.22% 12.09% | 3,55% |
| Panahmark : CNV Niffy 1009/ | Last 2 Years Last 3 Years Last 4 Years | 31-Oct-11 29-Oct-10 30-Oct-09 | 10.4694 11.7967 9.1960 | 5326.60 6017.70 4711.70 | 11.68% 3.44% 9.16% | 8.75% 1.54% 7.53% | 96.53% |
| Corpus as on 31 Oct, 13 : ₹983.00 Crs. | Last 5 Years Since Inception | 31-Oct-08 07-Jan-08 | 5.9480 10.0000 | 2885.60 6279.10 | 17.03% 4.69% | 16.90% 0.05% | |
| | Note : The investment and returns above "1 | | | | II as up. "Sind | ce Inception" | ■ Equity ■ Unit Funds ■ Cash Bank & Others |

Future Equity Pension Fund (ULIF 020 04/02/08 FEP 110)

| Fund Details | | Fund | Perfo | rmance |) | | Asset Allocation |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Investment Objective : The primary investment objective of the Fund is to generate long term capital appreciation from a portfolio that is invested predominantly in equity and equity linked | PERIOD | DATE | NAV | CNX Nifty | NAV Change | INDEX Change | |
| securities. | Last 6 Months Last 1 Year Last 2 Years | 30-Apr-13 31-Oct-12 31-Oct-11 | 13.1776 12.5553 11.9121 | 5930.20 5619.70 5326.60 | 7.96% 13.31% 9.28% | 6.22% 12.09% 8.75% | 3.49% |
| NAV as on 31 Oct, 13 : ₹14.2262 Benchmark : CNX Nifty-100% Corpus as on 31 Oct, 13 : ₹226.83 Crs. | Last 3 Years Last 4 Years | 29-Oct-10 30-Oct-09 | 13.5248 10.4310 | 6017.70 4711.70 | 1.70% 8.07% | 1.54% 7.53% | 96.39% |
| | Last 5 Years Since Inception Note: The investment | 31-Oct-08 04-Feb-08 | 6.5910 10.0000 | 2885.60 5463.50 | 16.63% 6.33% | 16.90% 2.51% | |
| | and returns above "1 | | | | пазар. Опіс | o moophon | ■Equity ■Unit Funds ■Cash Bank & Others |

Select Equity Fund (ULIF 024 06/10/08 TSE 110)

| Fund Details | | Fu | nd Pei | formance | | | Asset Allocation |
|---|--|-----------|---------|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--|
| Investment Objective : The primary investment objective of the fund is to provide income distribution over a period of medium to long term while at all times emphasizing the importance of capital | PERIOD | DATE | NAV | CNX India 500 Shariah Index | NAV Change | INDEX Change | |
| appreciation. The fund will invest significant amount in equity | | 30-Apr-13 | 18.7887 | 1330.22 | 11.48% | 13.41% | |
| and equity linked instruments specifically excluding companies | | 31-Oct-12 | 18.2272 | 1295.54 | 14.92% | 16.45% | |
| predominantly dealing in Gambling, Lotteries/Contests, Animal | Last 2 Years | 31-Oct-11 | 17.1120 | 1256.78 | 10.64% | 9.56% | |
| | Last 3 Years | 29-Oct-10 | 18.5533 | 1408.93 | 4.13% | 2.31% | 97.67% |
| Banks and Financial Institutions. | Last 4 Years | 30-Oct-09 | 14.4660 | 1132.92 | 9.70% | 7.42% | |
| | Last 5 Years | 31-Oct-08 | 10.0170 | 684.97 | 15.90% | 17.11% | |
| NAV as on 31 Oct, 13 : ₹20.9464 | Since Inception | 06-Oct-08 | 10.0000 | 844.46 | 15.70% | 12.12% | 2.33% |
| Benchmark : CNX India 500 Shariah Index - 100% | Note: The investment income and prices may go down as well as up. "Since Inception" and returns above "1 Year" are calculated as per CAGR. | | | | | | ■Equity ■Cash Bank & Others (Non Interest Bearing) |
| Corpus as on 31 Oct, 13 : ₹223.76 Crs. | | | | | | | |



(Funds with AUM of more than ₹125 crores as on 31st October 2013)

PERIOD

Last 2 Years

Last 3 Years Last 4 Years

Super Select Equity Fund (ULIF 035 16/10/09 TSS 110)

Investment Objective : The primary investment objective of the fund is to provide income distribution over a period of medium to long term while at all times emphasizing the importance of

capital appreciation

NAV as on 31 Oct, 13

Corpus as on 31 Oct, 13

: ₹13.6602

Benchmark

: CNX India 500 Shariah : ₹616.15 Crs.

Fund Performance PERIOD CNX India 500

| | | | Shariah Index | Change | Change |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------|--------|
| Last 6 Months | 30-Apr-13 | 12.2141 | 1330.22 | 11.84% | 13.41% |
| Last 1 Year | 31-Oct-12 | 11.8568 | 1295.54 | 15.21% | 16.45% |
| Last 2 Years | 31-Oct-11 | 11.2286 | 1256.78 | 10.30% | 9.56% |
| Last 3 Years | 29-Oct-10 | 12.0903 | 1408.93 | 4.15% | 2.31% |
| Last 4 Years | 30-Oct-09 | 10.0380 | 1132.92 | 8.01% | 7.42% |
| Since Inception | 16-Oct-09 | 10.0000 | 1217.76 | 8.02% | 5.44% |
| Made . The large star | : | | | ((C:! | |

Note: The investment income and prices may go do returns above "1 Year" are calculated as per CAGR.



INDEX

Top 200 Fund (ULIF 027 12/01/09 ITT 110)

Fund Details Investment Objective : The Top 200 fund will invest primarily in select stocks and equity linked instruments which are a part of BSE 200 Index with a focus on generating long term capital appreciation. The fund will not replicate the index but aim to attain performance better than the performance of the Index. As a defensive strategy arising out of market conditions, the scheme may also invest in debt and money market instruments.

NAV as on 31 Oct. 13 : ₹20.9344 : BSE 200 - 100% Corpus as on 31 Oct. 13 : ₹174.44 Crs.

Fund Performance NAV **BSE 200** DATE NAV INDEX Change 30-Apr-13 19.9372 2388.98 5.00% 4.25% 31-Oct-12 19.0705 9.77% 9.42% 2276.15 31-Oct-11 8.12% 7.49% 29-Oct-10 20.4406 2541.85 0.80% -0.68% 30-Oct-09 15 8400 1962 88 7 22% 6.13%

Since Inception 12-Jan-09 10,0000 1091.37 16.63% 18.74% Note: The investment income and prices may go down as v returns above "1 Year" are calculated as per CAGR.



Balanced Funds

Aggressive Growth Fund (ULIF 006 01/07/06 TAL 110)

Fund Details Fund Performance

: The primary investment objective of PERIOD **Investment Objective** the fund is to maximize the returns wi

NAV as on 31 Oct. 13 Benchmark

₹17 BSE

Inde Corpus as on 31 Oct, 13 ₹24

| itii iiledidiii to iilgii iisk. | | | | Change | Change |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------|--------|--------|
| 7.7882 | Last 6 Months | 30-Apr-13 | 17.0625 | 4.25% | 5.22% |
| E Sensex - 65%. | Last 1 Year | 31-Oct-12 | 16.2661 | 9.36% | 11.05% |
| ISIL Composite Bond | Last 2 Years | 31-Oct-11 | 15.3088 | 7.79% | 8.62% |
| ex - 35% | Last 3 Years | 29-Oct-10 | 16.8974 | 1.73% | 3.59% |
| | Last 4 Years | 30-Oct-09 | 13.9270 | 6.31% | 7.07% |
| 9.57 Crs. | Last 5 Years | 31-Oct-08 | 9.7650 | 12.74% | 13.33% |
| | Since Inception | 01-Jul-06 | 10.0000 | 8.16% | 8.64% |

7 07% 13.33% 8.64% Note: The investment income and prices may go down as well as up. "Since Inception" a returns above "1 Year" are calculated as per CAGR.

Cash Bank & Others



Whole Life Aggressive Growth Fund (ULIF 010 04/01/07 WLA 110)

Fund Details Investment Objective : The primary investment objective of

the fund is to maximize the returns with medium to high risk.

NAV as on 31 Oct, 13 Benchmark

₹17.1737 Nifty - 65%

CRISIL Composite Bond Index -35%

Corpus as on 31 Oct, 13 : ₹373.86 Crs.

| PERIOD | DATE | NAV | NAV Change | INDEX Change | | |
|--|-----------|---------|---------------|-----------------|--|--|
| Last 6 Months | 30-Apr-13 | 16.4064 | 4.68% | 3.73% | | |
| Last 1 Year | 31-Oct-12 | 15.5280 | 10.60% | 9.57% | | |
| Last 2 Years | 31-Oct-11 | 14.3471 | 9.41% | 8.23% | | |
| Last 3 Years | 29-Oct-10 | 15.4002 | 3.70% | 3.38% | | |
| Last 4 Years | 30-Oct-09 | 12.6020 | 8.05% | 7.14% | | |
| Last 5 Years | 31-Oct-08 | 8.8920 | 14.07% | 13.47% | | |
| Since Inception | 08-Jan-07 | 10.0000 | 8.26% | 6.90% | | |
| Note: The investment income and prices may go down as well as up. "Since Inception" and returns above "1 Year" are calculated as per CAGR. | | | | | | |

Fund Performance



Growth Fund (ULIF 004 04/02/04 TGL 110)

Fund Details

Investment Objective : The primary investment objective of the fund is to maximize the returns with medium to high risk.

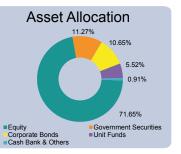
NAV as on 31 Oct, 13

₹28.4829 BSE Sensex - 65% CRISIL Composite Bond

Corpus as on 31 Oct, 13 : ₹129.31 Crs.

| PERIOD | DATE | NAV | NAV Change | INDEX Change | | | |
|--|-----------|---------|---------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| Last 6 Months | 30-Apr-13 | 26.9674 | 5.62% | 5.22% | | | |
| Last 1 Year | 31-Oct-12 | 25.5318 | 11.56% | 11.05% | | | |
| Last 2 Years | 31-Oct-11 | 24.0072 | 8.92% | 8.62% | | | |
| Last 3 Years | 29-Oct-10 | 26.6466 | 2.25% | 3.59% | | | |
| Last 4 Years | 30-Oct-09 | 22.4250 | 6.16% | 7.07% | | | |
| Last 5 Years | 31-Oct-08 | 16.1640 | 12.00% | 13.33% | | | |
| Since Inception | 02-Mar-04 | 10.0000 | 11.43% | 11.17% | | | |
| Note: The investment income and prices may go down as well as up. "Since Inception" and returns above "1 Year" are calculated as per CAGR. | | | | | | | |

Fund Performance





(Funds with AUM of more than ₹125 crores as on 31st October 2013)

Fixed Income Funds

Whole Life Income Fund (ULIF 012 04/01/07 WLI 110)



Guaranteed NAV Funds

The fund would be predominantly invested in equity at inception, wherein the dynamic asset allocation mechanism allocates the portfolio between equity and debt. This dynamic asset allocation is based on the performance of equity markets and movements in interest rates. The equity allocation may be reallocated to debt if the equity markets or interest rates fall, to safeguard the guarantee.

Overtime, the asset mix will predominantly shift to debt to protect the guarantee. This dynamic asset allocation process will drive the returns generated by the Apex Return Lock-in Fund. The dynamic asset allocation shifts the allocation of the fund from an equity bias to a debt bias, overtime. This would mean that the Guaranteed NAV would not mimic the highest level of the equity market, over the period the guarantee is applicable. Any unexpected and sharp falls in equity market and/or interestrates, during the period the guarantee is applicable, may trigger the allocation to completely move towards debt, to protect the highest NAV achieved prior to the fall. Overall, it is an ideal fund for an investor who wants to take advantage of high returns in a positive market scenario while safe-guarding the investment during any downturn.

APEX Return Lock-In Fund (ULIF 032 18/02/09 ARL 110)

Fund Details Fund Performance Asset Allocation Investment Objective : The investment objective for Apex Return Lock-in Fund is to use the participation in an actively managed well diversified equity portfolio of large cap companies to generate capital appreciation and use high credit quality debt Last 6 Months 42.43% 30-Apr-13 13.0136 4.40% instruments to lock-in that capital appreciation. The initial asset allocation in equities is targeted at 80% to 100%. Last 1 Year 31-Oct-12 12.2975 10.48% 3 29% 9.16% Last 2 Year 31-Oct-11 11.4018 The highest NAV recorded Last 3 Year 29-Oct-10 12 3896 3 12% on reset date ₹13 2732 Last 4 Year 30-Oct-09 10.3040 7.16% Corpus as on 31 Oct, 13 Since Inception 10-Jun-09 10.0000 7.22% Note: The investment income and prices may go down as well as up. "Since Incerand returns above "1 Year" are calculated as per CAGR. ■Equity ■Corporate Bonds ■Cash Bank & Others

APEX Return Lock-In Fund II (ULIF 033 03/08/09 AR2 110)

Fund Details Fund Performance Asset Allocation Investment Objective : The investment objective for Apex NAV Return Lock-in Fund II is to use the participation in an actively 39.42% managed well diversified equity portfolio of large cap companies to generate capital appreciation and use high credit quality debt Last 6 Months 30-Apr-13 12.1877 4.82% instruments to lock-in that capital appreciation. The initial asset Last 1 Year 31-Oct-12 11.4997 11.09% allocation in equities is targeted at 80% to 100% Last 2 Year 31-Oct-11 10 6737 9 40% 29-Oct-10 3.59% The highest NAV recorded : Last 3 Year 11.4930 6.35% on reset date 10-Nov-09 10.0000 Since Inception Note: The investment inco 56.53% Corpus as on 31 Oct, 13 ₹237.67 Crs. ■ Equity ■ Corporate Bonds ■ Cash Bank & Others

Apex Plus Return Lock-in-Fund (ULIF 047 01/02/10 RA1 110)

| TIPOX TIGOT TOTAL (OLII 047 01102/10 (AT 1110) | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| Fund Details | Fund Performance | | | Asset Allocation | | | | |
| Investment Objective : The investment objective for Apex Plus Return Lock-in Fund is to use the participation in an actively managed well diversified equity portfolio of large cap companies | PERIOD | DATE | NAV | NAV Change | 33.45% | | | |
| to generate capital appreciation and use high credit quality debt instruments to lock-in that capital appreciation. The initial asset allocation in equities is targeted at 80% to 100%. | Last 6 Months | 30-Apr-13 31-Oct-12 31-Oct-11 | 11.7489 11.0879 10.3538 | 5.02% 11.28% 9.16% | 1.72% | | | |
| The highest NAV recorded : on reset date ₹12.0096 | Last 3 Year Since Inception | 29-Oct-10 10-May-10 | 11.4038 10.0000 | 2.66% 6.23% | | | | |
| | Note: The investment and returns above "1 | | up. "Since Inception" | 64.83% Equity Corporate Bonds Cash Bank & Others | | | | |
| | | | | | = Equity = Corporate Borius = Cash Bank & Others | | | |

Equity Outlook

he month of October 2013 saw the benchmark indices; BSE Sensex and CNX Nifty surge 9.21% and 9.83% respectively, even as the Mid-cap index, CNX Mid-cap gained 7.67% during the same period

FIIs were net buyers with inflows of around USD 2.5 billion in October 2013 even as the DIIs were net sellers to the tune of around USD 2.6 billion, with Insurance companies' net sellers of around USD 0.6 billion over the month. In the ten months of the calendar year 2013, the FIIs have been net buyers to the tune of USD 16.1 billion with the DIIs net sellers to the tune of USD 10.9 billion, Insurance companies and mutual funds selling Indian equities to the tune of USD 7.5 billion and USD 3.4 billion respectively. After 3 consecutive quarters of new life-time highs, FII holding as of September 2013 declined marginally by 20 bps quarter on quarter to 21.3%.

Consensus earnings estimates for the broad market (MSCI India) were revised up by 0.9% and 1.2% for FY14 (E) and FY 15(E) respectively over the month. The market consensus stands at an earnings growth of 10% and 17% for FY14 (E) and FY15 (E) respectively.

The second quarter earnings season has been better than expected thus far with nearly two-thirds of the companies delivering in-line or better than expected results. In general, Banks, Telecom, Consumer Discretionary and IT companies have by and large reported results above expectations while the results of most Cement, Real Estate and Capital Goods companies have disappointed.



(Funds with AUM of more than ₹125 crores as on 31st October 2013)

The recovery in the Indian economy is still to get underway as reflected by the manufacturing PMI below the 50 mark, still in contraction zone. Output and new orders weakened further due to poor domestic demand and power shortages even as the new export orders rose. Activity and new business flows in services continued to contract, albeit at a less severe rate as compared to the prior month.

The RBI has been keen on fast tracking new bank licenses, facilitating branch expansion, introducing transparent regulation of foreign banks through the subsidiary route and improving asset quality of the banking system by focusing on strengthening the NPL recovery. The RBIs liquidity easing policy action of moving to normal corridor of MSF as well as increasing term repo limit to 50bps of NDTL from 25bps will be beneficial for the banking system in general and wholesale funded banks and NBFCs in particular as their cost of funds would nudge down.

There are some enabling policy measures to revive the power sector such as approval of compensatory tariffs and fresh bidding norms. In the road space, a determined effort is under way to tackle the key issues of project viability resulting from aggressive bidding and clearance delays. The government is expected to guarantee 80% of required land for road developers while awarding the projects to minimize delays in land acquisition.

The Cabinet Committee on Investments (CCI) has been successful in expediting clearances of key infrastructure projects and the newly set up Project Monitoring Group (PMG) is focused on time-bound clearances and coordination between various government agencies.

Standard & Poor's (S&P) has provided some respite by stating that they could wait till after the general elections before deciding on the negative outlook on the country. S&P states that the negative outlook indicates that they could lower the rating to speculative grade next year if the government that takes office after the general election does not appear capable of reversing India's low economic growth. Barring an unexpected deterioration of the fiscal or external accounts before the election, they expect to review the rating on India after the next general elections when the new government has announced its policy agenda. If they believe that the agenda can restore some of India's lost growth potential, consolidate its fiscal accounts, and permit the conduct of an effective monetary policy, they may revise the outlook to stable. If, however, they see continued policy drift, they may lower the rating within a year.

The Indian equity market offers the comfort of reasonable valuations. We believe that the Indian equities offer an attractive entry point for a long term investor with a 3-5 year view.

Debt Outlook

October 2013 saw the 10 year Government securities (G-sec) ease by around 15 bps to close the month at 8.62% levels. The yields of the 30 year G-sec over the 10 year G-sec was at 45 bps in October 2013 as against 53 bps in the prior month.

The corporate bonds rallied during October 2013 to close the month at around 9.53% levels in the 10 year bonds, 20 bps lower than the September 2013 levels of 9.73%. As a consequence, the corporate bond spread over the erstwhile benchmark 10 year G-sec stood at around 80 bps in October 2013, contracting from 85 bps in the prior month.

In its second quarter monetary policy, the RBI increased Repo rate by 25bps to 7.75% even as it lowered the MSF Rate by 25bps to 8.75%. This restored the LAF corridor to 100bps from the elevated 300 bps; post the extraordinary liquidity tightening measures, signaling a shift back to a "normal" monetary policy. The RBI tried to bring down the bank funding costs by increasing the liquidity support on the term repo window by an additional 25bps of NDTL, thereby making another INR200billion available to banks at prevailing auction rates. This would ease cost of funds for banks as it would substitute a part of MSF borrowing by term Repo whose market rate expected to settle below the MSF rate. The net impact of measures of the RBI should lend a downward bias to the marginal cost of funds for banks.

The RBI has lowered its FY 2014 GDP growth projection to 5% and expects stronger growth in agriculture on account of a robust monsoon as well as the expected recovery in exports to drive the recovery in the second half of fiscal 2014.

The RBI expects both WPI and CPI inflation to be higher than their initial projection and market watchers expect the WPI inflation to remain at an elevated 6-7% level. The RBI expressed concern at the scenario of negative real interest rates influencing the savings preference of households into real assets. The RBI seems to be attaching importance to the elevated CPI inflation while formulating its policy response function. Given this backdrop, the RBI's guidance remains hawkish as it seems determined to break the spiral of rising prices pressure in order to curb the erosion in financial savings and strengthen the foundations of growth.

During the fortnight ended October 4th 2013, aggregate deposits grew 14.8% against 13.9% a year earlier and non-food credit grew by 17.9% against 15.6% a year earlier. In the near term, the credit growth will be driven by retail, working capital loan requirement of corporate and disbursement to sanctioned loans for project finance even as the sustained demand for new capex loans seems a distant possibility.

The delay in the QE tapering by the US Fed and the resumption in the capital flows into India have eased pressures on the INR but headwinds to growth as well as vulnerabilities to sudden shifts in the external environment remain key risks. A meaningful recovery in growth and a downward shift in inflationary pressures need the implementation of structural reforms, speedy execution of the investment projects and delivery on the stated fiscal consolidation targets.

Stabilization of the INR has been on the back of a softening trade deficit and the accretion to forex reserves through the FCNR (B) deposits as well as the banks' overseas borrowings. As the monthly US Dollar demand of the Oil marketing companies (OMCs) is still out of the market dynamics, the vulnerabilities on the external front remain, albeit at significantly lower levels as compared to the second quarter this fiscal.

The G-sec market is anticipating that the government would contain the fiscal deficit to its stated budgetary estimate. However, there are risks in the form of muted revenue collections and inflated subsidy bills leading to a higher second half borrowing beyond the budgeted borrowing. With the fiscal deficit in the first half of FY 2014 at 76% of the budgeted estimate, it remains to be seen if the necessary fiscal consolidation would be ensured in the second half, considering that the general elections are fast approaching.

Meanwhile, in the near term, the heavy borrowing calendar in the months of November 2013 and December 2013 would keep the G-sec yields under pressure. The 10 year benchmark G-sec would remain volatile and the near term direction of the Gsec yields would largely depend on the trajectory of the INR and the extent of OMO support from the RBI.

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Unique Reference Number: L&C/Advt/2013/Nov/254

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