

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF SCHEME SPECIFIC RISK FACTORS

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1. SAMCO FLEXI CAP FUND

• Risk factors associated with investing in Foreign Securities

Subject to necessary approvals and within the investment objectives / asset allocation pattern of the Scheme may also invest in permitted foreign securities 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 multimarket and multi-currency products.

The Scheme may invest in units/securities issued by overseas companies listed on recognized stock exchanges overseas and other securities in accordance with the provisions of clause 12.19 of SEBI Master circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2024/90 dated June 27, 2024, subject to a maximum of US\$ 1 billion at in the aggregate at the Mutual Fund level and upto a maximum of US\$ 300 million in overseas Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) at the Mutual Fund level or such limits as may be prescribed by SEBI from time to time. However, in case the overall industry limit or such other limit as prescribed by SEBI has been breached, the Scheme would temporarily not invest in the overseas securities.

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. However, such investments also entail additional risks not only limited to the following.

Country Risk: The Country risk arises from the inability of a country, to meet its financial obligations. It is the risk encompassing economic, social and political conditions in a foreign country, which might adversely affect foreign investors' financial interests. In addition, country risks would include events such as introduction of extraordinary exchange controls, economic deterioration, bi-lateral conflict leading to immobilisation of the overseas financial assets and the prevalent tax laws of the respective jurisdiction for execution of trades or otherwise.

Currency Risk: Moving from Indian Rupee (INR) to any other currency involves currency risk. To the extent that the assets of the Scheme will be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the Indian Rupee equivalent of the net assets and income may be adversely affected by changes in the value of certain foreign currencies relative to the Indian Rupee.

Interest Rate Risk: The pace and movement of interest rate cycles of various countries, though loosely co-related, can differ significantly. Investments in securities of countries other than India, the Scheme stand exposed to their interest rate cycles.

Repatriation Risk: 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 Short Selling & Securities Lending

Securities Lending is a lending of securities through an approved intermediary to a borrower under an agreement for a specified period with the condition that the borrower will return equivalent securities of the same type or class at the end of the specified period along with the corporate benefits accruing on the securities borrowed. There are risks inherent in securities lending, including the risk of failure of the other party, in this case the approved intermediary to comply with the terms of the agreement. Such failure can result in a possible loss of rights to the collateral, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of corporate benefits accruing thereon.

Short selling is the sale of shares or securities that the seller does not own at the time of trading. Instead, he borrows it from someone who already owns it. Later, the short seller buys back the stock/security he shorted and returns the stock/security to the lender to close out the loan. The inherent risks are Counterparty risk and liquidity risk of the stock/security being borrowed. The security being short sold might be illiquid or become illiquid and covering of the security might occur at a much higher price level than anticipated, leading to losses.

• Risks associated with investing in Tri-party Repo (TREPS) through CCIL

The Mutual Fund is a member of securities segment and Tri-party Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). All transactions of the Mutual Fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus, reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL). CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The Mutual Fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL at any given point in time i.e., in the event that the default waterfall is triggered and the contribution of the Mutual Fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, the Scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

Further, it may be noted that, CCIL periodically prescribes a list of securities eligible for contributions as collateral by members. Presently, all Central Government securities and Treasury bills are accepted as collateral by CCIL. The risk factors may undergo change in case the CCIL notifies securities other than Government of India securities as eligible for contribution as collateral.

- **Risks associated with transaction in Units through stock exchange(s)**

In respect of transaction in Units of the Scheme through Bombay Stock Exchange ("BSE") and / or National Stock Exchange ("NSE"), allotment and redemption of Units on any Business Day will depend upon the order processing / settlement by NSE and /or BSE and their respective clearing corporations on which the Fund has no control.

- **Risks associated with Restrictions on Redemption**

The Trustee and the AMC may impose restrictions on redemptions when there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets. Accordingly, such restriction may affect the liquidity of the Scheme and there may be a delay in investors receiving part of their redemption proceeds.

- **Risks associated with segregated portfolio**

The unit holders may note that no redemption and subscription shall be allowed in the segregated portfolio. However, in order to facilitate exit to unit holders in the segregated portfolio, the AMC shall enable listing of units of segregated portfolio on the recognized stock exchange. The risks associated in regard to the segregated portfolio are as follows:

- The investors holding units of the segregated portfolio may not be able to liquidate their holdings till the time of recovery of money from the issuer.
- The security comprising the segregated portfolio may not realize any value.
- Listing of units of the segregated portfolio on a recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units of the segregated portfolio on the stock exchange.
- The trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV) of the segregated portfolio.

2. SAMCO OVERNIGHT FUND

- **Risks associated with investments in Fixed Income Securities**

Interest-Rate Risk: Fixed income securities such as government bonds, corporate bonds, money market instruments run price-risk or interest-rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of existing fixed income securities fall and when interest rates drop, such prices increase. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon the coupon and maturity of the security. It also depends upon the yield level at which the security is being traded.

Re-investment Risk: Investments in fixed income securities carry re-investment risk as interest rates prevailing on the coupon payment or maturity dates may differ from the original coupon of the bond.

Basis Risk: The underlying benchmark of a floating rate security or a swap might become less active or may cease to exist and thus may not be able to capture the exact interest rate movements, leading to loss of value of the portfolio.

Spread Risk: In a floating rate security the coupon is expressed in terms of a spread or mark up over the benchmark rate. In the life of the security this spread may move adversely leading to loss in value of the portfolio. The yield of the underlying benchmark might not change, but the spread of the security over the underlying benchmark might increase leading to loss in value of the security.

Liquidity Risk: The liquidity of a bond may change, depending on market conditions leading to changes in the liquidity premium attached to the price of the bond. At the time of selling the security, the security can become illiquid, leading to loss in value of the portfolio.

Liquidity Risk on account of unlisted securities: The liquidity and valuation of the Schemes' investments due to their holdings of unlisted securities may be affected if they have to be sold prior to their target date of divestment. The unlisted security can go down in value before the divestment date and selling of these securities before the divestment date can lead to losses in the portfolio.

Credit Risk: This is the risk associated with the issuer of a debenture/bond or a money market instrument defaulting on coupon payments or in paying back the principal amount on maturity. Even when there is no default, the price of a security may change with expected changes in the credit rating of the issuer. It is to be noted here that a Government Security is a sovereign security and is the safest. Corporate bonds carry a higher amount of credit risk than Government Securities. Within corporate bonds also there are different levels of safety and a bond rated higher by a particular rating agency is safer than a bond rated lower by the same rating agency.

Settlement Risk: Fixed income securities run the risk of settlement which can adversely affect the ability of the fund house to swiftly execute trading strategies which can lead to adverse movements in NAV.

- **Risks associated with investing in Tri-party Repo (TREPS) through CCIL**

The Mutual Fund is a member of securities segment and Tri-party Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). All transactions of the Mutual Fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus, reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL). CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The Mutual Fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL at any given point in time i.e., in the event that the default waterfall is triggered and the contribution of the Mutual Fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, the Scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

Further, it may be noted that, CCIL periodically prescribes a list of securities eligible for contributions as collateral by members. Presently, all Central Government securities and Treasury bills are accepted as collateral by CCIL. The risk factors may undergo change in case the CCIL notifies securities other than

Government of India securities as eligible for contribution as collateral.

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The Trustee and the AMC may impose restrictions on redemptions when there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets. Accordingly, such restriction may affect the liquidity of the Scheme and there may be a delay in investors receiving part of their redemption proceeds.

- **Risks associated with segregated portfolio**

The unit holders may note that no redemption and subscription shall be allowed in the segregated portfolio. However, in order to facilitate exit to unit holders in the segregated portfolio, the AMC shall enable listing of units of segregated portfolio on the recognized stock exchange. The risks associated in regard to the segregated portfolio are as follows:

- The investors holding units of the segregated portfolio may not be able to liquidate their holdings till the time of recovery of money from the issuer.
- The security comprising the segregated portfolio may not realize any value.
- Listing of units of the segregated portfolio on a recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units of the segregated portfolio on the stock exchange.
- The trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV) of the segregated portfolio.

3. SAMCO ELSS TAX SAVER FUND

• Risks associated with investments in Equity and Equity related instruments

- Equity and equity related securities are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis. The liquidity of investments made in the Scheme may be restricted by trading volumes and settlement periods. Settlement 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 portfolio 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 portfolio. Also, the value of the Scheme investments may be affected by interest rates, currency exchange rates, changes in law/policies of the government, taxation laws and political, economic or other developments which may have an adverse bearing on individual Securities, a specific sector or all sectors.
- Investments in equity and equity related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest in the equity Schemes unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their investment.
- 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.

• Risks associated with investments in Derivatives

- Derivative products are specialized instruments that require investment techniques and risk analysis different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a derivative requires an understanding not only of the underlying instrument but of the derivative itself. Trading in derivatives carries a high degree of risk although they are traded at a relatively small amount of margin which provides the possibility of great profit or loss in comparison with the principal investment amount. Thus, derivatives are highly leveraged instruments. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- The derivatives market in India is nascent and does not have the volumes that may be seen in other developed markets, which may result in volatility to the values.
- 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.
- Investment in derivatives also requires 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. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- 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 option 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.
- 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.
- The writer of a put option bears the risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset declines below the exercise price. The writer of a call option bears a risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset increases above the exercise price, as per extant regulations.
- 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 "counter party") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract. The counter party may default on a transaction before settlement and therefore, the Scheme is compelled to negotiate with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavorable) market price.
- Derivatives also carry a market liquidity risk where the derivatives cannot be sold (unwound) at prices that reflect the underlying assets, rates and indices.
- Where derivatives are used for hedging, such use may involve a basis risk where the instrument used as a hedge does not match the movement in the instrument/ underlying asset being hedged. The risk may be inter-related also e.g. interest rate movements can affect equity prices, which could influence specific issuer/industry assets.
- 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.
- Derivative products are leveraged instruments and can provide disproportionate gains as well as disproportionate losses to the investor. Execution of investment strategies depends upon the ability of the fund manager(s) to identify such opportunities which may not be available at all times. Identification and execution of the strategies to be pursued by the fund manager(s) 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 covered call strategy**

- 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. This downside risk is reduced by writing covered call options.
- The Scheme may write covered call option only in case it has adequate number of underlying equity shares as per regulatory requirement. This would lead to setting aside a portion of investment in underlying equity shares. If covered call options are sold to the maximum extent allowed by regulatory authority, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares immediately if the view changes to sell and exit the stock. The covered call options need to be unwound before the stock positions can be liquidated. This may lead to a loss of opportunity, or can cause exit issues if the strike price at which the call option contracts have been written become illiquid. Hence, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares, which can lead to temporary illiquidity of the underlying equity shares and result in loss of opportunity.
- The writing of covered call option would lead to loss of opportunity due to appreciation in value of the underlying equity shares. Hence, when the appreciation in equity share price is more than the option premium received the Scheme would be at a loss.

• **Risk factors associated with investing in Foreign Securities**

Subject to necessary approvals and within the investment objectives / asset allocation pattern of the Scheme may also invest in permitted foreign securities 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 multimarket and multi-currency products.

The Scheme may invest in units/securities issued by overseas companies listed on recognized stock exchanges overseas and other securities in accordance with the provisions of clause 12.19 of SEBI Master circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2024/90 dated June 27, 2024, subject to a maximum of US\$ 1 billion at in the aggregate at the Mutual Fund level and upto a maximum of US\$ 300 million in overseas Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) at the Mutual Fund level or such limits as may be prescribed by SEBI from time to time. However, in case the overall industry limit or such other limit as prescribed by SEBI has been breached, the Scheme would temporarily not invest in the overseas securities.

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. However, such investments also entail additional risks not only limited to the following.

Country Risk: The Country risk arises from the inability of a country, to meet its financial obligations. It is the risk encompassing economic, social and political conditions in a foreign country, which might adversely affect foreign investors' financial interests. In addition, country risks would include events such as introduction of extraordinary exchange controls, economic deterioration, bi-lateral conflict leading to immobilisation of the overseas financial assets and the prevalent tax laws of the respective jurisdiction for execution of trades or otherwise.

Currency Risk: Moving from Indian Rupee (INR) to any other currency involves currency risk. To the extent that the assets of the Scheme will be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the Indian Rupee equivalent of the net assets and income may be adversely affected by changes in the value of certain foreign currencies relative to the Indian Rupee.

Interest Rate Risk: The pace and movement of interest rate cycles of various countries, though loosely co-related, can differ significantly. Investments in securities of countries other than India, the Scheme stand exposed to their interest rate cycles.

Repatriation Risk: 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 investments in Fixed Income Securities:**

The following are the risks associated mainly with investment in Fixed Income Securities:

Interest Rate Risk: This risk is associated with movements in interest rate, which depend on various factors such as government borrowing, inflation, economic performance etc. Fixed income securities such as government bonds, corporate bonds and money market instruments etc. run price-risk or interest-rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed income securities fall and when interest rates drop, the prices generally increase. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as coupon, maturity of the security, the yield level at which the security is being traded. The longer the time to a bond's maturity, the greater is its interest rate risk. The NAV of the Scheme is expected to increase from a fall in interest rates while it would be adversely affected by an increase in the level of interest rates.

Re-investment Risk: Investments in fixed income securities may carry re-investment risk as interest rates prevailing on the interest or maturity due dates may differ from the original coupon of the bond. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested at a lower rate.

Spread Risk: Spreads between various fixed income securities may widen or contract. E.g.: Corporate Bonds are exposed to the risk of widening of the spread between corporate bonds and gilts. Prices of corporate bonds tend to fall if this spread widens which will affect the NAV of the scheme accordingly. Similarly, in case of floating rate securities, where the coupon is expressed in terms of a spread or mark up over the benchmark rate, widening of the spread results in a fall in the value of such securities.

Liquidity Risk related to fixed income instruments: This risk pertains to how saleable a security is in the market or the ease at which a security can be sold at or close to its true value. Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures may restrict the liquidity of some of the investments. The primary measure of liquidity risk is the spread between the bid price and the offer price quoted by a dealer. The liquidity of debt securities may change, depending on market conditions. At the time of selling the security, the security can become less liquid (wider spread) or illiquid, leading to loss in value of the portfolio. Securities that are unlisted generally carry a higher liquidity risk compared to listed securities.

Liquidity risk is greater for thinly traded securities such as, lower-rated bonds, bonds that were part of a smaller issue, bonds that have recently had their credit rating downgraded or bonds sold by an infrequent issuer. Bonds are generally the most liquid during the period right after issuance when the typical bond has the highest trading volume.

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 when the security is finally sold.

Credit Risk / Default Risk: Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a debenture/ bond or a money market instrument may default on interest and /or principal payment obligations and/or on violation of covenant(s) and/or delay in scheduled payment(s). Even when there is no default, the price of a security may change with expected changes in the credit rating of the issuer.

Government Security is a sovereign security and the default risk is considered to be the least/zero. Corporate bonds carry a higher credit risk than Government Securities. Within corporate bonds also there are different levels of safety. Credit risks of most issuers of debt securities are rated by independent and professionally run rating agencies. Ratings of Credit issued by these agencies typically range from "AAA" (read as "Triple A" denoting "Highest Safety") to "D" (denoting "Default"), with about 6 distinct ratings between the two extremes. A bond rated higher by a particular rating agency is safer than a bond rated lower by the same rating agency.

Counterparty Risk: This is the risk of failure of counterparty to the transaction to deliver securities against consideration received or to pay consideration against securities delivered, in full or in part or as per the agreed specification. There could be losses to the Scheme in case of counterparty default.

Settlement Risk: Different segments of the Indian financial markets have different settlement periods and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances. The inability of the Scheme to make purchases in intended securities due to settlement problems could cause the Scheme to miss certain investment opportunities. Fixed income securities run the risk of settlement which can adversely affect the ability of the fund house to swiftly execute trading strategies which can lead to adverse movements in NAV.

Duration risk: The modified duration of a bond is a measure of its price sensitivity to interest rates movements, based on the average time to maturity of its interest and principal cash flows. Bond portfolio managers increase average duration when they expect rates to decline, to get the most benefit, and decrease average duration when they expect rates to rise, so as to minimize the negative impact. If rates move in a direction contrary to their expectations, they lose.

Inflation risk: Inflation causes tomorrow's currency to be worth less than today's; in other words, it reduces the purchasing power of a bond investor's future interest payments and principal, collectively known as "cash flows." Inflation also leads to higher interest rates, which in turn leads to lower bond prices. Inflation-indexed securities such as Treasury Inflation Protection Securities (TIPS) are structured to remove inflation risk.

Prepayment Risk: The borrower may repay the receivables earlier than scheduled, which may result in change in the yield and tenor for the Scheme.

Call risk: Some corporate, municipal and agency bonds have a “call provision” entitling their issuers to redeem them at a specified price on a date prior to maturity. Declining interest rates may accelerate the redemption of a callable bond, causing an investor’s principal to be returned sooner than expected. In that scenario, investors have to reinvest the principal at the lower interest rates. (See also Reinvestment risk.)

Performance Risk: Performance of the Scheme may be impacted with changes in factors which affect the capital market and in particular the debt market.

- **Risks associated with Short Selling & Securities Lending**

Securities Lending is a lending of securities through an approved intermediary to a borrower under an agreement for a specified period with the condition that the borrower will return equivalent securities of the same type or class at the end of the specified period along with the corporate benefits accruing on the securities borrowed. There are risks inherent in securities lending, including the risk of failure of the other party, in this case the approved intermediary to comply with the terms of the agreement. Such failure can result in a possible loss of rights to the collateral, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of corporate benefits accruing thereon.

Short-selling is the sale of shares or securities that the seller does not own at the time of trading. Instead, he borrows it from someone who already owns it. Later, the short seller buys back the stock/security he shorted and returns the stock/security to the lender to close out the loan. The inherent risks are Counterparty risk and liquidity risk of the stock/security being borrowed. The security being short sold might be illiquid or become illiquid and covering of the security might occur at a much higher price level than anticipated, leading to losses.

- **Risks associated with investing in Tri-party Repo (TREPS) through CCIL**

The Mutual Fund is a member of securities segment and Tri-party Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). All transactions of the Mutual Fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus, reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL). CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The Mutual Fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL at any given point in time i.e., in the event that the default waterfall is triggered and the contribution of the Mutual Fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, the Scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

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In respect of transaction in Units of the Scheme through Bombay Stock Exchange (“BSE”) and / or National Stock Exchange (“NSE”), allotment and redemption of Units on any Business Day will depend upon the order processing / settlement by NSE and /or BSE and their respective clearing corporations on which the Fund has no control.

- **Risks associated with Restrictions on Redemption**

The Trustee and the AMC may impose restrictions on redemptions when there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets. Accordingly, such restriction may affect the liquidity of the Scheme and there may be a delay in investors receiving part of their redemption proceeds.

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- The investors holding units of the segregated portfolio may not be able to liquidate their holdings till the time of recovery of money from the issuer.
- The security comprising the segregated portfolio may not realize any value.
- Listing of units of the segregated portfolio on a recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units of the segregated portfolio on the stock exchange.
- The trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV) of the segregated portfolio.

4. SAMCO ACTIVE MOMENTUM FUND

- **Risks associated with investments in Equity and Equity related instruments**

- Equity and equity related securities are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis. The liquidity of investments made in the Scheme may be restricted by trading volumes and settlement periods. Settlement 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 portfolio 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 portfolio. Also, the value of the Scheme investments may be affected by interest rates, currency exchange rates, changes in law/policies of the government, taxation laws and political, economic or other developments which may have an adverse bearing on individual Securities, a specific sector or all sectors.
- Investments in equity and equity related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest in the equity Schemes unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their investment.
- 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.

- **Risks associated with investments in Derivatives**

- Derivative products are specialized instruments that require investment techniques and risk analysis different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a derivative requires an understanding not only of the underlying instrument but of the derivative itself. Trading in derivatives carries a high degree of risk although they are traded at a relatively small amount of margin which provides the possibility of great profit or loss in comparison with the principal investment amount. Thus, derivatives are highly leveraged instruments. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- The derivatives market in India is nascent and does not have the volumes that may be seen in other developed markets, which may result in volatility to the values.
- 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.
- Investment in derivatives also requires 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. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- 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 option 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.
- 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.
- The writer of a put option bears the risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset declines below the exercise price. The writer of a call option bears a risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset increases above the exercise price, as per extant regulations.
- 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 "counter party") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract. The counter party may default on a transaction before settlement and therefore, the Scheme is compelled to negotiate with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavorable) market price.
- Derivatives also carry a market liquidity risk where the derivatives cannot be sold (unwound) at prices that reflect the underlying assets, rates and indices.
- Where derivatives are used for hedging, such use may involve a basis risk where the instrument used as a hedge does not match the movement in the instrument/ underlying asset being hedged. The risk may be inter-related also e.g. interest rate movements can affect equity prices, which could influence specific issuer/industry assets.
- 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.
- Derivative products are leveraged instruments and can provide disproportionate gains as well as disproportionate losses to the investor. Execution of investment strategies depends upon the ability of the fund manager(s) to identify such opportunities which may not be available at all times. Identification and execution of the strategies to be pursued by the fund manager(s) 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 covered call strategy**

- 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. This downside risk is reduced by writing covered call options.
- The Scheme may write covered call option only in case it has adequate number of underlying equity shares as per regulatory requirement. This would lead to setting aside a portion of investment in underlying equity shares. If covered call options are sold to the maximum extent allowed by regulatory authority, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares immediately if the view changes to sell and exit the stock. The covered call options need to be unwound before the stock positions can be liquidated. This may lead to a loss of opportunity, or can cause exit issues if the strike price at which the call option contracts have been written become illiquid. Hence, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares, which can lead to temporary illiquidity of the underlying equity shares and result in loss of opportunity.
- The writing of covered call option would lead to loss of opportunity due to appreciation in value of the underlying equity shares. Hence, when the appreciation in equity share price is more than the option premium received the Scheme would be at a loss.

• **Risks associated with investments in Fixed Income Securities:**

The following are the risks associated mainly with investment in Fixed Income Securities:

Interest Rate Risk: This risk is associated with movements in interest rate, which depend on various factors such as government borrowing, inflation, economic performance etc. Fixed income securities such as government bonds, corporate bonds and money market instruments

etc. run price-risk or interest-rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed income securities fall and when interest rates drop, the prices generally increase. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as coupon, maturity of the security, the yield level at which the security is being traded. The longer the time to a bond's maturity, the greater is its interest rate risk. The NAV of the Scheme is expected to increase from a fall in interest rates while it would be adversely affected by an increase in the level of interest rates.

Re-investment Risk: Investments in fixed income securities may carry re-investment risk as interest rates prevailing on the interest or maturity due dates may differ from the original coupon of the bond. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested at a lower rate.

Spread Risk: Spreads between various fixed income securities may widen or contract. E.g.: Corporate Bonds are exposed to the risk of widening of the spread between corporate bonds and gilts. Prices of corporate bonds tend to fall if this spread widens which will affect the NAV of the scheme accordingly. Similarly, in case of floating rate securities, where the coupon is expressed in terms of a spread or mark up over the benchmark rate, widening of the spread results in a fall in the value of such securities.

Liquidity Risk related to fixed income instruments: This risk pertains to how saleable a security is in the market or the ease at which a security can be sold at or close to its true value. Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures may restrict the liquidity of some of the investments. The primary measure of liquidity risk is the spread between the bid price and the offer price quoted by a dealer. The liquidity of debt securities may change, depending on market conditions. At the time of selling the security, the security can become less liquid (wider spread) or illiquid, leading to loss in value of the portfolio. Securities that are unlisted generally carry a higher liquidity risk compared to listed securities.

Liquidity risk is greater for thinly traded securities such as, lower-rated bonds, bonds that were part of a smaller issue, bonds that have recently had their credit rating downgraded or bonds sold by an infrequent issuer. Bonds are generally the most liquid during the period right after issuance when the typical bond has the highest trading volume.

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 when the security is finally sold.

Credit Risk / Default Risk: Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a debenture/ bond or a money market instrument may default on interest and /or principal payment obligations and/or on violation of covenant(s) and/or delay in scheduled payment(s). Even when there is no default, the price of a security may change with expected changes in the credit rating of the issuer.

Government Security is a sovereign security and the default risk is considered to be the least/zero. Corporate bonds carry a higher credit risk than Government Securities. Within corporate bonds also there are different levels of safety. Credit risks of most issuers of debt securities are rated by independent and professionally run rating agencies. Ratings of Credit issued by these agencies typically range from "AAA" (read as "Triple A" denoting "Highest Safety") to "D" (denoting "Default"), with about 6 distinct ratings between the two extremes. A bond rated higher by a particular rating agency is safer than a bond rated lower by the same rating agency.

Counterparty Risk: This is the risk of failure of counterparty to the transaction to deliver securities against consideration received or to pay consideration against securities delivered, in full or in part or as per the agreed specification. There could be losses to the Scheme in case of counterparty default.

Settlement Risk: Different segments of the Indian financial markets have different settlement periods and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances. The inability of the Scheme to make purchases in intended securities due to settlement problems could cause the Scheme to miss certain investment opportunities. Fixed income securities run the risk of settlement which can adversely affect the ability of the fund house to swiftly execute trading strategies which can lead to adverse movements in NAV.

Duration risk: The modified duration of a bond is a measure of its price sensitivity to interest rates movements, based on the average time to maturity of its interest and principal cash flows. Bond portfolio managers increase average duration when they expect rates to decline, to get the most benefit, and decrease average duration when they expect rates to rise, so as to minimize the negative impact. If rates move in a direction contrary to their expectations, they lose.

Inflation risk: Inflation causes tomorrow's currency to be worth less than today's; in other words, it reduces the purchasing power of a bond investor's future interest payments and principal, collectively known as "cash flows." Inflation also leads to higher interest rates, which in turn leads to lower bond prices. Inflation-indexed securities such as Treasury Inflation Protection Securities (TIPS) are structured to remove inflation risk.

Prepayment Risk: The borrower may repay the receivables earlier than scheduled, which may result in change in the yield and tenor for the Scheme.

Call risk: Some corporate, municipal and agency bonds have a "call provision" entitling their issuers to redeem them at a specified price on a date prior to maturity. Declining interest rates may accelerate the redemption of a callable bond, causing an investor's principal to be returned sooner than expected. In that scenario, investors have to reinvest the principal at the lower interest rates. (See also Reinvestment risk.)

Performance Risk: Performance of the Scheme may be impacted with changes in factors which affect the capital market and in particular the debt market.

- **Risk factors associated with investing in Foreign Securities**

Subject to necessary approvals and within the investment objectives / asset allocation pattern of the Scheme may also invest in permitted foreign securities 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 multimarket and multi-currency products.

The Scheme may invest in units/securities issued by overseas companies listed on recognized stock exchanges overseas and other securities in accordance with the provisions of clause 12.19 of SEBI Master circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2024/90 dated June 27, 2024 subject to a maximum of US\$ 1 billion at in the aggregate at the Mutual Fund level and upto a maximum of US\$ 300 million in overseas Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) at the Mutual Fund level or such limits as may be prescribed by SEBI from time to time. However, in case the overall industry limit or such other limit as prescribed by SEBI has been breached, the Scheme would temporarily not invest in the overseas securities.

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. However, such investments also entail additional risks not only limited to the following.

Country Risk: The Country risk arises from the inability of a country, to meet its financial obligations. It is the risk encompassing economic, social and political conditions in a foreign country, which might adversely affect foreign investors' financial interests. In addition, country risks would include events such as introduction of extraordinary exchange controls, economic deterioration, bi-lateral conflict leading to immobilisation of the overseas financial assets and the prevalent tax laws of the respective jurisdiction for execution of trades or otherwise.

Currency Risk: Moving from Indian Rupee (INR) to any other currency involves currency risk. To the extent that the assets of the Scheme will be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the Indian Rupee equivalent of the net assets and income may be adversely affected by changes in the value of certain foreign currencies relative to the Indian Rupee.

Interest Rate Risk: The pace and movement of interest rate cycles of various countries, though loosely co-related, can differ significantly. Investments in securities of countries other than India, the Scheme stand exposed to their interest rate cycles.

Repatriation Risk: 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 Short Selling & Securities Lending**

Securities Lending is a lending of securities through an approved intermediary to a borrower under an agreement for a specified period with the condition that the borrower will return equivalent securities of the same type or class at the end of the specified period along with the corporate benefits accruing on the securities borrowed. There are risks inherent in securities lending, including the risk of failure of the other party, in this case the approved intermediary to comply with the terms of the agreement. Such failure can result in a possible loss of rights to the collateral, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of corporate benefits accruing thereon.

Short selling is the sale of shares or securities that the seller does not own at the time of trading. Instead, he borrows it from someone who already owns it. Later, the short seller buys back the stock/security he shorted and returns the stock/security to the lender to close out the loan. The inherent risks are Counterparty risk and liquidity risk of the stock/security being borrowed. The security being short sold might be illiquid or become illiquid and covering of the security might occur at a much higher price level than anticipated, leading to losses.

- **Risks associated with investing in Tri-party Repo (TREPS) through CCIL**

The Mutual Fund is a member of securities segment and Tri-party Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). All transactions of the Mutual Fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus, reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL). CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The Mutual Fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL at any given point in time i.e., in the event that the default waterfall is triggered and the contribution of the Mutual Fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, the Scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

Further, it may be noted that, CCIL periodically prescribes a list of securities eligible for contributions as collateral by members. Presently, all Central Government securities and Treasury bills are accepted as collateral by CCIL. The risk factors may undergo change in case the CCIL notifies securities other than Government of India securities as eligible for contribution as collateral.

- **Risks associated with transaction in Units through stock exchange(s)**

In respect of transaction in Units of the Scheme through Bombay Stock Exchange ("BSE") and / or National Stock Exchange ("NSE"), allotment and redemption of Units on any Business Day will depend upon the order processing / settlement by NSE and /or BSE and their respective clearing corporations on which the Fund has no control.

- **Risks associated with Restrictions on Redemption**

The Trustee and the AMC may impose restrictions on redemptions when there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets. Accordingly, such restriction may affect the liquidity of the Scheme and there may be a delay in investors receiving part of their redemption proceeds.

- **Risks associated with segregated portfolio**

The unit holders may note that no redemption and subscription shall be allowed in the segregated portfolio. However, in order to facilitate exit to unit holders in the segregated portfolio, the AMC shall enable listing of units of segregated portfolio on the recognized stock exchange. The risks associated in regard to the segregated portfolio are as follows:

- The investors holding units of the segregated portfolio may not be able to liquidate their holdings till the time of recovery of money from the issuer.
- The security comprising the segregated portfolio may not realize any value.
- Listing of units of the segregated portfolio on a recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units of the segregated portfolio on the stock exchange.
- The trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV) of the segregated portfolio.

5. SAMCO DYNAMIC ASSET ALLOCATION FUND

• Risks associated with investments in Equity and Equity related instruments

- Equity and equity related securities are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis. The liquidity of investments made in the Scheme may be restricted by trading volumes and settlement periods. Settlement 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 portfolio 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 portfolio. Also, the value of the Scheme investments may be affected by interest rates, currency exchange rates, changes in law/policies of the government, taxation laws and political, economic or other developments which may have an adverse bearing on individual Securities, a specific sector or all sectors.
- Investments in equity and equity related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest in the equity Schemes unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their investment.
- 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.

• Risks associated with investments in Derivatives

- Derivative products are specialized instruments that require investment techniques and risk analysis different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a derivative requires an understanding not only of the underlying instrument but of the derivative itself. Trading in derivatives carries a high degree of risk although they are traded at a relatively small amount of margin which provides the possibility of great profit or loss in comparison with the principal investment amount. Thus, derivatives are highly leveraged instruments. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- The derivatives market in India is nascent and does not have the volumes that may be seen in other developed markets, which may result in volatility to the values.
- 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.
- Investment in derivatives also requires 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. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- 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 option 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.
- 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.
- The writer of a put option bears the risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset declines below the exercise price. The writer of a call option bears a risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset increases above the exercise price, as per extant regulations.
- 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 "counter party") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract. The counter party may default on a transaction before settlement and therefore, the Scheme is compelled to negotiate with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavorable) market price.
- Derivatives also carry a market liquidity risk where the derivatives cannot be sold (unwound) at prices that reflect the underlying assets, rates and indices.
- Where derivatives are used for hedging, such use may involve a basis risk where the instrument used as a hedge does not match the movement in the instrument/ underlying asset being hedged. The risk may be inter-related also e.g. interest rate movements can affect equity prices, which could influence specific issuer/industry assets.
- 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.
- Derivative products are leveraged instruments and can provide disproportionate gains as well as disproportionate losses to the investor. Execution of investment strategies depends upon the ability of the fund manager(s) to identify such opportunities which may not be available at all times. Identification and execution of the strategies to be pursued by the fund manager(s) 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 covered call strategy**

- 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. This downside risk is reduced by writing covered call options.
- The Scheme may write covered call option only in case it has adequate number of underlying equity shares as per regulatory requirement. This would lead to setting aside a portion of investment in underlying equity shares. If covered call options are sold to the maximum extent allowed by regulatory authority, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares immediately if the view changes to sell and exit the stock. The covered call options need to be unwound before the stock positions can be liquidated. This may lead to a loss of opportunity, or can cause exit issues if the strike price at which the call option contracts have been written become illiquid. Hence, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares, which can lead to temporary illiquidity of the underlying equity shares and result in loss of opportunity.
- The writing of covered call option would lead to loss of opportunity due to appreciation in value of the underlying equity shares. Hence, when the appreciation in equity share price is more than the option premium received the Scheme would be at a loss.

- **Risks associated with investments in Fixed Income Securities:**

The following are the risks associated mainly with investment in Fixed Income Securities:

Interest Rate Risk: This risk is associated with movements in interest rate, which depend on various factors such as government borrowing, inflation, economic performance etc. Fixed income securities such as government bonds, corporate bonds and money market instruments etc. run price-risk or interest-rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed income

securities fall and when interest rates drop, the prices generally increase. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as coupon, maturity of the security, the yield level at which the security is being traded. The longer the time to a bond's maturity, the greater is its interest rate risk. The NAV of the Scheme is expected to increase from a fall in interest rates while it would be adversely affected by an increase in the level of interest rates.

Re-investment Risk: Investments in fixed income securities may carry re-investment risk as interest rates prevailing on the interest or maturity due dates may differ from the original coupon of the bond. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested at a lower rate.

Spread Risk: Spreads between various fixed income securities may widen or contract. E.g.: Corporate Bonds are exposed to the risk of widening of the spread between corporate bonds and gilts. Prices of corporate bonds tend to fall if this spread widens which will affect the NAV of the scheme accordingly. Similarly, in case of floating rate securities, where the coupon is expressed in terms of a spread or mark up over the benchmark rate, widening of the spread results in a fall in the value of such securities.

Liquidity Risk related to fixed income instruments: This risk pertains to how saleable a security is in the market or the ease at which a security can be sold at or close to its true value. Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures may restrict the liquidity of some of the investments. The primary measure of liquidity risk is the spread between the bid price and the offer price quoted by a dealer. The liquidity of debt securities may change, depending on market conditions. At the time of selling the security, the security can become less liquid (wider spread) or illiquid, leading to loss in value of the portfolio. Securities that are unlisted generally carry a higher liquidity risk compared to listed securities.

Liquidity risk is greater for thinly traded securities such as, lower-rated bonds, bonds that were part of a smaller issue, bonds that have recently had their credit rating downgraded or bonds sold by an infrequent issuer. Bonds are generally the most liquid during the period right after issuance when the typical bond has the highest trading volume.

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 when the security is finally sold.

Credit Risk / Default Risk: Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a debenture/ bond or a money market instrument may default on interest and /or principal payment obligations and/or on violation of covenant(s) and/or delay in scheduled payment(s). Even when there is no default, the price of a security may change with expected changes in the credit rating of the issuer.

Government Security is a sovereign security and the default risk is considered to be the least/zero. Corporate bonds carry a higher credit risk than Government Securities. Within corporate bonds also there are different levels of safety. Credit risks of most issuers of debt securities are rated by independent and professionally run rating agencies. Ratings of Credit issued by these agencies typically range from "AAA" (read as "Triple A" denoting "Highest Safety") to "D" (denoting "Default"), with about 6 distinct ratings between the two extremes. A bond rated higher by a particular rating agency is safer than a bond rated lower by the same rating agency.

Counterparty Risk: This is the risk of failure of counterparty to the transaction to deliver securities against consideration received or to pay consideration against securities delivered, in full or in part or as per the agreed specification. There could be losses to the Scheme in case of counterparty default.

Settlement Risk: Different segments of the Indian financial markets have different settlement periods and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances. The inability of the Scheme to make purchases in intended securities due to settlement problems could cause the Scheme to miss certain investment opportunities. Fixed income securities run the risk of settlement which can adversely affect the ability of the fund house to swiftly execute trading strategies which can lead to adverse movements in NAV.

Duration risk: The modified duration of a bond is a measure of its price sensitivity to interest rates movements, based on the average time to maturity of its interest and principal cash flows. Bond portfolio managers increase average duration when they expect rates to decline, to get the most benefit, and decrease average duration when they expect rates to rise, so as to minimize the negative impact. If rates move in a direction contrary to their expectations, they lose.

Inflation risk: Inflation causes tomorrow's currency to be worth less than today's; in other words, it reduces the purchasing power of a bond investor's future interest payments and principal, collectively known as "cash flows." Inflation also leads to higher interest rates, which in turn leads to lower bond prices. Inflation-indexed securities such as Treasury Inflation Protection Securities (TIPS) are structured to remove inflation risk.

Prepayment Risk: The borrower may repay the receivables earlier than scheduled, which may result in change in the yield and tenor for the Scheme.

Call risk: Some corporate, municipal and agency bonds have a "call provision" entitling their issuers to redeem them at a specified price on a date prior to maturity. Declining interest rates may accelerate the redemption of a callable bond, causing an investor's principal to be returned sooner than expected. In that scenario, investors have to reinvest the principal at the lower interest rates. (See also Reinvestment risk.)

Performance Risk: Performance of the Scheme may be impacted with changes in factors which affect the capital market and in particular the debt market.

- **Risk factors associated with investing in Non-Convertible Preference Shares**

Credit Risk - Credit risk is the risk that an issuer will be unable to meet its obligation of payment of dividend and/ or redemption of principal amount on the due date. Further, for non-cumulative preference shares, issuer also has an option to not pay dividends on preference shares in case of inadequate profits in any year.

Liquidity Risk - The preference shares generally have limited secondary market liquidity and thus we may be forced to hold the instrument till maturity.

Unsecured in Nature - Preference shares are unsecured in nature and rank lower than secured and unsecured debt in hierarchy of payments in case of liquidation. Thus, there is significant risk of capital erosion in case the company goes into liquidation.

- **Risks associated with Investing in Structured Obligation (SO) & Credit Enhancement (CE) rated securities**

The risks factors stated below for the Structured Obligations & Credit Enhancement are in addition to the risk factors associated with debt instruments. Credit rating agencies assign CE rating to an instrument based on any identifiable credit enhancement for the debt instrument issued by an issuer. The credit enhancement could be in various forms and could include guarantee, shortfall undertaking, letter of comfort, etc. from another entity. This entity could be either related or non-related to the issuer like a bank, financial institution, etc. Credit enhancement could include additional security in form of pledge of shares listed on stock exchanges, etc. SO transactions are asset backed/ mortgage backed securities, securitized paper backed by hypothecation of car loan receivables, securities backed by trade receivables, credit card receivables etc. Hence, for CE rated instruments evaluation of the credit enhancement provider, as well as the issuer is undertaken to determine the issuer rating. In case of SO rated issuer, the underlying loan pools or securitization, etc. is assessed to arrive at rating for the issuer.

Liquidity Risk: SO rated securities are often complex structures, with a variety of credit enhancements. Debt securities lack a well-developed secondary market in India, and due to the credit enhanced nature of CE securities as well as structured nature of SO securities, the liquidity in the market for these instruments is adversely affected compared to similar rated debt instruments. Hence, lower liquidity of such instruments, could lead to inability of the

scheme to sell such debt instruments and generate liquidity for the scheme or higher impact cost when such instruments are sold.

Credit Risk: The credit risk of debt instruments which are CE rated is based on the combined strength of the issuer as well as the structure. Hence, any weakness in either the issuer or the structure could have an adverse credit impact on the debt instrument. The weakness in structure could arise due to inability of the investors to enforce the structure due to issues such as legal risk, inability to sell the underlying collateral or enforce guarantee, etc. In case of SO transactions, comingling risk and risk of servicer increases the overall risk for the securitized debt or assets backed transactions. Therefore, apart from issuer level credit risk such debt instruments are also susceptible to structure related credit risk.

- **Risks associated with investments in securitised paper**

Types of securitised debt vary and carry different levels and types of risks. Credit risk on securitised bonds depends upon the originator and varies depending on whether they are issued with recourse to the originator or otherwise. Even within securitised debt, AAA or equivalent rated securitised debt offers lesser risk of default than AA rated securitised debt. A structure with recourse will have a lower credit risk than a structure without recourse.

As 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 these types of receivables depend upon various factors including macro economic factors of these industries and economies. Specific factors like nature and adequacy of property mortgaged against these borrowings, nature of loan agreement/ mortgage deed in case of home loan, adequacy of documentation in case of auto finance and home loans, capacity of borrower to meet its obligation on borrowings in case of credit cards and the intention of the borrower influence the risks relating to the asset borrowings underlying the 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 the investor receives in the securitized paper.

Limited Liquidity & price Risk:

Presently, the secondary market for securitized papers is not very liquid. There is no assurance that a deep secondary market will develop for such securities. This could limit the ability of the Fund to resell them. Even if a secondary market develops and sales were to take place, these secondary transactions may be at a discount to the initial issue price due to changes in the interest rate structure.

- **Risks due to possible prepayments:**

Asset securitization is a process whereby commercial, or consumer credits are packaged and sold in the form of financial instruments. Full prepayment of underlying loan contract may arise under any of the following circumstances:

- obligor pays the receivable due from him at any time prior to the scheduled maturity date of that receivable; or
- receivable is required to be repurchased by the seller consequent to its inability to rectify a material misrepresentation with respect to that receivable; or
- the servicer recognizing a contract as a defaulted contract and hence repossessing the underlying asset and selling the same.

In the event of prepayments, investors may be exposed to changes in tenor and yield.

- **Bankruptcy of the originator or seller:**

If the originator becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the sale from originator to the Trust was not a sale then the Fund could experience losses or delays in the payments due. All possible care is generally taken in structuring the transaction so as to minimize the risk of the sale to the Trust not being construed as a "True Sale". Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the assignment of receivables to the Trust in trust for and for the benefit of the investors, as envisaged herein, would constitute a true sale.

- **Bankruptcy of the investor's agent:**

If an investor's agent becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the recourse of the investor's agent to the assets/receivables is not in its capacity as agent/Trustee but in his personal capacity, then an investor could experience losses or delays in the payments due under the swap agreement. All possible care is normally taken in structuring the transaction and drafting the underlying documents so as to provide that the assets/receivables if and when held by an investor's agent is held as agent and in Trust for the Investors and shall not form part of the personal assets of the investor's agent. Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the investors agent's recourse to assets/ receivables is restricted in his capacity as agent and trustee and not in its personal capacity.

- **Credit Rating of the Transaction/Certificate:**

The credit rating is not a recommendation to purchase, hold or sell the Certificate in as much as the ratings do not comment on the market price of the Certificate or its suitability to a particular investor. There is no assurance by the rating agency either that the rating will remain at the same level for any given period of time or that the rating will not be lowered or withdrawn entirely by the rating agency.

- **Risk of Co-mingling:**

The servicers normally deposit all payments received from the obligors into the collection account. However, there could be a time gap between collection by a servicer and depositing the same into the collection account especially considering that some of the collections may be in the form of cash. In this interim period, collections from the loan agreements may not be segregated from other funds of the servicer. If the servicer fails to remit such funds, due to investors, the investors may be exposed to a potential loss. Due care is normally taken to ensure that the servicer enjoys the highest credit rating on a standalone basis to minimize co-mingling risk.

- **Risk factors associated with investing in Foreign Securities**

Subject to necessary approvals and within the investment objectives / asset allocation pattern of the Scheme may also invest in permitted foreign securities 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 multimarket and multi-currency products.

The Scheme may invest in units/securities issued by overseas companies listed on recognized stock exchanges overseas and other securities in accordance with the provisions of clause 12.19 of SEBI Master circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2024/90 dated June 27, 2024, subject to a maximum of US\$ 1 billion at in the aggregate at the Mutual Fund level and upto a maximum of US\$ 300 million in overseas Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) at the Mutual Fund level or such limits as may be prescribed by SEBI from time to time. However, in case the overall industry limit or such other limit as prescribed by SEBI has been breached, the Scheme would temporarily not invest in the overseas securities.

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. However, such investments also entail additional risks not only limited to the following.

Country Risk: The Country risk arises from the inability of a country, to meet its financial obligations. It is the risk encompassing economic, social and political conditions in a foreign country, which might adversely affect foreign investors' financial interests. In addition, country risks would include events such as introduction of extraordinary exchange controls, economic deterioration, bi-lateral conflict leading to immobilisation of the overseas financial assets and the prevalent tax laws of the respective jurisdiction for execution of trades or otherwise.

Currency Risk: Moving from Indian Rupee (INR) to any other currency involves currency risk. To the extent that the assets of the Scheme will be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the Indian Rupee equivalent of the net assets and income may be adversely affected by changes in the value of certain foreign currencies relative to the Indian Rupee.

Interest Rate Risk: The pace and movement of interest rate cycles of various countries, though loosely co-related, can differ significantly. Investments in securities of countries other than India, the Scheme stand exposed to their interest rate cycles.

Repatriation Risk: 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 Short Selling & Securities Lending**

Securities Lending is a lending of securities through an approved intermediary to a borrower under an agreement for a specified period with the condition that the borrower will return equivalent securities of the same type or class at the end of the specified period along with the corporate benefits accruing on the securities borrowed. There are risks inherent in securities lending, including the risk of failure of the other party, in this case the approved intermediary to comply with the terms of the agreement. Such failure can result in a possible loss of rights to the collateral, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of corporate benefits accruing thereon.

Short-selling is the sale of shares or securities that the seller does not own at the time of trading. Instead, he borrows it from someone who already owns it. Later, the short seller buys back the stock/security he shorted and returns the stock/security to the lender to close out the loan. The inherent risks are Counterparty risk and liquidity risk of the stock/security being borrowed. The security being short sold might be illiquid or become illiquid and covering of the security might occur at a much higher price level than anticipated, leading to losses.

- **Risks associated with investing in Tri-party Repo (TREPS) through CCIL**

The Mutual Fund is a member of securities segment and Tri-party Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). All transactions of the Mutual Fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus, reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL). CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The Mutual Fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL at any given point in time i.e., in the event that the default waterfall is triggered and the contribution of the Mutual Fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, the

Scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

Further, it may be noted that, CCIL periodically prescribes a list of securities eligible for contributions as collateral by members. Presently, all Central Government securities and Treasury bills are accepted as collateral by CCIL. The risk factors may undergo change in case the CCIL notifies securities other than Government of India securities as eligible for contribution as collateral.

- **Risks associated with investing in repo transactions in corporate bonds**

The market for the aforesaid product is illiquid. Hence, repo obligations cannot be easily sold to other parties.

If a counterparty fails, the scheme would have to take recourse to the collateral provided. If a counterparty fails to repay and the value of the collateral falls beyond the haircut, then the Scheme would be exposed to a loss of interest or principal.

Further, if the Scheme needs to take recourse to the debt securities provided as collateral, and the issuer of the debt securities makes a default, the scheme may lose the whole, or substantial portion of the amount.

This risk is somewhat mitigated by the fact that only bonds which have credit rating of AA and above can be accepted as collateral for repo transactions.

- **Risks associated with transaction in Units through stock exchange(s)**

In respect of transaction in Units of the Scheme through Bombay Stock Exchange ("BSE") and / or National Stock Exchange ("NSE"), allotment and redemption of Units on any Business Day will depend upon the order processing / settlement by NSE and /or BSE and their respective clearing corporations on which the Fund has no control.

- **Risks associated with Restrictions on Redemption**

The Trustee and the AMC may impose restrictions on redemptions when there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets. Accordingly, such restriction may affect the liquidity of the Scheme and there may be a delay in investors receiving part of their redemption proceeds.

- **Risk associated with Taxation of the Scheme**

Equity oriented mutual fund means a fund which has been set up under a scheme of a Mutual Fund specified under clause (23D) of Income Tax Act, 1961 where more than 65% of the investible funds are invested in equity shares of domestic companies. The percentage of equity shareholding of the fund shall be computed with reference to the annual average of the monthly averages of the opening and closing figures. In an event where the percentage of annual average of monthly averages of equity shares of domestic companies falls below 65% of the investible funds, then the scheme may be classified as a Non Equity Oriented Fund and it may have additional tax implication on investors.

Risks associated with segregated portfolio

The unit holders may note that no redemption and subscription shall be allowed in the segregated portfolio. However, in order to facilitate exit to unit holders in the segregated portfolio, the AMC shall enable listing of units of segregated portfolio on the recognized stock exchange. The risks associated in regard to the segregated portfolio are as follows:

- The investors holding units of the segregated portfolio may not be able to liquidate their holdings till the time of recovery of money from the issuer.

- The security comprising the segregated portfolio may not realize any value.
- Listing of units of the segregated portfolio on a recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units of the segregated portfolio on the stock exchange.
- The trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV) of the segregated portfolio.

6. SAMCO SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES FUND

• Risks associated with investments in Equity and Equity related instruments

- Equity and equity related securities are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis. The liquidity of investments made in the Scheme may be restricted by trading volumes and settlement periods. Settlement 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 portfolio 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 portfolio. Also, the value of the Scheme investments may be affected by interest rates, currency exchange rates, changes in law/policies of the government, taxation laws and political, economic or other developments which may have an adverse bearing on individual Securities, a specific sector or all sectors.
- Investments in equity and equity related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest in the equity Schemes unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their investment.
- 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.

• Risks associated with investments in Derivatives

- Derivative products are specialized instruments that require investment techniques and risk analysis different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a derivative requires an understanding not only of the underlying instrument but of the derivative itself. Trading in derivatives carries a high degree of risk although they are traded at a relatively small amount of margin which provides the possibility of great profit or loss in comparison with the principal investment amount. Thus, derivatives are highly leveraged instruments. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- The derivatives market in India is nascent and does not have the volumes that may be seen in other developed markets, which may result in volatility to the values.
- 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.
- Investment in derivatives also requires 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. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- 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 option 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.
- 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.
- The writer of a put option bears the risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset declines below the exercise price. The writer of a call option bears a risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset increases above the exercise price, as per extant regulations.
- 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 "counter party") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract.

The counter party may default on a transaction before settlement and therefore, the Scheme is compelled to negotiate with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavorable) market price.

- Derivatives also carry a market liquidity risk where the derivatives cannot be sold (unwound) at prices that reflect the underlying assets, rates and indices.
- Where derivatives are used for hedging, such use may involve a basis risk where the instrument used as a hedge does not match the movement in the instrument/ underlying asset being hedged. The risk may be inter-related also e.g. interest rate movements can affect equity prices, which could influence specific issuer/industry assets.
- 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.
- Derivative products are leveraged instruments and can provide disproportionate gains as well as disproportionate losses to the investor. Execution of investment strategies depends upon the ability of the fund manager(s) to identify such opportunities which may not be available at all times. Identification and execution of the strategies to be pursued by the fund manager(s) 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 covered call strategy

- 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. This downside risk is reduced by writing covered call options.
- The Scheme may write covered call option only in case it has adequate number of underlying equity shares as per regulatory requirement. This would lead to setting aside a portion of investment in underlying equity shares. If covered call options are sold to the maximum extent allowed by regulatory authority, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares immediately if the view changes to sell and exit the stock. The covered call options need to be unwound before the stock positions can be liquidated. This may lead to a loss of opportunity, or can cause exit issues if the strike price at which the call option contracts have been written become illiquid. Hence, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares, which can lead to temporary illiquidity of the underlying equity shares and result in loss of opportunity.
- The writing of covered call option would lead to loss of opportunity due to appreciation in value of the underlying equity shares. Hence, when the appreciation in equity share price is more than the option premium received the Scheme would be at a loss.

• Risks associated with investments in Fixed Income Securities:

The following are the risks associated mainly with investment in Fixed Income Securities:

Interest Rate Risk: This risk is associated with movements in interest rate, which depend on various factors such as government borrowing, inflation, economic performance etc. Fixed income securities such as government bonds, corporate bonds and money market instruments etc. run price-risk or interest-rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed income securities fall and when interest rates drop, the prices generally increase. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as coupon, maturity of the security, the yield level at which the security is being traded. The longer the time to a bond's maturity, the greater is its interest rate risk. The NAV of the Scheme is expected to increase from a fall in interest rates while it would be adversely affected by an increase in the level of interest rates.

Re-investment Risk: Investments in fixed income securities may carry re-investment risk as interest rates prevailing on the interest or maturity due dates may differ from the original coupon of the bond. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested at a lower rate.

Spread Risk: Spreads between various fixed income securities may widen or contract. E.g.: Corporate Bonds are exposed to the risk of widening of the spread between corporate bonds and gilts. Prices of corporate bonds tend to fall if this spread widens which will affect the NAV of the scheme accordingly. Similarly, in case of floating rate securities, where the coupon is expressed in terms of a spread or mark up over the benchmark rate, widening of the spread results in a fall in the value of such securities.

Liquidity Risk related to fixed income instruments: This risk pertains to how saleable a security is in the market or the ease at which a security can be sold at or close to its true value. Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures may restrict the liquidity of some of the investments. The primary measure of liquidity risk is the spread between the bid price and the offer price quoted by a dealer. The liquidity of debt securities may change, depending on market conditions. At the time of selling the security, the security can become less liquid (wider spread) or illiquid, leading to loss in value of the portfolio. Securities that are unlisted generally carry a higher liquidity risk compared to listed securities.

Liquidity risk is greater for thinly traded securities such as, lower-rated bonds, bonds that were part of a smaller issue, bonds that have recently had their credit rating downgraded or bonds sold by an infrequent issuer. Bonds are generally the most liquid during the period right after issuance when the typical bond has the highest trading volume.

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 when the security is finally sold.

Credit Risk/Default Risk: Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a debenture/ bond or a money market instrument may default on interest and /or principal payment obligations and/or on violation of covenant(s) and/or delay in scheduled payment(s). Even when there is no default, the price of a security may change with expected changes in the credit rating of the issuer.

Government Security is a sovereign security and the default risk is considered to be the least/zero. Corporate bonds carry a higher credit risk than Government Securities. Within corporate bonds also there are different levels of safety. Credit risks of most issuers of debt securities are rated by independent and professionally run rating agencies. Ratings of Credit issued by these agencies typically range from "AAA" (read as "Triple A" denoting "Highest Safety") to "D" (denoting "Default"), with about 6 distinct ratings between the two extremes. A bond rated higher by a particular rating agency is safer than a bond rated lower by the same rating agency.

Counterparty Risk: This is the risk of failure of counterparty to the transaction to deliver securities against consideration received or to pay consideration against securities delivered, in full or in part or as per the agreed specification. There could be losses to the Scheme in case of counterparty default.

Settlement Risk: Different segments of the Indian financial markets have different settlement periods and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances. The inability of the Scheme to make purchases in intended securities due to settlement problems could cause the Scheme to miss certain investment opportunities. Fixed income securities run the risk of settlement which can adversely affect the ability of the fund house to swiftly execute trading strategies which can lead to adverse movements in NAV.

Duration risk: The modified duration of a bond is a measure of its price sensitivity to interest rates movements, based on the average time to maturity of its interest and principal cash flows. Bond portfolio managers increase average duration when they expect rates to decline, to get the most benefit, and decrease average duration when they expect rates to rise, so as to minimize the negative impact. If rates move in a direction contrary to their expectations, they lose.

Inflation risk: Inflation causes tomorrow's currency to be worth less than today's; in other words, it reduces the purchasing power of a bond investor's future interest payments and principal, collectively known as "cash flows." Inflation also leads to higher interest rates, which in turn leads to lower bond prices. Inflation-indexed securities such as Treasury Inflation Protection Securities (TIPS) are structured to remove inflation risk.

Prepayment Risk: The borrower may repay the receivables earlier than scheduled, which may result in change in the yield and tenor for the Scheme.

Call risk: Some corporate, municipal and agency bonds have a "call provision" entitling their issuers to redeem them at a specified price on a date prior to maturity. Declining interest rates may accelerate the redemption of a callable bond, causing an investor's principal to be returned sooner than expected. In that scenario, investors have to reinvest the principal at the lower interest rates. (See also Reinvestment risk.)

Performance Risk: Performance of the Scheme may be impacted with changes in factors which affect the capital market and in particular the debt market.

- **Risk factors associated with investing in Foreign Securities**

Subject to necessary approvals and within the investment objectives / asset allocation pattern of the Scheme may also invest in permitted foreign securities 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 multimarket and multi-currency products.

The Scheme may invest in units/securities issued by overseas companies listed on recognized stock exchanges overseas and other securities in accordance with the provisions of clause 12.19 of SEBI Master circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2024/90 dated June 27, 2024, subject to a maximum of US\$ 1 billion at in the aggregate at the Mutual Fund level and upto a maximum of US\$ 300 million in overseas Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) at the Mutual Fund level or such limits as may be prescribed by SEBI from time to time. However, in case the overall industry limit of US\$ 7 billion or such other limit as prescribed by SEBI has been breached, the Scheme would temporarily not invest in the overseas securities.

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. However, such investments also entail additional risks not only limited to the following.

Country Risk: The Country risk arises from the inability of a country, to meet its financial obligations. It is the risk encompassing economic, social and political conditions in a foreign country, which might adversely affect foreign investors' financial interests. In addition, country risks would include events such as introduction of extraordinary exchange controls, economic deterioration, bi-lateral conflict leading to immobilisation of the overseas financial assets and the prevalent tax laws of the respective jurisdiction for execution of trades or otherwise.

Currency Risk: Moving from Indian Rupee (INR) to any other currency involves currency risk. To the extent that the assets of the Scheme will be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the Indian Rupee equivalent of the net assets and income may be adversely affected by changes in the value of certain foreign currencies relative to the Indian Rupee.

Interest Rate Risk: The pace and movement of interest rate cycles of various countries, though loosely co-related, can differ significantly. Investments in securities of countries other than India, the Scheme stand exposed to their interest rate cycles.

Repatriation Risk: 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 Short Selling & Securities Lending**

Securities Lending is a lending of securities through an approved intermediary to a borrower under an agreement for a specified period with the condition that the borrower will return equivalent securities of the same type or class at the end of the specified period along with the corporate benefits accruing on the securities borrowed. There are risks inherent in securities lending, including the risk of failure of the other party, in this case the approved intermediary to comply with the terms of the agreement. Such failure can result in a possible loss of rights to the collateral, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of corporate benefits accruing thereon.

Short-selling is the sale of shares or securities that the seller does not own at the time of trading. Instead, he borrows it from someone who already owns it. Later, the short seller buys back the stock/security he shorted and returns the stock/security to the lender to close out the loan. The inherent risks are Counterparty risk and liquidity risk of the stock/security being borrowed. The security being short sold might be illiquid or become illiquid and covering of the security might occur at a much higher price level than anticipated, leading to losses.

- **Risks associated with investing in Tri-party Repo (TREPS) through CCIL**

The Mutual Fund is a member of securities segment and Tri-party Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). All transactions of the Mutual Fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus, reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL). CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The Mutual Fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL at any given point in time i.e., in the event that the default waterfall is triggered and the contribution of the Mutual Fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, the Scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

Further, it may be noted that, CCIL periodically prescribes a list of securities eligible for contributions as collateral by members. Presently, all Central Government securities and Treasury bills are accepted as collateral by CCIL. The risk factors may undergo change in case the CCIL notifies securities other than Government of India securities as eligible for contribution as collateral.

- **Risks associated with transaction in Units through stock exchange(s)**

In respect of transaction in Units of the Scheme through Bombay Stock Exchange ("BSE") and / or National Stock Exchange ("NSE"), allotment and redemption of Units on any Business Day will depend upon the order processing / settlement by NSE and /or BSE and their respective clearing corporations on which the Fund has no control.

Risks associated with Restrictions on Redemption

The Trustee and the AMC may impose restrictions on redemptions when there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets. Accordingly, such restriction may affect the liquidity of the Scheme and there may be a delay in investors receiving part of their redemption proceeds.

- **Risks associated with segregated portfolio**

The unit holders may note that no redemption and subscription shall be allowed in the segregated portfolio. However, in order to facilitate exit to unit holders in the segregated portfolio, the AMC shall enable listing of units of segregated portfolio on the recognized stock exchange. The risks associated in regard to the segregated portfolio are as follows:

- The investors holding units of the segregated portfolio may not be able to liquidate their holdings till the time of recovery of money from the issuer.
- The security comprising the segregated portfolio may not realize any value.
- Listing of units of the segregated portfolio on a recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units of the segregated portfolio on the stock exchange.
- The trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV) of the segregated portfolio.

7. SAMCO MUTLI CAP FUND

- **Risks associated with investments in Equity and Equity related instruments**

- Equity and equity related securities are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis. The liquidity of investments made in the Scheme may be restricted by trading volumes and settlement periods. Settlement 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 portfolio 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 portfolio. Also, the value of the Scheme investments may be affected by interest rates, currency exchange rates, changes in law/policies of the government, taxation laws and political, economic or other developments which may have an adverse bearing on individual Securities, a specific sector or all sectors.
- Investments in equity and equity related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest in the equity Schemes unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their investment.
- 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.

- **Risks associated with investments in Derivatives**

- Derivative products are specialized instruments that require investment techniques and risk analysis different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a derivative requires an understanding not only of the underlying instrument but of the derivative itself. Trading in derivatives carries a high degree of risk although they are traded at a relatively small amount of margin which provides the possibility of great profit or loss in comparison with the principal investment amount. Thus, derivatives are highly leveraged instruments. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- The derivatives market in India is nascent and does not have the volumes that may be seen in other developed markets, which may result in volatility to the values.
- 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.
- Investment in derivatives also requires 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. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- 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 option 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.
- 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.
- The writer of a put option bears the risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset declines below the exercise price. The writer of a call option bears a risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset increases above the exercise price, as per extant regulations.
- 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 "counter party") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract. The counter party may default on a transaction before settlement and therefore, the Scheme is compelled

to negotiate with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavorable) market price.

- Derivatives also carry a market liquidity risk where the derivatives cannot be sold (unwound) at prices that reflect the underlying assets, rates and indices.
- Where derivatives are used for hedging, such use may involve a basis risk where the instrument used as a hedge does not match the movement in the instrument/ underlying asset being hedged. The risk may be inter-related also e.g. interest rate movements can affect equity prices, which could influence specific issuer/industry assets.
- 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.
- Derivative products are leveraged instruments and can provide disproportionate gains as well as disproportionate losses to the investor. Execution of investment strategies depends upon the ability of the fund manager(s) to identify such opportunities which may not be available at all times. Identification and execution of the strategies to be pursued by the fund manager(s) 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 covered call strategy**

- 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. This downside risk is reduced by writing covered call options.
- The Scheme may write covered call option only in case it has adequate number of underlying equity shares as per regulatory requirement. This would lead to setting aside a portion of investment in underlying equity shares. If covered call options are sold to the maximum extent allowed by regulatory authority, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares immediately if the view changes to sell and exit the stock. The covered call options need to be unwound before the stock positions can be liquidated. This may lead to a loss of opportunity, or can cause exit issues if the strike price at which the call option contracts have been written become illiquid. Hence, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares, which can lead to temporary illiquidity of the underlying equity shares and result in loss of opportunity.
- The writing of covered call option would lead to loss of opportunity due to appreciation in value of the underlying equity shares. Hence, when the appreciation in equity share price is more than the option premium received the Scheme would be at a loss.

- **Risk factors associated with investing in Foreign Securities**

Subject to necessary approvals and within the investment objectives / asset allocation pattern of the Scheme may also invest in permitted foreign securities 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 multimarket and multi-currency products.

The Scheme may invest in units/securities issued by overseas companies listed on recognized stock exchanges overseas and other securities in accordance with the provisions of clause 12.19 of SEBI Master circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2024/90 dated June 27, 2024, subject to a maximum of US\$ 1 billion at in the aggregate at the Mutual Fund level and upto a maximum of US\$ 300 million in overseas Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) at the Mutual Fund level or such limits as may be prescribed by SEBI from time to time. However, in case the overall industry limit or such other limit as prescribed by SEBI has been breached, the Scheme would temporarily not invest in the overseas securities.

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. However, such investments also entail additional risks not only limited to the following.

Country Risk: The Country risk arises from the inability of a country, to meet its financial obligations. It is the risk encompassing economic, social and political conditions in a foreign country, which might adversely affect foreign investors' financial interests. In addition, country risks would include events

such as introduction of extraordinary exchange controls, economic deterioration, bi-lateral conflict leading to immobilisation of the overseas financial assets and the prevalent tax laws of the respective jurisdiction for execution of trades or otherwise.

Currency Risk: Moving from Indian Rupee (INR) to any other currency involves currency risk. To the extent that the assets of the Scheme will be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the Indian Rupee equivalent of the net assets and income may be adversely affected by changes in the value of certain foreign currencies relative to the Indian Rupee.

Interest Rate Risk: The pace and movement of interest rate cycles of various countries, though loosely co-related, can differ significantly. Investments in securities of countries other than India, the Scheme stand exposed to their interest rate cycles.

Repatriation Risk: 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 investments in Fixed Income Securities:**

The following are the risks associated mainly with investment in Fixed Income Securities:

Interest Rate Risk: This risk is associated with movements in interest rate, which depend on various factors such as government borrowing, inflation, economic performance etc. Fixed income securities such as government bonds, corporate bonds and money market instruments etc. run price-risk or interest-rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed income securities fall and when interest rates drop, the prices generally increase. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as coupon, maturity of the security, the yield level at which the security is being traded. The longer the time to a bond's maturity, the greater is its interest rate risk. The NAV of the Scheme is expected to increase from a fall in interest rates while it would be adversely affected by an increase in the level of interest rates.

Re-investment Risk: Investments in fixed income securities may carry re-investment risk as interest rates prevailing on the interest or maturity due dates may differ from the original coupon of the bond. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested at a lower rate.

Spread Risk: Spreads between various fixed income securities may widen or contract. E.g.: Corporate Bonds are exposed to the risk of widening of the spread between corporate bonds and gilts. Prices of corporate bonds tend to fall if this spread widens which will affect the NAV of the scheme accordingly. Similarly, in case of floating rate securities, where the coupon is expressed in terms of a spread or mark up over the benchmark rate, widening of the spread results in a fall in the value of such securities.

Liquidity Risk related to fixed income instruments: This risk pertains to how saleable a security is in the market or the ease at which a security can be sold at or close to its true value. Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures may restrict the liquidity of some of the investments. The primary measure of liquidity risk is the spread between the bid price and the offer price quoted by a dealer. The liquidity of debt securities may change, depending on market conditions. At the time of selling the security, the security can become less liquid (wider spread) or illiquid, leading to loss in value of the portfolio. Securities that are unlisted generally carry a higher liquidity risk compared to listed securities.

Liquidity risk is greater for thinly traded securities such as, lower-rated bonds, bonds that were part of a smaller issue, bonds that have recently had their credit rating downgraded or bonds sold by an infrequent issuer. Bonds are generally the most liquid during the period right after issuance when the typical bond has the highest trading volume.

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 when the security is finally sold.

Credit Risk/Default Risk: Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a debenture/ bond or a money market instrument may default on interest and /or principal payment obligations and/or on violation of covenant(s) and/or delay in scheduled payment(s). Even when there is no default, the price of a security may change with expected changes in the credit rating of the issuer.

Government Security is a sovereign security and the default risk is considered to be the least/zero. Corporate bonds carry a higher credit risk than Government Securities. Within corporate bonds also there are different levels of safety. Credit risks of most issuers of debt securities are rated by independent

and professionally run rating agencies. Ratings of Credit issued by these agencies typically range from "AAA" (read as "Triple A" denoting "Highest Safety") to "D" (denoting "Default"), with about 6 distinct ratings between the two extremes. A bond rated higher by a particular rating agency is safer than a bond rated lower by the same rating agency.

Counterparty Risk: This is the risk of failure of counterparty to the transaction to deliver securities against consideration received or to pay consideration against securities delivered, in full or in part or as per the agreed specification. There could be losses to the Scheme in case of counterparty default.

Settlement Risk: Different segments of the Indian financial markets have different settlement periods and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances. The inability of the Scheme to make purchases in intended securities due to settlement problems could cause the Scheme to miss certain investment opportunities. Fixed income securities run the risk of settlement which can adversely affect the ability of the fund house to swiftly execute trading strategies which can lead to adverse movements in NAV.

Duration risk: The modified duration of a bond is a measure of its price sensitivity to interest rates movements, based on the average time to maturity of its interest and principal cash flows. Bond portfolio managers increase average duration when they expect rates to decline, to get the most benefit, and decrease average duration when they expect rates to rise, so as to minimize the negative impact. If rates move in a direction contrary to their expectations, they lose.

Inflation risk: Inflation causes tomorrow's currency to be worth less than today's; in other words, it reduces the purchasing power of a bond investor's future interest payments and principal, collectively known as "cash flows." Inflation also leads to higher interest rates, which in turn leads to lower bond prices. Inflation-indexed securities such as Treasury Inflation Protection Securities (TIPS) are structured to remove inflation risk.

Prepayment Risk: The borrower may repay the receivables earlier than scheduled, which may result in change in the yield and tenor for the Scheme.

Call risk: Some corporate, municipal and agency bonds have a "call provision" entitling their issuers to redeem them at a specified price on a date prior to maturity. Declining interest rates may accelerate the redemption of a callable bond, causing an investor's principal to be returned sooner than expected. In that scenario, investors have to reinvest the principal at the lower interest rates. (See also Reinvestment risk.)

Performance Risk: Performance of the Scheme may be impacted with changes in factors which affect the capital market and in particular the debt market.

- **Risks associated with Investing in Structured Obligation (SO) & Credit Enhancement (CE) rated securities**

The risk factors stated below for the Structured Obligations & Credit Enhancement are in addition to the risk factors associated with debt instruments. Credit rating agencies assign CE rating to an instrument based on any identifiable credit enhancement for the debt instrument issued by an issuer. The credit enhancement could be in various forms and could include guarantee, shortfall undertaking, letter of comfort, etc. from another entity. This entity could be either related or non-related to the issuer like a bank, financial institution, etc. Credit enhancement could include additional security in form of pledge of shares listed on stock exchanges, etc. SO transactions are asset backed/ mortgage backed securities, securitized paper backed by hypothecation of car loan receivables, securities backed by trade receivables, credit card receivables etc. Hence, for CE rated instruments evaluation of the credit enhancement provider, as well as the issuer is undertaken to determine the issuer rating. In case of SO rated issuer, the underlying loan pools or securitization, etc. is assessed to arrive at rating for the issuer.

Liquidity Risk: SO rated securities are often complex structures, with a variety of credit enhancements. Debt securities lack a well-developed secondary market in India, and due to the credit enhanced nature of CE securities as well as structured nature of SO securities, the liquidity in the market for these instruments is adversely affected compared to similar rated debt instruments. Hence, lower liquidity of such instruments, could lead to inability of the scheme to sell such debt instruments and generate liquidity for the scheme or higher impact cost when such instruments are sold.

Credit Risk: The credit risk of debt instruments which are CE rated is based on the combined strength of the issuer as well as the structure. Hence, any weakness in either the issuer or the structure could have an adverse credit impact on the debt instrument. The weakness in structure could arise due to inability

of the investors to enforce the structure due to issues such as legal risk, inability to sell the underlying collateral or enforce guarantee, etc. In case of SO transactions, comingling risk and risk of servicer increases the overall risk for the securitized debt or assets backed transactions. Therefore, apart from issuer level credit risk such debt instruments are also susceptible to structure related credit risk.

- **Risks associated with investments in securitised paper**

Types of securitised debt vary and carry different levels and types of risks. Credit risk on securitised bonds depends upon the originator and varies depending on whether they are issued with recourse to the originator or otherwise. Even within securitised debt, AAA or equivalent rated securitised debt offers lesser risk of default than AA rated securitised debt. A structure with recourse will have a lower credit risk than a structure without recourse.

As 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 these types of receivables depend upon various factors including macro economic factors of these industries and economies. Specific factors like nature and adequacy of property mortgaged against these borrowings, nature of loan agreement/ mortgage deed in case of home loan, adequacy of documentation in case of auto finance and home loans, capacity of borrower to meet its obligation on borrowings in case of credit cards and the intention of the borrower influence the risks relating to the asset borrowings underlying the 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 the investor receives in the securitised paper.

- **Limited Liquidity & price Risk:**

Presently, the secondary market for securitised papers is not very liquid. There is no assurance that a deep secondary market will develop for such securities. This could limit the ability of the Fund to resell them. Even if a secondary market develops and sales were to take place, these secondary transactions may be at a discount to the initial issue price due to changes in the interest rate structure.

- **Risks due to possible prepayments:**

Asset securitisation is a process whereby commercial or consumer credits are packaged and sold in the form of financial instruments. Full prepayment of underlying loan contract may arise under any of the following circumstances:

- obligor pays the receivable due from him at any time prior to the scheduled maturity date of that receivable; or
- receivable is required to be repurchased by the seller consequent to its inability to rectify a material misrepresentation with respect to that receivable; or
- the servicer recognizing a contract as a defaulted contract and hence repossessing the underlying asset and selling the same.

In the event of prepayments, investors may be exposed to changes in tenor and yield.

- **Bankruptcy of the originator or seller:**

If the originator becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the sale from originator to the Trust was not a sale then the Fund could experience losses or delays in the payments due. All possible care is generally taken in structuring the transaction so as to minimize the risk of the sale to the Trust not being construed as a "True Sale". Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the assignment of receivables to the Trust in trust for and for the benefit of the investors, as envisaged herein, would constitute a true sale.

- **Bankruptcy of the investor's agent:**

If an investor's agent becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the recourse of the investor's agent to the assets/receivables is not in its capacity as agent/Trustee but in his personal capacity, then an investor could experience losses or delays in the payments due under the swap agreement. All possible care is normally taken in structuring the

transaction and drafting the underlying documents so as to provide that the assets/receivables if and when held by an investor's agent is held as agent and in Trust for the Investors and shall not form part of the personal assets of the investor's agent. Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the investors agent's recourse to assets/ receivables is restricted in his capacity as agent and trustee and not in its personal capacity.

- **Credit Rating of the Transaction/Certificate:**

The credit rating is not a recommendation to purchase, hold or sell the Certificate in as much as the ratings do not comment on the market price of the Certificate or its suitability to a particular investor. There is no assurance by the rating agency either that the rating will remain at the same level for any given period of time or that the rating will not be lowered or withdrawn entirely by the rating agency.

- **Risk of Co-mingling:**

The servicers normally deposit all payments received from the obligors into the collection account. However, there could be a time gap between collection by a servicer and depositing the same into the collection account especially considering that some of the collections may be in the form of cash. In this interim period, collections from the loan agreements may not be segregated from other funds of the servicer. If the servicer fails to remit such funds, due to investors, the investors may be exposed to a potential loss. Due care is normally taken to ensure that the servicer enjoys the highest credit rating on a standalone basis to minimize co-mingling risk.

- **Risks associated with Short Selling & Securities Lending**

Securities Lending is a lending of securities through an approved intermediary to a borrower under an agreement for a specified period with the condition that the borrower will return equivalent securities of the same type or class at the end of the specified period along with the corporate benefits accruing on the securities borrowed. There are risks inherent in securities lending, including the risk of failure of the other party, in this case the approved intermediary to comply with the terms of the agreement. Such failure can result in a possible loss of rights to the collateral, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of corporate benefits accruing thereon.

Short-selling is the sale of shares or securities that the seller does not own at the time of trading. Instead, he borrows it from someone who already owns it. Later, the short seller buys back the stock/security he shorted and returns the stock/security to the lender to close out the loan. The inherent risks are Counterparty risk and liquidity risk of the stock/security being borrowed. The security being short sold might be illiquid or become illiquid and covering of the security might occur at a much higher price level than anticipated, leading to losses.

- **Risks associated with investing in Tri-party Repo (TREPS) through CCIL**

The Mutual Fund is a member of securities segment and Tri-party Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). All transactions of the Mutual Fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus, reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL). CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The Mutual Fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL at any given point in time i.e., in the event that the default waterfall is triggered and the contribution of the Mutual Fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, the Scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

Further, it may be noted that, CCIL periodically prescribes a list of securities eligible for contributions as collateral by members. Presently, all Central Government securities and Treasury bills are accepted as collateral by CCIL. The risk factors may undergo change in case the CCIL notifies securities other than Government of India securities as eligible for contribution as collateral.

- **Risks associated with investing in repo transactions in corporate bonds**

The market for the aforesaid product is illiquid. Hence, repo obligations cannot be easily sold to other parties.

If a counterparty fails, the scheme would have to take recourse to the collateral provided. If a counterparty fails to repay and the value of the collateral falls beyond the haircut, then the Scheme would be exposed to a loss of interest or principal.

Further, if the Scheme needs to take recourse to the debt securities provided as collateral, and the issuer of the debt securities makes a default, the scheme may lose the whole, or substantial portion of the amount.

This risk is somewhat mitigated by the fact that only bonds which have credit rating of AA and above can be accepted as collateral for repo transactions.

- **Risks associated with transaction in Units through stock exchange(s)**

In respect of transaction in Units of the Scheme through Bombay Stock Exchange ("BSE") and / or National Stock Exchange ("NSE"), allotment and redemption of Units on any Business Day will depend upon the order processing / settlement by NSE and /or BSE and their respective clearing corporations on which the Fund has no control.

- **Risks associated with Restrictions on Redemption**

The Trustee and the AMC may impose restrictions on redemptions when there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets. Accordingly, such restriction may affect the liquidity of the Scheme and there may be a delay in investors receiving part of their redemption proceeds.

- **Risks associated with segregated portfolio**

The unit holders may note that no redemption and subscription shall be allowed in the segregated portfolio. However, in order to facilitate exit to unit holders in the segregated portfolio, the AMC shall enable listing of units of segregated portfolio on the recognized stock exchange. The risks associated in regard to the segregated portfolio are as follows:

- The investors holding units of the segregated portfolio may not be able to liquidate their holdings till the time of recovery of money from the issuer.
- The security comprising the segregated portfolio may not realize any value.
- Listing of units of the segregated portfolio on a recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units of the segregated portfolio on the stock exchange.
- The trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV) of the segregated portfolio.

8. SAMCO ARBITRAGE FUND

• Risks associated with investments in Equity and Equity related instruments

- Equity and equity related securities are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis. The liquidity of investments made in the Scheme may be restricted by trading volumes and settlement periods. Settlement 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 portfolio 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 portfolio. Also, the value of the Scheme investments may be affected by interest rates, currency exchange rates, changes in law/policies of the government, taxation laws and political, economic or other developments which may have an adverse bearing on individual Securities, a specific sector or all sectors.
- Investments in equity and equity related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest in the equity Schemes unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their investment.
- 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.

• Risks associated with investments in Derivatives

- Derivative products are specialized instruments that require investment techniques and risk analysis different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a derivative requires an understanding not only of the underlying instrument but of the derivative itself. Trading in derivatives carries a high degree of risk although they are traded at a relatively small amount of margin which provides the possibility of great profit or loss in comparison with the principal investment amount. Thus, derivatives are highly leveraged instruments. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- The derivatives market in India is nascent and does not have the volumes that may be seen in other developed markets, which may result in volatility to the values.
- 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.
- Investment in derivatives also requires 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. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- 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 option 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.
- 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.
- The writer of a put option bears the risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset declines below the exercise price. The writer of a call option bears a risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset increases above the exercise price, as per extant regulations.
- 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 "counter party") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract. The counter party may default on a transaction before settlement and therefore, the Scheme is compelled

to negotiate with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavorable) market price.

- Derivatives also carry a market liquidity risk where the derivatives cannot be sold (unwound) at prices that reflect the underlying assets, rates and indices.
- Where derivatives are used for hedging, such use may involve a basis risk where the instrument used as a hedge does not match the movement in the instrument/ underlying asset being hedged. The risk may be inter-related also e.g. interest rate movements can affect equity prices, which could influence specific issuer/industry assets.
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- 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. This downside risk is reduced by writing covered call options.
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Duration risk: The modified duration of a bond is a measure of its price sensitivity to interest rates movements, based on the average time to maturity of its interest and principal cash flows. Bond portfolio managers increase average duration when they expect rates to decline, to get the most benefit, and decrease average duration when they expect rates to rise, so as to minimize the negative impact. If rates move in a direction contrary to their expectations, they lose.

Inflation risk: Inflation causes tomorrow's currency to be worth less than today's; in other words, it reduces the purchasing power of a bond investor's future interest payments and principal, collectively known as "cash flows." Inflation also leads to higher interest rates, which in turn leads to lower bond prices. Inflation-indexed securities such as Treasury Inflation Protection Securities (TIPS) are structured to remove inflation risk.

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Performance Risk: Performance of the Scheme may be impacted with changes in factors which affect the capital market and in particular the debt market.

- **Risks associated with investments in securitised paper**

Types of securitised debt vary and carry different levels and types of risks. Credit risk on securitised bonds depends upon the originator and varies depending on whether they are issued with recourse to the originator or otherwise. Even within securitised debt, AAA or equivalent rated securitised debt offers lesser risk of default than AA rated securitised debt. A structure with recourse will have a lower credit risk than a structure without recourse.

As 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 these types of receivables depend upon various factors including macro economic factors of these industries and economies. Specific factors like nature and adequacy of property mortgaged against these borrowings, nature of loan agreement/ mortgage deed in case of home loan, adequacy of documentation in case of auto finance and home loans, capacity of borrower to meet its obligation on borrowings in case of credit cards and the intention of the borrower influence the risks relating to the asset borrowings underlying the 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 the investor receives in the securitised paper.

- **Limited Liquidity & price Risk:**

Presently, the secondary market for securitised papers is not very liquid. There is no assurance that a deep secondary market will develop for such securities. This could limit the ability of the Fund to resell them. Even if a secondary market develops and sales were to take place, these secondary transactions may be at a discount to the initial issue price due to changes in the interest rate structure.

- **Risks due to possible prepayments:**

Asset securitisation is a process whereby commercial or consumer credits are packaged and sold in the form of financial instruments. Full prepayment of underlying loan contract may arise under any of the following circumstances:

- obligor pays the receivable due from him at any time prior to the scheduled maturity date of that receivable; or
- receivable is required to be repurchased by the seller consequent to its inability to rectify a material misrepresentation with respect to that receivable; or
- the servicer recognizing a contract as a defaulted contract and hence repossessing the underlying asset and selling the same.

In the event of prepayments, investors may be exposed to changes in tenor and yield.

- **Bankruptcy of the originator or seller:**

If the originator becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the sale from originator to the Trust was not a sale then the Fund could experience losses or delays in the payments due. All possible care is generally taken in structuring the transaction so as to minimize the risk of the sale to the Trust not being construed as a "True Sale". Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the assignment of receivables to the Trust in trust for and for the benefit of the investors, as envisaged herein, would constitute a true sale.

- **Bankruptcy of the investor's agent:**

If an investor's agent becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the recourse of the investor's agent to the assets/receivables is not in its capacity as agent/Trustee but in his personal capacity, then an investor could experience losses or delays in the payments due under the swap agreement. All possible care is normally taken in structuring the transaction and drafting the underlying documents so as to provide that the assets/receivables if and when held by an investor's agent is held as agent and in Trust for the Investors and shall not form part of the personal assets of the investor's agent. Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the investors agent's recourse to assets/ receivables is restricted in his capacity as agent and trustee and not in its personal capacity.

- **Credit Rating of the Transaction/Certificate:**

The credit rating is not a recommendation to purchase, hold or sell the Certificate in as much as the ratings do not comment on the market price of the Certificate or its suitability to a particular investor. There is no assurance by the rating agency either that the rating will remain at the same level for any given period of time or that the rating will not be lowered or withdrawn entirely by the rating agency.

- **Risk of Co-mingling:**

The servicers normally deposit all payments received from the obligors into the collection account. However, there could be a time gap between collection by a servicer and depositing the same into the collection account especially considering that some of the collections may be in the form of cash. In this interim period, collections from the loan agreements may not be segregated from other funds of the servicer. If the servicer fails to remit such funds, due to investors, the investors may be exposed to a potential loss. Due care is normally taken to ensure that the servicer enjoys the highest credit rating on a standalone basis to minimize co-mingling risk.

- **Risks associated with Short Selling & Securities Lending**

Securities Lending is a lending of securities through an approved intermediary to a borrower under an agreement for a specified period with the condition that the borrower will return equivalent securities of the same type or class at the end of the specified period along with the corporate benefits accruing on the securities borrowed. There are risks inherent in securities lending, including the risk of failure of the other party, in this case the approved intermediary to comply with the terms of the agreement. Such failure can result in a possible loss of rights to the collateral, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of corporate benefits accruing thereon.

Short-selling is the sale of shares or securities that the seller does not own at the time of trading. Instead, he borrows it from someone who already owns it. Later, the short seller buys back the stock/security he shorted and returns the stock/security to the lender to close out the loan. The inherent risks are Counterparty risk and liquidity risk of the stock/security being borrowed. The security being short sold might be illiquid or become illiquid and covering of the security might occur at a much higher price level than anticipated, leading to losses.

- **Risks associated with investing in Tri-party Repo (TREPS) through CCIL**

The Mutual Fund is a member of securities segment and Tri-party Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). All transactions of the Mutual Fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus, reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL). CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The Mutual Fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL at any given point in time i.e., in the event that the default waterfall is triggered and the contribution of the Mutual Fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, the Scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

Further, it may be noted that, CCIL periodically prescribes a list of securities eligible for contributions as collateral by members. Presently, all Central Government securities and Treasury bills are accepted as collateral by CCIL. The risk factors may undergo change in case the CCIL notifies securities other than Government of India securities as eligible for contribution as collateral.

- **Risks associated with transaction in Units through stock exchange(s)**

In respect of transaction in Units of the Scheme through Bombay Stock Exchange ("BSE") and / or National Stock Exchange ("NSE"), allotment and redemption of Units on any Business Day will depend upon the order processing / settlement by NSE and /or BSE and their respective clearing corporations on which the Fund has no control.

- **Risks associated with Restrictions on Redemption**

The Trustee and the AMC may impose restrictions on redemptions when there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets. Accordingly, such restriction may affect the liquidity of the Scheme and there may be a delay in investors receiving part of their redemption proceeds.

- **Risks associated with segregated portfolio**

The unit holders may note that no redemption and subscription shall be allowed in the segregated portfolio. However, in order to facilitate exit to unit holders in the segregated portfolio, the AMC shall enable listing of units of segregated portfolio on the recognized stock exchange. The risks associated in regard to the segregated portfolio are as follows:

- The investors holding units of the segregated portfolio may not be able to liquidate their holdings till the time of recovery of money from the issuer.
- The security comprising the segregated portfolio may not realize any value.
- Listing of units of the segregated portfolio on a recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units of the segregated portfolio on the stock exchange.
- The trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV) of the segregated portfolio.

9. SAMCO MULTI ASSET ALLOCATION FUND

• Risks associated with investments in Equity and Equity related instruments

Equity and equity related securities are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis. The liquidity of investments made in the Scheme may be restricted by trading volumes and settlement periods. Settlement 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 portfolio 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 portfolio. Also, the value of the Scheme investments may be affected by interest rates, currency exchange rates, changes in law/policies of the government, taxation laws and political, economic or other developments which may have an adverse bearing on individual Securities, a specific sector or all sectors.

Investments in equity and equity related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest in the equity Schemes unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their investment.

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.

• Risks associated with investments in Derivatives

- Derivative products are specialized instruments that require investment techniques and risk analysis different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a derivative requires an understanding not only of the underlying instrument but of the derivative itself. Trading in derivatives carries a high degree of risk although they are traded at a relatively small amount of margin which provides the possibility of great profit or loss in comparison with the principal investment amount. Thus, derivatives are highly leveraged instruments. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- The derivatives market in India is nascent and does not have the volumes that may be seen in other developed markets, which may result in volatility to the values.
- 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.
- Investment in derivatives also requires 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. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- 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 option 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.
- 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.
- The writer of a put option bears the risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset declines below the exercise price. The writer of a call option bears a risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset increases above the exercise price, as per extant regulations.
- 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 "counter party") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract. The counter party may default on a transaction before settlement and therefore, the Scheme is compelled

to negotiate with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavorable) market price.

- Derivatives also carry a market liquidity risk where the derivatives cannot be sold (unwound) at prices that reflect the underlying assets, rates and indices.
- Where derivatives are used for hedging, such use may involve a basis risk where the instrument used as a hedge does not match the movement in the instrument/ underlying asset being hedged. The risk may be inter-related also e.g. interest rate movements can affect equity prices, which could influence specific issuer/industry assets.
- 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.
- Derivative products are leveraged instruments and can provide disproportionate gains as well as disproportionate losses to the investor. Execution of investment strategies depends upon the ability of the fund manager(s) to identify such opportunities which may not be available at all times. Identification and execution of the strategies to be pursued by the fund manager(s) 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 covered call strategy**

- 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. This downside risk is reduced by writing covered call options.
- The Scheme may write covered call option only in case it has adequate number of underlying equity shares as per regulatory requirement. This would lead to setting aside a portion of investment in underlying equity shares. If covered call options are sold to the maximum extent allowed by regulatory authority, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares immediately if the view changes to sell and exit the stock. The covered call options need to be unwound before the stock positions can be liquidated. This may lead to a loss of opportunity, or can cause exit issues if the strike price at which the call option contracts have been written become illiquid. Hence, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares, which can lead to temporary illiquidity of the underlying equity shares and result in loss of opportunity.
- The writing of covered call option would lead to loss of opportunity due to appreciation in value of the underlying equity shares. Hence, when the appreciation in equity share price is more than the option premium received the Scheme would be at a loss.

- **Risk factors associated with investing in Foreign Securities**

Subject to necessary approvals and within the investment objectives / asset allocation pattern of the Scheme may also invest in permitted foreign securities 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 multimarket and multi-currency products.

The Scheme may invest in units/securities issued by overseas companies listed on recognized stock exchanges overseas and other securities in accordance with the provisions of clause 12.19 of SEBI Master circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2024/90 dated June 27, 2024, subject to a maximum of US\$ 1 billion at in the aggregate at the Mutual Fund level and upto a maximum of US\$ 300 million in overseas Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) at the Mutual Fund level or such limits as may be prescribed by SEBI from time to time. However, in case the overall industry limit or such other limit as prescribed by SEBI has been breached, the Scheme would temporarily not invest in the overseas securities.

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. However, such investments also entail additional risks not only limited to the following.

Country Risk: The Country risk arises from the inability of a country, to meet its financial obligations. It is the risk encompassing economic, social and political conditions in a foreign country, which might adversely affect foreign investors' financial interests. In addition, country risks would include events such as introduction of extraordinary exchange controls, economic deterioration, bi-lateral conflict

leading to immobilisation of the overseas financial assets and the prevalent tax laws of the respective jurisdiction for execution of trades or otherwise.

Currency Risk: Moving from Indian Rupee (INR) to any other currency involves currency risk. To the extent that the assets of the Scheme will be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the Indian Rupee equivalent of the net assets and income may be adversely affected by changes in the value of certain foreign currencies relative to the Indian Rupee.

Interest Rate Risk: The pace and movement of interest rate cycles of various countries, though loosely co-related, can differ significantly. Investments in securities of countries other than India, the Scheme stand exposed to their interest rate cycles.

Repatriation Risk: 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 investments in Fixed Income Securities:**

The following are the risks associated mainly with investment in Fixed Income Securities:

Interest Rate Risk: This risk is associated with movements in interest rate, which depend on various factors such as government borrowing, inflation, economic performance etc. Fixed income securities such as government bonds, corporate bonds and money market instruments etc. run price-risk or interest-rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed income securities fall and when interest rates drop, the prices generally increase. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as coupon, maturity of the security, the yield level at which the security is being traded. The longer the time to a bond's maturity, the greater is its interest rate risk. The NAV of the Scheme is expected to increase from a fall in interest rates while it would be adversely affected by an increase in the level of interest rates.

Re-investment Risk: Investments in fixed income securities may carry re-investment risk as interest rates prevailing on the interest or maturity due dates may differ from the original coupon of the bond. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested at a lower rate.

Spread Risk: Spreads between various fixed income securities may widen or contract. E.g.: Corporate Bonds are exposed to the risk of widening of the spread between corporate bonds and gilts. Prices of corporate bonds tend to fall if this spread widens which will affect the NAV of the scheme accordingly. Similarly, in case of floating rate securities, where the coupon is expressed in terms of a spread or mark up over the benchmark rate, widening of the spread results in a fall in the value of such securities.

Liquidity Risk related to fixed income instruments: This risk pertains to how saleable a security is in the market or the ease at which a security can be sold at or close to its true value. Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures may restrict the liquidity of some of the investments. The primary measure of liquidity risk is the spread between the bid price and the offer price quoted by a dealer. The liquidity of debt securities may change, depending on market conditions. At the time of selling the security, the security can become less liquid (wider spread) or illiquid, leading to loss in value of the portfolio. Securities that are unlisted generally carry a higher liquidity risk compared to listed securities.

Liquidity risk is greater for thinly traded securities such as, lower-rated bonds, bonds that were part of a smaller issue, bonds that have recently had their credit rating downgraded or bonds sold by an infrequent issuer. Bonds are generally the most liquid during the period right after issuance when the typical bond has the highest trading volume.

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 when the security is finally sold.

Credit Risk/Default Risk: Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a debenture/ bond or a money market instrument may default on interest and /or principal payment obligations and/or on violation of covenant(s) and/or delay in scheduled payment(s). Even when there is no default, the price of a security may change with expected changes in the credit rating of the issuer.

Government Security is a sovereign security and the default risk is considered to be the least/zero. Corporate bonds carry a higher credit risk than Government Securities. Within corporate bonds also there are different levels of safety. Credit risks of most issuers of debt securities are rated by independent and professionally run rating agencies. Ratings of Credit issued by these agencies typically range from "AAA" (read as "Triple A" denoting "Highest Safety") to "D" (denoting "Default"), with about 6 distinct

ratings between the two extremes. A bond rated higher by a particular rating agency is safer than a bond rated lower by the same rating agency.

Counterparty Risk: This is the risk of failure of counterparty to the transaction to deliver securities against consideration received or to pay consideration against securities delivered, in full or in part or as per the agreed specification. There could be losses to the Scheme in case of counterparty default.

Settlement Risk: Different segments of the Indian financial markets have different settlement periods and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances. The inability of the Scheme to make purchases in intended securities due to settlement problems could cause the Scheme to miss certain investment opportunities. Fixed income securities run the risk of settlement which can adversely affect the ability of the fund house to swiftly execute trading strategies which can lead to adverse movements in NAV.

Duration risk: The modified duration of a bond is a measure of its price sensitivity to interest rates movements, based on the average time to maturity of its interest and principal cash flows. Bond portfolio managers increase average duration when they expect rates to decline, to get the most benefit, and decrease average duration when they expect rates to rise, so as to minimize the negative impact. If rates move in a direction contrary to their expectations, they lose.

Inflation risk: Inflation causes tomorrow's currency to be worth less than today's; in other words, it reduces the purchasing power of a bond investor's future interest payments and principal, collectively known as "cash flows." Inflation also leads to higher interest rates, which in turn leads to lower bond prices. Inflation-indexed securities such as Treasury Inflation Protection Securities (TIPS) are structured to remove inflation risk.

Prepayment Risk: The borrower may repay the receivables earlier than scheduled, which may result in change in the yield and tenor for the Scheme.

Call risk: Some corporate, municipal and agency bonds have a "call provision" entitling their issuers to redeem them at a specified price on a date prior to maturity. Declining interest rates may accelerate the redemption of a callable bond, causing an investor's principal to be returned sooner than expected. In that scenario, investors have to reinvest the principal at the lower interest rates. (See also Reinvestment risk.)

Performance Risk: Performance of the Scheme may be impacted with changes in factors which affect the capital market and in particular the debt market.

- **Risk associated with investments in Units of Gold & Silver ETF:**

The NAV of Gold / Silver ETFs is related to the value of Gold / Silver held by the Scheme. The value (price) of Gold / Silver may fluctuate for several reasons and all such fluctuations will result in changes in the NAV of Gold / Silver ETFs. The factors that may affect the price of Gold / Silver, among other things, include demand and supply for Gold / Silver in India and in the global market, Indian and foreign exchange rates, interest rates, inflation trends, trading in Gold / Silver as commodity, legal restrictions on the movement/trade of Gold / Silver that may be imposed by RBI, Government of India or countries that supply or purchase Gold / Silver to/from India, trends and restrictions on import/export of Gold / Silver jewellery in and out of India, etc.

Listing of the units of the Gold / Silver ETFs does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity and there can be no assurance that an active secondary market for the units will develop or be maintained. Consequently, the ETF may quote below its face value / NAV. The market price of the Units of the ETF, like any other listed security, is largely dependent on two factors, viz., (1) the intrinsic value of the Unit (or NAV), and (2) demand and supply of Units in the market. Sizeable demand or supply of the Units in the Exchange may lead to market price of the Units to quote at premium or discount to NAV. To that extent the return from the Scheme shall differ from the return on Gold / Silver.

In addition to recurring expenses of the Scheme, the Unit holders shall also bear the applicable expenses of Underlying ETF. Further, the tracking error of the underlying ETF may result in returns deviating from the actual returns that could be generated by holding physical assets. However, this may vary when the markets are very volatile.

- **Risk associated with investments in Exchange Traded Commodity Derivatives (ETCDs):**

An exchange traded commodity derivative (ETCDs) is a derivative instrument that replicates the price movements of an underlying commodity, allowing exposure to the commodity without physical

purchase.

The AMC, on behalf of the Scheme may use ETCDs from time to time, in an attempt to protect the value of the portfolio and / or enhance unit holders' interest. Investors should understand that ETCDs are specialized instruments that require investment techniques and risk analysis different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a ETCDs requires an understanding not only of the underlying commodity but of the ETCD itself. Other risks include but are not limited to the risk of mispricing or improper valuation and the inability of ETCDs to correlate perfectly with underlying commodity, rates and indices. There may be a cost attached to selling or buying ETCDs. Further there could be an element of settlement risk, which could be different from the risk in settling physical commodity. The possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a ETCDs may result in inability to close ETCDs prior to their maturity date.

ETCDs 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 ETCDs are different from or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in commodity and other traditional investments.

- **Risks associated with Investing in Structured Obligation (SO) & Credit Enhancement (CE) rated securities**

The risks factors stated below for the Structured Obligations & Credit Enhancement are in addition to the risk factors associated with debt instruments. Credit rating agencies assign CE rating to an instrument based on any identifiable credit enhancement for the debt instrument issued by an issuer. The credit enhancement could be in various forms and could include guarantee, shortfall undertaking, letter of comfort, etc. from another entity. This entity could be either related or non-related to the issuer like a bank, financial institution, etc. Credit enhancement could include additional security in form of pledge of shares listed on stock exchanges, etc. SO transactions are asset backed/ mortgage backed securities, securitized paper backed by hypothecation of car loan receivables, securities backed by trade receivables, credit card receivables etc. Hence, for CE rated instruments evaluation of the credit enhancement provider, as well as the issuer is undertaken to determine the issuer rating. In case of SO rated issuer, the underlying loan pools or securitization, etc. is assessed to arrive at rating for the issuer.

Liquidity Risk: SO rated securities are often complex structures, with a variety of credit enhancements. Debt securities lack a well-developed secondary market in India, and due to the credit enhanced nature of CE securities as well as structured nature of SO securities, the liquidity in the market for these instruments is adversely affected compared to similar rated debt instruments. Hence, lower liquidity of such instruments, could lead to inability of the scheme to sell such debt instruments and generate liquidity for the scheme or higher impact cost when such instruments are sold.

Credit Risk: The credit risk of debt instruments which are CE rated is based on the combined strength of the issuer as well as the structure. Hence, any weakness in either the issuer or the structure could have an adverse credit impact on the debt instrument. The weakness in structure could arise due to inability of the investors to enforce the structure due to issues such as legal risk, inability to sell the underlying collateral or enforce guarantee, etc. In case of SO transactions, comingling risk and risk of servicer increases the overall risk for the securitized debt or assets backed transactions. Therefore, apart from issuer level credit risk such debt instruments are also susceptible to structure related credit risk.

- **Risks associated with investments in securitised paper**

Types of securitised debt vary and carry different levels and types of risks. Credit risk on securitised bonds depends upon the originator and varies depending on whether they are issued with recourse to the originator or otherwise. Even within securitised debt, AAA or equivalent rated securitised debt offers lesser risk of default than AA rated securitised debt. A structure with recourse will have a lower credit risk than a structure without recourse.

As 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 these types of receivables depend upon various factors including macro economic factors of these industries and economies. Specific factors like nature and adequacy of property mortgaged against these borrowings, nature of loan agreement/ mortgage deed in case of home loan, adequacy of documentation in case of auto finance and home loans, capacity of borrower to meet its obligation on borrowings in case of credit cards and the intention of the borrower influence the risks relating to the asset borrowings underlying the 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 the investor receives in the securitised paper.

- **Limited Liquidity & price Risk:**

Presently, the secondary market for securitised papers is not very liquid. There is no assurance that a deep secondary market will develop for such securities. This could limit the ability of the Fund to resell them. Even if a secondary market develops and sales were to take place, these secondary transactions may be at a discount to the initial issue price due to changes in the interest rate structure.

- **Risks due to possible prepayments:**

Asset securitisation is a process whereby commercial or consumer credits are packaged and sold in the form of financial instruments. Full prepayment of underlying loan contract may arise under any of the following circumstances:

- obligor pays the receivable due from him at any time prior to the scheduled maturity date of that receivable; or
- receivable is required to be repurchased by the seller consequent to its inability to rectify a material misrepresentation with respect to that receivable; or
- the servicer recognizing a contract as a defaulted contract and hence repossessing the underlying asset and selling the same.

In the event of prepayments, investors may be exposed to changes in tenor and yield.

- **Bankruptcy of the originator or seller:**

If the originator becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the sale from originator to the Trust was not a sale then the Fund could experience losses or delays in the payments due. All possible care is generally taken in structuring the transaction so as to minimize the risk of the sale to the Trust not being construed as a "True Sale". Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the assignment of receivables to the Trust in trust for and for the benefit of the investors, as envisaged herein, would constitute a true sale.

- **Bankruptcy of the investor's agent:**

If an investor's agent becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the recourse of the investor's agent to the assets/receivables is not in its capacity as agent/Trustee but in his personal capacity, then an investor could experience losses or delays in the payments due under the swap agreement. All possible care is normally taken in structuring the transaction and drafting the underlying documents so as to provide that the assets/receivables if and when held by an investor's agent is held as agent and in Trust for the Investors and shall not form part of the personal assets of the investor's agent. Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the investors agent's recourse to assets/ receivables is restricted in his capacity as agent and trustee and not in its personal capacity.

- **Credit Rating of the Transaction/Certificate:**

The credit rating is not a recommendation to purchase, hold or sell the Certificate in as much as the ratings do not comment on the market price of the Certificate or its suitability to a particular investor. There is no assurance by the rating agency either that the rating will remain at the same level for any given period of time or that the rating will not be lowered or withdrawn entirely by the rating agency.

- **Risk of Co-mingling:**

The servicers normally deposit all payments received from the obligors into the collection account. However, there could be a time gap between collection by a servicer and depositing the same into the collection account especially considering that some of the collections may be in the form of cash. In this interim period, collections from the loan agreements may not be segregated from other funds of the servicer. If the servicer fails to remit such funds, due to investors, the investors may be exposed to a potential loss. Due care is normally taken to ensure that the servicer enjoys the highest credit rating on a standalone basis to minimize co-mingling risk.

- **Risks associated with Short Selling & Securities Lending**

Securities Lending is a lending of securities through an approved intermediary to a borrower under an agreement for a specified period with the condition that the borrower will return equivalent securities of the same type or class at the end of the specified period along with the corporate benefits accruing on the securities borrowed. There are risks inherent in securities lending, including the risk of failure of the other party, in this case the approved intermediary to comply with the terms of the agreement. Such failure can result in a possible loss of rights to the collateral, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of corporate benefits accruing thereon.

Short-selling is the sale of shares or securities that the seller does not own at the time of trading. Instead, he borrows it from someone who already owns it. Later, the short seller buys back the stock/security he shorted and returns the stock/security to the lender to close out the loan. The inherent risks are Counterparty risk and liquidity risk of the stock/security being borrowed. The security being short sold might be illiquid or become illiquid and covering of the security might occur at a much higher price level than anticipated, leading to losses.

- **Risks associated with instruments having special features**

If the Scheme invests in debt instruments having special features, the following risks associated with debt instruments having special features will be applicable. The risk factors stated below for investment in debt instruments having special features are in addition to the risk factors associated with Fixed Income Securities/Bonds stated above:

- The Scheme may invest in certain debt instruments with special features which may be subordinated to equity and thereby such instruments may absorb losses before equity capital. The instrument may also be convertible to equity upon trigger of a pre-specified event for loss absorption. Additional Tier I bonds and Tier 2 bonds issued under Basel III framework are some instruments which may have above referred special features. The debt instruments having such special features as referred above, would be treated as debt instruments until converted to equity.
- The instruments may be subject to features that grant the issuer a discretion in terms of writing down the principal/coupon, to skip coupon payments, to make an early recall etc. Thus debt instruments with special features are subject to "Coupon Discretion", "Loss Absorbency", "Write down on Point of Non-Viability (PONV) trigger event" and other events as more particularly described as per the term sheet of the underlying instruments.
- The instruments are also subject to Liquidity Risk pertaining to how saleable a security is in the market. The particular security may not have a market at the time of sale due to uncertain/insufficient liquidity in the secondary market, then the scheme may have to bear an impact depending on its exposure to that particular security.

- **Risks associated with investing in REITs and InvITs**

REITs and InvITs are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis owing to market movements. Investors may note that AMC/Fund Manager's investment decisions may not always be profitable, as actual market movements may be at variance with the anticipated trends. The NAV of the scheme is vulnerable to movements in the prices of securities invested by the scheme, due to various market related factors like changes in the general market conditions, factors and forces affecting capital market, level of interest rates, trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures. The scheme will undertake active portfolio management as per the investment objective to reduce the market risk.

Liquidity Risk: This refers to the ease with which securities/instruments of REITs/InvITs can be sold. There is no assurance that an active secondary market will develop or be maintained. Hence, there could be times when trading in the units is infrequent. The subsequent valuation of illiquid units may reflect a discount from the market price of comparable securities/instruments for which a liquid market exists. As these products are new to the market they are likely to be exposed to liquidity risk.

Reinvestment Risk: Investments in securities/instruments of REITs and InvITs may carry reinvestment risk as there could be repatriation of funds by the Trusts in form of buyback of units or Payout of Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal, etc. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested in assets providing lower returns.

Price Risk: Securities/Instruments of REITs and InvITs are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis owing to market movements. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as general market conditions, factors and forces affecting capital market, real estate and infrastructure sectors, level of interest rates, trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures.

Interest Rate Risk: Securities/Instruments of REITs and InvITs run interest rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of units fall and when interest rates drop, such prices increase.

Credit Risk: Credit risk means that the issuer of a REIT/InvIT security / instrument may default on interest payment or even on paying back the principal amount on maturity. Securities / Instruments of REITs and 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, rights of unit holders such as right to information etc. may differ from existing capital market asset classes under Indian Law.

- **Risks associated with investing in Tri-party Repo (TREPS) through CCIL**

The Mutual Fund is a member of securities segment and Tri-party Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). All transactions of the Mutual Fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus, reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL). CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The Mutual Fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL at any given point in time i.e., in the event that the default waterfall is triggered and the contribution of the Mutual Fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, the Scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

Further, it may be noted that, CCIL periodically prescribes a list of securities eligible for contributions as collateral by members. Presently, all Central Government securities and Treasury bills are accepted as collateral by CCIL. The risk factors may undergo change in case the CCIL notifies securities other than Government of India securities as eligible for contribution as collateral.

- **Risks associated with Interest Rate Future (IRF)**

An Interest Rate Futures is an agreement to buy or sell a debt instruments at a specified future date at a price that is fixed today. Interest Rate Futures are Exchange Traded and are cash settled. Hedging using Interest Rate Futures can be perfect or imperfect. Perfect hedging means hedging the underlying using IRF contract of same underlying.

- a) **Market risk:** Derivatives carry the risk of adverse changes in the market price.
- b) **Price Risk-** The risk of mispricing or improper valuation and the inability of derivatives to correlate perfectly with underlying assets, rates and indices.
- c) **Liquidity risk -** This occurs where the derivatives cannot be sold (unwound) at prices that reflect the underlying assets, rates and indices.
- d) **Model Risk -** The risk of mispricing or improper valuation of derivatives.
- e) **Basis Risk -** This risk arises when the instrument used as a hedge does not match the movement in the instrument/ underlying asset being hedged. The risks may be inter-related also; for e.g. interest rate movements can affect equity prices, which could influence specific issuer/ industry assets. Correlation weakening and consequent risk of regulatory breach: SEBI Regulations mandates minimum correlation criterion of 0.9 (calculated on a 90-day basis) between the portfolio being hedged and the derivative instrument used for hedging. In cases where the correlation falls below 0.9, a rebalancing period of 5 working days has been permitted. Inability to satisfy this requirement to restore the correlation level to the stipulated level, within the stipulated period, due to difficulties in rebalancing would lead to a lapse of the exemption in gross exposure computation. The entire derivative exposure would then need to be included in gross exposure, which may result in gross exposure in excess of 100% of net asset value.

- **Risks associated with investing in repo transactions in corporate bonds**

The market for the aforesaid product is illiquid. Hence, repo obligations cannot be easily sold to other parties.

If a counterparty fails, the scheme would have to take recourse to the collateral provided. If a counterparty fails to repay and the value of the collateral falls beyond the haircut, then the Scheme would be exposed to a loss of interest or principal.

Further, if the Scheme needs to take recourse to the debt securities provided as collateral, and the issuer of the debt securities makes a default, the scheme may lose the whole, or substantial portion of the amount.

This risk is somewhat mitigated by the fact that only bonds which have credit rating of AA and above can be accepted as collateral for repo transactions.

- **Risks associated with transaction in Units through stock exchange(s)**

In respect of transaction in Units of the Scheme through Bombay Stock Exchange ("BSE") and / or National Stock Exchange ("NSE"), allotment and redemption of Units on any Business Day will depend upon the order processing / settlement by NSE and /or BSE and their respective clearing corporations on which the Fund has no control.

- **Risks associated with Restrictions on Redemption**

The Trustee and the AMC may impose restrictions on redemptions when there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets. Accordingly, such restriction may affect the liquidity of the Scheme and there may be a delay in investors receiving part of their redemption proceeds.

- **Risk associated with Taxation of the Scheme**

Equity oriented mutual fund means a fund which has been set up under a scheme of a Mutual Fund specified under clause (23D) of Income Tax Act, 1961 where more than 65% of the investible funds are invested in equity shares of domestic companies. The percentage of equity shareholding of the fund shall be computed with reference to the annual average of the monthly averages of the opening and closing figures. In an event where the percentage of annual average of monthly averages of equity shares of domestic companies falls below 65% of the investible funds, then the scheme may be classified as a Non Equity Oriented Fund and it may have additional tax implication on investors.

- **Risks associated with segregated portfolio**

The unit holders may note that no redemption and subscription shall be allowed in the segregated portfolio. However, in order to facilitate exit to unit holders in the segregated portfolio, the AMC shall enable listing of units of segregated portfolio on the recognized stock exchange. The risks associated in regard to the segregated portfolio are as follows:

- The investors holding units of the segregated portfolio may not be able to liquidate their holdings till the time of recovery of money from the issuer.
- The security comprising the segregated portfolio may not realize any value.
- Listing of units of the segregated portfolio on a recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units of the segregated portfolio on the stock exchange.
- The trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV) of the segregated portfolio.

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• Risks associated with investments in Equity and Equity related instruments

- Equity and equity related securities are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis. The liquidity of investments made in the Scheme may be restricted by trading volumes and settlement periods. Settlement 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 portfolio 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 portfolio. Also, the value of the Scheme investments may be affected by interest rates, currency exchange rates, changes in law/policies of the government, taxation laws and political, economic or other developments which may have an adverse bearing on individual Securities, a specific sector or all sectors.
- Investments in equity and equity related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest in the equity Schemes unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their investment.
- 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.

• Risks associated with investments in Derivatives

- Derivative products are specialized instruments that require investment techniques and risk analysis different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a derivative requires an understanding not only of the underlying instrument but of the derivative itself. Trading in derivatives carries a high degree of risk although they are traded at a relatively small amount of margin which provides the possibility of great profit or loss in comparison with the principal investment amount. Thus, derivatives are highly leveraged instruments. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- The derivatives market in India is nascent and does not have the volumes that may be seen in other developed markets, which may result in volatility to the values.
- 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.
- Investment in derivatives also requires 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. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- 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 option 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.
- 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.
- The writer of a put option bears the risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset declines below the exercise price. The writer of a call option bears a risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset increases above the exercise price, as per extant regulations.
- 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 "counter party") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract. The counter party may default on a transaction before settlement and therefore, the Scheme is compelled to negotiate with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavorable) market price.

- Derivatives also carry a market liquidity risk where the derivatives cannot be sold (unwound) at prices that reflect the underlying assets, rates and indices.
- Where derivatives are used for hedging, such use may involve a basis risk where the instrument used as a hedge does not match the movement in the instrument/ underlying asset being hedged. The risk may be inter-related also e.g. interest rate movements can affect equity prices, which could influence specific issuer/industry assets.
- 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.
- Derivative products are leveraged instruments and can provide disproportionate gains as well as disproportionate losses to the investor. Execution of investment strategies depends upon the ability of the fund manager(s) to identify such opportunities which may not be available at all times. Identification and execution of the strategies to be pursued by the fund manager(s) 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 covered call strategy**

- 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. This downside risk is reduced by writing covered call options.
- The Scheme may write covered call option only in case it has adequate number of underlying equity shares as per regulatory requirement. This would lead to setting aside a portion of investment in underlying equity shares. If covered call options are sold to the maximum extent allowed by regulatory authority, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares immediately if the view changes to sell and exit the stock. The covered call options need to be unwound before the stock positions can be liquidated. This may lead to a loss of opportunity, or can cause exit issues if the strike price at which the call option contracts have been written become illiquid. Hence, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares, which can lead to temporary illiquidity of the underlying equity shares and result in loss of opportunity.
- The writing of covered call option would lead to loss of opportunity due to appreciation in value of the underlying equity shares. Hence, when the appreciation in equity share price is more than the option premium received the Scheme would be at a loss.

- **Risk factors associated with investing in Foreign Securities**

Subject to necessary approvals and within the investment objectives / asset allocation pattern of the Scheme may also invest in permitted foreign securities 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 multimarket and multi-currency products.

The Scheme may invest in units/securities issued by overseas companies listed on recognized stock exchanges overseas and other securities in accordance with the provisions of clause 12.19 of SEBI Master circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2024/90 dated June 27, 2024, subject to a maximum of US\$ 1 billion at in the aggregate at the Mutual Fund level and upto a maximum of US\$ 300 million in overseas Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) at the Mutual Fund level or such limits as may be prescribed by SEBI from time to time. However, in case the overall industry limit or such other limit as prescribed by SEBI has been breached, the Scheme would temporarily not invest in the overseas securities.

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. However, such investments also entail additional risks not only limited to the following.

Country Risk: The Country risk arises from the inability of a country, to meet its financial obligations. It is the risk encompassing economic, social and political conditions in a foreign country, which might adversely affect foreign investors' financial interests. In addition, country risks would include events such as introduction of extraordinary exchange controls, economic deterioration, bi-lateral conflict leading to immobilisation of the overseas financial assets and the prevalent tax laws of the respective jurisdiction for execution of trades or otherwise.

Currency Risk: Moving from Indian Rupee (INR) to any other currency involves currency risk. To the extent that the assets of the Scheme will be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the Indian Rupee equivalent of the net assets and income may be adversely affected by changes in the value of certain foreign currencies relative to the Indian Rupee.

Interest Rate Risk: The pace and movement of interest rate cycles of various countries, though loosely co-related, can differ significantly. Investments in securities of countries other than India, the Scheme stand exposed to their interest rate cycles.

Repatriation Risk: 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 investments in Fixed Income Securities:**

The following are the risks associated mainly with investment in Fixed Income Securities:

Interest Rate Risk: This risk is associated with movements in interest rate, which depend on various factors such as government borrowing, inflation, economic performance etc. Fixed income securities such as government bonds, corporate bonds and money market instruments etc. run price-risk or interest-rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed income securities fall and when interest rates drop, the prices generally increase. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as coupon, maturity of the security, the yield level at which the security is being traded. The longer the time to a bond's maturity, the greater is its interest rate risk. The NAV of the Scheme is expected to increase from a fall in interest rates while it would be adversely affected by an increase in the level of interest rates.

Re-investment Risk: Investments in fixed income securities may carry re-investment risk as interest rates prevailing on the interest or maturity due dates may differ from the original coupon of the bond. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested at a lower rate.

Spread Risk: Spreads between various fixed income securities may widen or contract. E.g.: Corporate Bonds are exposed to the risk of widening of the spread between corporate bonds and gilts. Prices of corporate bonds tend to fall if this spread widens which will affect the NAV of the scheme accordingly. Similarly, in case of floating rate securities, where the coupon is expressed in terms of a spread or mark up over the benchmark rate, widening of the spread results in a fall in the value of such securities.

Liquidity Risk related to fixed income instruments: This risk pertains to how saleable a security is in the market or the ease at which a security can be sold at or close to its true value. Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures may restrict the liquidity of some of the investments. The primary measure of liquidity risk is the spread between the bid price and the offer price quoted by a dealer. The liquidity of debt securities may change, depending on market conditions. At the time of selling the security, the security can become less liquid (wider spread) or illiquid, leading to loss in value of the portfolio. Securities that are unlisted generally carry a higher liquidity risk compared to listed securities.

Liquidity risk is greater for thinly traded securities such as, lower-rated bonds, bonds that were part of a smaller issue, bonds that have recently had their credit rating downgraded or bonds sold by an infrequent issuer. Bonds are generally the most liquid during the period right after issuance when the typical bond has the highest trading volume.

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 when the security is finally sold.

Credit Risk/ Default Risk: Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a debenture/ bond or a money market instrument may default on interest and /or principal payment obligations and/or on violation of covenant(s) and/or delay in scheduled payment(s). Even when there is no default, the price of a security may change with expected changes in the credit rating of the issuer.

Government Security is a sovereign security and the default risk is considered to be the least/zero. Corporate bonds carry a higher credit risk than Government Securities. Within corporate bonds also there are different levels of safety. Credit risks of most issuers of debt securities are rated by independent and professionally run rating agencies. Ratings of Credit issued by these agencies typically range from "AAA" (read as "Triple A" denoting "Highest Safety") to "D" (denoting "Default"), with about 6 distinct ratings between the two extremes. A bond rated higher by a particular rating agency is safer than a bond rated lower by the same rating agency.

Counterparty Risk: This is the risk of failure of counterparty to the transaction to deliver securities against consideration received or to pay consideration against securities delivered, in full or in part or as per the agreed specification. There could be losses to the Scheme in case of counterparty default.

Settlement Risk: Different segments of the Indian financial markets have different settlement periods and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances. The inability of the Scheme to make purchases in intended securities due to settlement problems could cause the Scheme to miss certain investment opportunities. Fixed income securities run the risk of settlement which can adversely affect the ability of the fund house to swiftly execute trading strategies which can lead to adverse movements in NAV.

Duration risk: The modified duration of a bond is a measure of its price sensitivity to interest rates movements, based on the average time to maturity of its interest and principal cash flows. Bond portfolio managers increase average duration when they expect rates to decline, to get the most benefit, and decrease average duration when they expect rates to rise, so as to minimize the negative impact. If rates move in a direction contrary to their expectations, they lose.

Inflation risk: Inflation causes tomorrow's currency to be worth less than today's; in other words, it reduces the purchasing power of a bond investor's future interest payments and principal, collectively known as "cash flows." Inflation also leads to higher interest rates, which in turn leads to lower bond prices. Inflation-indexed securities such as Treasury Inflation Protection Securities (TIPS) are structured to remove inflation risk.

Prepayment Risk: The borrower may repay the receivables earlier than scheduled, which may result in change in the yield and tenor for the Scheme.

Call risk: Some corporate, municipal and agency bonds have a "call provision" entitling their issuers to redeem them at a specified price on a date prior to maturity. Declining interest rates may accelerate the redemption of a callable bond, causing an investor's principal to be returned sooner than expected. In that scenario, investors have to reinvest the principal at the lower interest rates. (See also Reinvestment risk.)

Performance Risk: Performance of the Scheme may be impacted with changes in factors which affect the capital market and in particular the debt market.

- **Risks associated with Investing in Structured Obligation (SO) & Credit Enhancement (CE) rated securities**

The risks factors stated below for the Structured Obligations & Credit Enhancement are in addition to the risk factors associated with debt instruments. Credit rating agencies assign CE rating to an instrument based on any identifiable credit enhancement for the debt instrument issued by an issuer. The credit enhancement could be in various forms and could include guarantee, shortfall undertaking, letter of comfort, etc. from another entity. This entity could be either related or non-related to the issuer like a bank, financial institution, etc. Credit enhancement could include additional security in form of pledge of shares listed on stock exchanges, etc. SO transactions are asset backed/ mortgage backed securities, securitized paper backed by hypothecation of car loan receivables, securities backed by trade receivables, credit card receivables etc. Hence, for CE rated instruments evaluation of the credit enhancement provider, as well as the issuer is undertaken to determine the issuer rating. In case of SO rated issuer, the underlying loan pools or securitization, etc. is assessed to arrive at rating for the issuer.

Liquidity Risk: SO rated securities are often complex structures, with a variety of credit enhancements. Debt securities lack a well-developed secondary market in India, and due to the credit enhanced nature of CE securities as well as structured nature of SO securities, the liquidity in the market for these instruments is adversely affected compared to similar rated debt instruments. Hence, lower liquidity of such instruments, could lead to inability of the scheme to sell such debt instruments and generate liquidity for the scheme or higher impact cost when such instruments are sold.

Credit Risk: The credit risk of debt instruments which are CE rated is based on the combined strength of the issuer as well as the structure. Hence, any weakness in either the issuer or the structure could have an adverse credit impact on the debt instrument. The weakness in structure could arise due to inability of the investors to enforce the structure due to issues such as legal risk, inability to sell the underlying collateral or enforce guarantee, etc. In case of SO transactions, comingling risk and risk of servicer increases the overall risk for the securitized debt or assets backed transactions. Therefore, apart from issuer level credit risk such debt instruments are also susceptible to structure related credit risk.

- **Risks associated with investments in securitised paper**

Types of securitised debt vary and carry different levels and types of risks. Credit risk on securitised bonds depends upon the originator and varies depending on whether they are issued with recourse to the originator or otherwise. Even within securitised debt, AAA or equivalent rated securitised debt offers lesser risk of default than AA rated securitised debt. A structure with recourse will have a lower credit risk than a structure without recourse.

As 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 these types of receivables depend upon various factors including macro economic factors of these industries and economies. Specific factors like nature and adequacy of property mortgaged against these borrowings, nature of loan agreement/ mortgage deed in case of home loan, adequacy of documentation in case of auto finance and home loans, capacity of borrower to meet its obligation on borrowings in case of credit cards and the intention of the borrower influence the risks relating to the asset borrowings underlying the 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 the investor receives in the securitised paper.

- **Limited Liquidity & price Risk:**

Presently, the secondary market for securitised papers is not very liquid. There is no assurance that a deep secondary market will develop for such securities. This could limit the ability of the Fund to resell them. Even if a secondary market develops and sales were to take place, these secondary transactions may be at a discount to the initial issue price due to changes in the interest rate structure.

- **Risks due to possible prepayments:**

Asset securitisation is a process whereby commercial or consumer credits are packaged and sold in the form of financial instruments. Full prepayment of underlying loan contract may arise under any of the following circumstances:

- obligor pays the receivable due from him at any time prior to the scheduled maturity date of that receivable; or
- receivable is required to be repurchased by the seller consequent to its inability to rectify a material misrepresentation with respect to that receivable; or
- the servicer recognizing a contract as a defaulted contract and hence repossessing the underlying asset and selling the same.

In the event of prepayments, investors may be exposed to changes in tenor and yield.

- **Bankruptcy of the originator or seller:**

If the originator becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the sale from originator to the Trust was not a sale then the Fund could experience losses or delays in the payments due. All possible care is generally taken in structuring the transaction so as to minimize the risk of the sale to the Trust not being construed as a "True Sale". Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the assignment of receivables to the Trust in trust for and for the benefit of the investors, as envisaged herein, would constitute a true sale.

- **Bankruptcy of the investor's agent:**

If an investor's agent becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the recourse of the investor's agent to the assets/receivables is not in its capacity as agent/Trustee but in his personal capacity, then an investor could experience losses or delays in the payments due under the swap agreement. All possible care is normally taken in structuring the transaction and drafting the underlying documents so as to provide that the assets/receivables if and when held by an investor's agent is held as agent and in Trust for the Investors and shall not form part of the personal assets of the investor's agent. Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the investors agent's recourse to assets/ receivables is restricted in his capacity as agent and trustee and not in its personal capacity.

- **Credit Rating of the Transaction/Certificate:**

The credit rating is not a recommendation to purchase, hold or sell the Certificate in as much as the ratings do not comment on the market price of the Certificate or its suitability to a particular investor. There is no assurance by the rating agency either that the rating will remain at the same level for any given period of time or that the rating will not be lowered or withdrawn entirely by the rating agency.

- **Risk of Co-mingling:**

The servicers normally deposit all payments received from the obligors into the collection account. However, there could be a time gap between collection by a servicer and depositing the same into the collection account especially considering that some of the collections may be in the form of cash. In this interim period, collections from the loan agreements may not be segregated from other funds of the servicer. If the servicer fails to remit such funds, due to investors, the investors may be exposed to a potential loss. Due care is normally taken to ensure that the servicer enjoys the highest credit rating on a standalone basis to minimize co-mingling risk.

- **Risks associated with Short Selling & Securities Lending**

Securities Lending is a lending of securities through an approved intermediary to a borrower under an agreement for a specified period with the condition that the borrower will return equivalent securities of the same type or class at the end of the specified period along with the corporate benefits accruing on the securities borrowed. There are risks inherent in securities lending, including the risk of failure of the other party, in this case the approved intermediary to comply with the terms of the agreement. Such failure can result in a possible loss of rights to the collateral, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of corporate benefits accruing thereon.

Short-selling is the sale of shares or securities that the seller does not own at the time of trading. Instead, he borrows it from someone who already owns it. Later, the short seller buys back the stock/security he shorted and returns the stock/security to the lender to close out the loan. The inherent risks are Counterparty risk and liquidity risk of the stock/security being borrowed. The security being short sold might be illiquid or become illiquid and covering of the security might occur at a much higher price level than anticipated, leading to losses.

- **Risks associated with investing in REITs and InvITs**

REITs and InvITs are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis owing to market movements. Investors may note that AMC/Fund Manager's investment decisions may not always be profitable, as actual market movements may be at variance with the anticipated trends. The NAV of the scheme is vulnerable to movements in the prices of securities invested by the scheme, due to various market related factors like changes in the general market conditions, factors and forces affecting capital market, level of interest rates, trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures. The scheme will undertake active portfolio management as per the investment objective to reduce the market risk.

Liquidity Risk: This refers to the ease with which securities/instruments of REITs/InvITs can be sold. There is no assurance that an active secondary market will develop or be maintained. Hence, there could be times when trading in the units is infrequent. The subsequent valuation of illiquid units may reflect a discount from the market price of comparable securities/instruments for which a liquid market exists. As these products are new to the market they are likely to be exposed to liquidity risk.

Reinvestment Risk: Investments in securities/instruments of REITs and InvITs may carry reinvestment risk as there could be repatriation of funds by the Trusts in form of buyback of units or Payout of Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal, etc. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested in assets providing lower returns.

Price Risk: Securities/Instruments of REITs and InvITs are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis owing to market movements. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as general market conditions, factors and forces affecting capital market, real estate and infrastructure sectors, level of interest rates, trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures.

Interest Rate Risk: Securities/Instruments of REITs and InvITs run interest rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of units fall and when interest rates drop, such prices increase.

Credit Risk: Credit risk means that the issuer of a REIT/InvIT security / instrument may default on interest payment or even on paying back the principal amount on maturity. Securities / Instruments of REITs and 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, rights of unit holders such as right to information etc. may differ from existing capital market asset classes under Indian Law.

- **Risks associated with investing in Tri-party Repo (TREPS) through CCIL**

The Mutual Fund is a member of securities segment and Tri-party Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). All transactions of the Mutual Fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus, reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL). CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The Mutual Fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL at any given point in time i.e., in the event that the default waterfall is triggered and the contribution of the Mutual Fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, the Scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

Further, it may be noted that, CCIL periodically prescribes a list of securities eligible for contributions as collateral by members. Presently, all Central Government securities and Treasury bills are accepted as collateral by CCIL. The risk factors may undergo change in case the CCIL notifies securities other than Government of India securities as eligible for contribution as collateral.

- **Risks associated with investing in repo transactions in corporate bonds**

The market for the aforesaid product is illiquid. Hence, repo obligations cannot be easily sold to other parties.

If a counterparty fails, the scheme would have to take recourse to the collateral provided. If a counterparty fails to repay and the value of the collateral falls beyond the haircut, then the Scheme would be exposed to a loss of interest or principal.

Further, if the Scheme needs to take recourse to the debt securities provided as collateral, and the issuer of the debt securities makes a default, the scheme may lose the whole, or substantial portion of the amount.

This risk is somewhat mitigated by the fact that only bonds which have credit rating of AA and above can be accepted as collateral for repo transactions.

- **Risks associated with transaction in Units through stock exchange(s)**

In respect of transaction in Units of the Scheme through Bombay Stock Exchange ("BSE") and / or National Stock Exchange ("NSE"), allotment and redemption of Units on any Business Day will depend upon the order processing / settlement by NSE and /or BSE and their respective clearing corporations on which the Fund has no control.

- **Risks associated with Restrictions on Redemption**

The Trustee and the AMC may impose restrictions on redemptions when there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets. Accordingly, such restriction may affect the liquidity of the Scheme and there may be a delay in investors receiving part of their redemption proceeds.

- **Risks associated with segregated portfolio**

The unit holders may note that no redemption and subscription shall be allowed in the segregated portfolio. However, in order to facilitate exit to unit holders in the segregated portfolio, the AMC shall enable listing of units of segregated portfolio on the recognized stock exchange. The risks associated in regard to the segregated portfolio are as follows:

- The investors holding units of the segregated portfolio may not be able to liquidate their holdings till the time of recovery of money from the issuer.

- The security comprising the segregated portfolio may not realize any value.
- Listing of units of the segregated portfolio on a recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units of the segregated portfolio on the stock exchange.
- The trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV) of the segregated portfolio.

11. SAMCO LARGE & MID CAP FUND

• Risks associated with investments in Equity and Equity related instruments

- Equity and equity related securities are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis. The liquidity of investments made in the Scheme may be restricted by trading volumes and settlement periods. Settlement 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 portfolio 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 portfolio. Also, the value of the Scheme investments may be affected by interest rates, currency exchange rates, changes in law/policies of the government, taxation laws and political, economic or other developments which may have an adverse bearing on individual Securities, a specific sector or all sectors.
- Investments in equity and equity related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest in the equity Schemes unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their investment.
- 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.

• Risks associated with investments in Derivatives

- Derivative products are specialized instruments that require investment techniques and risk analysis different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a derivative requires an understanding not only of the underlying instrument but of the derivative itself. Trading in derivatives carries a high degree of risk although they are traded at a relatively small amount of margin which provides the possibility of great profit or loss in comparison with the principal investment amount. Thus, derivatives are highly leveraged instruments. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- The derivatives market in India is nascent and does not have the volumes that may be seen in other developed markets, which may result in volatility to the values.
- 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.
- Investment in derivatives also requires 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. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- 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 option 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.
- 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.
- The writer of a put option bears the risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset declines below the exercise price. The writer of a call option bears a risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset increases above the exercise price, as per extant regulations.
- 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 "counter party") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract. The counter party may default on a transaction before settlement and therefore, the Scheme is compelled to negotiate with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavorable) market price.
- Derivatives also carry a market liquidity risk where the derivatives cannot be sold (unwound) at prices

that reflect the underlying assets, rates and indices.

- Where derivatives are used for hedging, such use may involve a basis risk where the instrument used as a hedge does not match the movement in the instrument/ underlying asset being hedged. The risk may be inter-related also e.g. interest rate movements can affect equity prices, which could influence specific issuer/industry assets.
- 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.
- Derivative products are leveraged instruments and can provide disproportionate gains as well as disproportionate losses to the investor. Execution of investment strategies depends upon the ability of the fund manager(s) to identify such opportunities which may not be available at all times. Identification and execution of the strategies to be pursued by the fund manager(s) 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 covered call strategy**

- 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. This downside risk is reduced by writing covered call options.
- The Scheme may write covered call option only in case it has adequate number of underlying equity shares as per regulatory requirement. This would lead to setting aside a portion of investment in underlying equity shares. If covered call options are sold to the maximum extent allowed by regulatory authority, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares immediately if the view changes to sell and exit the stock. The covered call options need to be unwound before the stock positions can be liquidated. This may lead to a loss of opportunity, or can cause exit issues if the strike price at which the call option contracts have been written become illiquid. Hence, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares, which can lead to temporary illiquidity of the underlying equity shares and result in loss of opportunity.
- The writing of covered call option would lead to loss of opportunity due to appreciation in value of the underlying equity shares. Hence, when the appreciation in equity share price is more than the option premium received the Scheme would be at a loss.

- **Risk factors associated with investing in Foreign Securities**

Subject to necessary approvals and within the investment objectives / asset allocation pattern of the Scheme may also invest in permitted foreign securities 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 multimarket and multi-currency products.

The Scheme may invest in units/securities issued by overseas companies listed on recognized stock exchanges overseas and other securities in accordance with the provisions of clause 12.19 of SEBI Master circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2024/90 dated June 27, 2024, subject to a maximum of US\$ 1 billion at in the aggregate at the Mutual Fund level and upto a maximum of US\$ 300 million in overseas Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) at the Mutual Fund level or such limits as may be prescribed by SEBI from time to time. However, in case the overall industry limit or such other limit as prescribed by SEBI has been breached, the Scheme would temporarily not invest in the overseas securities.

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. However, such investments also entail additional risks not only limited to the following.

Country Risk: The Country risk arises from the inability of a country, to meet its financial obligations. It is the risk encompassing economic, social and political conditions in a foreign country, which might adversely affect foreign investors' financial interests. In addition, country risks would include events such as introduction of extraordinary exchange controls, economic deterioration, bi-lateral conflict leading to immobilisation of the overseas financial assets and the prevalent tax laws of the respective jurisdiction for execution of trades or otherwise.

Currency Risk: Moving from Indian Rupee (INR) to any other currency involves currency risk. To the extent that the assets of the Scheme will be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the Indian Rupee equivalent of the net assets and income may be adversely affected by changes in the value of certain foreign currencies relative to the Indian Rupee.

Interest Rate Risk: The pace and movement of interest rate cycles of various countries, though loosely co-related, can differ significantly. Investments in securities of countries other than India, the Scheme stand exposed to their interest rate cycles.

Repatriation Risk: 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 investments in Fixed Income Securities:**

The following are the risks associated mainly with investment in Fixed Income Securities:

Interest Rate Risk: This risk is associated with movements in interest rate, which depend on various factors such as government borrowing, inflation, economic performance etc. Fixed income securities such as government bonds, corporate bonds and money market instruments etc. run price-risk or interest-rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed income securities fall and when interest rates drop, the prices generally increase. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as coupon, maturity of the security, the yield level at which the security is being traded. The longer the time to a bond's maturity, the greater is its interest rate risk. The NAV of the Scheme is expected to increase from a fall in interest rates while it would be adversely affected by an increase in the level of interest rates.

Re-investment Risk: Investments in fixed income securities may carry re-investment risk as interest rates prevailing on the interest or maturity due dates may differ from the original coupon of the bond. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested at a lower rate.

Spread Risk: Spreads between various fixed income securities may widen or contract. E.g.: Corporate Bonds are exposed to the risk of widening of the spread between corporate bonds and gilts. Prices of corporate bonds tend to fall if this spread widens which will affect the NAV of the scheme accordingly. Similarly, in case of floating rate securities, where the coupon is expressed in terms of a spread or mark up over the benchmark rate, widening of the spread results in a fall in the value of such securities.

Liquidity Risk related to fixed income instruments: This risk pertains to how saleable a security is in the market or the ease at which a security can be sold at or close to its true value. Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures may restrict the liquidity of some of the investments. The primary measure of liquidity risk is the spread between the bid price and the offer price quoted by a dealer. The liquidity of debt securities may change, depending on market conditions. At the time of selling the security, the security can become less liquid (wider spread) or illiquid, leading to loss in value of the portfolio. Securities that are unlisted generally carry a higher liquidity risk compared to listed securities.

Liquidity risk is greater for thinly traded securities such as, lower-rated bonds, bonds that were part of a smaller issue, bonds that have recently had their credit rating downgraded or bonds sold by an infrequent issuer. Bonds are generally the most liquid during the period right after issuance when the typical bond has the highest trading volume.

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 when the security is finally sold.

Credit Risk/ Default Risk: Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a debenture/ bond or a money market instrument may default on interest and /or principal payment obligations and/or on violation of covenant(s) and/or delay in scheduled payment(s). Even when there is no default, the price of a security may change with expected changes in the credit rating of the issuer.

Government Security is a sovereign security and the default risk is considered to be the least/zero. Corporate bonds carry a higher credit risk than Government Securities. Within corporate bonds also there are different levels of safety. Credit risks of most issuers of debt securities are rated by independent and professionally run rating agencies. Ratings of Credit issued by these agencies typically range from "AAA" (read as "Triple A" denoting "Highest Safety") to "D" (denoting "Default"), with about 6 distinct ratings between the two extremes. A bond rated higher by a particular rating agency is safer than a bond rated lower by the same rating agency.

Counterparty Risk: This is the risk of failure of counterparty to the transaction to deliver securities against consideration received or to pay consideration against securities delivered, in full or in part or as per the agreed specification. There could be losses to the Scheme in case of counterparty default.

Settlement Risk: Different segments of the Indian financial markets have different settlement periods and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances. The inability of the Scheme to make purchases in intended securities due to settlement problems could cause the Scheme to miss certain investment opportunities. Fixed income securities run the risk of settlement which can adversely affect the ability of the fund house to swiftly execute trading strategies which can lead to adverse movements in NAV.

Duration risk: The modified duration of a bond is a measure of its price sensitivity to interest rates movements, based on the average time to maturity of its interest and principal cash flows. Bond portfolio managers increase average duration when they expect rates to decline, to get the most benefit, and decrease average duration when they expect rates to rise, so as to minimize the negative impact. If rates move in a direction contrary to their expectations, they lose.

Inflation risk: Inflation causes tomorrow's currency to be worth less than today's; in other words, it reduces the purchasing power of a bond investor's future interest payments and principal, collectively known as "cash flows." Inflation also leads to higher interest rates, which in turn leads to lower bond prices. Inflation-indexed securities such as Treasury Inflation Protection Securities (TIPS) are structured to remove inflation risk.

Prepayment Risk: The borrower may repay the receivables earlier than scheduled, which may result in change in the yield and tenor for the Scheme.

Call risk: Some corporate, municipal and agency bonds have a "call provision" entitling their issuers to redeem them at a specified price on a date prior to maturity. Declining interest rates may accelerate the redemption of a callable bond, causing an investor's principal to be returned sooner than expected. In that scenario, investors have to reinvest the principal at the lower interest rates. (See also Reinvestment risk.)

Performance Risk: Performance of the Scheme may be impacted with changes in factors which affect the capital market and in particular the debt market.

- **Risks associated with Investing in Structured Obligation (SO) & Credit Enhancement (CE) rated securities**

The risks factors stated below for the Structured Obligations & Credit Enhancement are in addition to the risk factors associated with debt instruments. Credit rating agencies assign CE rating to an instrument based on any identifiable credit enhancement for the debt instrument issued by an issuer. The credit enhancement could be in various forms and could include guarantee, shortfall undertaking, letter of comfort, etc. from another entity. This entity could be either related or non-related to the issuer like a bank, financial institution, etc. Credit enhancement could include additional security in form of pledge of shares listed on stock exchanges, etc. SO transactions are asset backed/ mortgage backed securities, securitized paper backed by hypothecation of car loan receivables, securities backed by trade receivables, credit card receivables etc. Hence, for CE rated instruments evaluation of the credit enhancement provider, as well as the issuer is undertaken to determine the issuer rating. In case of SO rated issuer, the underlying loan pools or securitization, etc. is assessed to arrive at rating for the issuer.

Liquidity Risk: SO rated securities are often complex structures, with a variety of credit enhancements. Debt securities lack a well-developed secondary market in India, and due to the credit enhanced nature of CE securities as well as structured nature of SO securities, the liquidity in the market for these instruments is adversely affected compared to similar rated debt instruments. Hence, lower liquidity of such instruments, could lead to inability of the scheme to sell such debt instruments and generate liquidity for the scheme or higher impact cost when such instruments are sold.

Credit Risk: The credit risk of debt instruments which are CE rated is based on the combined strength of the issuer as well as the structure. Hence, any weakness in either the issuer or the structure could have an adverse credit impact on the debt instrument. The weakness in structure could arise due to inability of the investors to enforce the structure due to issues such as legal risk, inability to sell the underlying collateral or enforce guarantee, etc. In case of SO transactions, comingling risk and risk of servicer increases the overall risk for the securitized debt or assets backed transactions. Therefore, apart from issuer level credit risk such debt instruments are also susceptible to structure related credit risk.

- **Risks associated with investments in securitised paper**

Types of securitised debt vary and carry different levels and types of risks. Credit risk on securitised bonds depends upon the originator and varies depending on whether they are issued with recourse to the originator or otherwise. Even within securitised debt, AAA or equivalent rated securitised debt offers lesser risk of default than AA rated securitised debt. A structure with recourse will have a lower credit risk than a structure without recourse.

As 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 these types of receivables depend upon various factors including macro economic factors of these industries and economies. Specific factors like nature and adequacy of property mortgaged against these borrowings, nature of loan agreement/ mortgage deed in case of home loan, adequacy of documentation in case of auto finance and home loans, capacity of borrower to meet its obligation on borrowings in case of credit cards and the intention of the borrower influence the risks relating to the asset borrowings underlying the 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 the investor receives in the securitised paper.

- **Limited Liquidity & price Risk:**

Presently, the secondary market for securitised papers is not very liquid. There is no assurance that a deep secondary market will develop for such securities. This could limit the ability of the Fund to resell them. Even if a secondary market develops and sales were to take place, these secondary transactions may be at a discount to the initial issue price due to changes in the interest rate structure.

- **Risks due to possible prepayments:**

Asset securitisation is a process whereby commercial or consumer credits are packaged and sold in the form of financial instruments. Full prepayment of underlying loan contract may arise under any of the following circumstances:

- obligor pays the receivable due from him at any time prior to the scheduled maturity date of that receivable; or
- receivable is required to be repurchased by the seller consequent to its inability to rectify a material misrepresentation with respect to that receivable; or
- the servicer recognizing a contract as a defaulted contract and hence repossessing the underlying asset and selling the same.

In the event of prepayments, investors may be exposed to changes in tenor and yield.

- **Bankruptcy of the originator or seller:**

If the originator becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the sale from originator to the Trust was not a sale then the Fund could experience losses or delays in the payments due. All possible care is generally taken in structuring the transaction so as to minimize the risk of the sale to the Trust not being construed as a "True Sale". Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the assignment of receivables to the Trust in trust for and for the benefit of the investors, as envisaged herein, would constitute a true sale.

- **Bankruptcy of the investor's agent:**

If an investor's agent becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the recourse of the investor's agent to the assets/receivables is not in its capacity as agent/Trustee but in his personal capacity, then an investor could experience losses or delays in the payments due under the swap agreement. All possible care is normally taken in structuring the transaction and drafting the underlying documents so as to provide that the assets/receivables if and when held by an investor's agent is held as agent and in Trust for the Investors and shall not form part of the personal assets of the investor's agent. Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the investors agent's recourse to assets/ receivables is restricted in his capacity as agent and trustee and not in its personal capacity.

- **Credit Rating of the Transaction/Certificate:**

The credit rating is not a recommendation to purchase, hold or sell the Certificate in as much as the ratings do not comment on the market price of the Certificate or its suitability to a particular investor. There is no assurance by the rating agency either that the rating will remain at the same level for any given period of time or that the rating will not be lowered or withdrawn entirely by the rating agency.

- **Risk of Co-mingling:**

The servicers normally deposit all payments received from the obligors into the collection account. However, there could be a time gap between collection by a servicer and depositing the same into the collection account especially considering that some of the collections may be in the form of cash. In this interim period, collections from the loan agreements may not be segregated from other funds of the servicer. If the servicer fails to remit such funds, due to investors, the investors may be exposed to a potential loss. Due care is normally taken to ensure that the servicer enjoys the highest credit rating on a standalone basis to minimize co-mingling risk.

- **Risks associated with Short Selling & Securities Lending**

Securities Lending is a lending of securities through an approved intermediary to a borrower under an agreement for a specified period with the condition that the borrower will return equivalent securities of the same type or class at the end of the specified period along with the corporate benefits accruing on the securities borrowed. There are risks inherent in securities lending, including the risk of failure of the other party, in this case the approved intermediary to comply with the terms of the agreement. Such failure can result in a possible loss of rights to the collateral, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of corporate benefits accruing thereon.

Short-selling is the sale of shares or securities that the seller does not own at the time of trading. Instead, he borrows it from someone who already owns it. Later, the short seller buys back the stock/security he shorted and returns the stock/security to the lender to close out the loan. The inherent risks are Counterparty risk and liquidity risk of the stock/security being borrowed. The security being short sold might be illiquid or become illiquid and covering of the security might occur at a much higher price level than anticipated, leading to losses.

- **Risks associated with investing in REITs and InvITs**

REITs and InvITs are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis owing to market movements. Investors may note that AMC/Fund Manager's investment decisions may not always be profitable, as actual market movements may be at variance with the anticipated trends. The NAV of the scheme is vulnerable to movements in the prices of securities invested by the scheme, due to various market related factors like changes in the general market conditions, factors and forces affecting capital market, level of interest rates, trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures. The scheme will undertake active portfolio management as per the investment objective to reduce the market risk.

Liquidity Risk: This refers to the ease with which securities/instruments of REITs/InvITs can be sold. There is no assurance that an active secondary market will develop or be maintained. Hence, there could be times when trading in the units is infrequent. The subsequent valuation of illiquid units may reflect a discount from the market price of comparable securities/instruments for which a liquid market exists. As these products are new to the market they are likely to be exposed to liquidity risk.

Reinvestment Risk: Investments in securities/instruments of REITs and InvITs may carry reinvestment risk as there could be repatriation of funds by the Trusts in form of buyback of units or Payout of Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal, etc. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested in assets providing lower returns.

Price Risk: Securities/Instruments of REITs and InvITs are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis owing to market movements. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as general market conditions, factors and forces affecting capital market, real estate and infrastructure sectors, level of interest rates, trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures.

Interest Rate Risk: Securities/Instruments of REITs and InvITs run interest rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of units fall and when interest rates drop, such prices increase.

Credit Risk: Credit risk means that the issuer of a REIT/InvIT security / instrument may default on interest payment or even on paying back the principal amount on maturity. Securities / Instruments of REITs and 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, rights of unit holders such as right to information etc. may differ from existing capital market asset classes under Indian Law.

- **Risks associated with investing in Tri-party Repo (TREPS) through CCIL**

The Mutual Fund is a member of securities segment and Tri-party Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). All transactions of the Mutual Fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus, reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL). CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The Mutual Fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL at any given point in time i.e., in the event that the default waterfall is triggered and the contribution of the Mutual Fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, the Scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

Further, it may be noted that, CCIL periodically prescribes a list of securities eligible for contributions as collateral by members. Presently, all Central Government securities and Treasury bills are accepted as collateral by CCIL. The risk factors may undergo change in case the CCIL notifies securities other than Government of India securities as eligible for contribution as collateral.

- **Risks associated with investing in repo transactions in corporate bonds**

The market for the aforesaid product is illiquid. Hence, repo obligations cannot be easily sold to other parties.

If a counterparty fails, the scheme would have to take recourse to the collateral provided. If a counterparty fails to repay and the value of the collateral falls beyond the haircut, then the Scheme would be exposed to a loss of interest or principal.

Further, if the Scheme needs to take recourse to the debt securities provided as collateral, and the issuer of the debt securities makes a default, the scheme may lose the whole, or substantial portion of the amount.

This risk is somewhat mitigated by the fact that only bonds which have credit rating of AA and above can be accepted as collateral for repo transactions.

- **Risks associated with transaction in Units through stock exchange(s)**

In respect of transaction in Units of the Scheme through Bombay Stock Exchange ("BSE") and / or National Stock Exchange ("NSE"), allotment and redemption of Units on any Business Day will depend upon the order processing / settlement by NSE and /or BSE and their respective clearing corporations on which the Fund has no control.

- **Risks associated with Restrictions on Redemption**

The Trustee and the AMC may impose restrictions on redemptions when there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets. Accordingly, such restriction may affect the liquidity of the Scheme and there may be a delay in investors receiving part of their redemption proceeds.

- **Risks associated with segregated portfolio**

The unit holders may note that no redemption and subscription shall be allowed in the segregated portfolio. However, in order to facilitate exit to unit holders in the segregated portfolio, the AMC shall enable listing of units of segregated portfolio on the recognized stock exchange. The risks associated in regard to the segregated portfolio are as follows:

- The investors holding units of the segregated portfolio may not be able to liquidate their holdings till the time of recovery of money from the issuer.
- The security comprising the segregated portfolio may not realize any value.
- Listing of units of the segregated portfolio on a recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units of the segregated portfolio on the stock exchange.

- The trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV) of the segregated portfolio.

12. SAMCO SMALL CAP FUND

• Risks associated with investments in Equity and Equity related instruments

- Equity and equity related securities are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis. The liquidity of investments made in the Scheme may be restricted by trading volumes and settlement periods. Settlement 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 portfolio 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 portfolio. Also, the value of the Scheme investments may be affected by interest rates, currency exchange rates, changes in law/policies of the government, taxation laws and political, economic or other developments which may have an adverse bearing on individual Securities, a specific sector or all sectors.
- Investments in equity and equity related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest in the equity Schemes unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their investment.
- 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.

• Risks associated with investments in Derivatives

- Derivative products are specialized instruments that require investment techniques and risk analysis different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a derivative requires an understanding not only of the underlying instrument but of the derivative itself. Trading in derivatives carries a high degree of risk although they are traded at a relatively small amount of margin which provides the possibility of great profit or loss in comparison with the principal investment amount. Thus, derivatives are highly leveraged instruments. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- The derivatives market in India is nascent and does not have the volumes that may be seen in other developed markets, which may result in volatility to the values.
- 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.
- Investment in derivatives also requires 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. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- 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 option 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.
- 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.
- The writer of a put option bears the risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset declines below the exercise price. The writer of a call option bears a risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset increases above the exercise price, as per extant regulations.
- 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 "counter party") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract. The counter party may default on a transaction before settlement and therefore, the Scheme is compelled to negotiate with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavorable) market price.
- Derivatives also carry a market liquidity risk where the derivatives cannot be sold (unwound) at prices

that reflect the underlying assets, rates and indices.

- Where derivatives are used for hedging, such use may involve a basis risk where the instrument used as a hedge does not match the movement in the instrument/ underlying asset being hedged. The risk may be inter-related also e.g. interest rate movements can affect equity prices, which could influence specific issuer/industry assets.
- 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.
- Derivative products are leveraged instruments and can provide disproportionate gains as well as disproportionate losses to the investor. Execution of investment strategies depends upon the ability of the fund manager(s) to identify such opportunities which may not be available at all times. Identification and execution of the strategies to be pursued by the fund manager(s) 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 covered call strategy**

- 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. This downside risk is reduced by writing covered call options.
- The Scheme may write covered call option only in case it has adequate number of underlying equity shares as per regulatory requirement. This would lead to setting aside a portion of investment in underlying equity shares. If covered call options are sold to the maximum extent allowed by regulatory authority, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares immediately if the view changes to sell and exit the stock. The covered call options need to be unwound before the stock positions can be liquidated. This may lead to a loss of opportunity, or can cause exit issues if the strike price at which the call option contracts have been written become illiquid. Hence, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares, which can lead to temporary illiquidity of the underlying equity shares and result in loss of opportunity.
- The writing of covered call option would lead to loss of opportunity due to appreciation in value of the underlying equity shares. Hence, when the appreciation in equity share price is more than the option premium received the Scheme would be at a loss.

- **Risk factors associated with investing in Foreign Securities**

Subject to necessary approvals and within the investment objectives / asset allocation pattern of the Scheme may also invest in permitted foreign securities 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 multimarket and multi-currency products.

The Scheme may invest in units/securities issued by overseas companies listed on recognized stock exchanges overseas and other securities in accordance with the provisions of clause 12.19 of SEBI Master circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2024/90 dated June 27, 2024, subject to a maximum of US\$ 1 billion at in the aggregate at the Mutual Fund level and upto a maximum of US\$ 300 million in overseas Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) at the Mutual Fund level or such limits as may be prescribed by SEBI from time to time. However, in case the overall industry limit or such other limit as prescribed by SEBI has been breached, the Scheme would temporarily not invest in the overseas securities.

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. However, such investments also entail additional risks not only limited to the following.

Country Risk: The Country risk arises from the inability of a country, to meet its financial obligations. It is the risk encompassing economic, social and political conditions in a foreign country, which might adversely affect foreign investors' financial interests. In addition, country risks would include events such as introduction of extraordinary exchange controls, economic deterioration, bi-lateral conflict leading to immobilisation of the overseas financial assets and the prevalent tax laws of the respective jurisdiction for execution of trades or otherwise.

Currency Risk: Moving from Indian Rupee (INR) to any other currency involves currency risk. To the extent that the assets of the Scheme will be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the Indian Rupee equivalent of the net assets and income may be adversely affected by changes in the value of certain foreign currencies relative to the Indian Rupee.

Interest Rate Risk: The pace and movement of interest rate cycles of various countries, though loosely co-related, can differ significantly. Investments in securities of countries other than India, the Scheme stand exposed to their interest rate cycles.

Repatriation Risk: 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 investments in Fixed Income Securities:**

The following are the risks associated mainly with investment in Fixed Income Securities:

Interest Rate Risk: This risk is associated with movements in interest rate, which depend on various factors such as government borrowing, inflation, economic performance etc. Fixed income securities such as government bonds, corporate bonds and money market instruments etc. run price-risk or interest-rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed income securities fall and when interest rates drop, the prices generally increase. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as coupon, maturity of the security, the yield level at which the security is being traded. The longer the time to a bond's maturity, the greater is its interest rate risk. The NAV of the Scheme is expected to increase from a fall in interest rates while it would be adversely affected by an increase in the level of interest rates.

Re-investment Risk: Investments in fixed income securities may carry re-investment risk as interest rates prevailing on the interest or maturity due dates may differ from the original coupon of the bond. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested at a lower rate.

Spread Risk: Spreads between various fixed income securities may widen or contract. E.g.: Corporate Bonds are exposed to the risk of widening of the spread between corporate bonds and gilts. Prices of corporate bonds tend to fall if this spread widens which will affect the NAV of the scheme accordingly. Similarly, in case of floating rate securities, where the coupon is expressed in terms of a spread or mark up over the benchmark rate, widening of the spread results in a fall in the value of such securities.

Liquidity Risk related to fixed income instruments: This risk pertains to how saleable a security is in the market or the ease at which a security can be sold at or close to its true value. Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures may restrict the liquidity of some of the investments. The primary measure of liquidity risk is the spread between the bid price and the offer price quoted by a dealer. The liquidity of debt securities may change, depending on market conditions. At the time of selling the security, the security can become less liquid (wider spread) or illiquid, leading to loss in value of the portfolio. Securities that are unlisted generally carry a higher liquidity risk compared to listed securities.

Liquidity risk is greater for thinly traded securities such as, lower-rated bonds, bonds that were part of a smaller issue, bonds that have recently had their credit rating downgraded or bonds sold by an infrequent issuer. Bonds are generally the most liquid during the period right after issuance when the typical bond has the highest trading volume.

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 when the security is finally sold.

Credit Risk/ Default Risk: Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a debenture/ bond or a money market instrument may default on interest and /or principal payment obligations and/or on violation of covenant(s) and/or delay in scheduled payment(s). Even when there is no default, the price of a security may change with expected changes in the credit rating of the issuer.

Government Security is a sovereign security and the default risk is considered to be the least/zero. Corporate bonds carry a higher credit risk than Government Securities. Within corporate bonds also there are different levels of safety. Credit risks of most issuers of debt securities are rated by independent and professionally run rating agencies. Ratings of Credit issued by these agencies typically range from "AAA" (read as "Triple A" denoting "Highest Safety") to "D" (denoting "Default"), with about 6 distinct ratings between the two extremes. A bond rated higher by a particular rating agency is safer than a bond rated lower by the same rating agency.

Counterparty Risk: This is the risk of failure of counterparty to the transaction to deliver securities against consideration received or to pay consideration against securities delivered, in full or in part or as per the agreed specification. There could be losses to the Scheme in case of counterparty default.

Settlement Risk: Different segments of the Indian financial markets have different settlement periods and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances. The inability of the Scheme to make purchases in intended securities due to settlement problems could cause the Scheme to miss certain investment opportunities. Fixed income securities run the risk of settlement which can adversely affect the ability of the fund house to swiftly execute trading strategies which can lead to adverse movements in NAV.

Duration risk: The modified duration of a bond is a measure of its price sensitivity to interest rates movements, based on the average time to maturity of its interest and principal cash flows. Bond portfolio managers increase average duration when they expect rates to decline, to get the most benefit, and decrease average duration when they expect rates to rise, so as to minimize the negative impact. If rates move in a direction contrary to their expectations, they lose.

Inflation risk: Inflation causes tomorrow's currency to be worth less than today's; in other words, it reduces the purchasing power of a bond investor's future interest payments and principal, collectively known as "cash flows." Inflation also leads to higher interest rates, which in turn leads to lower bond prices. Inflation-indexed securities such as Treasury Inflation Protection Securities (TIPS) are structured to remove inflation risk.

Prepayment Risk: The borrower may repay the receivables earlier than scheduled, which may result in change in the yield and tenor for the Scheme.

Call risk: Some corporate, municipal and agency bonds have a "call provision" entitling their issuers to redeem them at a specified price on a date prior to maturity. Declining interest rates may accelerate the redemption of a callable bond, causing an investor's principal to be returned sooner than expected. In that scenario, investors have to reinvest the principal at the lower interest rates. (See also Reinvestment risk.)

Performance Risk: Performance of the Scheme may be impacted with changes in factors which affect the capital market and in particular the debt market.

- **Risks associated with Investing in Structured Obligation (SO) & Credit Enhancement (CE) rated securities**

The risks factors stated below for the Structured Obligations & Credit Enhancement are in addition to the risk factors associated with debt instruments. Credit rating agencies assign CE rating to an instrument based on any identifiable credit enhancement for the debt instrument issued by an issuer. The credit enhancement could be in various forms and could include guarantee, shortfall undertaking, letter of comfort, etc. from another entity. This entity could be either related or non-related to the issuer like a bank, financial institution, etc. Credit enhancement could include additional security in form of pledge of shares listed on stock exchanges, etc. SO transactions are asset backed/ mortgage backed securities, securitized paper backed by hypothecation of car loan receivables, securities backed by trade receivables, credit card receivables etc. Hence, for CE rated instruments evaluation of the credit enhancement provider, as well as the issuer is undertaken to determine the issuer rating. In case of SO rated issuer, the underlying loan pools or securitization, etc. is assessed to arrive at rating for the issuer.

Liquidity Risk: SO rated securities are often complex structures, with a variety of credit enhancements. Debt securities lack a well-developed secondary market in India, and due to the credit enhanced nature of CE securities as well as structured nature of SO securities, the liquidity in the market for these instruments is adversely affected compared to similar rated debt instruments. Hence, lower liquidity of such instruments, could lead to inability of the scheme to sell such debt instruments and generate liquidity for the scheme or higher impact cost when such instruments are sold.

Credit Risk: The credit risk of debt instruments which are CE rated is based on the combined strength of the issuer as well as the structure. Hence, any weakness in either the issuer or the structure could have an adverse credit impact on the debt instrument. The weakness in structure could arise due to inability of the investors to enforce the structure due to issues such as legal risk, inability to sell the underlying collateral or enforce guarantee, etc. In case of SO transactions, comingling risk and risk of servicer increases the overall risk for the securitized debt or assets backed transactions. Therefore, apart from issuer level credit risk such debt instruments are also susceptible to structure related credit risk.

- **Risks associated with investments in securitised paper**

Types of securitised debt vary and carry different levels and types of risks. Credit risk on securitised bonds depends upon the originator and varies depending on whether they are issued with recourse to the originator or otherwise. Even within securitised debt, AAA or equivalent rated securitised debt offers lesser risk of default than AA rated securitised debt. A structure with recourse will have a lower credit risk than a structure without recourse.

As 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 these types of receivables depend upon various factors including macro economic factors of these industries and economies. Specific factors like nature and adequacy of property mortgaged against these borrowings, nature of loan agreement/ mortgage deed in case of home loan, adequacy of documentation in case of auto finance and home loans, capacity of borrower to meet its obligation on borrowings in case of credit cards and the intention of the borrower influence the risks relating to the asset borrowings underlying the 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 the investor receives in the securitised paper.

- **Limited Liquidity & price Risk:**

Presently, the secondary market for securitised papers is not very liquid. There is no assurance that a deep secondary market will develop for such securities. This could limit the ability of the Fund to resell them. Even if a secondary market develops and sales were to take place, these secondary transactions may be at a discount to the initial issue price due to changes in the interest rate structure.

- **Risks due to possible prepayments:**

Asset securitisation is a process whereby commercial or consumer credits are packaged and sold in the form of financial instruments. Full prepayment of underlying loan contract may arise under any of the following circumstances:

- obligor pays the receivable due from him at any time prior to the scheduled maturity date of that receivable; or
- receivable is required to be repurchased by the seller consequent to its inability to rectify a material misrepresentation with respect to that receivable; or
- the servicer recognizing a contract as a defaulted contract and hence repossessing the underlying asset and selling the same.

In the event of prepayments, investors may be exposed to changes in tenor and yield.

- **Bankruptcy of the originator or seller:**

If the originator becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the sale from originator to the Trust was not a sale then the Fund could experience losses or delays in the payments due. All possible care is generally taken in structuring the transaction so as to minimize the risk of the sale to the Trust not being construed as a "True Sale". Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the assignment of receivables to the Trust in trust for and for the benefit of the investors, as envisaged herein, would constitute a true sale.

- **Bankruptcy of the investor's agent:**

If an investor's agent becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the recourse of the investor's agent to the assets/receivables is not in its capacity as agent/Trustee but in his personal capacity, then an investor could experience losses or delays in the payments due under the swap agreement. All possible care is normally taken in structuring the transaction and drafting the underlying documents so as to provide that the assets/receivables if and when held by an investor's agent is held as agent and in Trust for the Investors and shall not form part of the personal assets of the investor's agent. Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the investors agent's recourse to assets/ receivables is restricted in his capacity as agent and trustee and not in its personal capacity.

- **Credit Rating of the Transaction/Certificate:**

The credit rating is not a recommendation to purchase, hold or sell the Certificate in as much as the ratings do not comment on the market price of the Certificate or its suitability to a particular investor. There is no assurance by the rating agency either that the rating will remain at the same level for any given period of time or that the rating will not be lowered or withdrawn entirely by the rating agency.

- **Risk of Co-mingling:**

The servicers normally deposit all payments received from the obligors into the collection account. However, there could be a time gap between collection by a servicer and depositing the same into the collection account especially considering that some of the collections may be in the form of cash. In this interim period, collections from the loan agreements may not be segregated from other funds of the servicer. If the servicer fails to remit such funds, due to investors, the investors may be exposed to a potential loss. Due care is normally taken to ensure that the servicer enjoys the highest credit rating on a standalone basis to minimize co-mingling risk.

- **Risks associated with Short Selling & Securities Lending**

Securities Lending is a lending of securities through an approved intermediary to a borrower under an agreement for a specified period with the condition that the borrower will return equivalent securities of the same type or class at the end of the specified period along with the corporate benefits accruing on the securities borrowed. There are risks inherent in securities lending, including the risk of failure of the other party, in this case the approved intermediary to comply with the terms of the agreement. Such failure can result in a possible loss of rights to the collateral, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of corporate benefits accruing thereon.

Short-selling is the sale of shares or securities that the seller does not own at the time of trading. Instead, he borrows it from someone who already owns it. Later, the short seller buys back the stock/security he shorted and returns the stock/security to the lender to close out the loan. The inherent risks are Counterparty risk and liquidity risk of the stock/security being borrowed. The security being short sold might be illiquid or become illiquid and covering of the security might occur at a much higher price level than anticipated, leading to losses.

- **Risks associated with investing in REITs and InvITs**

REITs and InvITs are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis owing to market movements. Investors may note that AMC/Fund Manager's investment decisions may not always be profitable, as actual market movements may be at variance with the anticipated trends. The NAV of the scheme is vulnerable to movements in the prices of securities invested by the scheme, due to various market related factors like changes in the general market conditions, factors and forces affecting capital market, level of interest rates, trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures. The scheme will undertake active portfolio management as per the investment objective to reduce the market risk.

Liquidity Risk: This refers to the ease with which securities/instruments of REITs/InvITs can be sold. There is no assurance that an active secondary market will develop or be maintained. Hence, there could be times when trading in the units is infrequent. The subsequent valuation of illiquid units may reflect a discount from the market price of comparable securities/instruments for which a liquid market exists. As these products are new to the market they are likely to be exposed to liquidity risk.

Reinvestment Risk: Investments in securities/instruments of REITs and InvITs may carry reinvestment risk as there could be repatriation of funds by the Trusts in form of buyback of units or Payout of Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal, etc. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested in assets providing lower returns.

Price Risk: Securities/Instruments of REITs and InvITs are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis owing to market movements. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as general market conditions, factors and forces affecting capital market, real estate and infrastructure sectors, level of interest rates, trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures.

Interest Rate Risk: Securities/Instruments of REITs and InvITs run interest rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of units fall and when interest rates drop, such prices increase.

Credit Risk: Credit risk means that the issuer of a REIT/InvIT security / instrument may default on interest payment or even on paying back the principal amount on maturity. Securities / Instruments of REITs and 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, rights of unit holders such as right to information etc. may differ from existing capital market asset classes under Indian Law.

- **Risks associated with investing in Tri-party Repo (TREPS) through CCIL**

The Mutual Fund is a member of securities segment and Tri-party Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). All transactions of the Mutual Fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus, reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL). CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The Mutual Fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL at any given point in time i.e., in the event that the default waterfall is triggered and the contribution of the Mutual Fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, the Scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

Further, it may be noted that, CCIL periodically prescribes a list of securities eligible for contributions as collateral by members. Presently, all Central Government securities and Treasury bills are accepted as collateral by CCIL. The risk factors may undergo change in case the CCIL notifies securities other than Government of India securities as eligible for contribution as collateral.

- **Risks associated with investing in repo transactions in corporate bonds**

The market for the aforesaid product is illiquid. Hence, repo obligations cannot be easily sold to other parties.

If a counterparty fails, the scheme would have to take recourse to the collateral provided. If a counterparty fails to repay and the value of the collateral falls beyond the haircut, then the Scheme would be exposed to a loss of interest or principal.

Further, if the Scheme needs to take recourse to the debt securities provided as collateral, and the issuer of the debt securities makes a default, the scheme may lose the whole, or substantial portion of the amount.

This risk is somewhat mitigated by the fact that only bonds which have credit rating of AA and above can be accepted as collateral for repo transactions.

- **Risks associated with transaction in Units through stock exchange(s)**

In respect of transaction in Units of the Scheme through Bombay Stock Exchange ("BSE") and / or National Stock Exchange ("NSE"), allotment and redemption of Units on any Business Day will depend upon the order processing / settlement by NSE and /or BSE and their respective clearing corporations on which the Fund has no control.

- **Risks associated with Restrictions on Redemption**

The Trustee and the AMC may impose restrictions on redemptions when there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets. Accordingly, such restriction may affect the liquidity of the Scheme and there may be a delay in investors receiving part of their redemption proceeds.

- **Risks associated with segregated portfolio**

The unit holders may note that no redemption and subscription shall be allowed in the segregated portfolio. However, in order to facilitate exit to unit holders in the segregated portfolio, the AMC shall enable listing of units of segregated portfolio on the recognized stock exchange. The risks associated in regard to the segregated portfolio are as follows:

- The investors holding units of the segregated portfolio may not be able to liquidate their holdings till the time of recovery of money from the issuer.

- The security comprising the segregated portfolio may not realize any value.
- Listing of units of the segregated portfolio on a recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units of the segregated portfolio on the stock exchange.
- The trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV) of the segregated portfolio.

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- **Risks associated with investments in Equity and Equity related instruments**

- Equity and equity related securities are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis. The liquidity of investments made in the Scheme may be restricted by trading volumes and settlement periods. Settlement 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 portfolio 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 portfolio. Also, the value of the Scheme investments may be affected by interest rates, currency exchange rates, changes in law/policies of the government, taxation laws and political, economic or other developments which may have an adverse bearing on individual Securities, a specific sector or all sectors.
- Investments in equity and equity related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest in the equity Schemes unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their investment.
- 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.

- **Risks associated with investments in Derivatives**

- Derivative products are specialized instruments that require investment techniques and risk analysis different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a derivative requires an understanding not only of the underlying instrument but of the derivative itself. Trading in derivatives carries a high degree of risk although they are traded at a relatively small amount of margin which provides the possibility of great profit or loss in comparison with the principal investment amount. Thus, derivatives are highly leveraged instruments. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- The derivatives market in India is nascent and does not have the volumes that may be seen in other developed markets, which may result in volatility to the values.
- 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.
- Investment in derivatives also requires 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. Even a small price movement in the underlying security could have an impact on their value and consequently, on the NAV of the Units of the Scheme.
- 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 option 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.
- 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.
- The writer of a put option bears the risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset declines below the exercise price. The writer of a call option bears a risk of loss if the value of the underlying asset increases above the exercise price, as per extant regulations.
- 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 "counter party") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract. The counter party may default on a transaction before settlement and therefore, the Scheme is compelled to negotiate with another counterparty at the then prevailing (possibly unfavorable) market price.
- Derivatives also carry a market liquidity risk where the derivatives cannot be sold (unwound) at prices

that reflect the underlying assets, rates and indices.

- Where derivatives are used for hedging, such use may involve a basis risk where the instrument used as a hedge does not match the movement in the instrument/ underlying asset being hedged. The risk may be inter-related also e.g. interest rate movements can affect equity prices, which could influence specific issuer/industry assets.
- 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.
- Derivative products are leveraged instruments and can provide disproportionate gains as well as disproportionate losses to the investor. Execution of investment strategies depends upon the ability of the fund manager(s) to identify such opportunities which may not be available at all times. Identification and execution of the strategies to be pursued by the fund manager(s) 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 covered call strategy**

- 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. This downside risk is reduced by writing covered call options.
- The Scheme may write covered call option only in case it has adequate number of underlying equity shares as per regulatory requirement. This would lead to setting aside a portion of investment in underlying equity shares. If covered call options are sold to the maximum extent allowed by regulatory authority, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares immediately if the view changes to sell and exit the stock. The covered call options need to be unwound before the stock positions can be liquidated. This may lead to a loss of opportunity, or can cause exit issues if the strike price at which the call option contracts have been written become illiquid. Hence, the Scheme may not be able to sell the underlying equity shares, which can lead to temporary illiquidity of the underlying equity shares and result in loss of opportunity.
- The writing of covered call option would lead to loss of opportunity due to appreciation in value of the underlying equity shares. Hence, when the appreciation in equity share price is more than the option premium received the Scheme would be at a loss.

- **Risk factors associated with investing in Foreign Securities**

Subject to necessary approvals and within the investment objectives / asset allocation pattern of the Scheme may also invest in permitted foreign securities 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 multimarket and multi-currency products.

The Scheme may invest in units/securities issued by overseas companies listed on recognized stock exchanges overseas and other securities in accordance with the provisions of clause 12.19 of SEBI Master circular no. SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2024/90 dated June 27, 2024, subject to a maximum of US\$ 1 billion at in the aggregate at the Mutual Fund level and upto a maximum of US\$ 300 million in overseas Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) at the Mutual Fund level or such limits as may be prescribed by SEBI from time to time. However, in case the overall industry limit or such other limit as prescribed by SEBI has been breached, the Scheme would temporarily not invest in the overseas securities.

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. However, such investments also entail additional risks not only limited to the following.

Country Risk: The Country risk arises from the inability of a country, to meet its financial obligations. It is the risk encompassing economic, social and political conditions in a foreign country, which might adversely affect foreign investors' financial interests. In addition, country risks would include events such as introduction of extraordinary exchange controls, economic deterioration, bi-lateral conflict leading to immobilisation of the overseas financial assets and the prevalent tax laws of the respective jurisdiction for execution of trades or otherwise.

Currency Risk: Moving from Indian Rupee (INR) to any other currency involves currency risk. To the extent that the assets of the Scheme will be invested in securities denominated in foreign currencies, the Indian Rupee equivalent of the net assets and income may be adversely affected by changes in the value of certain foreign currencies relative to the Indian Rupee.

Interest Rate Risk: The pace and movement of interest rate cycles of various countries, though loosely co-related, can differ significantly. Investments in securities of countries other than India, the Scheme stand exposed to their interest rate cycles.

Repatriation Risk: 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 investments in Fixed Income Securities:**

The following are the risks associated mainly with investment in Fixed Income Securities:

Interest Rate Risk: This risk is associated with movements in interest rate, which depend on various factors such as government borrowing, inflation, economic performance etc. Fixed income securities such as government bonds, corporate bonds and money market instruments etc. run price-risk or interest-rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of fixed income securities fall and when interest rates drop, the prices generally increase. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as coupon, maturity of the security, the yield level at which the security is being traded. The longer the time to a bond's maturity, the greater is its interest rate risk. The NAV of the Scheme is expected to increase from a fall in interest rates while it would be adversely affected by an increase in the level of interest rates.

Re-investment Risk: Investments in fixed income securities may carry re-investment risk as interest rates prevailing on the interest or maturity due dates may differ from the original coupon of the bond. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested at a lower rate.

Spread Risk: Spreads between various fixed income securities may widen or contract. E.g.: Corporate Bonds are exposed to the risk of widening of the spread between corporate bonds and gilts. Prices of corporate bonds tend to fall if this spread widens which will affect the NAV of the scheme accordingly. Similarly, in case of floating rate securities, where the coupon is expressed in terms of a spread or mark up over the benchmark rate, widening of the spread results in a fall in the value of such securities.

Liquidity Risk related to fixed income instruments: This risk pertains to how saleable a security is in the market or the ease at which a security can be sold at or close to its true value. Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures may restrict the liquidity of some of the investments. The primary measure of liquidity risk is the spread between the bid price and the offer price quoted by a dealer. The liquidity of debt securities may change, depending on market conditions. At the time of selling the security, the security can become less liquid (wider spread) or illiquid, leading to loss in value of the portfolio. Securities that are unlisted generally carry a higher liquidity risk compared to listed securities.

Liquidity risk is greater for thinly traded securities such as, lower-rated bonds, bonds that were part of a smaller issue, bonds that have recently had their credit rating downgraded or bonds sold by an infrequent issuer. Bonds are generally the most liquid during the period right after issuance when the typical bond has the highest trading volume.

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 when the security is finally sold.

Credit Risk/Default Risk: Credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a debenture/ bond or a money market instrument may default on interest and /or principal payment obligations and/or on violation of covenant(s) and/or delay in scheduled payment(s). Even when there is no default, the price of a security may change with expected changes in the credit rating of the issuer.

Government Security is a sovereign security and the default risk is considered to be the least/zero. Corporate bonds carry a higher credit risk than Government Securities. Within corporate bonds also there are different levels of safety. Credit risks of most issuers of debt securities are rated by independent and professionally run rating agencies. Ratings of Credit issued by these agencies typically range from "AAA" (read as "Triple A" denoting "Highest Safety") to "D" (denoting "Default"), with about 6 distinct ratings between the two extremes. A bond rated higher by a particular rating agency is safer than a bond rated lower by the same rating agency.

Counterparty Risk: This is the risk of failure of counterparty to the transaction to deliver securities against consideration received or to pay consideration against securities delivered, in full or in part or as per the agreed specification. There could be losses to the Scheme in case of counterparty default.

Settlement Risk: Different segments of the Indian financial markets have different settlement periods and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances. The inability of the Scheme to make purchases in intended securities due to settlement problems could cause the Scheme to miss certain investment opportunities. Fixed income securities run the risk of settlement which can adversely affect the ability of the fund house to swiftly execute trading strategies which can lead to adverse movements in NAV.

Duration risk: The modified duration of a bond is a measure of its price sensitivity to interest rates movements, based on the average time to maturity of its interest and principal cash flows. Bond portfolio managers increase average duration when they expect rates to decline, to get the most benefit, and decrease average duration when they expect rates to rise, so as to minimize the negative impact. If rates move in a direction contrary to their expectations, they lose.

Inflation risk: Inflation causes tomorrow's currency to be worth less than today's; in other words, it reduces the purchasing power of a bond investor's future interest payments and principal, collectively known as "cash flows." Inflation also leads to higher interest rates, which in turn leads to lower bond prices. Inflation-indexed securities such as Treasury Inflation Protection Securities (TIPS) are structured to remove inflation risk.

Prepayment Risk: The borrower may repay the receivables earlier than scheduled, which may result in change in the yield and tenor for the Scheme.

Call risk: Some corporate, municipal and agency bonds have a "call provision" entitling their issuers to redeem them at a specified price on a date prior to maturity. Declining interest rates may accelerate the redemption of a callable bond, causing an investor's principal to be returned sooner than expected. In that scenario, investors have to reinvest the principal at the lower interest rates. (See also Reinvestment risk.)

Performance Risk: Performance of the Scheme may be impacted with changes in factors which affect the capital market and in particular the debt market.

- **Risks associated with Investing in Structured Obligation (SO) & Credit Enhancement (CE) rated securities**

The risks factors stated below for the Structured Obligations & Credit Enhancement are in addition to the risk factors associated with debt instruments. Credit rating agencies assign CE rating to an instrument based on any identifiable credit enhancement for the debt instrument issued by an issuer. The credit enhancement could be in various forms and could include guarantee, shortfall undertaking, letter of comfort, etc. from another entity. This entity could be either related or non-related to the issuer like a bank, financial institution, etc. Credit enhancement could include additional security in form of pledge of shares listed on stock exchanges, etc. SO transactions are asset backed/ mortgage backed securities, securitized paper backed by hypothecation of car loan receivables, securities backed by trade receivables, credit card receivables etc. Hence, for CE rated instruments evaluation of the credit enhancement provider, as well as the issuer is undertaken to determine the issuer rating. In case of SO rated issuer, the underlying loan pools or securitization, etc. is assessed to arrive at rating for the issuer.

Liquidity Risk: SO rated securities are often complex structures, with a variety of credit enhancements. Debt securities lack a well-developed secondary market in India, and due to the credit enhanced nature of CE securities as well as structured nature of SO securities, the liquidity in the market for these instruments is adversely affected compared to similar rated debt instruments. Hence, lower liquidity of such instruments, could lead to inability of the scheme to sell such debt instruments and generate liquidity for the scheme or higher impact cost when such instruments are sold.

Credit Risk: The credit risk of debt instruments which are CE rated is based on the combined strength of the issuer as well as the structure. Hence, any weakness in either the issuer or the structure could have an adverse credit impact on the debt instrument. The weakness in structure could arise due to inability of the investors to enforce the structure due to issues such as legal risk, inability to sell the underlying collateral or enforce guarantee, etc. In case of SO transactions, comingling risk and risk of servicer increases the overall risk for the securitized debt or assets backed transactions. Therefore, apart from issuer level credit risk such debt instruments are also susceptible to structure related credit risk.

- **Risks associated with investments in securitised paper**

Types of securitised debt vary and carry different levels and types of risks. Credit risk on securitised bonds depends upon the originator and varies depending on whether they are issued with recourse to the originator or otherwise. Even within securitised debt, AAA or equivalent rated securitised debt offers lesser risk of default than AA rated securitised debt. A structure with recourse will have a lower credit risk than a structure without recourse.

As underlying assets in securitized 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 these types of receivables depend upon various factors including macro-economic factors of these industries and economies. Specific factors like nature and adequacy of property mortgaged against these borrowings, nature of loan agreement/ mortgage deed in case of home loan, adequacy of documentation in case of auto finance and home loans, capacity of borrower to meet its obligation on borrowings in case of credit cards and the intention of the borrower influence the risks relating to the asset borrowings underlying the 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 the investor receives in the securitised paper.

- **Limited Liquidity & price Risk:**

Presently, the secondary market for securitised papers is not very liquid. There is no assurance that a deep secondary market will develop for such securities. This could limit the ability of the Fund to resell them. Even if a secondary market develops and sales were to take place, these secondary transactions may be at a discount to the initial issue price due to changes in the interest rate structure.

- **Risks due to possible prepayments:**

Asset securitization is a process whereby commercial, or consumer credits are packaged and sold in the form of financial instruments. Full prepayment of underlying loan contract may arise under any of the following circumstances:

- obligor pays the receivable due from him at any time prior to the scheduled maturity date of that receivable; or
- receivable is required to be repurchased by the seller consequent to its inability to rectify a material misrepresentation with respect to that receivable; or
- the servicer recognizing a contract as a defaulted contract and hence repossessing the underlying asset and selling the same.

In the event of prepayments, investors may be exposed to changes in tenor and yield.

- **Bankruptcy of the originator or seller:**

If the originator becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the sale from originator to the Trust was not a sale then the Fund could experience losses or delays in the payments due. All possible care is generally taken in structuring the transaction so as to minimize the risk of the sale to the Trust not being construed as a "True Sale". Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the assignment of receivables to the Trust in trust for and for the benefit of the investors, as envisaged herein, would constitute a true sale.

- **Bankruptcy of the investor's agent:**

If an investor's agent becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings and the court in the bankruptcy proceedings concludes that the recourse of the investor's agent to the assets/receivables is not in its capacity as agent/Trustee but in his personal capacity, then an investor could experience losses or delays in the payments due under the swap agreement. All possible care is normally taken in structuring the transaction and drafting the underlying documents so as to provide that the assets/receivables if and when held by an investor's agent is held as agent and in Trust for the Investors and shall not form part of the personal assets of the investor's agent. Legal opinion is normally obtained to the effect that the investor's agent's recourse to assets/ receivables is restricted in his capacity as agent and trustee and not in its personal capacity.

- **Credit Rating of the Transaction/Certificate:**

The credit rating is not a recommendation to purchase, hold or sell the Certificate in as much as the ratings do not comment on the market price of the Certificate or its suitability to a particular investor. There is no assurance by the rating agency either that the rating will remain at the same level for any given period of time or that the rating will not be lowered or withdrawn entirely by the rating agency.

- **Risk of Co-mingling:**

The servicers normally deposit all payments received from the obligors into the collection account. However, there could be a time gap between collection by a servicer and depositing the same into the collection account especially considering that some of the collections may be in the form of cash. In this interim period, collections from the loan agreements may not be segregated from other funds of the servicer. If the servicer fails to remit such funds, due to investors, the investors may be exposed to a potential loss. Due care is normally taken to ensure that the servicer enjoys the highest credit rating on a standalone basis to minimize co-mingling risk.

- **Risks associated with Short Selling & Securities Lending**

Securities Lending is a lending of securities through an approved intermediary to a borrower under an agreement for a specified period with the condition that the borrower will return equivalent securities of the same type or class at the end of the specified period along with the corporate benefits accruing on the securities borrowed. There are risks inherent in securities lending, including the risk of failure of the other party, in this case the approved intermediary to comply with the terms of the agreement. Such failure can result in a possible loss of rights to the collateral, the inability of the approved intermediary to return the securities deposited by the lender and the possible loss of corporate benefits accruing thereon.

Short-selling is the sale of shares or securities that the seller does not own at the time of trading. Instead, he borrows it from someone who already owns it. Later, the short seller buys back the stock/security he shorted and returns the stock/security to the lender to close out the loan. The inherent risks are Counterparty risk and liquidity risk of the stock/security being borrowed. The security being short sold might be illiquid or become illiquid and covering of the security might occur at a much higher price level than anticipated, leading to losses.

- **Risks associated with investing in REITs and InvITs**

REITs and InvITs are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis owing to market movements. Investors may note that AMC/Fund Manager's investment decisions may not always be profitable, as actual market movements may be at variance with the anticipated trends. The NAV of the scheme is vulnerable to movements in the prices of securities invested by the scheme, due to various market related factors like changes in the general market conditions, factors and forces affecting capital market, level of interest rates, trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures. The scheme will undertake active portfolio management as per the investment objective to reduce the market risk.

Liquidity Risk: This refers to the ease with which securities/instruments of REITs/InvITs can be sold. There is no assurance that an active secondary market will develop or be maintained. Hence, there could be times when trading in the units is infrequent. The subsequent valuation of illiquid units may reflect a discount from the market price of comparable securities/instruments for which a liquid market exists. As these products are new to the market they are likely to be exposed to liquidity risk.

Reinvestment Risk: Investments in securities/instruments of REITs and InvITs may carry reinvestment risk as there could be repatriation of funds by the Trusts in form of buyback of units or Payout of Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal, etc. Consequently, the proceeds may get invested in assets providing lower returns.

Price Risk: Securities/Instruments of REITs and InvITs are volatile and prone to price fluctuations on a daily basis owing to market movements. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon factors such as general market conditions, factors and forces affecting capital market, real estate and infrastructure sectors, level of interest rates, trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures.

Interest Rate Risk: Securities/Instruments of REITs and InvITs run interest rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of units fall and when interest rates drop, such prices increase.

Credit Risk: Credit risk means that the issuer of a REIT/InvIT security / instrument may default on interest payment or even on paying back the principal amount on maturity. Securities / Instruments of

REITs and 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, rights of unit holders such as right to information etc. may differ from existing capital market asset classes under Indian Law.

- **Risks associated with investing in Tri-party Repo (TREPS) through CCIL**

The Mutual Fund is a member of securities segment and Tri-party Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). All transactions of the Mutual Fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus, reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL). CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The Mutual Fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL at any given point in time i.e., in the event that the default waterfall is triggered and the contribution of the Mutual Fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, the Scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

Further, it may be noted that, CCIL periodically prescribes a list of securities eligible for contributions as collateral by members. Presently, all Central Government securities and Treasury bills are accepted as collateral by CCIL. The risk factors may undergo change in case the CCIL notifies securities other than Government of India securities as eligible for contribution as collateral.

- **Risks associated with investing in repo transactions in corporate bonds**

The market for the aforesaid product is illiquid. Hence, repo obligations cannot be easily sold to other parties.

If a counterparty fails, the scheme would have to take recourse to the collateral provided. If a counterparty fails to repay and the value of the collateral falls beyond the haircut, then the Scheme would be exposed to a loss of interest or principal.

Further, if the Scheme needs to take recourse to the debt securities provided as collateral, and the issuer of the debt securities makes a default, the scheme may lose the whole, or substantial portion of the amount.

This risk is somewhat mitigated by the fact that only bonds which have credit rating of AA and above can be accepted as collateral for repo transactions.

- **Risks associated with transaction in Units through stock exchange(s)**

In respect of transaction in Units of the Scheme through Bombay Stock Exchange ("BSE") and / or National Stock Exchange ("NSE"), allotment and redemption of Units on any Business Day will depend upon the order processing / settlement by NSE and /or BSE and their respective clearing corporations on which the Fund has no control.

- **Risks associated with Restrictions on Redemption**

The Trustee and the AMC may impose restrictions on redemptions when there are circumstances leading to a systemic crisis or event that severely constricts market liquidity or the efficient functioning of markets. Accordingly, such restriction may affect the liquidity of the Scheme and there may be a delay in investors receiving part of their redemption proceeds.

- **Risks associated with segregated portfolio**

The unit holders may note that no redemption and subscription shall be allowed in the segregated portfolio. However, in order to facilitate exit to unit holders in the segregated portfolio, the AMC shall enable listing of units of segregated portfolio on the recognized stock exchange. The risks associated in regard to the segregated portfolio are as follows:

- The investors holding units of the segregated portfolio may not be able to liquidate their holdings till the time of recovery of money from the issuer.
- The security comprising the segregated portfolio may not realize any value.
- Listing of units of the segregated portfolio on a recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units of the segregated portfolio on the stock exchange.
- The trading price of units on the stock exchange may be significantly lower than the prevailing Net Asset Value (NAV) of the segregated portfolio.