



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024

**FINANCIAL CLARITY:
DECODING MARKET TRENDS
AND COUPLE FINANCES**

MARKET DATA AND MACROS

<p>BSE Sensex: 73,651 (1.86 % MoM)</p> <p>Nifty 50: 22, 327 (1.71% MoM)</p> <p>Nifty Bank: 47,125 (2.53 % MoM)</p> <p>Nifty Midcap: 48, 076 (-0.03 % MoM)</p> <p>Nifty Small-Cap: 15,270 (-3.81 % MoM)</p> <p>Nifty PE Ratio: 22.88</p> <p><small>** MoM" an abbreviation for "Month on Month Performance". Data as on 28th Mar</small></p>	<p>Brent Crude: 87.48</p> <p>USD/INR: 83.40</p> <p>Gold (Rs/10 gms): 67, 252</p> <p>10-year G-sec yield: 7.05 %</p> <p><small>*Data as on 28th Mar</small></p>
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In March 2024, the Indian stock market experienced a mix of positive and cautious sentiments. While the headline indices continued to show growth, there was correction observed in the broader segment with both Mid and Smallcap Indices on a flat to downward trajectory. This was also owing to the bloated valuations in the Mid and Smallcap segment along with reaction to comments and actions from nation's top regulator on this category.

Reflecting on the financial year 2024, India's economy showcased remarkable resilience and growth, with its GDP exceeding projections to surpass 7.2%. Globally, the financial year 2024 was marked by economic resilience amid challenges, with notable shifts towards easing monetary policies in response to subdued inflation, aiming for a soft landing to pre-empt a global recession. The anticipation of an 8% or higher growth in the last quarter of FY24 suggests a positive outlook for the Indian economy. Macro Events to watch out for apart from the geopolitical risks and Domestic Elections Results notably include a global shift towards rate cuts in the second half of the year, influenced by lowering inflation rates.

Considering the market's resilience amidst challenges, a multi-asset investment approach with a focus on large-cap stocks and medium to longer duration bonds (to take advantage of anticipated rate cut) could be a prudent approach.



IN THE NEWS:

1. From April 2023 to February 2024, India's fiscal shortfall reached Rs.15.01 lakh crore, marking 86.5% of the fiscal year's entire target.
2. February saw a 6.7% increase in the performance of India's eight crucial sectors, a noticeable rise from the 4.1% in January and 4.9% in December.
3. The Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, anticipates the Indian economy will grow at or beyond 8% in the final quarter of the financial year, mirroring the expected annual growth rate for FY24.
4. S&P Global adjusted its global GDP growth forecast to 2.6% for 2024, signalling a slight improvement from earlier estimates.
5. Consumer price inflation is expected to decrease globally, with projections indicating a dip to 4.8% in 2024 from the previous year's average of 5.7%.
6. The Federal Reserve and other major central banks are anticipated to initiate rate cuts by June 2024, responding to easing inflation and supporting economic growth



FINANCIAL HARMONY FOR TWO

While open communication is vital in any relationship, it becomes paramount when financial well-being is at stake. Open, honest, and constructive discussions about money strengthen relationships. Which is why you must aim to empower yourselves as couples to take control of your financial future through a collaborative approach of "Financial Co-Planning."

You might be surprised at how different your individual money mindsets can be. Through honest, constructive discussions, you can help bridge the gap between differing money mindsets. Our first year of marriage revealed to my wife and me how common it is for one partner to be a spender and the other to be a saver; compromise is essential to achieving your objectives and shared goals. Take, for instance, the topic of having joint or separate accounts. Here are the benefits and drawbacks of both joint and separate accounts:

Joint Accounts offer transparency for open financial discussions and simplify shared bills, promoting unity in working towards financial goals. However, they can lead to conflict due to overspending, reduce individual autonomy, and complicate matters during separation.

Separate Accounts provide financial independence and clear boundaries, simplifying separation. However, they require strong communication to manage shared expenses, and reduced transparency may raise trust concerns.

No "One Size Fits All"

Your relationship, understanding, and particular circumstances will determine what best meets your needs. Yes, financial disagreements are inevitable. This is why you must equip yourself with constructive ways to resolve differences and build a financially harmonious future together. Some of which are:

Create a shared budget: Get a clear picture of your combined financial situation.

Define long-term goals: Discuss dreams like homeownership, family, and retirement.

Start the conversation early: The sooner you plan, the better prepared you'll be.

Handling financial disagreements

A successful relationship requires a blend of empathy, communication, and compromise. Remember, you're a team, so focus on finding solutions that benefit you both. This might mean revisiting your budget to accommodate a differing priority or creating a compromise where each gets some leeway within defined spending limits. If the disagreement stems from a larger difference in financial values, then you need professional help to develop a mutually agreeable long-term plan.

Remember, financial success, much like a strong relationship, is built on a foundation of teamwork, shared goals, and mutual understanding. Let's embark on this journey together and unlock the power of financial harmony in our relationships!

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