Fundamentals of Investment



- Investment involves making of a sacrifice in the present with the hope of deriving future benefits.
- Two most important features of an investment are current sacrifice and future benefit.
- Investment is the sacrifice of certain present values for the uncertain future reward.



- The expectation brings with it a probability that the quantum of return may vary from a minimum to a maximum.
- This possibility of variation in the actual return is known as investment risk.
- Thus every investment involves a return and risk.



DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE INVESTOR AND THE SPECULATOR

Time horizon

- Investor Plans for a longer time horizon. His holding period may be from one year to few years.
- Speculator Plans for a very short period.
 Holding period varies from few days to months.

RISK

Investor – Assumes moderate risk.

Speculator – Willing to undertake high risk.

Return

- Investor Likes to have moderate rate of return associated with limited risk.
- Speculator Like to have high return assuming high risk.

Decision

- Investor Considers fundamental factors and evaluates the performance of the company regularly.
- Speculator Considers inside information and market behaviour.

Funds

- Investor uses his own funds and avoids borrowed funds.
- Speculator Speculator uses borrowed funds to supplement his personal resources.

INVESTMENT PROCESS

- Investment process is governed by the two important facets of investment they are risk and return.
- Therefore, we first consider these two basic parameters that are of critical importance to all investors and the trade off that exists between expected return and risk.



- Given the foundation for making investment decisions the trade off between expected return and risk- we next consider the decision process in investments as it is typically practiced today.
- Although numerous separate decisions must be made, for organizational purposes, this decision process has traditionally been divided into a two step process: security analysis and portfolio management.



- Security analysis involves the valuation of securities.
- Portfolio management involves the management of an investor's investment selections as a portfolio (package of assets), with its own unique characteristics.



Investment categories:

- Investment generally involves commitment of funds in two types of assets:
- Real assets
- Financial assets

Investment avenues

- 1.Corporate securities
- Equity shares ,Preference shares
- Debentures/Bonds , GDRs /ADRs
- Warrants , Derivatives



- 2.Deposits in banks and non banking companies
- 3.Post office deposits and certificates
- 4.Life insurance policies
- 5.Provident fund schemes
- 6.Government and semi government securities
- 7.Mutual fund schemes
- 8.Real assets



 Equity shares, also known as ordinary shares or common shares, represent the owners, capital in a company.

Characteristics of Equity Share

- Permanent capital
- Residual claim to asset & income
- Right to control or voting rights
 Limited liability .

Sweat equity

- The definition of sweat equity has two different dimensions:
- Shares issued for consideration other than cash for providing know-how, intellectual property or value additions.
- Shares issued at a discount to employees and directors.

Sweat equity is for

- Computer hardware and software development.
- Management consultancy where a standard strategy is issued to earn a fee, like Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solution.
- In the life insurance segment, commission based business can be converted into sweat equity.

Non-voting shares

- Non voting shares carry no voting rights.
 They carry additional dividends instead of the voting rights.
- They have right to participate in the bonus issue.
- The non-voting shares also can be listed and traded in the stock exchange.
- If non-voting shares are not paid dividend for two years, the shares would automatically get voting rights.



- The company can issue this to a maximum of 25% of the voting stock.
- The dividend on non voting shares would have to be 20% higher than the dividend on the voting shares.

Right shares

- A right issue (pre-emptive right) is an issue of share to the existing shareholders on a pro rata basis.
- New share issue offered to existing shareholders in proportion to their current shareholding, for a specified period and at a specified (usually discounted) price. Its objective is to afford them the opportunity to maintain their percentage of ownership of the firm.

Stock Dividend (Bonus Shares)

- Stock dividend is the payment of additional shares of common stocks to the ordinary shareholders instead of cash dividend.
- Stock dividend or bonus shares are issued by firm to existing shareholders by conversion of reserves into capitalisation.
- Bonus shares can be issued only out of the reserve build out from the profits or share premium collected on cash only.

Preference Shares:

- Preference shares refer to a form of shares that lie in between pure equity and debt. They have the characteristic of ownership rights while retaining the privilege of a consistent return on investment.
- The claims of these holders carry higher priority than that of ordinary shareholders but lower than that of debt holders.

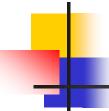


- Cumulative preference shares
- Non-cumulative preference share
- Redeemable Preference share
- Irredeemable Preference Share
- Participating Preference share
- Non-participating preference share
- Convertible preference share
- Non-convertible preference shares.

Debentures and Bonds

- A debenture is an acknowledgement of debt.
- These are essentially long-term debt instruments.
- Many types of debentures and bonds have been structured to suit investors with different time needs. Though having a higher risk as compared to bank fixed deposits, bonds, and debentures do offer higher returns.
- Debenture investment requires scanning the market and choosing specific securities that will cater to the investment objectives of the investors.

Types of debenture:



- Simple or unsecured debentures
- Secured or mortgaged debentures
- Bearer debentures
- Registered debentures
- Redeemable debentures
- Irredeemable debentures
- Convertible debentures
- Non-Convertible debentures
- Guaranteed debentures .

Zero coupon bonds/Deep discount bonds

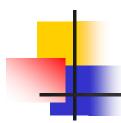
There is no interest payment in these bonds. These bonds sell at a discount and the face value is repaid at the time of maturity.

Depository Receipts (GDRs/ADRs):

American Depository Receipts (ADRs) and Global Depository Receipts (GDRs) are shares of Indian companies listed and traded in foreign stock exchanges.

Warrants:

- A warrant is a certificate giving its holder the right to purchase equity shares at a stipulated price within a specified time limit or perpetually.
- Sometimes a warrant is offered with debt securities as an inducement to buy the shares at a latter date.
- The warrant acts as a value addition because the holder of the warrant has the right but not the obligation of investing in the equity at the indicated rate.



- The life periods of warrants are long.
- Warrants can be detachable. The investor can sell the warrants separately and they are traded in the market.

Derivatives:

- It is a financial instrument which is derived from some other financial assets. It is designed to minimize risk for the investors on their investment.
- Financial futures are contracts or obligations that help to lock-in the price at which one wishes to buy or sell an asset in the future, to protect against price changes.

DEPOSITS:

- Among non-corporate investments, the most popular are deposits with banks such as savings accounts and fixed deposits.
- Savings deposits carry low interest rates whereas fixed deposits carry higher interest rates, varying with the period of maturity, interest is payable quarterly or half-yearly or annually.

Company Fixed Deposits:

- Many companies have come up with fixed deposit schemes to mobilize money for their needs. The company fixed deposit market is a risky market and ought to be looked at with caution.
- RBI has issued various regulations to monitor the company fixed deposit market. However, credit rating services are available to rate the risk of company fixed deposit schemes.
- The maturity period varies from three to five years. Fixed deposits in companies have a high risk since they are unsecured, but they promise higher returns than bank deposits.

Post Office Deposits and Certificates:

- The investment avenues provided by post offices are non-marketable. However, most of the savings schemes in post offices enjoy tax concessions.
- Post offices accept savings deposits as well as fixed deposits from the public.
- There is also a recurring deposit scheme that is an instrument of regular monthly savings.

Life Insurance Policies:

- Insurance companies offer many investment schemes to investors. These schemes promote savings and additionally provide insurance cover.
- LIC is the largest life insurance company in India. Some of its schemes include life policies, Jeevan Saathi, Money Back Plan, Jeevan Dhara etc.

Equity Linked Savings Schemes (ELSSs):



- Investing in ELSSs gets investors a tax rebate of the amount invested.
- ELSSs are basically growth mutual funds with a lock-in period of three years.

Pension Plan:

- Certain notified retirement/pension funds entitle investors to a tax rebate.
- UTI, LIC, and ICICI are some financial institutions that offer retirement plans to investors.



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Mutual Fund Schemes:

- The Unit Trust of India is the first mutual fund in the country. A number of commercial banks and financial institutions have also set up mutual funds.
- Mutual funds have been set up in the private sector also. These mutual funds offer various investment schemes to investors.

REAL ASSETS

- Investments in real assets are also made when the expected returns are very attractive.
- Real estate, gold, silver, currency, and other investments such as art are also treated as investments since the expectation from holding of such assets is associated with higher returns.