

INDIA'S SPECIALIZED INVESTMENT FUND UNIVERSE · VOL 1, NO. 1 · MAY 2026

# The category nobody saw coming just crossed **₹10,000 crore**.

In 14 months, SEBI's Specialized Investment Fund has done what AIF Cat-III took a decade to do. This is the flagship public coverage report: **every live SIF** ranked and read, the NFO pipeline calendared, real returns & AUM (Value Research) analysed, and the full HNI allocation playbook — published by the Trustner Asset Services Research Desk.

**₹13,179Cr**COMBINED TRACKED  
AUM (VALUE  
RESEARCH)**12.5%**

EQUITY LTCCG

**24**

SIFS TRACKED

**13**

AMCS LIVE

**7**

SEBI CATEGORIES

#### ABOUT THE DATA IN THIS REPORT

Every figure here is sourced: **per-unit NAVs are the official AMFI SIF NAVs** (Regular-Growth plan, updated daily on our tracker); **1-month / 3-month returns, AUM, risk band and expense ratio** are from the **Value Research SIF screener** (Regular plan, June 2026). Returns are absolute (point-to-point). Tax figures are clearly labelled illustrative. Live, sortable data is maintained on the [Fund Universe](#) page, our single source of truth. — Trustner Asset Services Research Desk

# A category, quietly assembled.

**I**n December 2024 a SEBI bureaucrat wrote a circular almost nobody read. Eighteen months later, more than ₹13,100 crore has quietly migrated into the category it created — a category that did not exist when the most recent budget was tabled. The Specialized Investment Fund, or SIF, is the most consequential change to Indian wealth-management plumbing since the demat account.

It is also one of the least understood. Search "what is SIF" and you will find blogs that describe it as "a new mutual fund category." That is technically correct in the way that calling a Cessna "a new type of bicycle" is technically correct: the regulatory wrapper is shared, and the toolkit is utterly different. SIFs short stocks. They run dynamic equity-debt bands of negative-seven to positive-seventy-five percent net equity. They sit, by deliberate design, at the precise gap between mutual fund and Portfolio Management Service — a gap that, before April 2025, contained roughly nine million Indian households with liquid AUM between ten lakhs and two crores. Those households were either over-served by retail products or unable to access the ones built for the very rich.

The SIF closes that gap with what is, in this Editor's view, the single most efficient piece of financial-product engineering the Indian regulator has shipped in twenty years. The minimum is set at ten lakh aggregate per PAN per AMC — high enough to keep retail out, low enough to admit the new affluent. The taxation is mutual-fund-grade — twelve-point-five percent long-term capital gains on the equity-oriented bucket, which compounds into a material post-tax advantage over an equivalent AIF Cat-III taxed at slab rate (see the worked, assumption-stated example in the tax section). The category has also drawn top-shelf managers — Sankaran Naren leads ICICI Prudential's iSIF range.

The number that should make every wealth professional pay attention is not the AUM total. It is the rate of change. From a standing start in late 2025, the category has gathered more than ₹13,100 crore across the funds we track — twenty-five live products, and a deep AMC filing queue behind them. This is the early-Vanguard moment for the Indian alternatives market. The desks that build research credibility now will own the conversation for the decade.

This first issue of *The MeraSIF Coverage Report* sets the foundation. We have walked the regulatory architecture, sized the universe, modelled the tax math at the household level, calendared every NFO open through Q2, and laid out the allocation playbook by corpus tier. We have done so in the public — no paywall, no embargo, no "premium tier." Our view is that the more investors understand this category, the better the conversations the Trustner team gets to have. We are betting on education compounding faster than gatekeeping.

One more thing. SIFs have not been tested through a full market cycle. The category is fourteen months old. The hybrid strategies broadly held up better through an early-2026 market drawdown than the pure equity long-short strategies did. Every figure in this report carries the implicit caveat that distinguishes good research from marketing: we do not know what we do not know yet. Read accordingly.

— *The Editor*

★ THE 30-SECOND TAKEAWAY

SIF is the right wrapper for the Indian investor with ₹10 lakh to ₹2 crore of liquid AUM. The category is well over a year old, more than ₹13,100 Cr across the funds we track, and dominated by hybrid long-short strategies that held up better than pure-equity peers through an early-2026 market drawdown. Three foundational SIFs (Altiva, Magnum, iSIF Hybrid) form a defensible core; the equity sleeve is best held lightly until track records mature. Build a position now; the institutional second wave is launching this quarter.

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# 01 Executive Snapshot

The numbers that matter, in one page.

Three facts define this category as of mid-2026.

**First, scale.** Across the SIFs we track with disclosed assets, combined AUM exceeds **₹13,100 crore** (sum of Value Research disclosures, Regular plan). Twenty SIFs are live, four more are in NFO, and thirteen AMC's have launched or filed — roughly eighteen months from SEBI's enabling amendment. Hybrid Long-Short strategies hold the clear majority of those assets.

**Second, structural advantage.** SIFs inherit Section 10(23D) fund-level tax exemption from their parent mutual fund trust structure. Long-term capital gains on equity-oriented SIFs are taxed at 12.5%; an equivalent AIF Cat-III is taxed at the fund level at slab rate plus surcharge. *Illustratively* — on a 12% gross return for a top-bracket investor — that gap is worth on the order of three percentage points of post-tax IRR a year (the worked, assumption-stated example is in the tax section). The tax rates are real; the projection is arithmetic, not a forecast.

**Third, the moment.** The second wave of AMC's is launching *this quarter*: Mirae Asset's Platinum, ICICI Prudential's Active Asset Allocator and Equity Long-Short, Edelweiss's Equity Ex-Top 100 — with pipeline filings from HDFC, Nippon India, UTI, Axis and DSP.

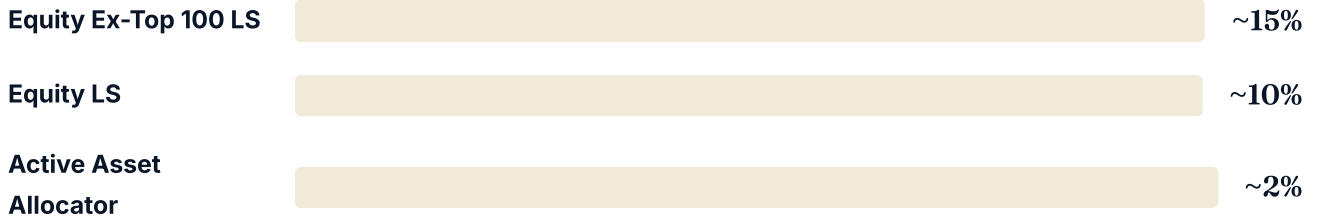
## Largest SIFs by AUM

₹ crore, Regular-Growth plan. Source: Value Research SIF screener, 13 June 2026.

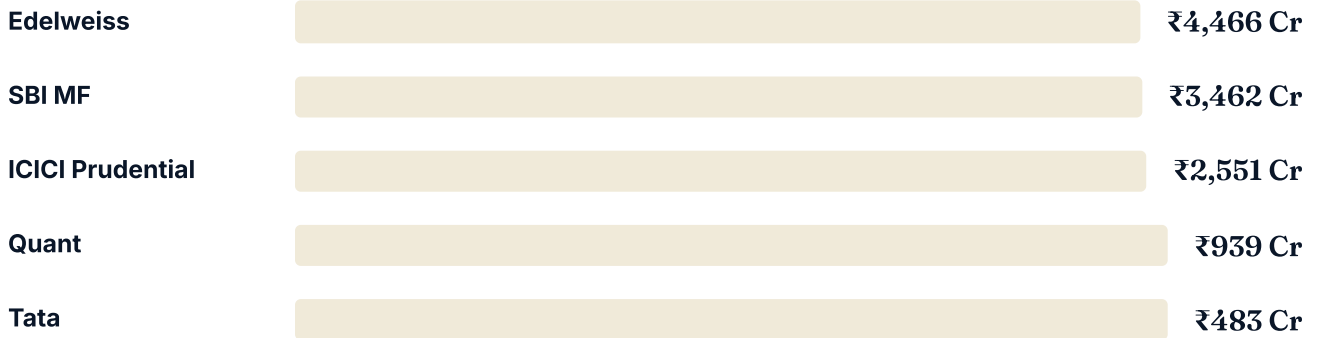
Altiva Hybrid LS · Edelweiss	₹4,466 Cr
Magnum Hybrid LS · SBI	₹3,462 Cr
iSIF Equity Ex-Top 100 · ICICI Pru	₹1,707 Cr
iSIF Hybrid LS · ICICI Pru	₹844 Cr
qSIF Equity LS · Quant	₹484 Cr
Titanium Hybrid LS · Tata	₹483 Cr

## By strategy (share of tracked AUM)

Hybrid LS	~73%
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### AMCs ranked by SIF AUM (top 5)



Sum of each AMC's disclosed SIF AUM (Value Research, Regular plan, Jun 2026).

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*The most useful framing for a wealth-management conversation in May 2026 is not "should I buy a SIF?" It is "why am I still paying slab-rate tax on my PMS gains?"*

— FROM THE EDITORIAL, PAGE 27

# 02 A Category Timeline

Eighteen months from regulatory amendment to a ₹11,700 Cr+ category.

**16 DECEMBER 2024**

## SEBI inserts Chapter VI-C into the Mutual Funds Regulations 1996

A six-line amendment. Nobody publishes a thinkpiece. This is the legal foundation that ensures the SIF inherits Section 10(23D) fund-level tax exemption from its parent mutual fund trust. Without this single sentence, the entire post-tax case for SIF collapses.

**27 FEBRUARY 2025**

## SEBI issues the Master Circular

SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2025/26. The architecture lands in a single document: two AMC-eligibility routes, seven permitted strategy categories, the 25% unhedged-short cap, the ₹10 lakh investor floor, the cumulative-exposure ceiling, the bi-monthly disclosure mandate. The market reads it once.

**1 APRIL 2025**

## The framework goes live

Eligible AMCs may file. Nothing happens publicly for five months. Internally, every major AMC is on a sprint.

**17 SEPTEMBER 2025**

## Quant qSIF Equity LS — the first NFO

Sandeep Tandon's VLRT framework applied to long-short. Allotted 7 October. The category has its first scheme. Quant is, simultaneously, dealing with the front-running investigation overhang from 2024-25 — a complication that follows the AMC into the SIF era.

**OCTOBER 2025**

## Edelweiss Altiva and SBI Magnum — the foundational launches

Two hybrid Long-Short SIFs allot within two weeks of each other — the foundational launches that establish the "equity-taxed, lower-volatility hybrid" template. Both are today among the largest SIFs by AUM (see the live data). The "FD-plus with equity tax" narrative finds its market.

**JANUARY 2026**

## Sankaran Naren enters the category

ICICI Prudential launches iSIF Hybrid and iSIF Equity Ex-Top 100 simultaneously, both with Sankaran Naren as lead manager. iSIF Equity Ex-Top 100 is today among the largest equity SIFs by AUM (₹1,535 Cr, Value Research).

## EARLY 2026

### **Momentum builds — then the market tests the category**

Inflows accelerate through early 2026, then a sharp equity-market correction tests the young funds. The hybrid long-short strategies broadly hold up better than the pure-equity ones — a key reason our coverage leans toward hybrids for core allocations and treats the equity sleeve as satellite.

## APRIL 2026

### **Second wave SEBI clearance**

Kotak (Infinity), Mirae Asset (Platinum), HSBC (RedHex) all receive SEBI clearance for hybrid LS schemes. The category goes from "novelty" to "table stakes" for any AMC competing in the wealth-management corridor.

## MAY 2026 (THIS ISSUE)

### **Twenty live SIFs. Four in NFO. Thirteen AMCs.**

Mirae Asset Platinum, Edelweiss Altiva Equity Ex-Top 100, ICICI Prudential iSIF Active Asset Allocator, ICICI Prudential iSIF Equity Long-Short — all in NFO through 1-3 June. HDFC, Nippon India, UTI, Axis, DSP filings expected through Q2.

## WHAT THE TIMELINE TELLS US

### **Eighteen months is the new norm for a SEBI-built category to find product-market fit.**

Compare against the AIF Cat-III rollout (2012 regulation, meaningful AUM only by 2018), the REIT framework (2014, meaningful only by 2019), and the InvIT framework (2014, still finding its audience). The SIF's speed-to-scale reflects three things: an unmet customer need, an existing distribution muscle (mutual fund distributors immediately had product to sell), and clear tax economics. The next category SEBI launches should study this rollout closely.

# 03 The SEBI Architecture

Three circulars, seven categories, one elegant piece of regulatory engineering.

The SIF framework rests on three SEBI circulars. The first — **SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2025/26**, dated 27 February 2025 — is the master document. It defines who can launch, what they may launch, and how it must be disclosed. The second, dated 9 April 2025, clarifies the minimum-threshold edge cases (passive market drift below ₹10 lakh does *not* trigger forced redemption; active redemption that would breach the floor does). The third, 11 April 2025, standardises the bi-monthly disclosure format into the ISID — the Investment Scheme Information Document — and makes it the mandatory comparison artifact across the category.

## Two routes for AMC eligibility

An AMC may sponsor an SIF through one of two routes. The **Sound Track Record Route** requires three years of mutual fund operations,  $\geq$ ₹10,000 Cr in three-year average AUM, and a clean SEBI record (no Section 11/11B/24 action in three years). This is the route every Tier-1 AMC qualifies for. The **Alternate Route** waives the AUM threshold for smaller AMCs but requires a Chief Investment Officer with  $\geq$ 10 years of fund-management experience and  $\geq$ ₹5,000 Cr of AUM personally managed historically — plus a clean regulatory record. Every fund manager named in the SID must hold the NISM-mandated SIF certification.

## Seven categories, one strategy per AMC per category

SEBI's anti-proliferation rule is elegant: an AMC may launch only one SIF per strategy category. This is why ICICI Prudential's iSIF Hybrid LS and iSIF Equity Ex-Top 100 are distinct products (different categories), but ICICI Prudential cannot run a second Hybrid LS strategy alongside the iSIF Hybrid. The seven permitted categories are:

#	TYPE	SUB-STRATEGY	MINIMUM ALLOCATION	UNHEDGED SHORT
1	Equity	<b>Equity Long-Short</b>	$\geq$ 80% equity	$\leq$ 25%
2	Equity	<b>Equity Ex-Top 100 Long-Short</b>	$\geq$ 65% in stocks ranked >100 by market cap	$\leq$ 25%
3	Equity	<b>Sector Rotation Long-Short</b>	$\geq$ 80% across up to 4 sectors	$\leq$ 25%
4	Debt	<b>Debt Long-Short</b>	$\geq$ 80% debt	$\leq$ 25%
5	Debt	<b>Sectoral Debt Long-Short</b>	Sector-concentrated debt	$\leq$ 25%
6	Hybrid	<b>Active Asset Allocator Long-Short</b>	Dynamic across equity / debt / commodity	$\leq$ 25%
7	Hybrid	<b>Hybrid Long-Short ★</b>	Defined equity-debt bands	$\leq$ 25%

## Why exactly seven?

The seven categories are not arbitrary. They are the seven distinct allocation profiles where a long-short toolkit demonstrably adds value over a long-only mutual fund. SEBI mandated this cap precisely to prevent the AIF Cat-III experience — where regulatory permissiveness produced 800+ strategies, of which fewer than 100 are institutional-quality. By restricting categories, SEBI ensures every SIF is structurally comparable to its peers. The ISID disclosure mandate then makes cross-fund analysis possible. This is, in its quiet way, world-class regulatory design.

## The investor's floor — and how it actually works

The minimum is ten lakh aggregate per PAN per AMC across all SIF strategies of that AMC. The aggregation is important: an investor can deploy ₹6 lakh into ICICI Pru's iSIF Hybrid and ₹4 lakh into iSIF Equity Ex-Top 100, and meet the ₹10 lakh threshold at ICICI Prudential. The investor cannot, however, split ₹5 lakh across two different AMCs — that fails the floor at both.

Accredited investors qualify at ₹1 lakh. As of May 2026, accreditation infrastructure (SEBI-recognised Accreditation Agencies) is operationally limited and most subscriptions continue to flow through the standard ₹10 lakh route.

Below-threshold drift is handled humanely. A passive market loss that takes an investor's holding below ₹10 lakh requires no action — they stay invested. An active redemption that *would* breach the floor triggers a forced full redemption (no partials below the floor). A thirty-day rebalancing window applies to inadvertent breaches arising from corporate actions, mergers, or restructurings.

# 04 SIF vs Mutual Fund vs PMS vs AIF Cat-III

The eleven dimensions that determine which wrapper is right.

The single most useful framing for a wealth-management conversation in May 2026 is the four-way comparison. Each wrapper exists for a reason; SIF does not replace any of them. It claims a slice of the spectrum where, until April 2025, no clean answer existed.

DIMENSION	MUTUAL FUND	SIF	★ PMS	AIF CAT-III
Minimum ticket	₹100–500	₹10 lakh (₹1L accredited)	₹50 lakh	₹1 crore
Regulatory wrapper	SEBI MF Regs 1996	SEBI MF Regs (Ch. VI-C)	SEBI PMS Regs 2020	SEBI AIF Regs 2012
Pooling	Pooled	Pooled	Separate demat per investor	Pooled
Long-short capability	Hedging only	Yes — ≤25% NAV unhedged	Yes (no statutory cap)	Yes (no cap; leverage shorts)
Liquidity	Daily (most)	Daily / weekly / monthly / interval	T+2 to T+5	Lock-in 1–3 yrs typical
Disclosure	Monthly portfolio	Bi-monthly portfolio + ISID	Monthly + on-demand	Quarterly
Tax — Equity (≥65%)	LTCG 12.5%, STCG 20%	LTCG 12.5%, STCG 20%	Slab rate (business income)	Slab rate (Cat-III, fund-level)
Tax — Hybrid <65% eq	LTCG 12.5% (>2y)	LTCG 12.5% (>2y), STCG slab	Slab rate	Slab rate
Tax — Debt	Slab rate	Slab rate	Slab rate	Slab rate
Fund-level tax	Nil — Sec 10(23D)	Nil — Sec 10(23D)	N/A (pass-through)	Cat-III: at fund level
TER / fee cap	~2.25% asset-slab	~2.25%	1–2.5% mgmt + 10–20% perf	1.5–2.5% + 15–20% perf
Performance fee	No	Optional (rare)	Yes	Yes

## When SIF wins

Corpus is ₹50 lakh to ₹2 crore

Investor's marginal tax rate is 30%+  
Goal is BAF replacement / income-with-equity-tax  
Investor wants regulated disclosure rigour  
Time horizon  $\geq 3$  years

## **When SIF loses**

Corpus is below ₹10 lakh (use MF)  
Investor wants concentrated 20-stock bets (PMS)  
Strategy needs unlimited shorting / leverage (AIF)  
Liquidity need is intraday (use ETFs / liquid MF)  
Investor is in the 0–20% tax bracket

# 05 The Tax Math, Worked

Why post-tax IRR is where the SIF case lives.


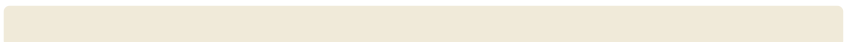

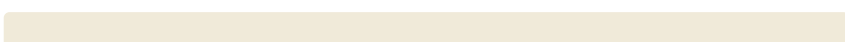
The structural reason SIF gains receive mutual-fund-grade taxation is not policy — it is plumbing. The SIF is, legally, a scheme launched under a mutual fund trust. The trust enjoys Section 10(23D) of the Income Tax Act, which exempts the fund itself from any income tax. Gains compound inside the fund untaxed; tax applies only at investor-level redemption, at the LTCG rate appropriate to the underlying-asset classification.

By contrast, AIF Category III is taxed *at the fund level*, at slab rates plus surcharge. For a top-bracket investor, the effective fund-level tax can reach 42.74% of incremental gains. PMS is structured as pass-through; the gains land as "business income" in the investor's hands, also at slab rates. Neither wrapper carries the Section 10(23D) shield.

The compounding consequences are dramatic. On a ten-year hold of ₹1 crore at 12% gross CAGR, a top-bracket investor:

## Final corpus by wrapper — illustrative

Assumes: ₹1 crore initial · 12% gross CAGR · 10-year hold · top-bracket investor (~39% effective). TER assumptions: SIF 0.6%, MF 1.5%, PMS 1.5%+15% perf, AIF Cat-III 2%+15% perf.

<b>SIF (Hybrid LS)</b>		<b>₹2.74 Cr</b>
<b>Equivalent MF</b>		<b>₹2.69 Cr</b>
<b>PMS</b>		<b>₹2.04 Cr</b>
<b>AIF Cat-III</b>		<b>₹1.93 Cr</b>

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*Seventy lakhs is what an HNI loses, per crore of allocation, over ten years, simply by choosing the wrong wrapper. Same strategy. Same gross return. Different tax bucket.*

— THE EDITOR

The arithmetic above is illustrative — it assumes constant CAGR, single-asset hold, and no churn. Real portfolios churn; churn worsens the case for slab-rate wrappers and improves the case for fund-level-exempt wrappers. The directional conclusion does not change.

The arithmetic also assumes equity-oriented or arbitrage-heavy hybrid SIFs with 12-month LTCG. Hybrid SIFs with less than 65% equity receive LTCG at 12.5% after a 24-month hold; debt-oriented SIFs receive slab-rate treatment (same as debt mutual funds post-2023). The post-tax delta is largest for top-bracket

investors in equity-oriented SIFs versus equivalent AIF Cat-III strategies.

For investors in the 0–20% bracket, the tax-bucket arbitrage compresses significantly. SIF may still be the right structural answer for other reasons — disclosure rigour, lower TER, pooled diversification — but the tax case is materially weaker.

[Run the calculator on your own numbers →](#)

# 06 The Live Universe

All 24 Specialized Investment Funds in India — May 2026.

Twenty-five SIFs are live across thirteen AMCs (mid-June 2026) — the May–June NFO wave has allotted, and AMFI now publishes official daily SIF NAVs, which power our tracker. The table below lists every live fund with its real **AUM, 1-month and 3-month return** — Regular-Growth plan, sourced from Value Research. Live, sortable data (with risk band and TER) is maintained on our Fund Universe page, our single source of truth. We do not publish indicative NAVs.

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## Live SIF universe — ranked by AUM

FUND	AMC	STRATEGY	AUM (₹ CR)	1M	3M
Altiva Hybrid Long-Short	Edelweiss	Hybrid LS	4,466	+1.52%	+4.01%
Magnum Hybrid Long-Short	SBI	Hybrid LS	3,462	+0.90%	+2.09%
iSIF Equity Ex-Top 100 LS	ICICI Prudential	Ex-Top 100 LS	1,707	+0.82%	+4.89%
iSIF Hybrid Long-Short	ICICI Prudential	Hybrid LS	844	+1.55%	+4.08%
qSIF Equity Long-Short	Quant	Equity LS	484	+3.07%	+10.37%
Titanium Hybrid Long-Short	Tata	Hybrid LS	483	+1.08%	+2.13%
Diviniti Equity Long-Short	ITI	Equity LS	402	+0.06%	-3.98%
DynaSIF Equity Long-Short	360 ONE	Equity LS	277	+0.48%	+3.18%
qSIF Equity Ex-Top 100	Quant	Ex-Top 100 LS	233	+1.32%	+11.52%
DynaSIF Active Asset Allocator	360 ONE	Active Asset Allocator	195	-0.35%	—
qSIF Hybrid Long-Short	Quant	Hybrid LS	158	+0.24%	+5.74%
Arudha Hybrid Long-Short	Bandhan	Hybrid LS	130	+0.75%	+1.43%
Arthaya Equity Long-Short	Union	Equity LS	117	—	—
Arudha Equity Long-Short	Bandhan	Equity LS	81	+0.17%	—
Apex Hybrid Long-Short	Aditya Birla SL	Hybrid LS	76	+1.10%	—
qSIF Active Asset Allocator	Quant	Active Asset Allocator	64	+2.02%	—
Titanium Equity Long-Short	Tata	Equity LS	—	—	—
Sapphire Equity Long-Short	Franklin Templeton	Equity LS	—	+1.08%	—
WSIF Equity Long-Short	The Wealth Company	Equity LS	—	+1.45%	—
WSIF Equity Ex-Top 100	The Wealth Company	Ex-Top 100 LS	—	+1.92%	—
Altiva Equity Ex-Top 100 LS	Edelweiss	Ex-Top 100 LS	—	—	—

FUND	AMC	STRATEGY	AUM (₹ CR)	1M	3M
iSIF Equity Long-Short	ICICI Prudential	Equity LS	—	—	—
iSIF Active Asset Allocator	ICICI Prudential	Active Asset Allocator	—	—	—
Platinum Hybrid Long-Short	Mirae Asset	Hybrid LS	—	—	—
qSIF Sector Rotation Long-Short	Quant	Sector Rotation LS	—	—	—

Regular-Growth plan. Source: Value Research SIF screener, 13 June 2026. "—" = not yet disclosed. Returns are absolute (point-to-point); not annualised.

## In active NFO (May–June 2026)

**21** **NFO ACTIVE**  
**Edelweiss Altiva Equity Ex-Top 100 Long-Short** **18 May**  
 NFO open 18 May – 1 June 2026 · Edelweiss's second SIF · SMID variant **NFO OPENS**

**22** **NFO ACTIVE**  
**ICICI Prudential iSIF Active Asset Allocator Long-Short** **19 May**  
 NFO open 19 May – 2 June 2026 · iSIF's third strategy · Active asset rotation **NFO OPENS**

**23** **NFO ACTIVE**  
**ICICI Prudential iSIF Equity Long-Short** **19 May**  
 NFO open 19 May – 2 June 2026 · Pure equity LS to complement Ex-Top 100 and Hybrid **NFO OPENS**

**24** **NFO ACTIVE**  
**Mirae Asset Platinum Hybrid Long-Short** **20 May**  
 NFO open 20 May – 3 June 2026 · Mirae's first SIF · Hybrid LS category **NFO OPENS**

# 07 May–June 2026 NFO Calendar

Four NFOs, three AMCs, three categories. The category's most active month.

## What's open right now

NFO WINDOW	FUND	STRATEGY	AMC
18 May – 1 Jun	Altiva Equity Ex-Top 100 Long-Short	Equity Ex-Top 100 LS	Edelweiss
19 May – 2 Jun	iSIF Active Asset Allocator Long-Short	Active Asset Allocator	ICICI Prudential
19 May – 2 Jun	iSIF Equity Long-Short	Equity Long-Short	ICICI Prudential
20 May – 3 Jun	Platinum Hybrid Long-Short	Hybrid Long-Short	Mirae Asset

## EDITORIAL VIEW ON NFO PARTICIPATION

### NFOs are operationally efficient but rarely the right strategic entry.

An NFO subscription locks an investor's capital into an unbuilt portfolio. The AMC has 30 business days (extendable to 60 with Investment Committee approval) to deploy. In a rising market, NFO participants miss the early move; in a falling market, they enter at premium. The exceptions are when (a) the AMC's distribution muscle will gather meaningful NFO AUM and the resulting fund liquidity matters operationally, or (b) the fund manager's prior track record is so strong that day-one entry justifies the deployment risk.

For most investors, waiting for the post-NFO three-month window — when initial portfolio is constructed and early NAV directional read is available — is the better operational call.

# 08 Performance Reality Check

What the real return data shows — and doesn't.

The most useful performance lens for a category this young is short-window return dispersion, not since-inception NAV. Using Value Research's Regular-plan data (June 2026), three things stand out — and they are more nuanced than the early "hybrids good, equity bad" shorthand.

**Hybrids cluster solidly positive on three months.** Altiva +4.01%, iSIF Hybrid +4.08%, Magnum +2.09%, Titanium +2.13%, Arudha +1.43% — every hybrid in coverage is now positive over the window, consistent with their arbitrage-and-hedge design as the market recovered.

**The strongest three-month numbers are in equity — from Quant.** qSIF Equity Ex-Top 100 leads the entire live universe at +11.52% (3M), with qSIF Equity Long-Short at +10.37%. At the other end, Diviniti Equity Long-Short is -3.98%. Equity SIFs are therefore high-dispersion: manager and mandate matter enormously. (Quant's funds carry the separate SEBI-investigation overhang noted earlier — the reason our TFS still holds them at HOLD despite the returns.)

**The latest month turned broadly positive** — nearly every fund with a one-month record is up, led by qSIF Equity (+3.07%); the sole decliner is DynaSIF Active Asset Allocator (-0.35%). The honest read remains: it is far too early to draw category-level performance conclusions. We publish the live numbers and let them speak.

## 3-month return — selected SIFs

Regular-Growth plan, %. Source: Value Research SIF screener, 13 June 2026. Absolute (point-to-point).

qSIF Equity Ex-Top 100 · Quant	+11.52%
qSIF Equity LS · Quant	+10.37%
iSIF Hybrid LS · ICICI	+4.08%
Altiva Hybrid LS · Edelweiss	+4.01%
Magnum Hybrid LS · SBI	+2.09%
Titanium Hybrid LS · Tata	+2.13%
Diviniti Equity LS · ITI	-3.98%

*Past performance is not indicative of future returns. Source: Value Research (Regular-Growth plan), June 2026.*

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*The 25% short cap is a structural feature, not a bug. It tells investors that SIFs are designed to express moderated equity views, not to short the market.*

— EDITORIAL OBSERVATION

# 09 The Trustner Fund Score

Our 7-pillar ranking of every SIF. The math is shown — no black box.

Every research desk in the wealth-management business owes its readers two artifacts: an honest opinion, and a transparent framework that produces it. The **Trustner Fund Score (TFS)** is our public framework. It rates each SIF on a 0–100 scale across seven weighted pillars. We are not running a black box — every score below is decomposable into its pillar contributions.

The TFS is reviewed monthly. The scores in this issue reflect the Trustner Research Desk view as of **28 May 2026**. They will change as funds gather track record, AMC platforms scale, and the regulatory environment evolves.

## The seven pillars and their weights

#	PILLAR	WEIGHT	WHAT IT MEASURES
P1	<b>Manager Pedigree</b>	<b>20</b>	FM track record on prior funds: alpha vs benchmark, longevity, downside discipline, AUM managed historically
P2	<b>Strategy Coherence</b>	<b>15</b>	Does the strategy logic match the SIF toolkit? Is the alpha thesis defensible? Is the band sensibly set?
P3	<b>AMC Platform Strength</b>	<b>15</b>	Parent AMC AUM, distribution depth, research coverage, governance record, regulatory standing
P4	<b>Cost &amp; Liquidity</b>	<b>10</b>	TER, exit load, redemption frequency, lock-in friction, notice-period rules
P5	<b>Risk Architecture</b>	<b>15</b>	Hedging discipline, position limits, downside cap evidence, drawdown control through the March 2026 stress test
P6	<b>Track Record / Real Performance</b>	<b>15</b>	Alpha vs benchmark since inception — NOT the AUM gathered. (Funds <3 months old are unscorable here)
P7	<b>Investor-fit &amp; Tax Efficiency</b>	<b>10</b>	Tax bucket, suitability matrix, real-world distribution friction

## The verdict scale

**BUY (80–100)** — High conviction, recommended list. the Trustner desk leads with this fund in suitability conversations.

**ACCUMULATE (65–79)** — Worth allocating; not a lead pitch. Build position over multiple tranches.

**HOLD / MONITOR (50–64)** — Track quarterly; do not pitch. Re-evaluate at next review.

**AVOID (<50)** — Not on shelf. Structural concerns outweigh any tactical case.

**MONITOR-ID — Insufficient Data** — Fund <3 months old or AMC disclosure gap. Pillar P6 unscorable; full TFS deferred.

## The TFS ranked master table — all 24 SIFs

Funds are sorted by TFS, highest first. NFOs and funds with insufficient track record carry a MONITOR-ID flag — they will be scored fully once they cross the three-month threshold and AMC disclosure clears.

RANK	FUND	STRATEGY	TFS	VERDICT
1	<b>iSIF Hybrid Long-Short</b> ICICI Prudential · Sankaran Naren	Hybrid LS	<b>78</b>	★ <b>BUY</b>
2	<b>Altiva Hybrid Long-Short</b> Edelweiss	Hybrid LS	<b>76</b>	<b>ACCUMULATE</b>
3	<b>Magnum Hybrid Long-Short</b> SBI	Hybrid LS	<b>75</b>	<b>ACCUMULATE</b>
4	<b>iSIF Equity Ex-Top 100 Long-Short</b> ICICI Prudential · Sankaran Naren	Equity Ex-Top 100 LS	<b>74</b>	★ <b>BUY</b> <b>(satellite)</b>
5	<b>Titanium Hybrid Long-Short</b> Tata MF	Hybrid LS	<b>70</b>	<b>ACCUMULATE</b>
6	<b>DynaSIF Equity Long-Short</b> 360 ONE	Equity LS	<b>70</b>	<b>ACCUMULATE</b>
7	<b>Apex Hybrid Long-Short</b> Aditya Birla SL	Hybrid LS	<b>68</b>	<b>ACCUMULATE</b>
8	<b>Arudha Hybrid Long-Short</b> Bandhan	Hybrid LS	<b>66</b>	<b>ACCUMULATE</b>
9	<b>DynaSIF Active Asset Allocator</b> 360 ONE	Active Asset Allocator LS	<b>65</b>	<b>ACCUMULATE</b>
10	<b>qSIF Hybrid Long-Short</b> Quant	Hybrid LS	<b>64</b>	<b>HOLD</b>
11	<b>qSIF Equity Long-Short</b> Quant	Equity LS	<b>62</b>	<b>HOLD</b>
12	Titanium Equity Long-Short Tata MF · Recently allotted Apr-May 2026	Equity LS	—	MONITOR-ID
13	Arudha Equity Long-Short Bandhan	Equity LS	—	MONITOR-ID
14	qSIF Equity Ex-Top 100 Quant	Equity Ex-Top 100 LS	—	MONITOR-ID + Quant overhang
15	Diviniti Equity Long-Short ITI MF	Equity LS	—	MONITOR-ID

RANK	FUND	STRATEGY	TFS	VERDICT
16	Sapphire Equity Long-Short Franklin Templeton · Recently allotted May 2026	Equity LS	—	MONITOR-ID
17	qSIF Active Asset Allocator Quant · Recently allotted Apr 2026	Active Asset Allocator LS	—	MONITOR-ID + Quant overhang
18	WSIF Equity Long-Short The Wealth Co.	Equity LS	—	MONITOR-ID (new AMC)
19	WSIF Equity Ex-Top 100 The Wealth Co.	Equity Ex-Top 100 LS	—	MONITOR-ID (new AMC)
20	Union Equity Long-Short SIF Union MF	Equity LS	—	MONITOR-ID
<b>NFO</b>	Altiva Equity Ex-Top 100 LS Edelweiss · NFO 18 May–1 Jun	Equity Ex-Top 100 LS	—	In NFO
<b>NFO</b>	iSIF Active Asset Allocator LS ICICI Pru · NFO 19 May–2 Jun	Active Asset Allocator LS	—	In NFO
<b>NFO</b>	iSIF Equity Long-Short ICICI Pru · NFO 19 May–2 Jun	Equity LS	—	In NFO
<b>NFO</b>	Platinum Hybrid Long-Short Mirae Asset · NFO 20 May–3 Jun	Hybrid LS	—	In NFO

## The four recommended-list funds — TFS pillar breakdown

Two BUYs and two top-of-shelf ACCUMULATES make the Trustner recommended list. Below, the pillar-by-pillar decomposition of each.

## ★ iSIF Hybrid Long-Short Fund • ICICI Prudential • TFS 78 — BUY

**Role:** Balanced Advantage Fund replacement for the ₹50L+ HNI. Naren-led, with -7.5% to +75% net equity flexibility — the widest band in the hybrid SIF universe. Tax: 12.5% LTCG after 12 months.

PILLAR	SCORE	REASONING
<b>P1 Manager Pedigree (20)</b>	<b>19</b>	Sankaran Naren is the single strongest pedigree signal in the SIF universe — 35+ yrs, ICICI Pru CIO, ₹1L Cr+ BAF builder
<b>P2 Strategy Coherence (15)</b>	<b>13</b>	Wide -7.5% to +75% net equity band gives real tactical flexibility; arbitrage + covered calls + IRF + unhedged short up to 10%
<b>P3 AMC Platform (15)</b>	<b>14</b>	ICICI Pru AMC ~₹9L Cr AUM; 550+ companies, 27 sectors covered; deep research bench
<b>P4 Cost &amp; Liquidity (10)</b>	<b>6</b>	Regular-plan TER 2.53% (Value Research); 1% exit <12mo; daily redemption ✓
<b>P5 Risk Architecture (15)</b>	<b>11</b>	Designed for downside control via arbitrage, covered calls and IRF; real drawdown evidence will accrue as the track record lengthens
<b>P6 Track Record (15)</b>	<b>8</b>	3-month return +0.12% (Value Research, Regular plan) — too early for a meaningful track-record read
<b>P7 Tax &amp; Investor Fit (10)</b>	<b>7</b>	Wide equity range may qualify for 12-mo LTCG; suitable for emerging affluent through HNI

## Altiva Hybrid Long-Short Fund · Edelweiss · TFS 76 — ACCUMULATE

**Role:** FD-replacement for retirees and conservative HNIs. Income-oriented hybrid: 40–60% high-quality fixed income, 20–40% cash-future arbitrage, 0–15% net equity. India's first hybrid SIF, and today the largest by AUM (₹3,761 Cr, Value Research).

PILLAR	SCORE	REASONING
<b>P1 Manager Pedigree (20)</b>	<b>17</b>	A multi-manager bench across equity, debt and arbitrage de-risks key-person concentration
<b>P2 Strategy Coherence (15)</b>	<b>12</b>	Conservative-by-design; matches the "FD+ with equity tax" thesis precisely
<b>P3 AMC Platform (15)</b>	<b>12</b>	Edelweiss MF runs a strong arbitrage and hybrid franchise with brand-led distribution
<b>P4 Cost &amp; Liquidity (10)</b>	<b>8</b>	Regular-plan TER 1.81% — the lowest in our hybrid coverage (Value Research); twice-weekly redemption — minor friction
<b>P5 Risk Architecture (15)</b>	<b>12</b>	Cash-future arb + covered calls — tested low-vol toolkit. Held up through March '26 drawdown
<b>P6 Track Record (15)</b>	<b>8</b>	3-month return +2.87% (Value Research) — among the steadier hybrids
<b>P7 Tax &amp; Investor Fit (10)</b>	<b>7</b>	Hybrid <65% equity → 24-mo LTCG window; ideal FD-replacement

## Magnum Hybrid Long-Short Fund · SBI MF · TFS 75 — ACCUMULATE

**Role:** Trust play for SBI ecosystem clients and risk-averse HNIs. 65–75% equity (heavily hedged), 25–35% debt, 0–25% unhedged short. Net equity kept modest via heavy hedging. ₹3,462 Cr AUM today (Value Research).

PILLAR	SCORE	REASONING
<b>P1 Manager Pedigree (20)</b>	<b>15</b>	Run within SBI MF's institutional process; we note key-person/disclosure gaps pending fuller information
<b>P2 Strategy Coherence (15)</b>	<b>11</b>	Net equity 10–15% via heavy hedging — coherent FD+ design, conservative by intent
<b>P3 AMC Platform (15)</b>	<b>15</b>	SBI is India's largest AMC (~₹11.5L Cr AUM); unmatched distribution; investor trust premium
<b>P4 Cost &amp; Liquidity (10)</b>	<b>8</b>	Regular-plan TER 1.21% — lowest in our hybrid coverage (Value Research); twice-weekly redemption
<b>P5 Risk Architecture (15)</b>	<b>11</b>	0–75% hedged exposure flexibility; covered calls + arbitrage. Validated through March '26 drawdown
<b>P6 Track Record (15)</b>	<b>9</b>	3-month return +0.91% (Value Research) — steady, unspectacular
<b>P7 Tax &amp; Investor Fit (10)</b>	<b>6</b>	Hybrid likely <65% net equity → 24-mo LTCG; SBI distribution may attract retail not suited to SIF floor

## ★ iSIF Equity Ex-Top 100 Long-Short • ICICI Prudential • TFS 74 — BUY (Satellite)

**Role:** Aggressive SMID alpha sleeve for HNI portfolios. ≥65% in mid+small caps, ≤35% in large caps for liquidity, ≤25% short via derivatives. Among the largest equity SIFs by AUM (₹1,535 Cr, Value Research).

PILLAR	SCORE	REASONING
<b>P1 Manager Pedigree (20)</b>	<b>18</b>	Naren-overseen, with an institutional-grade SMID research stack
<b>P2 Strategy Coherence (15)</b>	<b>13</b>	SMID long-short is structurally where alpha is most defensible — wider valuation dispersion, more shorts available
<b>P3 AMC Platform (15)</b>	<b>14</b>	ICICI Pru research advantage; ₹1,535 Cr AUM (Value Research) — the largest equity SIF
<b>P4 Cost &amp; Liquidity (10)</b>	<b>7</b>	Regular-plan TER 2.55% (Value Research); 1% exit <12 mo; daily redemption ✓
<b>P5 Risk Architecture (15)</b>	<b>10</b>	SMID + 25% short cap = high-vol profile by design; size positions accordingly
<b>P6 Track Record (15)</b>	<b>6</b>	3-month return +1.55% (Value Research); still early in its track record
<b>P7 Tax &amp; Investor Fit (10)</b>	<b>6</b>	Equity LTCG 12.5% after 12 mo — best tax bucket; satellite sleeve only (5–10% of equity allocation)

### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR AN HNI BUILDING A SIF ALLOCATION

#### Two BUYs + two ACCUMULATEs is your starting palette.

For most ₹50L–₹2Cr investors, the right opening position is a 60/40 split: 60% in a Hybrid Long-Short (pick one of Altiva, Magnum, or iSIF Hybrid based on age and risk tolerance), 40% in iSIF Equity Ex-Top 100 as the aggressive sleeve. Both BUYs are at ICICI Prudential — which raises the per-AMC concentration question. For investors uncomfortable with single-AMC concentration, substitute Altiva for the hybrid core and use iSIF Equity Ex-Top 100 for the satellite. This splits across two AMCs, requires ₹20 lakh aggregate (₹10L floor at each), and accesses the two highest-conviction picks on our shelf.

★ **Important — TFS is not investment advice**

These scores reflect the Trustner Research Desk view as of the publication date. They are **not** personal investment recommendations. The right SIF for any individual depends on factors not captured by a single score — corpus size, time horizon, existing portfolio, tax circumstances, family commitments, liquidity needs. A TFS of 78 does not mean every investor should buy iSIF Hybrid; it means iSIF Hybrid is the highest-conviction fund on Trustner's shelf at this point in time. Always discuss your specific situation with a SEBI-registered investment adviser before committing capital.

[Take the Suitability Quiz to see which TFS picks match your profile →](#)

# 10 The Seven Categories Explained

What each SEBI-permitted category is actually trying to do.

## ★ Hybrid Long-Short (77% of category AUM)

Defined equity-debt bands. The dominant SIF flavour. Examples: Altiva, Magnum, iSIF Hybrid, Apex, Titanium Hybrid, Arudha Hybrid, qSIF Hybrid. Best fit: BAF replacement or FD-plus positioning for ₹50L+ HNI.

## Equity Long-Short

≥80% equity allocation, ≤25% unhedged short. All-cap flexicap with derivative overlay. Examples: qSIF Equity LS, Diviniti, DynaSIF, Arudha Equity. Best fit: aggressive HNI seeking alpha-with-tax-efficiency.

## Equity Ex-Top 100 Long-Short

≥65% in stocks ranked >100 by market cap — i.e. SMID-focused long-short. Best fit: aggressive HNI bucket; SMID alpha hunt with hedging discipline. Examples: iSIF Equity Ex-Top 100, qSIF Equity Ex-Top 100, WSIF Equity Ex-Top 100, Altiva Equity Ex-Top 100 (in NFO).

## Sector Rotation Long-Short

≥80% concentrated across up to 4 sectors. Tactical thematic. Examples: *Quant has filed; no live fund yet*. Expected H2 2026.

## Active Asset Allocator Long-Short

Dynamic across equity, debt and commodity with derivatives. Multi-asset tactical. Examples: DynaSIF AAA, qSIF AAA, iSIF AAA (in NFO). The category most likely to win mass-affluent flows in 2026.

## Debt Long-Short / Sectoral Debt LS

≥80% debt with derivative shorts. *No live funds yet.* Two categories awaiting first AMC. Expected late 2026 / early 2027.

# 11 The HNI Allocation Playbook

Illustrative frameworks by corpus tier. Not advice. Personal portfolios depend on personal facts.

The following frameworks are *illustrative*. They assume reasonable equity tolerance,  $\geq 5$  year horizon, top-bracket tax exposure, and no immediate liquidity need. Adjust to your circumstances; verify with a SEBI-registered investment adviser.

## Tier A — ₹50 lakh portfolio (emerging affluent)

BUCKET	ALLOCATION	RATIONALE
Direct equity / equity MF	₹20 L (40%)	Core long-term growth
Hybrid MF / BAF	₹10 L (20%)	Conservative equity exposure
One SIF (Hybrid LS)	₹10 L (20%)	Single-SIF discipline — pick by age/risk
Debt / FD	₹8 L (16%)	Emergency liquidity
Gold / other	₹2 L (4%)	Diversifier

## Tier B — ₹1 crore portfolio (HNI sweet spot)

BUCKET	ALLOCATION	RATIONALE
Equity MF (multi-cap, mid, small)	₹35 L	Core equity engine
iSIF Hybrid LS (ICICI Pru)	₹12 L	BAF replacement, Naren brand
Altiva Hybrid LS (Edelweiss)	₹10 L	Income-with-equity-tax bucket
Debt MF + bonds	₹25 L	Yield
Insurance / gold	₹18 L	Protection + diversification

## Tier C — ₹5 crore portfolio (Premium HNI)

BUCKET	ALLOCATION	RATIONALE
Equity MF / direct stocks	₹2 Cr	Core growth
iSIF Hybrid LS	₹25 L	Naren-led BAF replacement
Altiva Hybrid LS	₹20 L	Income hybrid
Magnum Hybrid LS	₹15 L	AMC diversification
iSIF Equity Ex-Top 100	₹15 L	Aggressive SMID alpha satellite
Debt + bonds	₹1 Cr	Yield + duration
PMS / AIF (concentrated)	₹50 L	For ultra-concentrated equity bets
Insurance / gold / RE	₹50 L	Protection + diversification

# 12 Risks & The Contrarian View

What could break the SIF story.

This report has been bullish on the structural case. Honesty demands the other side.

## 1. The category is unproven through a full cycle.

Fourteen months is one bad-market test. The hybrid funds passed it. The equity funds failed it. Neither result is final. A genuine bear market — defined as twelve-month-plus drawdown of 25%+ — would test the 25% short cap differently. Drawdown discipline depends on derivative liquidity, which depends on derivative market conditions, which can deteriorate exactly when needed most. Investors who treat 14-month NAV charts as evidence of permanent structural advantage are misreading the data.

## 2. The TER reality is not yet settled.

SIF TER caps are at ~2.25% gross, but Regular-plan TERs vary enormously today — Value Research data shows a range from roughly 0.7% on the cheapest hybrid to over 6% on some smaller, newer funds. That dispersion reflects how immature pricing still is. As AUM scales, TER should compress; but as AMCs compete for active-management talent, it could go the other way. The cost-advantage case against PMS / AIF depends on this compression holding — check the live TER on the Fund Universe page before allocating.

## 3. Fund manager flight risk is real.

Several SIFs ride heavily on a single named manager. Sankaran Naren, who oversees ICICI Prudential's iSIF range, is a senior figure — succession risk over a 10-year hold is non-zero. Where a fund depends on one key person, that risk should be priced into the allocation decision. (Verify current fund-manager details against each scheme's SID before investing.)

## 4. SEBI could change the framework.

The 25% short cap, the ₹10 lakh minimum, the seven-category restriction — all are SEBI choices, all are amendable. A future SEBI may tighten (lowering the short cap further) or loosen (opening additional categories, lowering the floor) the framework. Either direction could create winners and losers among existing funds.

## 5. The tax case depends on continued Section 10(23D) treatment.

The post-tax wealth-preservation case rests entirely on the fund-level Section 10(23D) exemption. Any future Finance Act could tighten this — the precedent of the 2023 debt-MF indexation withdrawal demonstrates that mutual-fund tax treatment is not immutable. Investors should monitor budget cycles closely.

## 6. The Quant overhang is unresolved.

Quant MF is among the four AMCs with the most live SIF strategies. Their SEBI front-running investigation from 2024–25 remains open. A material adverse finding could force AMC restructuring and disrupt investor positions across qSIF Equity LS, qSIF Hybrid, qSIF Ex-Top 100 and qSIF AAA. Trustner's view is

that qSIF strategies remain on monitor pending regulatory clarity.

# 13 The 12-Month Outlook

Predictions, each with a conviction level. Hold us accountable.

## HIGH CONVICTION

### Category AUM crosses ₹30,000 Cr by May 2027

HDFC, Nippon, UTI, Axis, DSP launches alone account for 30%+ AUM contribution at modest gather rates. Existing AMCs continue to scale. ₹30K Cr is roughly conservative.

## HIGH CONVICTION

### All 7 SEBI categories have at least one live fund by Q1 2027

Debt LS and Sectoral Debt LS are the two categories without live funds. Quant has filed for Sector Rotation. Pipeline AMCs will fill the gaps to be competitive.

## MEDIUM CONVICTION

### SIF flows accelerate as PMS AUM stagnates

PMS net inflows have moderated since 2024. For the ₹50L-₹2Cr cohort, SIF is the structurally cleaner choice. Distributor incentives favour SIF gather over PMS gather.

## MEDIUM CONVICTION

### At least one SIF crosses ₹5,000 Cr AUM individually

SBI Magnum's distribution muscle or Sankaran Naren's brand at ICICI Pru could push a single SIF past ₹5,000 Cr — making it the largest single hybrid LS scheme in India.

## MEDIUM CONVICTION

### Equity Long-Short SIFs catch up performance-wise

A recovering market post-March 2026 drawdown should help equity LS funds turn positive. Whether they justify their volatility premium remains an open question.

## LOW CONVICTION / CONTRARIAN

### SEBI tightens the 25% short cap further

If equity LS funds experience a second drawdown without delivering, regulator may intervene. Less likely than market consensus — SEBI usually loosens before tightening — but worth monitoring.

## LOW CONVICTION / CONTRARIAN

### Accredited Investor floor genuinely activates at scale

The ₹1 lakh floor for accredited investors requires functional Accreditation Agency infrastructure that does not yet exist at scale. Could happen — but probably 2027-28, not 2026.

## LOW CONVICTION / CONTRARIAN

### A SIF SIP product is introduced

SEBI could permit post-floor SIPs (after initial ₹10L deployment) at sub-₹1L monthly. This would meaningfully expand the addressable market. We see preparation; no firm regulatory signal yet.

# 14 Why the wrapper matters more than the strategy.

An editorial on the 2026 wealth-management decision that will compound for a decade.

**T**here is a habit of mind, common among Indian HNI investors, of obsessing over the alpha and ignoring the wrapper. Show them two funds — one with a 15% historical CAGR and a 30% slab-rate tax, the other with a 13% CAGR and a 12.5% LTCG — and most will pick the higher-CAGR option. This is, in nearly every case, the wrong choice. The arithmetic is unforgiving: the second fund delivers higher post-tax wealth in less than three years and the gap compounds from there.

The Specialized Investment Fund category is, structurally, the right wrapper for a specific Indian investor: the household with ₹50 lakh to ₹2 crore of liquid AUM, a top-bracket tax exposure, a five-year horizon, and a need for institutional-quality strategies that are not available in standard mutual funds. For that household, the SIF is not just a new product — it is the new default. It compounds at MF-grade tax. It hedges via 25%-unhedged-short capability mutual funds cannot access. It discloses bi-monthly in a standardised ISID format. It is regulated, listed (for closed-ended variants), and audited within the same governance perimeter that protects ₹50 lakh crore of Indian mutual fund AUM.

The argument that defeats SIF, in our view, is not "alpha will be insufficient." It is "I want concentrated equity exposure in my own demat" (then PMS is right) or "I want unleveraged exposure to commodities and FX" (then specific ETFs or futures positions). Outside those edge cases — and they are edges — the wrapper case for SIF is strong enough that the burden of proof rests on the distributor who recommends an alternative.

We have a habit, in financial commentary, of describing every regulatory development as either revolutionary or trivial. The SIF is neither. It is a careful, well-engineered piece of plumbing that closes a gap in the Indian wealth-management spectrum. It will not make anyone rich who is not already disciplined. It will, for the disciplined investor in the right bracket, preserve a meaningful slice of wealth that would otherwise be lost to higher taxation — the illustrative, assumption-stated arithmetic is in the tax section. Over enough decades and enough households, that compounds into a measurable improvement in the financial health of the Indian upper middle class.

That is what good regulation looks like.

— *The MeraSIF Editorial Desk, May 2026*

## Read the report. Then run your own numbers.

The framework above is general. Your situation is specific. Book a 20-minute consultation with a Trustner SIF specialist.

[Book a consultation](#)

[Run the Tax Calculator](#)

[Take the Suitability Quiz](#)



# Methodology & Sources

How this report was assembled.

**Universe construction.** The SIF universe was assembled by cross-referencing AMC scheme information documents, the Value Research SIF screener, SIF360 and SIFPrime aggregator listings, and SEBI scheme filings. Funds in active NFO (4 schemes) are tagged distinctly from live funds (20 schemes).

**Returns, AUM, risk band and TER.** All performance and size figures in this report are the **Regular-Growth plan** values published by the **Value Research SIF screener** as of June 2026. 1-month and 3-month returns are absolute (point-to-point). Combined tracked AUM (₹11,766 Cr) is the arithmetic sum of disclosed fund AUMs; AMC-level AUM rankings are the sum of each AMC's disclosed SIF AUMs. Where a figure is not yet disclosed, it is shown as "—".

**Per-unit NAV and since-inception.** Sourced from **AMFI's official SIF NAV service** (Regular-Growth plan), live since 2026 and updated daily; SI is exact versus each fund's NFO face value (₹10, or ₹1,000 for Diviniti and Sapphire). Short-window returns (1D/5D) compute from our archive of official daily NAVs as it builds. We never display indicative NAVs.

**Performance and post-tax modelling.** Illustrative post-tax wealth calculations in Section 5 assume constant 12% gross CAGR, single-asset hold (no churn), top-bracket investor (~39% effective with surcharge), and TER assumptions footnoted in the chart. Real outcomes vary materially with churn, sequencing, and individual tax circumstances.

**Regulatory references.** All regulatory characterisations reference SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-PoD-1/P/CIR/2025/26 (27 Feb 2025), SEBI/HO/IMD/...CIR/2025/49 (9 Apr 2025), and SEBI/HO/IMD/IMD-RAC/P/CIR/2025/54 (11 Apr 2025), and the amendment to the SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations 1996 inserting Chapter VI-C (effective 16 December 2024).

## Independent data sources

[AMFI India](#) — SIF directory and NAVs

[SEBI](#) — master circulars and amendment text

[SIFPrime.com](#) — independent comparison platform

[SIF360.com](#) — NFO and live SIF tracker

[Edelweiss Altiva SIF](#) — official AMC microsite

[Groww](#) — Magnum Hybrid NAV history

[Tickertape](#) — Magnum SIF returns aggregation

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Mutual Fund and SIF investments are subject to market risks. Read all scheme-related documents carefully before investing.