

# Equity Market Outlook

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**September 2014**

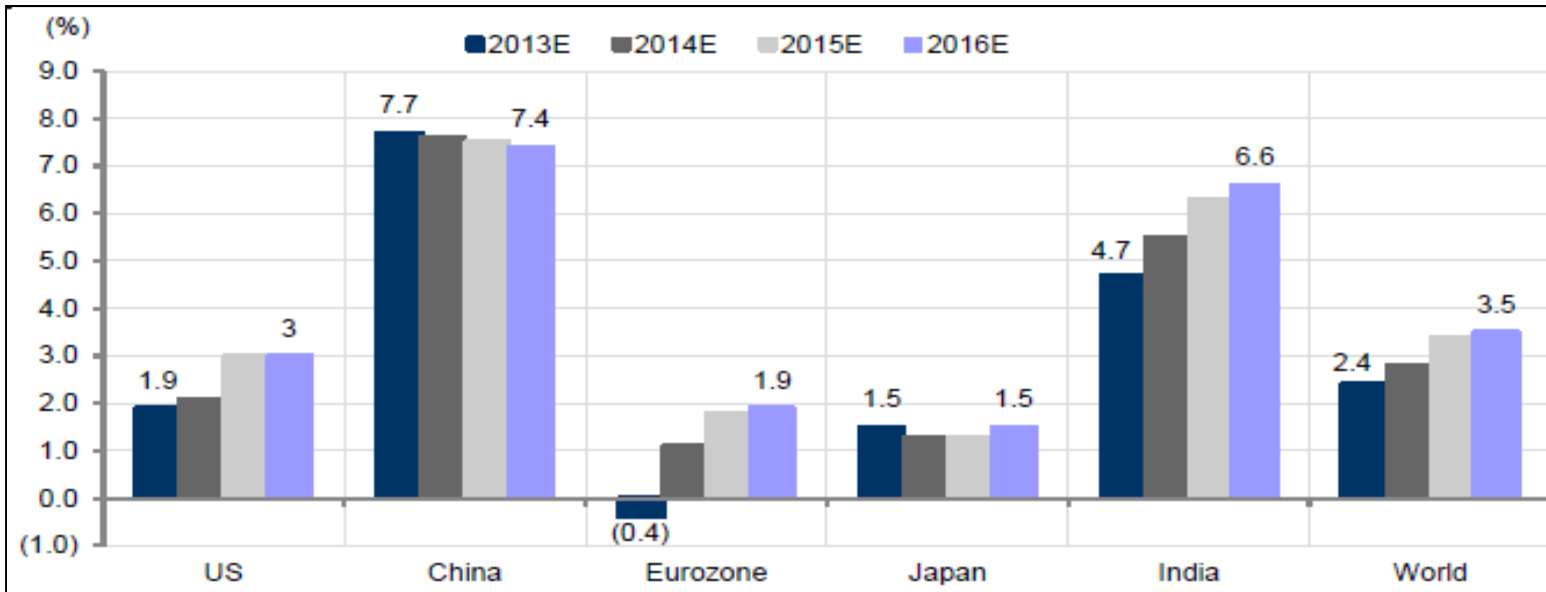
# Equity Market Outlook

- Global growth has been revised downwards to 2.8% in 2014 and is expected to recover to 3.4% in 2015
- India's GDP growth appears to have stabilized, albeit at lower levels, led by a sharp deceleration in Industrial output. Q1FY15 GDP was higher than that in last 8 quarters
- The weakness in the investment is the key reason for slower growth - the new government is expected to revive the investment cycle through focus on faster clearances & reforms
- India's current account deficit (CAD) narrowed sharply to 1.7% of GDP in FY14 as compared to record high of 4.8% in FY13
- The fiscal deficit has also declined to 4.2% compared to the base period. However, it is marginally higher than Government target of 4.1% for FY15
- Inflation is moderating. The weak monsoon is a concern for food prices but the weakness in global commodity prices will dampen the numbers
- Sensex currently trades at 18.6x its trailing earnings – 14% premium to its historical 20-year average trailing PE of 16.2x

# Global Macro - Global GDP

## Still weak, but recovery ahead

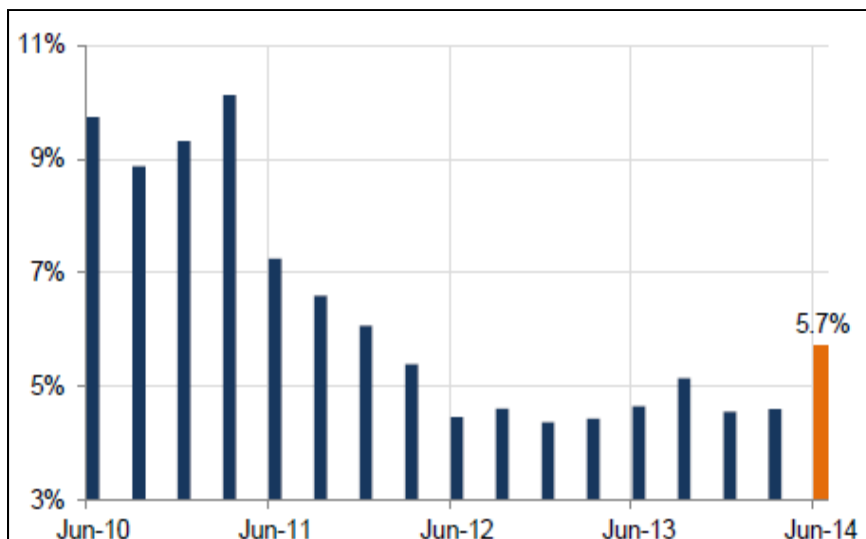
World Bank's growth forecasts for key regions globally



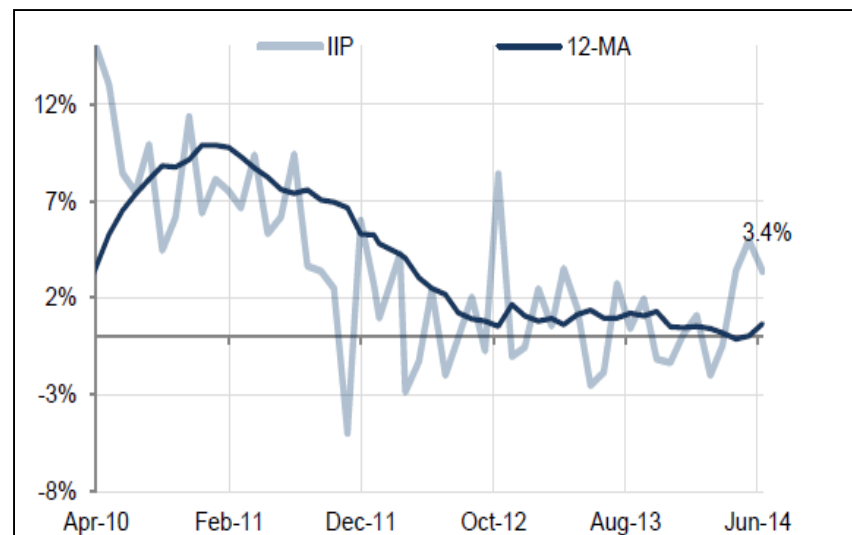
- World Bank has reduced its global growth forecasts for 2014 from 3.2% to 2.8% on account of poor US Weather at the start of the year, global financial disturbances and the Ukraine Crisis
- However, growth is expected to pick up to 3.4% in 2015 and 3.5% in 2016 largely led by growth acceleration in high income countries
- For India, growth is expected to improve from sub 5% to 5.5%, 6.3% and 6.6% in 2014/15/16 respectively

# India – Growth: On a recovery path

Quarterly Real GDP Growth (%)



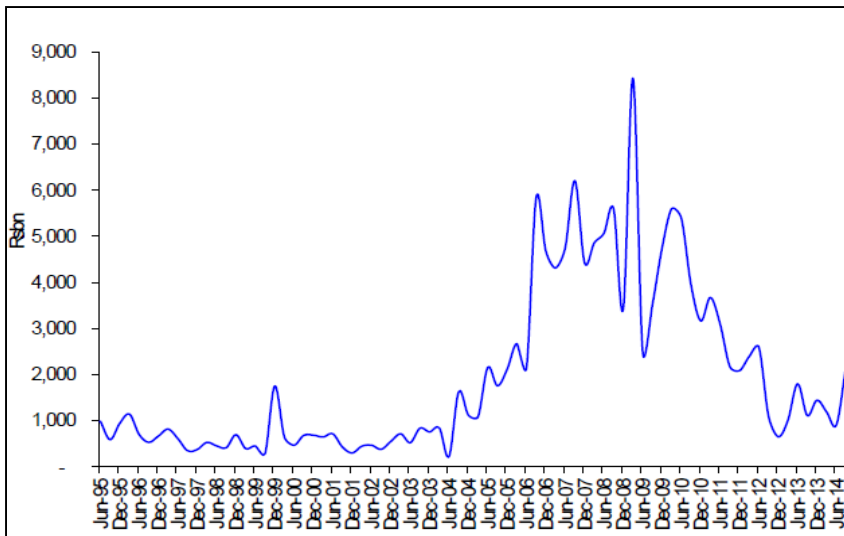
Index of Industrial Production growth trend



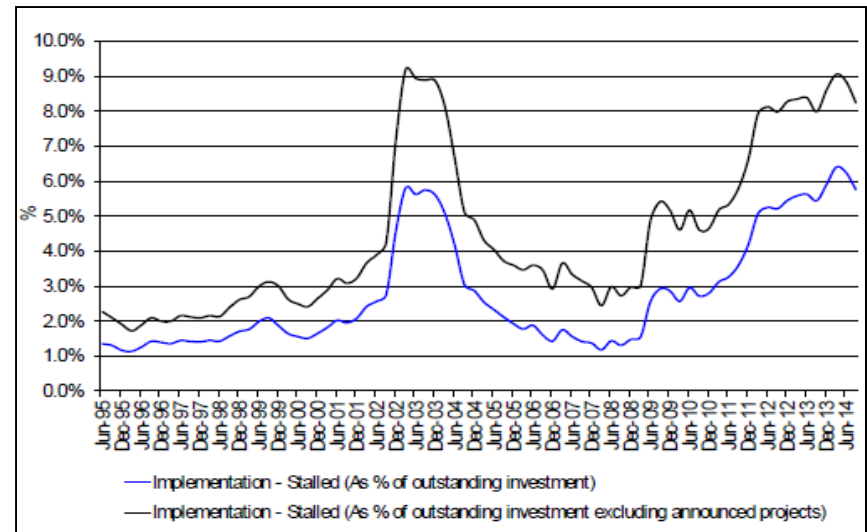
- Q1FY15 GDP grew at 5.7% much higher than the sub-5% growth experienced in the prior eight quarters
- Industrial production growth is displaying early signs of recovery

# India - Investment Cycle Rebound - still some time away

Quarterly New Project announcements (Rs bn) – back to 96-FY04 levels



Projects under implementation but stalled as % of total O/S Projects



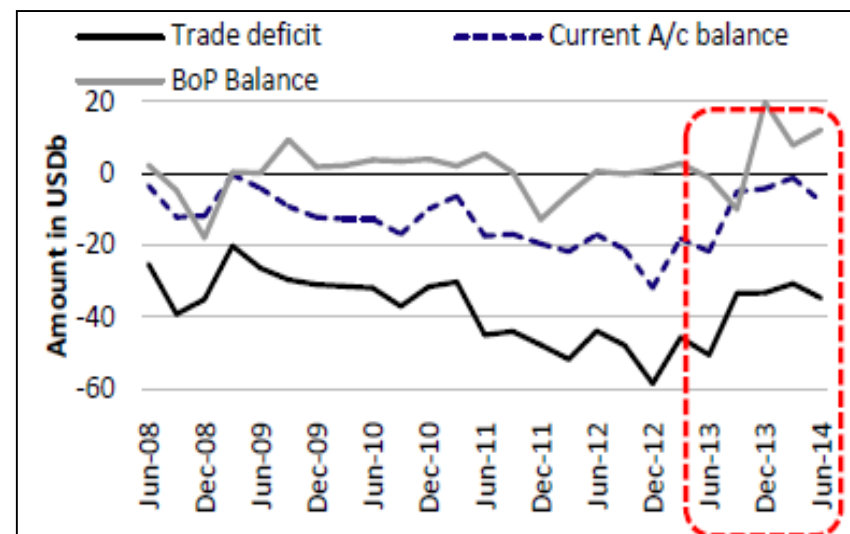
- One of the biggest cause of economic slowdown has been slowdown in investment demand. New project announcements have collapsed over the last five year period
- The Project Monitoring Group formed in 2013 has provided clearances for several stalled projects. The impact of this is already started becoming visible in the form of a small downtick in stalled projects as a % of total (chart on the right side)
- An investment cycle revival will likely be initially driven by resumption of projects that are stalled

# India - Twin Deficit – Sharp improvement

Fiscal Deficit (12M Trailing Sum % of GDP)



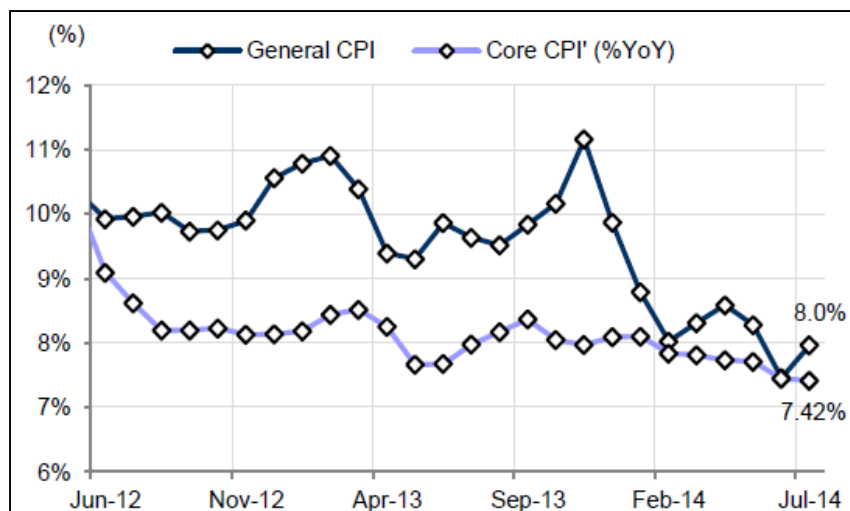
Sharp improvement in external balance



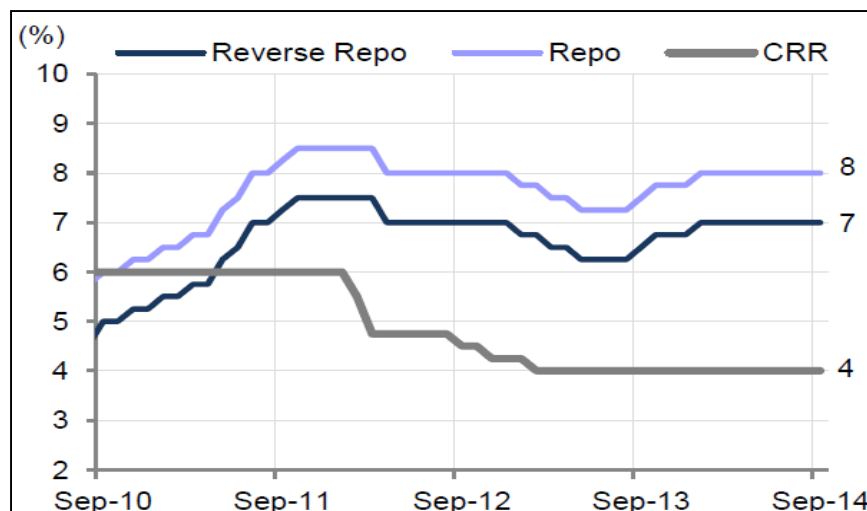
- Over the last one year, India has experienced significant improvements in its twin deficit problems of fiscal and external account balance
- On 12 month trailing basis, the Fiscal deficit has come down to 4.2% as compared to 4.6% in June 14, which is marginally higher than the government target of 4.1% for FY15
- Current Account Deficit at 1.7% of GDP is much more comfortable than 4.8% of GDP in June last year

# Monetary Policy – Inflation Focused

CPI – General and Core Inflation

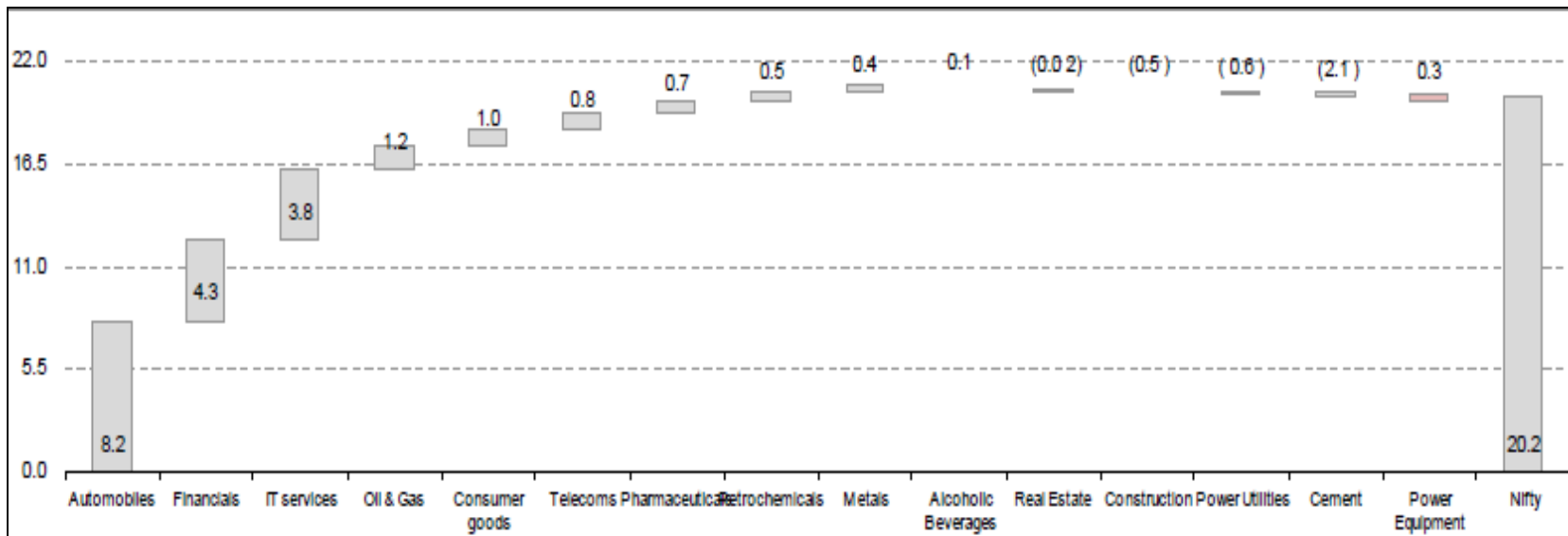


Key Policy Rates



- The RBI appears to be comfortable with its glide path for CPI-seen at 8% in Jan 2015 but it remains anxious about its 6% target in Jan 2016. Rates were unchanged in the latest Monetary Policy review
- The central bank also underlined the uncertainty over the next few quarters by pointing out that the future rate decision would be “data-dependent”
- In the words of Reserve Bank of India Governor Raghuram Rajan ‘Let us fight this fight once, let's deal with it and then let's keep interest rates down in the longer term’

# India – 1Q15 Earnings performance – Export Driven



- Nearly 62% of earnings growth for Nifty contributed by export sectors and companies with global operations



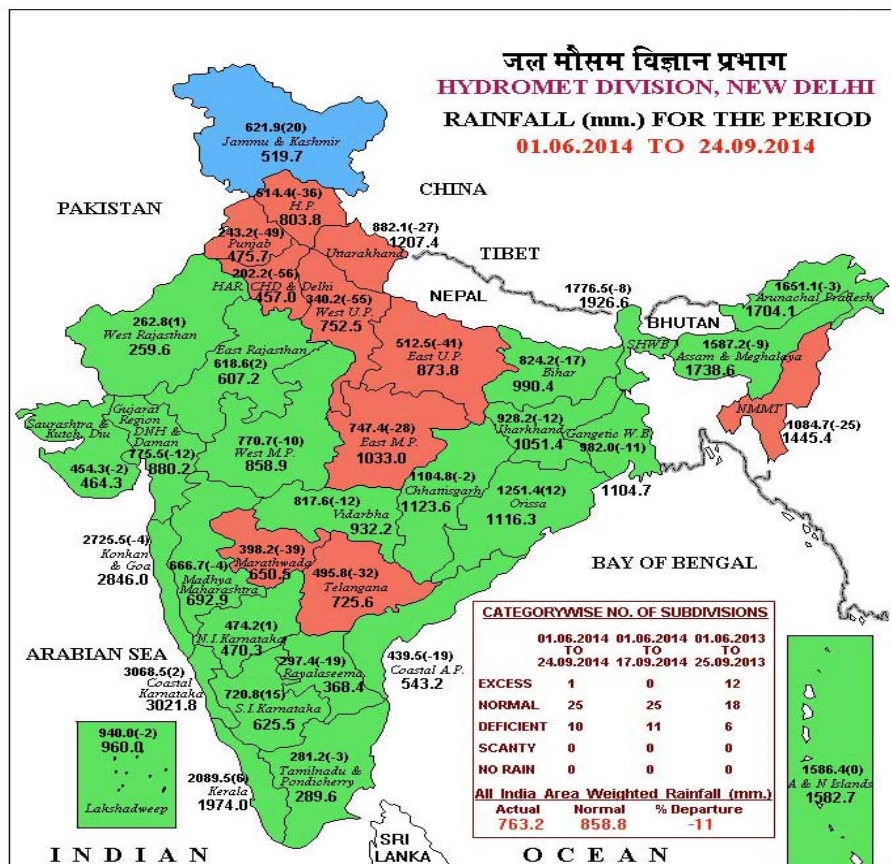
# India – 1Q15 Earnings performance – Driven by Mega caps

1Q15 (ex Oil PSU)	Broad Market	Mega Caps	Large Caps	Mid Caps	Small Caps
Market Cap		> 5 bn USD	2 bn - 5 bn USD	250 mn - 2 bn USD	50 mn - 250 mn USD
No. of Companies	3827	64	67	356	432
Revenue Growth	11%	18%	10%	9%	-1%
PAT Growth	16%	21%	9%	8%	-17%

- Q1FY15 earnings are largely driven by Mega cap companies, which experienced a 21% earnings growth, compared to midcaps, where earnings grew by just 8%

# India – Monsoon Deficient

## INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



- On an all-India area-weighted basis, cumulative rainfall was 11% Below Normal up to 24<sup>th</sup> September 2014, which is significantly better than 43% below Normal as on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014
- The deficiency in rainfall is likely to impact the purchasing power of rural populace and may also stoke inflation fears, albeit to a limited extent

**LEGEND:** ■ EXCESS (+20% OR MORE) ■ NORMAL (+19% TO -19%) ■ DEFICIENT (-20% TO -59%)

■ SCANTY (-60% TO -99%) ■ NO RAIN (-100%) ■ NO DATA

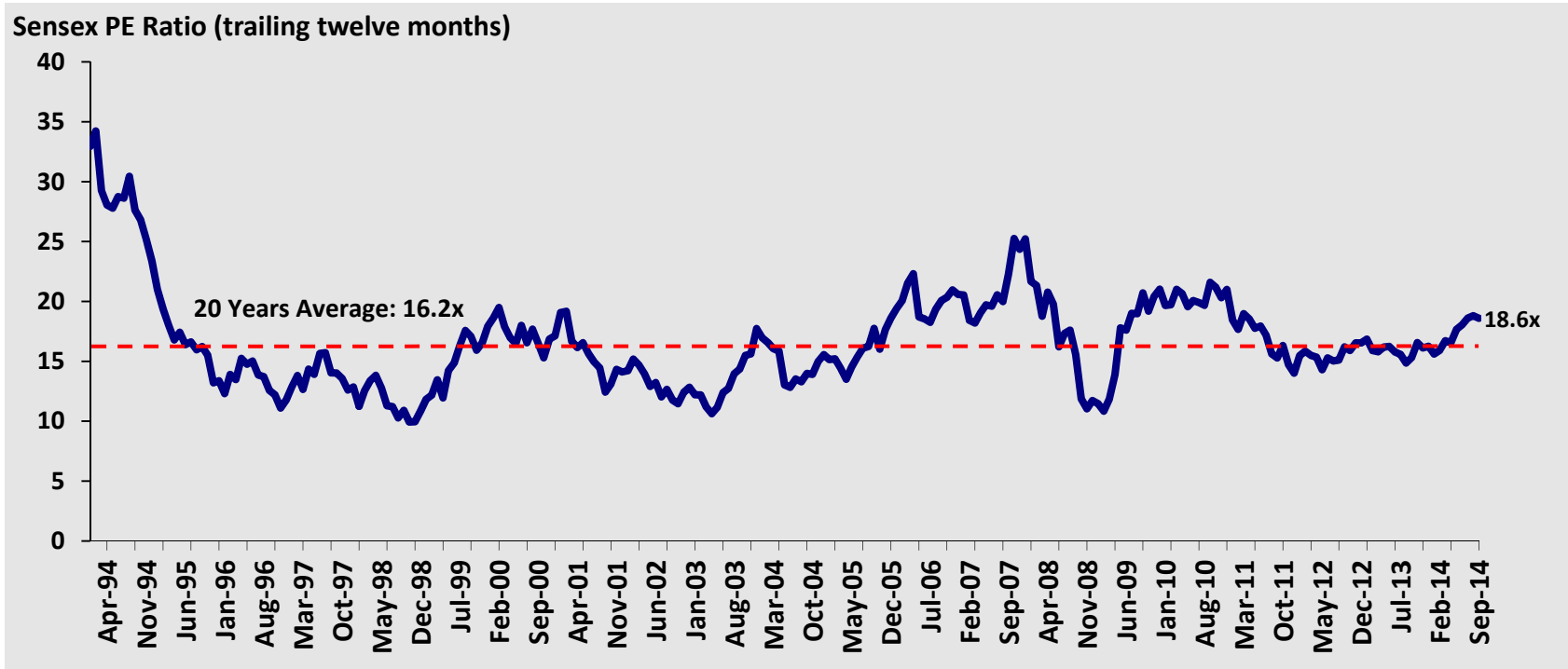
### NOTES:

[a] Rainfall figures are based on operational data.

[b] Small figures indicate actual rainfall (mm.), while bold figures indicate Normal rainfall (mm.)

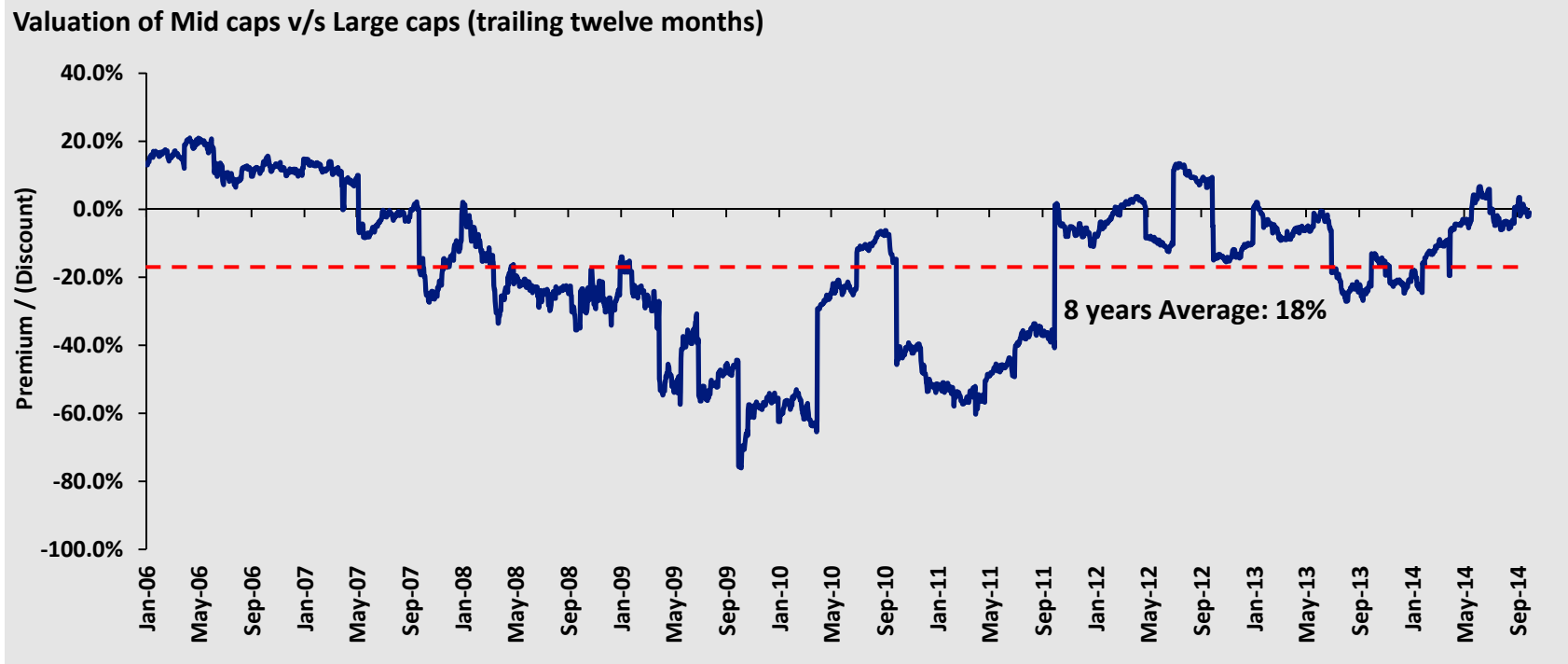
Percentage Departures of Rainfall are shown in Brackets.

# Valuations - Premium to Long term Average



- Market currently trades at a premium valuation
- The largecap benchmark Sensex index trades at 14% premium to its long term trailing twelve months average PE multiple

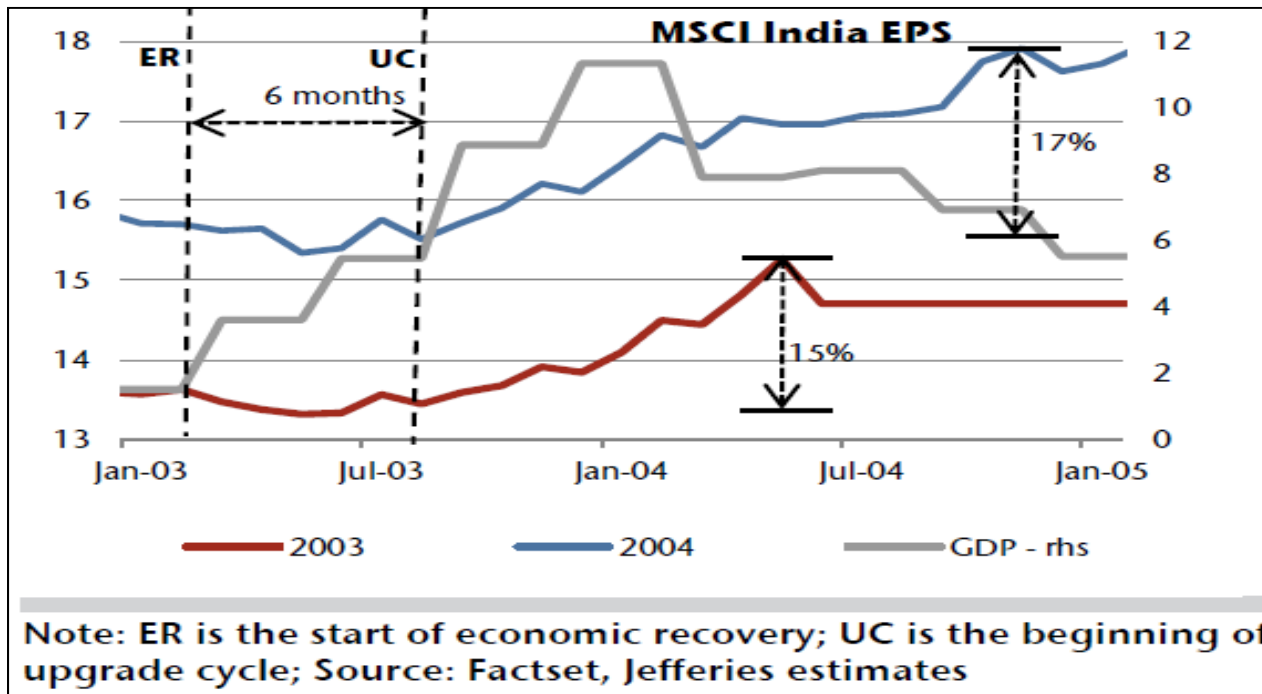
# Valuations – Midcaps trading at a slight premium to Large Caps



- Midcaps are trading at a premium to Large caps on a trailing twelve months P/E basis

# Valuations – The 2003 Earnings cycle experience

Earnings upgrade follows economic recovery with a lag of 4-6 months



- The 2003 economic upturn suggests that the earnings upgrade cycle normally lags the economic recovery cycle by about 4-6 months
- We are still at a very early stage of mild recovery in growth

- A mild recovery in economic growth is underway; Top down indicators showing signs of improvement
- New Government's path highlights continuity in areas of fiscal consolidation, fuel pricing, direct benefit transfer and financial inclusion
- Government focus is more on execution rather than Big Bang reforms
- The Central Bank, in its latest monetary policy, maintained its anti-inflationary stance and kept the key rates unchanged
- Valuations now at 14% premium to long term average. From here the baton passes to earnings growth rather than P/E expansion
- We are cautious about an earnings recovery in FY15 relative to consensus but in FY16 earnings could surprise the consensus positively
- Sectors such as industrials, consumer discretionary and financials will benefit from cyclical recovery in growth
- Earnings growth for Mid cap companies will likely improve with a recovery in domestic growth and a more benign monetary environment

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## Get in touch

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