Invest in ICICI Prudential Rural Opportunities Fund



Aim to Rise Together with Rural India

NFO January 09, 2025 January 23, 2025

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.



PRUDENTIAL

- Prologue
- India's Growth Story
- Importance of Rural India
- Learnings from China on Rural Development
- Key Catalysts at play for Rural India
- About ICICI Prudential Rural Opportunities Fund
- Our Expertise in Identifying Ideas







We all believe in the dream of 'India shining'. We are witnessing the journey where India has shed its fragile five tag and is going from strength to strength – Today, India is looked up as the fastest growing economy. Although, the destination is still far and India needs to get everything in place to achieve its target. One of the major catalyst which can catapult India into a different league is Rural Development.

Why Rural – as majority of Indians reside here, it is a major contributor of GDP, major provider of labour force for Manufacturing or Construction activity etc. this list can be long.

In a nutshell, we believe that without Rural Development, the India story remains incomplete. Rural economy has seen great improvement in the last few decades, due to Government impetus on manufacturing, better access to socioeconomic facilities and many structural changes. We have bucketed these developments into below categories:

- India's Manufacturing push beneficial for Rural economy
- Improvement in Quality of Life
- Structural changes
- Cyclical demand recovery

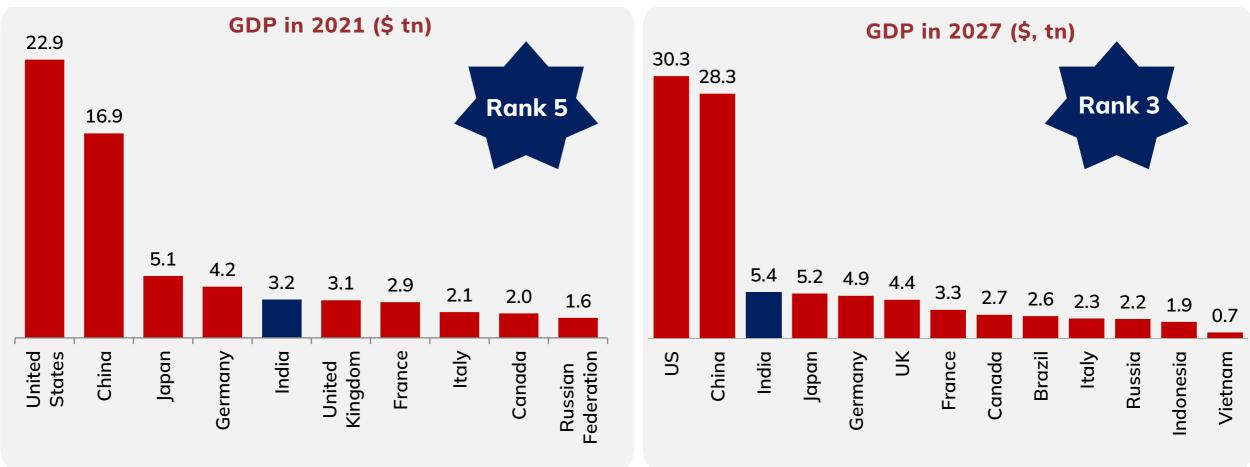


We believe that we are at the cusp of a major milestone for Rural development where the long-term triggers (better quality of life and structural changes along-with short-to-medium triggers (Cyclical demand recovery) are aligning for a sustainable growth. Hence, the investment rationale is based on overall Rural Opportunities like Manufacturing, Construction, Services, Agriculture, Consumption etc.





Today, we all believe in India's promising growth story as we dream of the country becoming a \$35 trillion economy by 2047*



Source: IMF (International Monetary Fund), Spark Capital Research, EM: Emerging Market, UK: United Kingdom, US: United States, GDP: Gross Domestic Product. tn: trillion. *Estimates of Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

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For this vision to turn into reality, you need all cylinders to fire and Rural plays a crucial role in India's broader picture.

Let us understand why!!!







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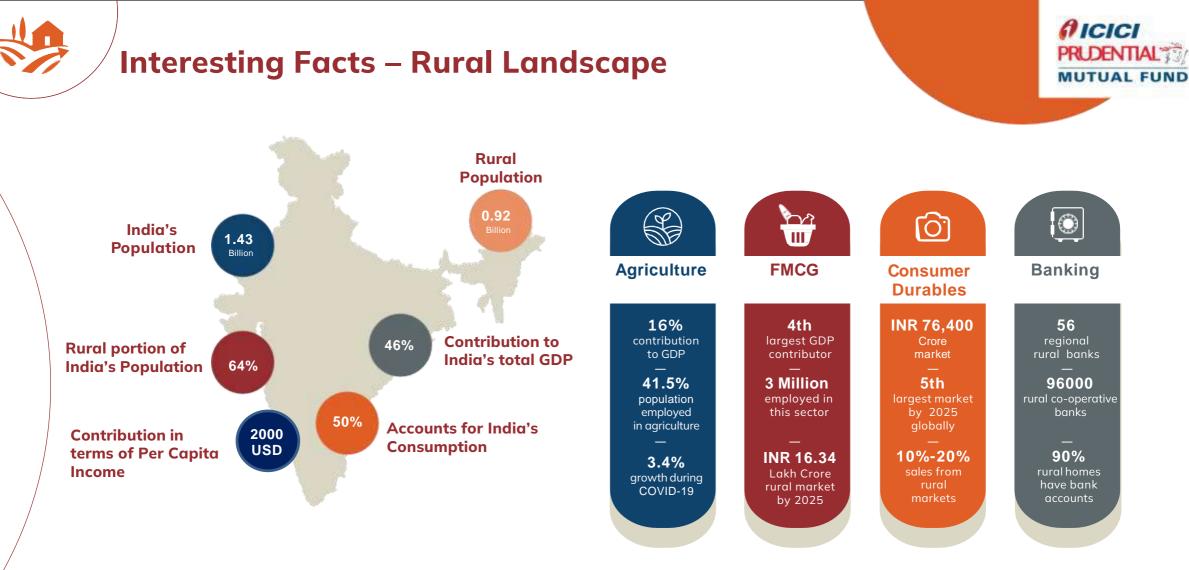
F The soul of India lives in its villages.

- Mahatma Gandhi

This statement holds true even today as around 64%* of India's population resides in rural areas.



Rural Settlements are governed by a Gram Sabha. Administratively rural settlements can have a population stretching from less than 100 inhabitants to greater than 10,000 inhabitants. Government schemes currently make no distinctions and classify them all as Rural (Source: Economic Advisory Council Report, March 2023). *Data as on 2023. Source: World Bank.



Source: World Bank, Data as on 2023. GDP: Gross Domestic Product

Source: KPMG Research Report, Data as on December 2020

Map not to scale. This map has been used for design and representational purpose only, it does not depict the geographical boundaries of the country. These do not conform to the external boundaries of India recognized by the Survey of India.



Why Rural – Long-Term Structural Story for Rural





India's focus on manufacturing augurs well for the Rural Economy



The Government is focusing on improvement in quality of life in the Rural space



Structural changes in the Rural space is creating a conducive environment for growth



Manufacturing Focus : Example China

Key Learnings from the Growth Story of China:

One of the key factors contributing to China's progress has been its strategic shift from an agriculture-based economy to focus on services and manufacturing.

This transformation would have not been possible without bolstering the development of its rural population, which contributed to the overall economic growth.



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Currently, in order to emerge as a global manufacturing hub, the government has renewed focus on manufacturing, which can further fuel rural development



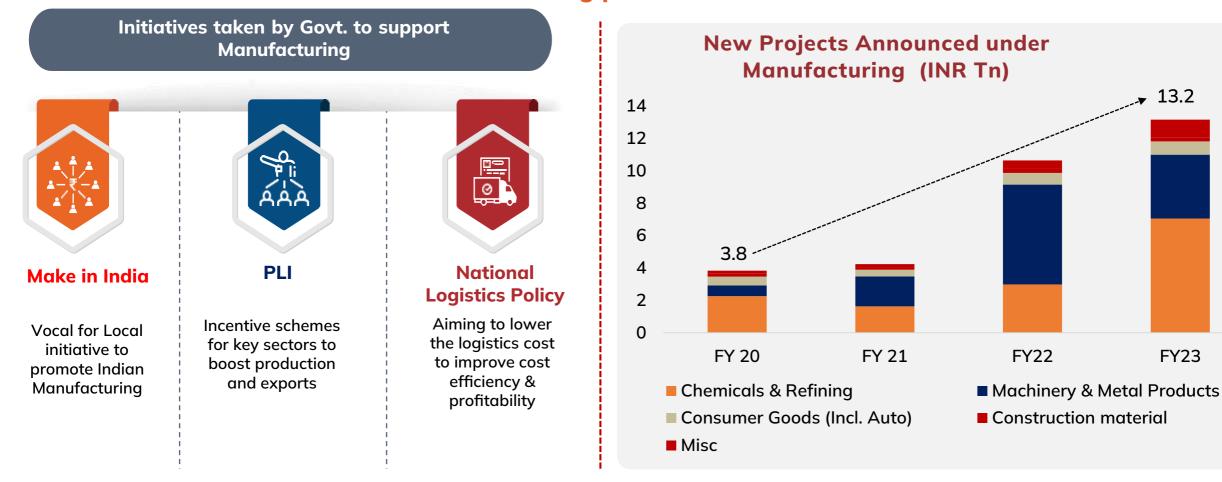
Government's Manufacturing Thrust



13.2

FY23

Govt. continues to focus on manufacturing in order to develop India as a manufacturing powerhouse



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Manufacturing push benefitting India



As a result of the Government's thrust, several global companies are setting up their manufacturing bases in India

MNC	Business to be carried out	Establishment Year	Place of Establishment
Samsung	Largest Mobile manufacturing plant	2018	Sriperumbudur
Hewlett Packard	Multiple PC products, including laptops, desktops, All-in-Ones (AIOs), and monitors	2020	Sriperumbudur
Siemens Group	Bogie Production Facility	2022	Aurangabad
ABB India	Manufacture of digital technologies for electrical distribution networks	2022	Vadodara
Hindustan Beverages	Bottling arm of Coca-cola	2022	Jalpaiguri
P&G	Personal healthcare manufacturing facility to produce global healthcare products	2023	Sanand
PSMC	Semiconductor Fabrication Unit	2024	Dholera

Source: Morgan Stanley. PSMC: Powerchip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation

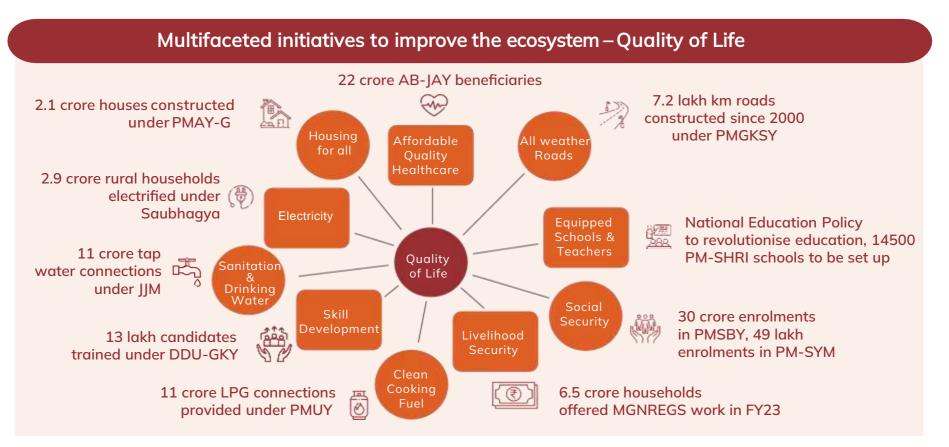
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Government initiatives to improve quality of life

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Rural standard of living has witnessed phenomenal improvement supported by the government spend of around 80 lakh crore in the last decade



Source: Economic Survey 2022-23. Govt. of India, Kotak Institutional Equities. PMAY-G: Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin. JJM: Jal Jeevan Mission. AB-JAY: Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. PMKSY: Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana. PMSBY: Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana. MGNREGS: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. PMUY: Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. DDU-GKY: Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY). LPG: Liquefied petroleum gas



Improved Access to Socioeconomic Facilities – Better Road Connectivity

Currently, around 99% of the rural habitations has all weather roads compared to 58% in FY09

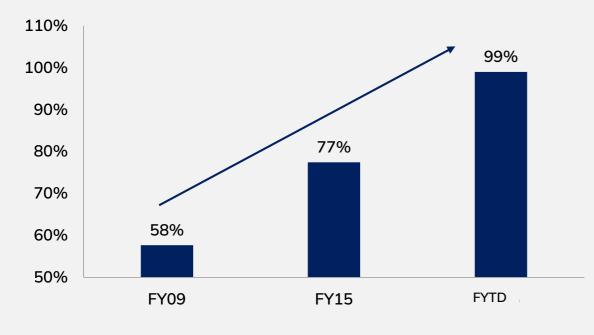


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Benefits

Share of Connected Habitations under PMGSY (%)



Road connectivity facilitates access to Agri markets, providing farmers an incentive to shift towards horticulture

Increases demand for fertilizer, irrigation facilities, farm equipment etc.

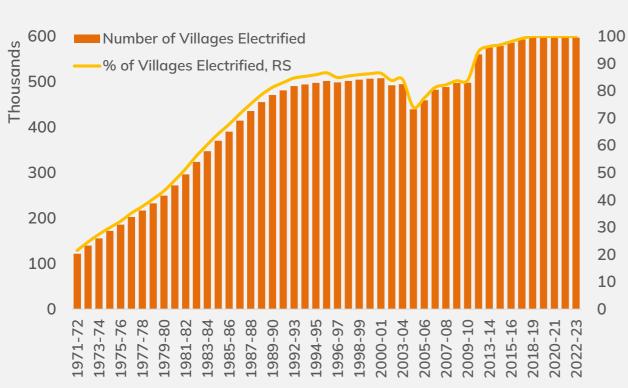
With better infrastructure, villages can integrate with larger cities for job opportunities

*

Improved Access to Socioeconomic Facilities – The Power of Electricity



In April 2018, India had achieved its goal of providing electricity to every village in India*



100% of Villages have been Electrified

Use of electric-powered machinery



Boosts productivity of local vendors

Benefits



Increase in demand for consumer durables



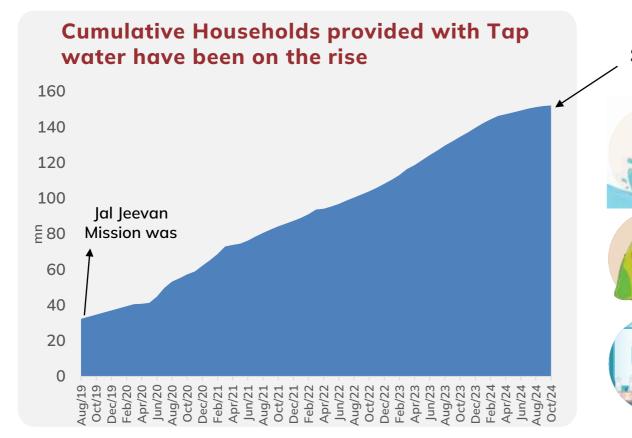
Convenience and Comfort



Improved Access to Socioeconomic Facilities – Provision of Tap Water



The share of rural households with access to tap water under the Jal Jeevan Mission increased multifold to around 75% in October 2024



Benefits

152.2mn Households Have Been Provided with Tap Water as of October 2024

Access to Clean water

Better Sanitation

Spending on medical reduced with better hygiene

Opportunity for small and medium-sized businesses to set up operations

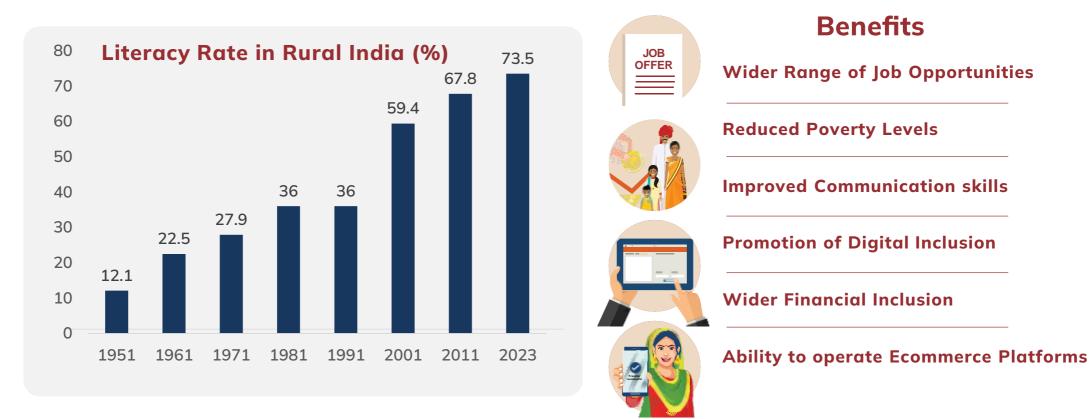
Potential for food processing and water filtration projects



Improved Access to Socioeconomic Facilities – Literacy Rate Has Risen, Empowering households



Literacy Rate in Rural India has more than doubled from 36% in 1991 to 73.5% in 2023, displaying a significant shift towards education and social development

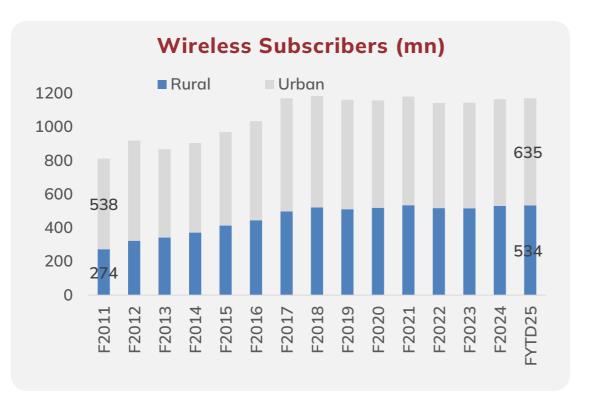


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Improved Access to Socioeconomic Facilities -Faster pace of Digitization



The pace of digitization has accelerated multifold as the number of wireless subscribers in rural India grew 1.4x over the last decade, paving way for better connectivity





Benefits

Facilitates Collaboration and Social Connectivity

Increased Access of Market

Information Dissemination

Facilitates online payments

Boosts Sales of Local Products

Convenience

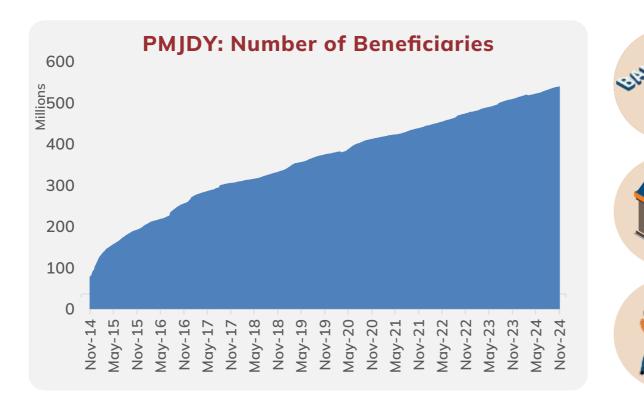
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Financial inclusion facilitates investments and sustainable jobs creation



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Financial inclusion has witnessed wider coverage in Jan-dhan bank accounts in rural areas





Access to Banking Services

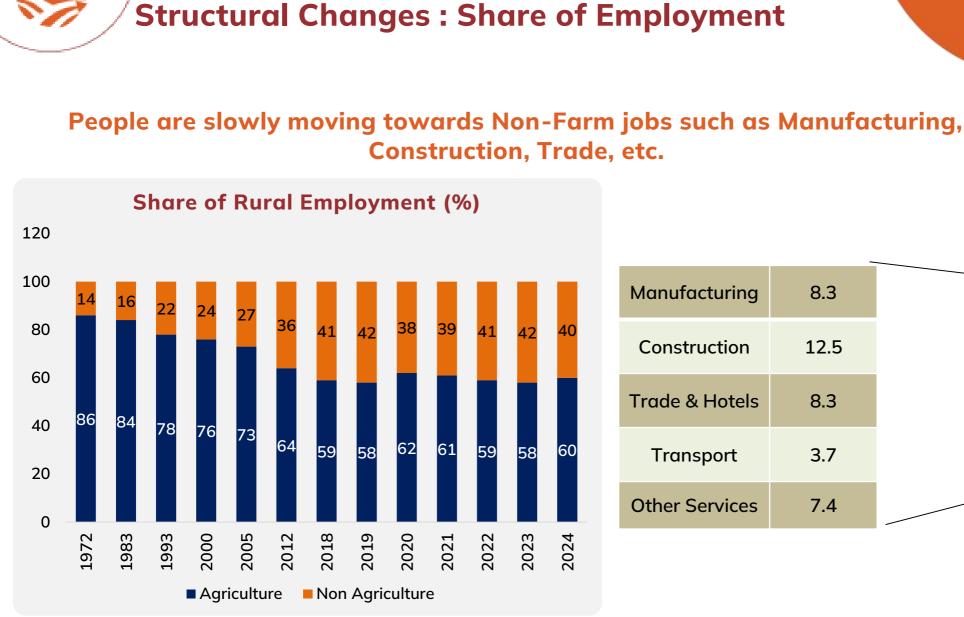
Facility to avail credit increases spend on consumer discretionary

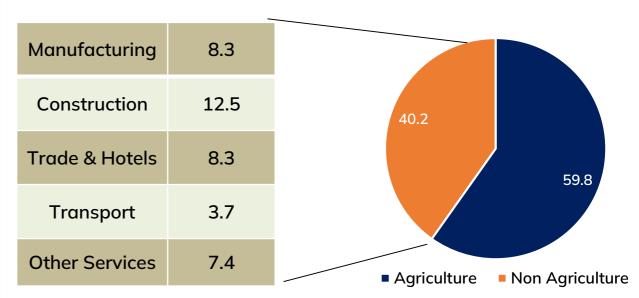
Ability to open bank accounts to deposit money

Direct benefit Transfers of government subsidies

Opportunity to set up small scale business units

Source: CEIC, Morgan Stanley Research. Objective of Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is to ensure access to various financial services like availability of basic savings bank account, need based credit, remittances facility, insurance and pension to the excluded sections i.e. weaker sections & low income groups.





Sector Wise Share

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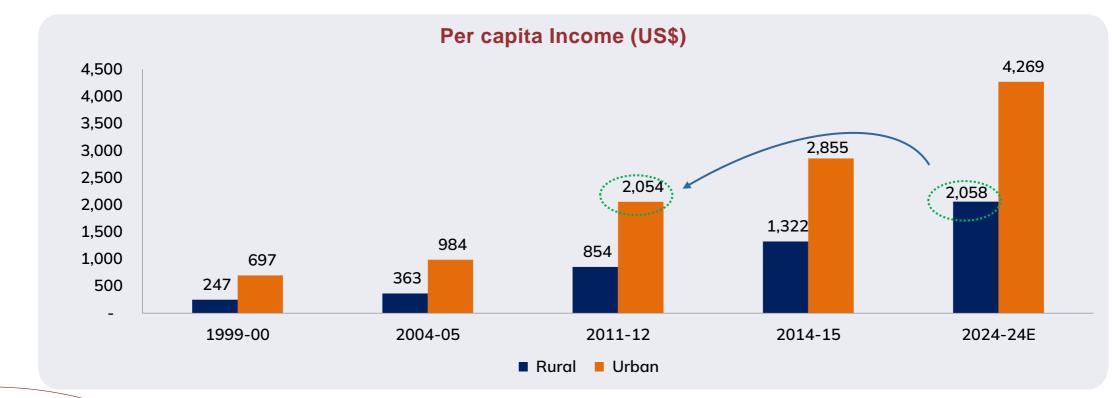
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Rural Income Per Capita has crossed the \$2000 per capita income mark, which is imperative for consumption to take off; Urban India crossed the \$2000 mark a decade ago in 2011-12



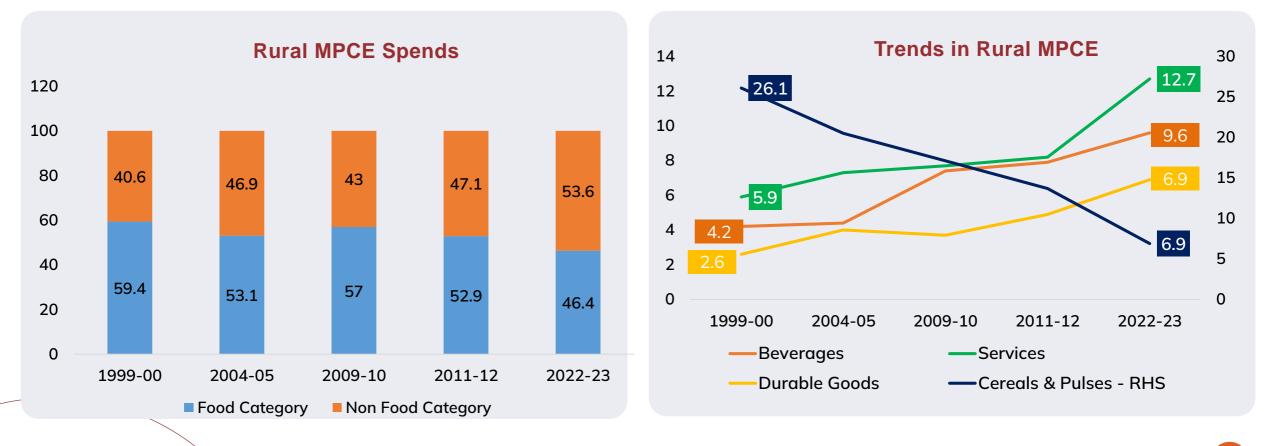
Source: Spark Capital Research. E: Estimate





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Share of Food in the Rural Expenditure has come down from 60% to 46% reflecting rise in discretionary spending



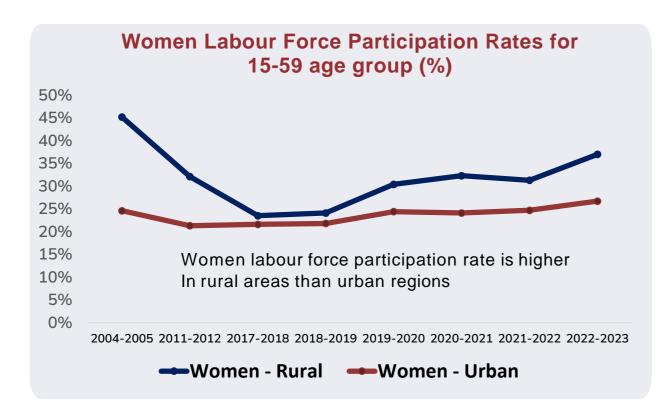
Source: Morgan Stanley. MPCE: Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure. MPCE is household monthly consumption expenditure ÷ household size. This measure serves as the indicator of the household's level of living.



Structural Changes – Women Employment



Rising women workforce leads to higher disposable income for the family, which supports consumption, investment and overall economic activities





Benefits

Engage in diverse activities, such as small-scale trade, handicrafts and agricultural practices



Increased Household Income

Less dependence on family members for financial security



Greater propensity to spend Build network with new opportunities



Why Now : Short-Term Triggers for Rural





Cyclical recovery in demand

- Global inflation picking up
- Rural economy stabilizing post exogenous shocks

Government's increased focus on Rural Economy

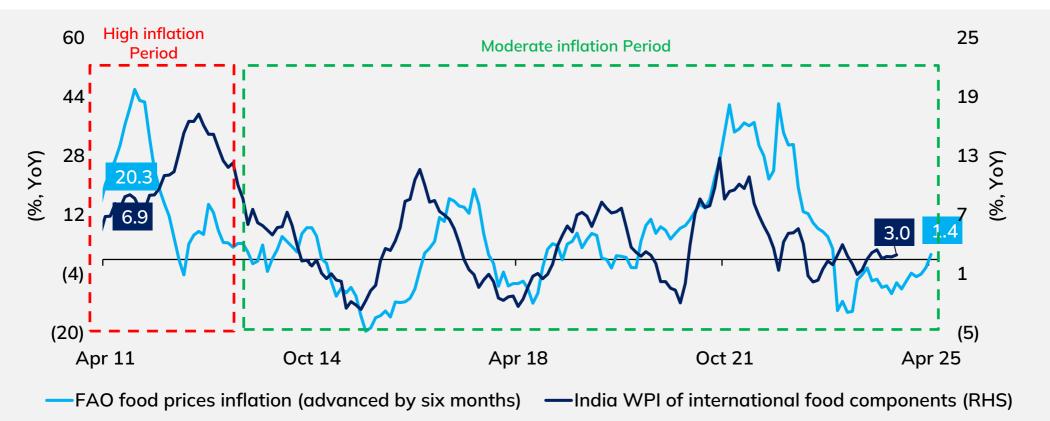
- Upcoming elections
- Budget allocation



[/]Cyclical recovery : Moderating Global Inflation



Global Inflation remained in a range in the last decade, due to which the agri income in the rural also struggled thereby keeping a tab on the rural demand







MSME's went through a journey of various regulatory changes and Exogenous shocks like COVID, which impacted employment opportunity. This impact seems to be bottoming-out.



MSME plays a crucial role in rural employment as 51% of the MSMEs are located in rural areas

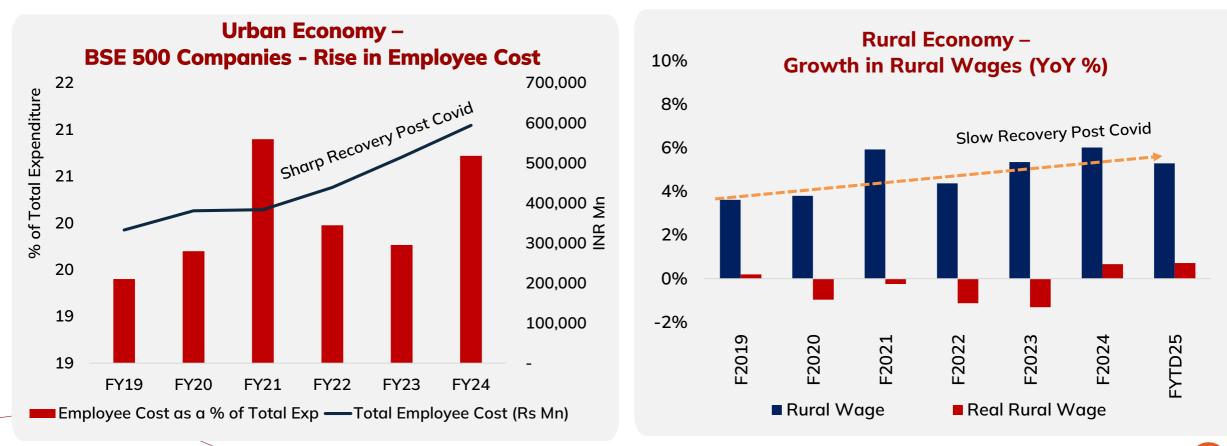
Cogmont	No of MSMEs (in Lakhs)		
Segment	Rural	Urban	
Manufacturing	114.14	82.5	
Electricity	0.03	0.01	
Trade & services	210.71	226.49	
Total	324.88	309	

Source: MSME Annual Report (<u>https://msme.gov.in/sites/default/files/FINALMSMEANNUALREPORT2023-24ENGLISH.pdf</u>). MSME: Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. GST: Goods & Services Tax, Covid: Coronavirus Disease. NBFC: Non-Banking Financial Company



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Covid-19 left deeper scars on individual balance sheets of the rural segments, resulting in a Kshaped recovery post the pandemic. However, rural demand is witnessing recovery now





Government Spending towards Rural

States yearly spending on committed and recurring Welfare schemes stand at Rs. 3.1 Tn per year, which is 1.1% of India's total GDP

States	Welfare Schemes (Rs. Bn.)	Welfare Schemes (% of State GDP)
Telangana	836	5.6%
Maharashtra	727	1.8%
Madhya Pradesh	364	2.7%
Karnataka	319	1.3%
West Bengal	277	1.6%
Rajasthan	193	1.3%
Andhra Pradesh	190	1.3%
Tamil Nadu	127	0.5%
Punjab	55	0.7%
Jhrakhand	45	1.0%
Assam	23	0.4%
Himachal Pradesh	8	0.4%
Total of 12 States	3164	1.1%

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Expectation of many other states to adopt welfare schemes as they approach elections in their respective states



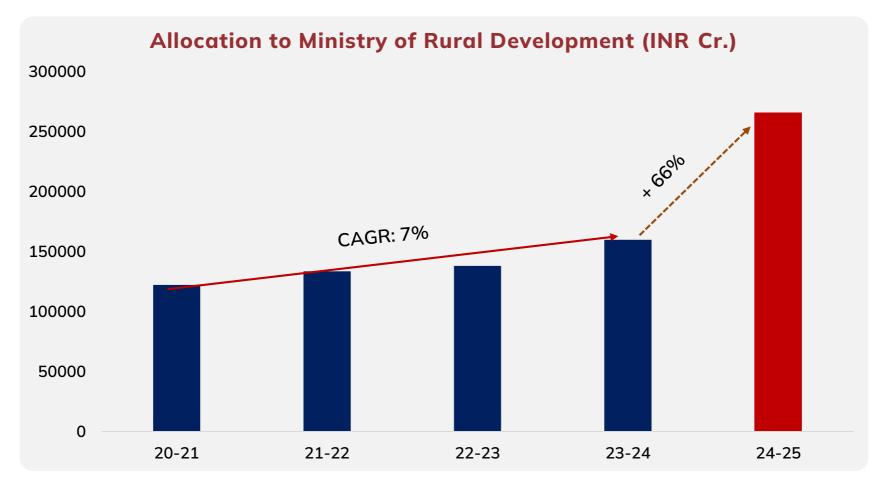
Source : Reserve Bank of India (RBI), State Budgets, Avendus Spark Research. Tn: Trillion. Bn: Billion. GDP: Gross Domestic Product



Higher Budget Allocations towards Rural Expected



In the upcoming budget, Revenue expenditure may see a higher growth with a focus on Rural spending which can bode well for the Rural Economy



Source : Union Budget Documents, Government of India. Data is on Financial Year basis.



Green shoots visible : Rural economy is showing signs of revival



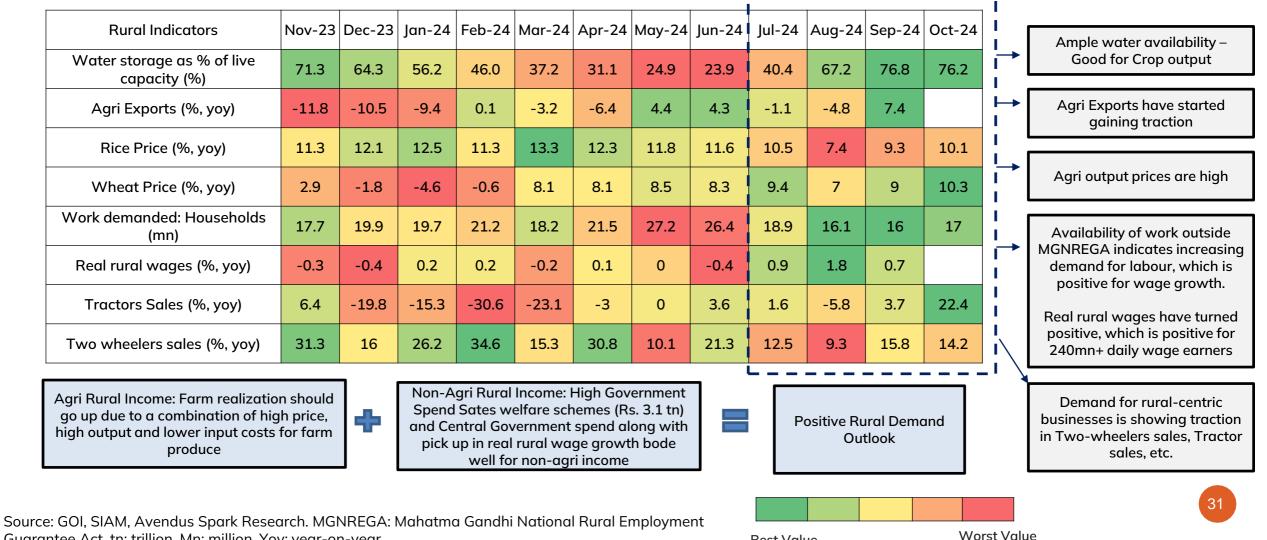




Ground is set for strong pick-up in rural demand

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The Rural Indicators have turned significantly positive since August 2024 alluding to a strong revival in rural demand ahead



Guarantee Act. tn: trillion. Mn: million. Yoy: year-on-year

Best Value



Rural Activity: Company Commentaries this Quarter



Hindustan Unilever Limited

Rural growth is consistently coming back and increasing gradually above urban growth now for at least a few quarters. And given the good monsoon, and hopefully a good outcome at the end of the kharif crop, that should bode well for the rural economy.

-Rohit Jawa, MD, HUL

Source: Economic Times

Hero MotoCorp



Hero MotoCorp clocked INR 10,000 crore revenue for the first time, registering its highest-ever profit after tax (PAT) with 36% growth Y-o-Y. Demand is driven by both urban and rural areas; however, it was higher from the rural side, stated Niranjan Gupta, Chief Executive Officer, of Hero MotoCorp.

Mahindra

Meanwhile, revenue from its farm equipment segment grew about 10%. The business, while smaller than its automotive counterpart, is more profitable and is key to its earnings.

Its tractor sales rose 3.6% on the back of a good monsoon, up for a second straight quarter, following a 7% decline in fiscal 2024.

Source: Reuters





Marico

During the quarter, Marico witnessed "stable demand trends in India with rural growing at 2x the pace of urban on a year-on-year basis".

Source: Economic Times

Source: Economic Times

The stock(s)/sector(s) mentioned in this slide do not constitute any recommendation and ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund may or may not have any future position in these stock(s)/sector(s)



Rural Development – Summary



Rural economy includes development happening in the rural space. It is a long-term theme, where we believe Rural picture will become more brighter and better in future

Long-Term Structural Triggers

- Manufacturing push by the Government to benefit the Rural Economy
- Government improving Quality of life in Rural ensuring the right ecosystem is created for future growth
- Structural changes in the Rural Economy creating a brighter picture for Rural

Immediate Triggers

- Global inflation picking-up
- Rural economy stabilizing post the exogenous shocks
- Government increased focus on rural spending in the form of welfare schemes
- Budget allocations expected to be higher for Rural



ICICI Prudential Rural Opportunities Fund

(An open ended equity scheme following Rural and allied theme)

NFO Date — January 09, 2025 to January 23, 2025 —





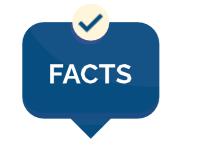




Rural



Agriculture



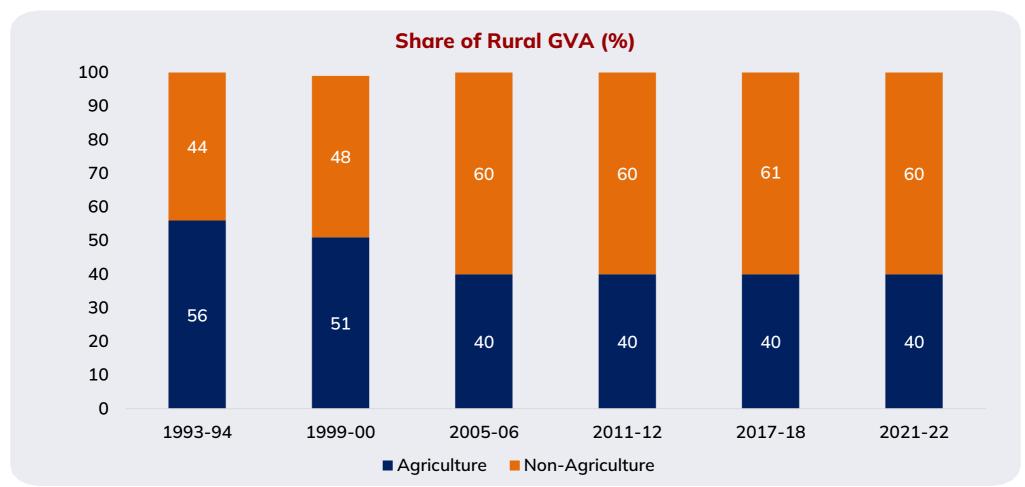








Undoubtedly agriculture is a key contributor to Rural GVA but around 60% of the rural GVA comes from Non agricultural industries (Manufacturing + Construction + Services)



Myth Buster - II



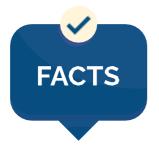


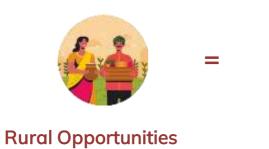


Rural Opportunities



Narrow Theme





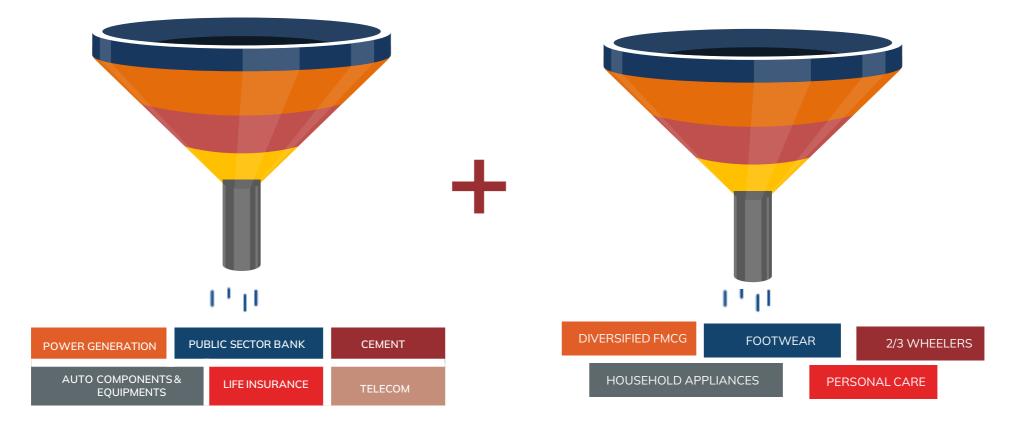




Rural Opportunities is a broad-based theme



ICICI Prudential Rural Opportunities Fund focuses on rural development, which is a broad-based theme investing across diversified sectors



The above list is not exhaustive. The stock(s)/sector(s) mentioned in this slide do not constitute any recommendation and ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund may or may not have any future position in these stock(s)/sector(s). The Scheme can invest in any other Basic industry forming part of the Benchmark index or Companies that have business activities present in rural and/or allied segments. FMCG: Fast Moving Consumer Goods





- **Opportunity to benefit from the Rural Theme:** Would predominantly invest in equity and equity related instruments of companies following Rural and/or allied theme.
- **Potential for Long-Term Growth:** Aims to provide investors with opportunities for long term capital appreciation.
- **Broad-Based Theme:** Shall consider investing in equity & equity related instruments of companies that have branches, supply chains, sourcing of raw material or project/factories/mines/plants (constructed or under construction), distribution channels or any other business activity present in the rural and/or allied segments.
- **Market cap agnostic:** Diversified across large, mid and small caps, providing the benefits of different market caps.
- **Sector rotation:** Has the flexibility to change allocation to sectors within the rural theme based on the market conditions to capitalize on market opportunities.

ICICI Prudential Rural Opportunities Fund – Broad Universe, Unconstrained Approach



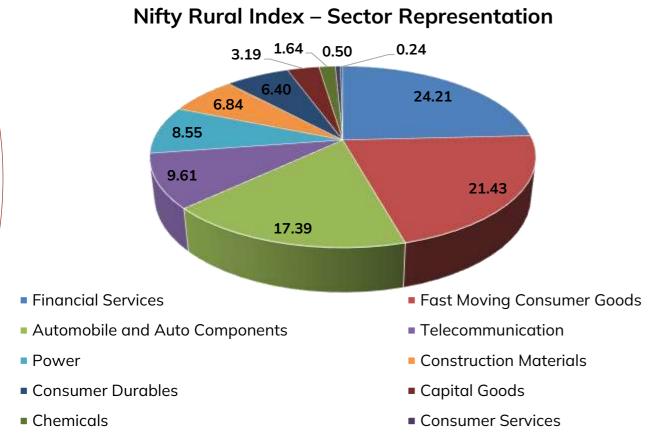


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Benchmark - Nifty Rural Index

The Nifty Rural Index aims to track the performance of stocks from the Nifty 500 Index, which represent the rural theme. The largest 75 stocks from eligible basic industries are selected based on 6 month average free-float market capitalization.



Media, Entertainment & Publication

Weight (%)
24.21
21.43
17.39
9.61
8.55
6.84
6.40
3.19
1.64
0.50
0.24

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Source: Data as on November 29, 2024. NSE. Investment strategy will be as per SID The stock(s)/sector(s) mentioned in this slide do not constitute any recommendation and ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund may or may not have any future position in these stock(s)/sector(s). The Scheme can invest in any other Basic industry forming part of the Benchmark index or Companies that have business activities present in rural and/or allied segments.



Areas where we are positive on



Certain pockets of markets where we are positive ,valuations have cooled-off in the last few months

Areas we are positive on	Rationale	6 Month Absolute Returns
Cement	Manufacturing thrust, Rural development and higher allocation by the Government towards Rural	-10.6%
Power	Electrification drive by the Government is aiding household and industrial development	-6.4%
Auto	Rural income improving, higher spend towards discretionary and higher farm Mechanization	-6.1%
Telecom, media	Cheap ARPUs have democratized usage of data – Rural India is faring very well on connectivity	-4.8%
Consumption	Rural income improving resulting in better demand	-3.2%
Banking and Financial Services	Higher financial inclusion would benefit PSU Banks and insurance companies	-2.1%
Agriculture and related sectors	Inflation cycle improving, better water reservoir levels positive for agri related companies	NA

Nifty 50

1.3%

Data as on Dec 11,2024. Source: ACE MF. For Cement: BSE India Infrastructure Index, Power: BSE Power Index, Auto: BSE AUTO Index, Telecom: BSE Telecom Index, Consumption: BSE Fast Moving Consumer Goods Index and Banking & Financial Services: Nifty PSU Bank Index has been used. PSU: Public Sector Undertaking. The stock(s)/sector(s) mentioned in this slide do not constitute any recommendation and ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund may or may not have any future position in these stock(s)/sector(s).



Sectoral Weights over the years



Despite markets soaring in the last 5 years, select areas have remained flattish or even reduced in terms of their market capitalization resulting into better valuations

Nifty 100 Weights in below areas	Dec-19	Nov-24	Difference
NBFC	11.3	4.9	-6.4
Oil & Gas	11.5	8.7	-2.8
FMCG	11.7	9.2	-2.5
Private Sector Bank	24.3	22.0	-2.3
Agriculture	0.6	0.0	-0.6
General Insurance	0.6	0.3	-0.3
Life Insurance	1.5	1.4	-0.1
Cement	2.3	2.2	-0.1
Consumer Durables	0.3	0.3	0.0
Real Estate	0.6	0.7	0.1
Two Wheelers	1.7	2.2	0.5
Metals & Mining	3.1	3.9	0.8
PSU Banks	2.6	3.4	0.8
Auto & Auto Ancillary (excluding Two Wheelers)	3.9	4.9	1.0
Pharmaceuticals	3.1	4.1	1.0
Retail	1.4	2.6	1.2
Telecom	1.9	3.3	1.4
IT	11.1	13.6	2.5
Industrial products & Capital goods	3.1	5.8	2.7
Power	1.8	4.9	3.1

Data as on November 30,2024. Source: NSE & Nuvama Research. The above list is an inclusive list & not exhaustive. NBFC: Non Banking Financial Institution, FMCG: Fast Moving Consumer Goods, PSU: public Sector Undertaking, IT: Information Technology. The stock(s)/sector(s) mentioned in this slide do not constitute any recommendation and ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund may or may not have any future position in these stock(s)/sector(s).





- India's growth story is incomplete without rural development story
- India is embarking on a journey to become a manufacturing hub for the world and Rural plays a key role in realization of this dream
- The Government has worked significantly on meeting the basic necessities of life and on improving quality of life for Rural population, so that the focus can shift towards other development areas
- Rural is in the middle of several positive structural changes, which should bode well for this theme
- Rural demand, after a decade of muted growth, has started to gain traction, which could be positive for the rural theme
- Rural is a broad theme with flexibility to move across various sectors and with flexibility to move across market-caps



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WHAT WE BRING TO THE TABLE? • • • • • •



Our Experience in identifying Ideas !!!



2018-19

Theme/Sector based fund

Launched Pharma, Manufacturing, Consumption, Commodities etc., post narrow rally

2021-23

Positioning change in ESF

Markets expensive & Taxation impact, parking solution

Special Situation Theme

2021-22

valuations

Broad theme based fund

Launched PSU Equity, Transportation, Housing,

2021

Innovation etc. post COVID, due to attractive

Launched Special situation fund, post NBFC Crisis in 2018

2019

Business Cycle Theme & Flexicap Category Launched pure Macro fund & Flexi Fund, due to rapid macro challenges (COVID, Geo-political tensions, Energy shortage etc.)



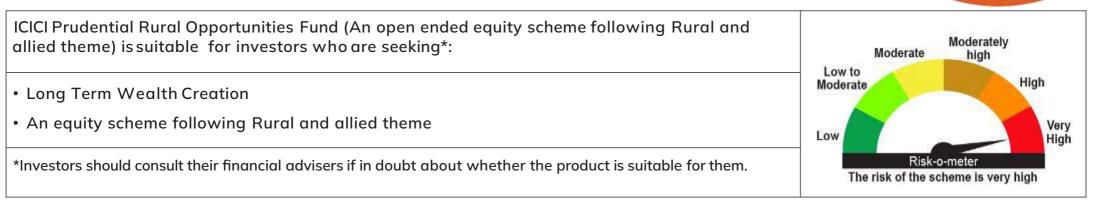


Type of Scheme	An open-ended equity scheme following Rural and allied theme		
Plans	ICICI Prudential Rural Opportunities Fund-Direct Plan ICICI Prudential Rural Opportunities Fund– Regular Plan		
Options	Growth & IDCW*		
Minimum Application Amount	Rs. 5,000 (plus in multiples of Re.1)		
Minimum Additional Application Amount	Rs. 1,000 (plus in multiples of Re.1)		
Minimum Redemption Amount	Any Amount		
Entry Load	Not applicable		
Exit Load	Less than 12 months 1% of applicable NAV		
	More than 12 months Nil		
Benchmark Index	Nifty Rural TRI		
SIP / SWP / STP	Available		
Fund Managers	Mr. Sankaran Naren and Ms. Priyanka Khandelwal		

*IDCW – Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal Option. Payment of dividend is subject to availability of distributable surplus and Trustee approval. Pursuant to payment of IDCW, the NAV of the scheme falls to the extent of dividend payout. When units are sold and sale price (NAV) is higher than face value of the unit, a portion of sale price that represents realized gains is credited to an Equalization Reserve Account and which can be used to pay dividend. Dividend can be distributed out of investors capital (Equalization Reserve), which is part of sale price that represents realized gains. In case the unit holder has opted for dividend payout option, the minimum amount for dividend payout shall be 100 (net of dividend distribution tax and other statutory levy, if any), else the dividend would be mandatorily reinvested.



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It may be noted that the scheme risk-o-meter specified above is based on the internal assessment of the scheme characteristics and may vary post NFO when the actual investments are made. The same shall be updated on ongoing basis in accordance with clause 17.4 of the Master Circular.

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

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