A Study on Various Mutual Fund Schemes

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Abstract—This paper presents a comprehensive study on various mutual fund schemes available in the Indian financial market. Mutual funds have become one of the most popular investment avenues due to their potential for diversification, professional management, and liquidity. The study categorizes mutual funds into equity, debt, hybrid, and sectoral funds and analyzes their performance based on historical returns, risk factors, and Net Asset Value (NAV) trends. The objective is to help investors make informed decisions based on fund objectives, risk appetite, and investment horizon. The methodology includes comparative analysis of select schemes using secondary data. The study concludes by highlighting the most consistent schemes in each category and providing strategic recommendations for investors.

Keywords— Mutual Funds, Equity Funds, Debt Funds, Hybrid Funds, NAV, Investment

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I. INTRODUCTION

A mutual fund is a type of investment vehicle that pools money from various investors and invests it in diversified financial instruments like stocks, bonds, and other securities. With the liberalization of the Indian economy and increasing financial awareness, mutual funds have emerged as a popular investment option. The study aims to explore different mutual fund schemes available in the market and evaluate their performance based on parameters like returns, volatility, and risk-adjusted performance.

II. TYPES OF MUTUAL FUND SCHEMES

Mutual funds are broadly categorized into the following types:

1. Equity Funds: These invest primarily in stocks and have higher risk-return potential.
2. Debt Funds: Invest in fixed income securities like bonds and government securities, offering stable but lower returns.
3. Hybrid Funds: Combine equity and debt to balance risk and return.
4. Sectoral/Thematic Funds: Focus on specific sectors like IT, pharma, banking, etc., and are riskier due to concentrated portfolios.

III. METHODOLOGY

This study is based on secondary data collected from official websites like AMFI, Moneycontrol, and fund houses. It includes:

1. Historical NAV analysis
2. Return comparison over 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year periods
3. Standard deviation and Sharpe Ratio analysis to evaluate risk

IV. Comparative Performance of Select Schemes

Fund Type	Fund Name	1-Year Return	3-Year Return	5-Year Return
Equity	Axis Bluechip Fund	12.4%	18.1%	14.6%
Debt	SBI Magnum Income Fund	6.1%	6.8%	7.2%
Hybrid	HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund	10.2%	13.3%	11.7%
Sectoral	ICICI Prudential Technology Fund	20.5%	28.7%	22.9%

V. RISK ANALYSIS

Equity and sectoral funds exhibited higher volatility with standard deviation ranging from 12% to 18%. Debt funds remained stable, while hybrid funds offered a balanced risk-return profile. Sectoral funds had the highest Sharpe ratio due to strong tech sector performance.

VI. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To understand the different categories of mutual fund schemes available in the Indian market.
2. To analyze and compare the performance of selected mutual fund schemes across equity, debt, hybrid, and sectoral categories.
3. To evaluate the risk and return profile of each type of mutual fund scheme.
4. To identify mutual fund schemes that consistently offer favorable returns over different time periods.
5. To provide investment suggestions based on the risk appetite and financial goals of various investor segments.

VII. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The scope of this study is limited to analyzing the performance and characteristics of various mutual fund schemes available in the Indian financial market. It primarily focuses on equity, debt, hybrid, and sectoral funds offered by leading Asset Management Companies (AMCs). The study uses secondary data from reputed sources such as AMFI, Moneycontrol, and fund houses to evaluate performance based on historical returns, risk factors, and Net Asset Value (NAV) trends. The study is intended for retail investors, financial analysts, and students aiming to understand the dynamics of mutual fund investments. However, the study does not cover international mutual funds or portfolio management services outside the purview of mutual funds.

CONCLUSION

Mutual funds offer a versatile investment platform for different investor profiles. While equity and sectoral funds are suitable for high-risk takers, debt and hybrid funds are better suited for conservative investors. Among all, hybrid funds emerged as a good compromise for moderate-risk investors. Regular performance tracking and alignment with financial goals are essential for successful investing.

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