

# Parag Parikh Arbitrage Fund

## RISK FACTORS

### Standard Risk Factors:

- Investment in Mutual Fund Units involves investment risks such as trading volumes, settlement risk, liquidity risk, default risk including the possible loss of principal.
- As the price / value / interest rates of the securities in which the scheme invests fluctuates, the value of your investment in the scheme may go up or down. The value of investments may be affected, inter-alia, by changes in the market, interest rates, changes in credit rating, trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures; the NAV is also exposed to Price/Interest-Rate Risk and Credit Risk and may be affected inter-alia, by government policy, volatility and liquidity in the money markets and pressure on the exchange rate of the rupee.
- Past performance of the Sponsor and their associates / AMC / Mutual Fund does not guarantee future performance of the Scheme of the Mutual Fund.
- Parag Parikh Arbitrage Fund is only the name of the Scheme and the name of the Scheme does not in any manner indicate either the quality of the Scheme or its future prospects and returns.
- The Sponsor is not responsible or liable for any loss resulting from the operation of the Scheme beyond the initial contribution of Rs. 1 lakh made by them towards setting up the Fund.
- The present scheme is not a guaranteed or assured return scheme.

### Scheme Specific Risk Factors:

Some of the specific risk factors related to the Scheme include, but are not limited to the following:

In case of a large redemption, the scheme may need to reverse the spot-futures transaction before the date of futures' settlement.

While reversing the spot-futures transaction on the Futures & Options settlement day on the National Stock Exchange, there could be a risk of volume-weighted-average-price of the market being different from the price at which the actual reversal is processed. This may result in basis risk.

### 1. Risks associated with investments in Equity and Equity related instruments

- Equity and Equity related instruments are volatile in nature and are subject to price fluctuations on a daily basis. The volatility in the value of the equity and equity related instruments is due to various micro and macro-economic factors affecting the securities markets. This may have an adverse impact on individual securities /sector and consequently on the NAV of Scheme.
- The inability of the Scheme to make intended securities purchases due to settlement problems could cause the Scheme to miss certain investment opportunities as in certain cases, settlement periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances. Similarly, the inability to sell securities held in the schemes portfolio may result, at times, in potential losses to the scheme, should there be a subsequent decline in the value of the securities held in the schemes portfolio.
- Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures may restrict the liquidity of the investments made by the scheme. Different segments of the Indian financial markets have different settlement periods

and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances leading to delays in receipt of proceeds from sale of securities.

- The AMC may invest in unlisted securities within the regulatory limit. This may however increase the risk of the portfolio as these unlisted securities are inherently illiquid in nature and carry larger liquidity risk as compared to the listed securities or those that offer other exit options to the investors.

## **2. Risk Factors Associated with Fixed Income Securities and Money Market Instruments**

**Interest-Rate Risk:** Fixed income securities such as government bonds, corporate bonds, and money market instruments and derivatives run price-risk or interest-rate risk. Generally, when interest rates rise, prices of existing fixed income securities fall and when interest rates drop, such prices increase. The extent of fall or rise in the prices depends upon the coupon and maturity of the security. It also depends upon the yield level at which the security is being traded.

**Reinvestment Risk:** Investments in fixed income securities carry reinvestment risk as interest rates prevailing on the coupon payment or maturity dates may differ from the original coupon of the bond.

**Basis Risk:** The underlying benchmark of a floating rate security or a swap might become less active or may cease to exist and thus may not be able to capture the exact interest rate movements, leading to loss of value of the portfolio.

**Spread Risk:** In a floating rate security the coupon is expressed in terms of a spread or mark up over the benchmark rate. In the life of the security this spread may move adversely leading to loss in value of the portfolio. The yield of the underlying benchmark might not change, but the spread of the security over the underlying benchmark might increase leading to loss in value of the security.

**Liquidity Risk:** The liquidity of fixed income securities may change, depending on market conditions leading to changes in the liquidity premium attached to the price of the bond. At the time of selling the security, the security can become illiquid, leading to loss in value of the portfolio.

**Credit Risk:** This is the risk associated with the issuer of a debenture/bond or a money market instrument defaulting on coupon payments or in paying back the principal amount on maturity. Even when there is no default, the price of a security may change with expected changes in the credit rating of the issuer. It is to be noted here that a Government Security is a sovereign security and is the safest. Corporate bonds carry a higher amount of credit risk than Government securities. Within corporate bonds also there are different levels of safety and a bond rated higher by a particular rating agency is safer than a bond rated lower by the same rating agency.

**Liquidity Risk on account of unlisted securities:** The liquidity and valuation of the Scheme investments due to their holdings of unlisted securities may be affected if they have to be sold prior to their target date of divestment. The unlisted security can go down in value before the divestment date and selling of these securities before the divestment date can lead to losses in the portfolio.

**Counterparty Risk:** - This is the risk of failure of counterparty to a transaction to deliver securities against consideration received or to pay consideration against securities delivered, in full or in part or as per the agreed specification. There could be losses to the Scheme in case of a counterparty default.

**Settlement Risk:** Fixed income securities run the risk of settlement which can adversely affect the ability of the fund house to swiftly execute trading strategies which can lead to adverse movements in NAV.

**Risks associated with unrated instruments:** -Investments in unrated instruments are subject to the risk associated with investments in any other fixed income securities, as referred above. However, investments in unrated instruments are considered to be subject to greater risk of loss of principal and interest than rated instruments.

### **3. Risks associated with Investing in Structured Obligation (SO) & Credit Enhancement (CE) rated securities**

The risks factors stated below for the Structured Obligations & Credit Enhancement are in addition to the risk factors associated with debt instruments.

-Credit rating agencies assign CE rating to an instrument based on any identifiable credit enhancement for the debt instrument issued by an issuer. The credit enhancement could be in various forms and could include guarantee, shortfall undertaking, letter of comfort, etc. from another entity. This entity could be either related or non-related to the issuer like a bank, financial institution, etc. Credit enhancement could include additional security in form of pledge of shares listed on stock exchanges, etc. SO transactions are asset backed/ mortgage backed securities, securitized paper backed by hypothecation of car loan receivables, securities backed by trade receivables, credit card receivables etc. Hence, for CE rated instruments evaluation of the credit enhancement provider, as well as the issuer is undertaken to determine the issuer rating. In case of SO rated issuer, the underlying loan pools or securitization, etc. is assessed to arrive at rating for the issuer.

**Liquidity Risk:** SO rated securities are often complex structures, with a variety of credit enhancements. Debt securities lack a well-developed secondary market in India, and due to the credit enhanced nature of CE securities as well as structured nature of SO securities, the liquidity in the market for these instruments is adversely affected compared to similar rated debt instruments. Hence, lower liquidity of such instruments, could lead to inability of the scheme to sell such debt instruments and generate liquidity for the scheme or higher impact cost when such instruments are sold.

**Credit Risk:** The credit risk of debt instruments which are CE rated derives rating based on the combined strength of the issuer as well as the structure. Hence, any weakness in either the issuer or the structure could have an adverse credit impact on the debt instrument. The weakness in structure could arise due to inability of the investors to enforce the structure due to issues such as legal risk, inability to sell the underlying collateral or enforce guarantee, etc. In case of SO transactions, comingling risk and risk of servicer increases the overall risk for the securitized debt or assets backed transactions. Therefore, apart from issuer level credit risk such debt instruments are also susceptible to structure related credit risk.

### **4. Risk factors associated with investing in Derivatives:**

The AMC, on behalf of the Scheme may use various derivative products, from time to time, in an attempt to protect the value of the portfolio and enhance Unit holders' interest. Derivative products are specialized instruments that require investment techniques and risk analysis different from those associated with stocks and bonds. The use of a derivative requires an understanding not only of the underlying instrument but of the derivative itself. Other risks include, the risk of mis-pricing or improper valuation and the inability of derivatives to correlate perfectly with underlying assets, rates and indices.

Derivative products are leveraged instruments and can provide disproportionate gains as well as disproportionate losses to the investor. Execution of such strategies depends upon the ability of the fund manager to identify such opportunities. Identification and execution of the strategies to be pursued by the fund manager involve uncertainty and the decision of fund manager may not always be profitable. No assurance can be given that the fund manager will be able to identify or execute such strategies.

The risks associated with the use of derivatives are different from or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments.

Derivatives require the maintenance of adequate controls to monitor the transactions entered into, the ability to assess the risk that a derivative adds to the portfolio and the ability to forecast price or interest rate movements correctly. There is the possibility that a loss may be sustained by the portfolio as a result of the failure of another party (usually referred to as the "counterparty") to comply with the terms of the derivatives contract. The Scheme bears a risk that it may not be able to correctly forecast future market trends or the value of assets, indices or other financial or economic factors in establishing derivative positions for the Scheme.

Besides the price of the underlying asset, the volatility, tenor and interest rates affect the pricing of derivatives, trading in derivatives carry a high degree of risk although they are traded at a relatively small amount of margin which provides the possibility of great profit or loss in comparison with the principal investment amount.

Other risks in using derivatives include but are not limited to:

**a. Credit Risk** – This occurs when a counterparty defaults on a transaction before settlement and therefore, the Scheme are compelled to negotiate with another counter party, at the then prevailing (possibly unfavorable) market price, in order to maintain the validity of the hedge. For exchange traded derivatives, the risk is mitigated as the exchange provides a guaranteed settlement but one takes the performance risk on the exchange.

**b. Liquidity risk** - This risk arises from the inability to sell derivatives at prices that reflect the underlying assets/ rates/ indices, lack of availability of derivative products across different maturities and with various risk appetite.

**c. Model Risk** – This is the risk of mis–pricing or improper valuation of derivatives.

**d. Basis Risk** – This risk arises when the derivative instrument used to hedge the underlying asset does not match the movement of the underlying being hedged for example, when a bond is hedged using a derivative, the change in price of the bond and the change in price of the derivative may not be fully correlated leading to basis risk in the portfolio. The underlying benchmark of a floating rate security might become less active or may cease to exist and thus may not be able to capture the exact interest rate movements, leading to loss of value of the portfolio. Example: Where swaps are used to hedge an underlying fixed income security, basis risk could arise when the fixed income yield curve moves differently from that of the swap benchmark curve or if there is a mismatch in the tenor of the swap and the fixed income security. Additional Risk viz. Basis Risk associated with imperfect hedging using Interest Rate Futures (IRF): The imperfect correlation between the prices of securities in the portfolio and the IRF contract used to hedge part of the portfolio leads to basis risk. Thus, the loss on the portfolio may not exactly match the gain from the hedge position entered using the IRF.

**e. Market Risk:** Derivatives are traded in the market and are exposed to losses due to change in the prices of the underlying and/or other assets and change in market conditions and factors. The volatility in prices of the underlying may impact derivative instruments differently than its underlying.

**f. Valuation Risk:** This is the risk of mis–pricing or improper valuation of derivatives due to inadequate trading data with good volumes.

**g. Operational / Systemic Risk:** This is the risk arising due to failure of operational processes followed by the exchanges and Over the Counter (OTC) participants for the derivatives trading.

**h. Counterparty Risk:** Counterparty risk is the risk that losses will be incurred due to the default by the counterparty for OTC derivatives.

**i. Exposure Risk:** An exposure to derivatives in excess of the hedging requirements can lead to losses. An exposure to derivatives can also limit the profits from a plain investment transaction.

**j. Interest Rate Risk:** This risk arises from the movement of interest rates in adverse direction. As with all the debt securities, changes in the interest rates will affect the valuation of the portfolios.

## **5. Risk factors Associated with Securitised Debt:**

The Scheme may invest in domestic securitized debt such as Asset Backed Securities (ABS) or Mortgage Backed Securities (MBS). ABS are securitized debts where the underlying assets are receivables arising from various loans including automobile loans, personal loans, loans against consumer durables, etc. MBS are securitized debts where the underlying assets are receivables arising from loans backed by mortgage of residential / commercial properties.

At present in Indian market, following types of loans are securitized:

1. Auto Loans (cars / commercial vehicles /two wheelers)
2. Residential Mortgages or Housing Loans
3. Consumer Durable Loans

- 4. Personal Loans
- 5. Corporate Loans

In terms of specific risks attached to securitization, each asset class would have different underlying risks. Residential Mortgages generally have lower default rates than other asset classes, but repossession becomes difficult. On the other hand, repossession and subsequent recovery of commercial vehicles and other auto assets is fairly easier and better compared to mortgages. Asset classes like personal loans, credit card receivables are unsecured and in an economic downturn may witness higher default. A corporate loan/receivable, depend upon the nature of the underlying security for the loan or the nature of the receivable and the risks correspondingly fluctuate.

The Risks involved in Securitised Papers described below are the principal ones and does not represent that the risks set out hereunder is exhaustive.

#### **Limited Liquidity & Price Risk**

There is no assurance that a deep secondary market will develop for the Certificates. This could limit the ability of the investor to resell them.

#### **Limited Recourse, Delinquency and Credit Risk**

The Credit Enhancement stipulated represents a limited loss cover to the Investors. These Certificates represent an undivided beneficial interest in the underlying receivables and do not represent an obligation of either the Issuer or the Seller or the originator, or the parent or any associate of the Seller, Issuer and Originator. Delinquencies and credit losses may cause depletion of the amount available under the Credit Enhancement and thereby the Investor Payouts to the Certificate Holders may get affected if the amount available in the Credit Enhancement facility is not enough to cover the shortfall. On persistent default of an Obligor to repay his obligation, the Servicer may repossess and sell the Asset. However, many factors may affect, delay or prevent the repossession of such Asset or the length of time required to realise the sale proceeds on such sales. In addition, the price at which such Asset may be sold may be lower than the amount due from that Obligor.

#### **Risks due to possible prepayments and Charge Offs**

In the event of prepayments, investors may be exposed to changes in tenor and yield. Also, any Charge Offs would result in the reduction in the tenor of the Pass-Through Certificates (PTCs).

**Re-investment Risk:** Since prepayment risk increases when interest rates decline, this also introduces re-investment risk, which is the risk that the principal can only be reinvested at a lower rate.

#### **Bankruptcy of the Swap Bank**

If the Swap Bank becomes subject to bankruptcy proceedings then an Investor could experience losses or delays in the payments due under the Interest Rate Swap Agreement.

#### **Risk of Co-mingling**

With respect to the Certificates, the Servicer will deposit all payments received from the Obligors into the Collection Account. However, there could be a time gap between collection by a Servicer and depositing the same into the Collection account especially considering that some of the collections may be in the form of cash. In this interim period, collections from the Loan Agreements may not be segregated from other funds of originator. If originator in its capacity as Servicer fails to remit such funds due to Investors, the Investors may be exposed to a potential loss.

### **6. Risk factors associated with Segregated Portfolio**

Different types of securities in which the scheme would invest carry different levels and types of risk as given in the Scheme Information Document of the scheme. In addition to the same, unitholders are requested to also note the following risks with respect to Segregated Portfolio:

**Liquidity Risk:** A lower level of liquidity affecting an individual security (ies) or an entire market may have an adverse bearing on the value of the Segregated Scheme's assets. This may more importantly affect the ability to sell particular securities with minimal impact cost as and when necessary to meet requirements of liquidity or to sell securities in response to triggers such as a specific economic/corporate event. Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer

procedures may restrict the liquidity of a few of the investments. This may impact the NAV of the segregated portfolio and could result into potential loss to the Unit holders.

**Credit risk:** The scheme's risk may increase or decrease depending upon its investment pattern. E.g. corporate bonds carry a higher amount of risk than Government securities. Further even among corporate bonds, bonds, which are AA rated, are comparatively more risky than bonds, which are AAA rated. Investment in unrated securities may be riskier compared to investment in rated instruments due to non-availability of third party assessment on the repayment capability of the issuer. As the securities are unrated, an independent opinion of the rating agency on the repayment capability of the issuer will not be available. The issuer of a debenture/ bond or a money market instrument may default on interest payment or even in paying back the principal amount on maturity. Even where no default occurs, the price of a security may go down because the credit rating of an issuer goes down. This may impact the NAV of the segregated portfolio and resultant loss to the Unit holders.

**Listing of units:** Listing of units of segregated portfolio in recognized stock exchange does not necessarily guarantee their liquidity. There may not be active trading of units in the stock market. Further, trading price of units on the stock market may be significantly lower than the prevailing NAV.

#### **7. Risk factors associated with processing of transaction through Stock Exchange Mechanism:**

The trading mechanism introduced by the stock exchange(s) is configured to accept and process transactions for mutual fund units in both Physical and Demat Form. The allotment and/or redemption of Units through NSE and/or BSE or any other recognised stock exchange(s), on any Business Day will depend upon the modalities of processing viz. collection of application form, order processing/settlement, etc. upon which the Fund has no control. Moreover, transactions conducted through the stock exchange mechanism shall be governed by the operating guidelines and directives issued by respective recognized stock exchange(s).

#### **8. Risks associated with investments in Repo transactions in Corporate Bonds**

In repo transactions, also known as a repo or sale repurchase agreement, securities are sold with the seller agreeing to buy them back at later date. The repurchase price should be greater than the original sale price, the difference effectively representing interest. A repo is economically similar to a secured loan, with the buyer receiving corporate debt securities as collateral to protect against default. The Scheme may invest in repo of corporate debt securities which are subject to the following risks:

**Counterparty Risk:** This refers to the inability of the seller to meet the obligation to buy back securities at the contracted price on the contracted date. The Investment Manager will endeavour to manage counterparty risk by dealing only with counterparties, having strong credit profiles. Also, the counterparty risk is to an extent mitigated by taking collateral equivalent in value to the transaction after knocking off a minimum haircut on the intrinsic value of the collateral. In the event of default by the repo counterparty, the scheme shall have recourse to corporate debt securities.

**Collateral Risk:** Collateral risk arises when the market value of the securities is inadequate to meet the repo obligations. This risk is mitigated by restricting participation in repo transactions with collateral bearing a minimum rating as prescribed by the regulators (currently AA or equivalent and above rated money market and corporate debt securities). Any rating downgrade will tantamount to either an early termination of the repo agreement or a call for fresh margin to meet the minimum haircut requirement. In addition, the Investment manager may apply a higher haircut on the underlying security than mentioned above to adjust for the illiquidity and interest rate risk on the underlying instrument. The adequacy of the collateral will be monitored on a daily basis by considering the daily market value & applying the prescribed haircut. In the event of shortfall in the collateral, the counterparty shall be asked to replenish the same. If the counterparty is not able to top-up either in form of cash / collateral, it shall tantamount to early termination of the repo agreement.

**Settlement Risk:** Corporate Bond Repo shall be settled between two counterparties in the OTC segment unlike in the case of Government securities repo transactions where CCIL stands as central counterparty on all transactions which neutralizes the settlement risk. However, the settlement risk pertaining to CDRs shall be mitigated through Delivery versus Payment (DvP) mechanism which is followed by all clearing members.

## **9. Risk factors associated with investing in Non- Convertible Preference Shares**

**Credit Risk** - Credit risk is the risk that an issuer will be unable to meet its obligation of payment of dividend and/ or redemption of principal amount on the due date. Further, for non-cumulative preference shares, issuer also has an option to not pay dividends on preference shares in case of inadequate profits in any year.

**Liquidity Risk** - The preference shares generally have limited secondary market liquidity and thus we may be forced to hold the instrument till maturity.

**Unsecured in nature** - Preference shares are unsecured in nature and rank lower than secured and unsecured debt in hierarchy of payments in case of liquidation. Thus there is significant risk of capital erosion in case the company goes into liquidation.

## **10. Risk associated with investment in Government securities and Triparty repo on Government securities or treasury bills:**

-The mutual fund is a member of securities segment and Triparty Repo trade settlement of the Clearing Corporation of India (CCIL). All transactions of the mutual fund in government securities and in Tri-party Repo trades are settled centrally through the infrastructure and settlement systems provided by CCIL; thus reducing the settlement and counterparty risks considerably for transactions in the said segments. The members are required to contribute an amount as communicated by CCIL from time to time to the default fund maintained by CCIL as a part of the default waterfall (a loss mitigating measure of CCIL in case of default by any member in settling transactions routed through CCIL).

-As per the waterfall mechanism, after the defaulter's margins and the defaulter's contribution to the default fund have been appropriated, CCIL's contribution is used to meet the losses. Post utilization of CCIL's contribution if there is a residual loss, it is appropriated from the default fund contributions of the non-defaulting members. Thus the scheme is subject to risk of the initial margin and default fund contribution being invoked in the event of failure of any settlement obligations. In addition, the fund contribution is allowed to be used to meet the residual loss in case of default by the other clearing member (the defaulting member).

-CCIL shall maintain two separate Default Funds in respect of its Securities Segment, one with a view to meet losses arising out of any default by its members from outright and repo trades and the other for meeting losses arising out of any default by its members from Triparty Repo trades. The mutual fund is exposed to the extent of its contribution to the default fund of CCIL, in the event that the contribution of the mutual fund is called upon to absorb settlement/default losses of another member by CCIL, as a result the scheme may lose an amount equivalent to its contribution to the default fund.

## **11. General Risk factors:**

Trading volumes, settlement periods and transfer procedures may restrict the liquidity of the investments made by the Scheme. Different segments of the Indian financial markets have different settlement periods and such periods may be extended significantly by unforeseen circumstances leading to delays in receipt of proceeds from sale of securities. The NAV of the Units of the Scheme can go up or down because of various factors that affect the capital markets in general.

As the liquidity of the investments made by the Scheme could, at times, be restricted by trading volumes and settlement periods, the time taken by the Mutual Fund for redemption of Units may be significant in the event of an inordinately large number of redemption requests or restructuring of the Scheme. In view of the above, the Trustee has the right, in its sole discretion, to limit redemptions (including suspending redemptions) under certain circumstances, as described under "Right to Limit Redemptions" in Section 'Restrictions, if any, on the right to freely retain or dispose of units being offered'. The Scheme may retain certain investments in cash or cash equivalents for its day-to-day liquidity requirements.

Investment strategy to be adopted by the Scheme may carry the risk of significant variance between the portfolio allocation of the Scheme and the Benchmark particularly over a short to medium term period.

Performance of the Scheme may be affected by political, social, and economic developments, which may include changes in government policies, diplomatic conditions, and taxation policies.

## **12. Related to Parag Parikh Arbitrage Fund**

The primary objective of the Fund Manager is to identify investment opportunities and to exploit price discrepancies in various markets. Identification and exploitation of the strategies to be pursued by the Fund Manager involve uncertainty. No assurance can be given that the Fund Manager will be able to locate investment opportunities or to correctly exploit price discrepancies in the capital markets. Reduction in mis-pricing opportunities between the cash market and Future and Options market may lead to lower level of activity affecting the returns. As the Scheme proposes to execute arbitrage transactions in various markets simultaneously, this may result in high portfolio turnover and, consequently, high transaction cost.

There may be instances, where the price spread between cash and derivative market is insufficient to meet the cost of carry. In such situations, the fund manager due to lack of opportunities in the derivative market may not be able to outperform liquid / money market funds.

Though the constituent stocks of most indices are typically liquid, liquidity differs across stock. Due to heterogeneity in liquidity in the capital market segment, trades on this segment do not get implemented instantly. This often makes arbitrage expensive, risky and difficult to implement.

## **13. Risk associated with Taxation of the Scheme**

Equity oriented mutual fund means a fund which has been set up under a scheme of a Mutual Fund specified under clause (23D) of Income Tax Act, 1961 where more than 65% of the investible funds are invested in equity shares of domestic companies. The percentage of equity shareholding of the fund shall be computed with reference to the annual average of the monthly averages of the opening and closing figures. In an event where the percentage of annual average of monthly averages of equity shares of domestic companies falls below 65% of the investible funds, then the scheme may be classified as a Non Equity Oriented Fund and it may have additional tax implication on investors.