

## Definition

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A broad description of various securities:

### Equity and Equity-Related Instruments:

1. Equity share is a security that represents an ownership interest in a company. It is issued to those who have contributed capital in setting up an enterprise.

2. Equity Related Instruments are securities that give the holder of the security right to receive equity shares on pre agreed terms. It includes convertible debentures, convertible preference shares, warrants carrying the right to obtain equity shares, equity derivatives units of REITs and such other instruments as may be specified by the Board from time to time.

3. Equity Derivatives are financial instruments, generally traded on an exchange, the price of which is directly dependent upon (i.e. "derived from") the value of equity shares or equity indices. Derivatives involve the trading of rights or obligations based on the underlying, but do not directly transfer property.

4. Derivatives:

Futures are exchange-traded contracts to sell or buy financial instruments for future delivery at an agreed price. There is an agreement to buy or sell a specified quantity of financial instruments on a designated future date at a price agreed upon by the buyer and seller at the time of entering into a contract. To make trading possible, the exchange specifies certain standardized features of the contract. A futures contract involves an obligation on both the parties to fulfill the terms of the contract.

a. Option is a contract which provides the buyer of the option (also called holder) the right, without the obligation, to buy or sell a specified asset at the agreed price on or upto a particular date. For acquiring this privilege, the buyer pays premium (fee) to the seller. The seller on the other hand has the obligation to buy or sell specified assets at the agreed price and for this obligation he receives premium. The premium is determined considering a number of factors such as the market price of the underlying asset/security, number of days to expiry, risk free rate of return, strike price of the option and the volatility of the underlying asset. Option contracts are of two types viz:

b. Call Option - The option that gives the buyer the right to buy a specified quantity of the underlying asset at the strike price is a call option. The buyer of the call option (known as the holder of call option) can call upon the seller of the option (writer of the option) and buy from him the underlying asset at the agreed price at any time on or before the expiry of the option.

The seller (writer of the option) on the other hand has the obligation to sell the underlying asset if the buyer of the call option decides to exercise his option to buy.

c. Put Option - The right to sell is called put option. A Put option gives the holder (buyer) the right to sell a specified quantity of the underlying asset at the strike price. The seller of the put option (one who is short Put) however, has the obligation to buy the underlying asset at the strike price if the buyer decides to exercise his option to sell.

5. "REIT" or "Real Estate Investment Trust" shall have the meaning assigned in clause (zm) of sub-regulation 1 of regulation 2 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Real Estate Investment Trusts) Regulations, 2014. REITs are companies that own and lease out commercial or residential real estate. The rental incomes from the properties are shared among REIT investors, who are allotted units. These units are tradeable on exchanges.

**Debt Instruments:**

1. Non-convertible debentures as well as bonds are securities issued by companies / institutions promoted / owned by the Central or State governments and statutory bodies, which may or may not carry a Central/State government guarantee, public and private sector banks, All India Financial Institutions, private sector companies. These instruments may be secured against the assets of the company or unsecured and generally issued to meet the short term and long term fund requirements. Rate of interest on such instruments would depend upon spread over corresponding government security, perceived risk, rating, tenor etc. These instruments include fixed interest security with/without put/call option, floating rate bonds, zero coupon bonds. Frequency of the interest payment could be either monthly/quarterly/half-yearly or annually.
2. Floating rate debt instruments are debt instruments issued by central government, state government, corporates, PSUs etc. with coupon reset periodically. The periodicity of reset could be daily, monthly, quarterly, half yearly and annually or any other periodicity as may be mutually agreed between the issuer and the Fund. The fund manager will have the flexibility to invest the debt component into floating rate debt securities in order to reduce the impact of rising interest rate in the economy.
3. Securities created and issued by the Central and State Governments as may be permitted by RBI, securities guaranteed by the Central and State Governments (including but not limited to coupon bearing bonds, zero coupon bonds and treasury bills). Special securities issued by the Government of India to entities like Oil Marketing Companies, Fertilizer Companies, the Food Corporation of India, etc. (popularly called oil bonds, fertilizer bonds and food bonds respectively) and special securities issued by the State Government under "Ujjwal Discom Assurance Yojna (UDAY) Strategy for Operational and Financial Turnaround of Power Distribution Companies (DISCOMs)" notified by Ministry of Power vide Office Memorandum (No 06/02/2015-NEF/FRP) dated November 20, 2015, (popularly called as UDAY Bonds). Central Government Securities are sovereign debt obligations of the Government of India with zero-risk of default and issued on its behalf by RBI. They form part of Government's annual borrowing programme and are used to fund the fiscal deficit along with other short term and long term requirements. Such securities could be fixed rate, fixed interest rate with put/call option, zero coupon bond, floating rate bonds, capital indexed bonds, fixed interest security with staggered maturity payment etc.
4. Debt Instruments with special features viz. subordination to equity (absorbs losses before equity capital) and /or convertible to equity upon trigger of a pre-specified event for loss absorption. Additional Tier I bonds and Tier 2 bonds issued under Basel III framework are some instrument which may have above referred special features.
5. Securitised Debt such as Mortgage Backed Securities ("MBS") or Asset Backed Securities ("ABS") is a financial instrument (bond) whose interest and principal payments are backed by an underlying cash flow from another asset. Asset Securitization is a process whereby

commercial or consumer credits are packaged and sold in the form of financial instruments. A typical process of asset securitization involves sale of specific receivables to a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) set up in the form of a trust or a company. The SPV in turn issues financial instruments (promissory notes, participation certificates or other debt instruments) also referred to as "Securitized Debt" to the investors evidencing the beneficial ownership of the investors in the receivables. The financial instruments are rated by an independent credit rating agency.

6. 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.
7. Pass Through Certificate (PTC) represents beneficial interest in an underlying pool of cash flows. These cash flows represent dues against single or multiple loans originated by the sellers of these loans. PTCs may be backed, but not exclusively, by receivables of personal loans, car loans, two wheeler loans and other assets subject to applicable regulations.

**"InvIT" or "Infrastructure Investment Trust"** shall have the meaning assigned in clause (za) of sub-regulation (1) of regulation 2 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Infrastructure Investment Trusts) Regulations, 2014. InvITs are similar to REITs, except these own infrastructure assets not real estate.

#### **Money Market Instruments:**

1. Certificate of Deposits (CDs) is a negotiable money market instrument issued by scheduled commercial banks and select all-India Financial Institutions that have been permitted by the RBI to raise short term resources. The maturity period of CDs issued by the Banks is between 7 days to one year whereas in case of FIs, maturity is between one year to 3 years from the date of issue. CDs may be issued at a discount to face value. Banks/ FIs cannot buyback their own CDs before maturity.
2. Commercial Paper (CPs) is an unsecured negotiable money market instrument issued in the form of a promissory note, generally issued by the corporates, primary dealers and all India Financial Institutions as an alternative source of short-term borrowings. They are issued at a discount to the face value as may be determined by the issuer. CP is traded in the secondary market and can be freely bought and sold before maturity.
3. Treasury Bills (T-Bills) are issued by the Government of India to meet their short-term borrowing requirements. T-Bills are issued for maturities of 91 days, 182 days and 364 days. T-bills are issued at a discount to their face value and redeemed at par.
4. Non-Convertible Debentures of original or initial maturity upto one year issued by corporate (including NBFCs) by way of private placement in accordance with the provisions of master circular of RBI vide reference no. RBI/MRD/2016-17/32 dated July 7, 2016.

5. Tri-party Repo means a repo contract where a third entity (apart from the borrower and lender), called a Tri-Party Agent, acts as an intermediary between the two parties to the repo to facilitate services like collateral selection, payment and settlement, custody and management during the life of the transaction.
6. Repo (Repurchase Agreement) or Reverse Repo is a transaction in which two parties agree to sell and purchase the same security with an agreement to purchase or sell the same security at a mutually decided future date and price. The transaction results in collateralized borrowing or lending of funds. When the seller sells the security with an agreement to repurchase it, it is a Repo transaction whereas from the perspective of buyer who buys the security with an agreement to sell it at a later date, it is reverse repo transaction. Presently in India, G-Secs, State Government Securities, T-Bills and Corporate Debt Securities are eligible for Repo/Reverse Repo.
7. Bills Rediscounting. Bill rediscounting is a process where a financial institution (generally banks) discounts the bills of exchange that it has discounted previously with another financial institution. In other words, the original discounting bank sells its discounted bills to another bank or financial institution at a discount. The new institution pays the original institution the present value of the bills minus a discount, and in return, it becomes the holder of the bills until maturity, when it receives the full payment from the debtor. Bill rediscounting is a way for financial institutions to manage their liquidity and meet short-term funding requirements.
8. Cash Management Bills (CMB) are issued by Government of India to meet the temporary cash flow mismatches of the Government. CMBs are non-standard, discounted instruments issued for maturities less than 91 days. CMBs are issued at discount to the face value through auctions. The settlement of the auction will be on T+1 basis.