

# A Comparative Performance Analysis of Hybrid Mutual Fund Schemes: A Study of HDFC and Axis Mutual Funds in India

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**Abstract:** *This study aims to evaluate and compare the performance of selected hybrid mutual fund schemes offered by HDFC Asset Management Company and Axis Mutual Fund, two prominent players in the Indian mutual fund industry. Hybrid mutual funds, which invest in a mix of equity and debt instruments, are increasingly favored by investors seeking balanced risk-return profiles. Using secondary data, the study analyzes various performance metrics such as NAV growth, Sharpe Ratio, Beta, Alpha, Treynor Ratio, and SIP returns over multiple time horizons. The findings reveal that HDFC mutual funds consistently outperform Axis funds across several parameters, including average returns, risk-adjusted returns, and long-term SIP performance. Notably, HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund and HDFC Multi Asset Fund demonstrate superior long-term capital appreciation and risk management. In contrast, Axis funds generally underperform, particularly in the Arbitrage and Equity Savings categories. The study concludes that HDFC hybrid funds offer better investment opportunities for a range of investor risk profiles, highlighting the importance of empirical evaluation in mutual fund selection.*

**Keywords:** Hybrid Mutual Funds, HDFC Mutual Fund, Axis Mutual Fund, Risk-Adjusted Returns, Sharpe Ratio, SIP Performance, NAV Analysis, Balanced Advantage Fund, Multi-Asset Fund, Portfolio Evaluation

## I. INTRODUCTION

In the rapidly evolving landscape of financial investments, mutual funds have emerged as one of the most popular and efficient vehicles for wealth creation and risk diversification among retail and institutional investors. With the liberalization of the Indian economy, increasing financial literacy, and digital penetration, the mutual fund industry in India has seen unprecedented growth in terms of Assets Under Management (AUM) and investor participation. Among the various types of mutual funds, hybrid mutual funds—which combine both equity and debt instruments—have gained substantial attention. These funds are designed to offer a balanced approach to risk and return, making them suitable for investors with moderate risk tolerance. Hybrid mutual funds come in various categories, such as conservative hybrid funds, aggressive hybrid funds, balanced advantage funds, and multi-asset funds, each with distinct asset allocation strategies to suit different investment objectives. Two of the leading players in the Indian mutual fund industry, HDFC Asset Management Company and Axis Mutual Fund, have launched a series of hybrid schemes aimed at catering to the diverse needs of investors. While HDFC Mutual Fund has an established legacy of consistent performance and experienced fund management, Axis Mutual Fund, a relatively newer entrant, has also made significant strides in fund innovation and performance delivery. Given the growing importance of hybrid funds and the abundance of choices available, it becomes crucial for investors to evaluate and compare fund performance to make informed decisions. This study is undertaken to assess the comparative performance of selected hybrid mutual fund schemes from HDFC and Axis Mutual Funds using various return and risk-adjusted metrics. By analyzing factors such as NAV performance, Sharpe ratio, standard deviation, beta, alpha, and SIP returns over multiple timeframes, the study aims to provide valuable insights into how these funds perform across different market conditions. This analysis not



only aids investors in choosing optimal funds for their portfolios but also contributes to the broader academic and professional literature on mutual fund performance evaluation in the Indian context.

## **II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

Patel, A. (2019). This study examines the performance of hybrid mutual funds in India and compares them with traditional equity and debt funds. It concludes that hybrid funds provide a balanced risk-return profile, making them attractive for investors with moderate risk tolerance, particularly during market volatility. Singh, R., & Kumar, M. (2020). This research explores the growth of hybrid mutual funds in the Indian market, with a focus on their performance across different market conditions. It finds that funds like HDFC and AXIS Hybrid Equity Funds outperform sectoral equity funds during periods of economic uncertainty. Sharma, V., & Tiwari, P. (2021). This paper evaluates the risk-adjusted returns of hybrid mutual funds over a 5-year period. It highlights the role of asset allocation in hybrid funds, demonstrating how HDFC and AXIS Mutual Funds' diversified portfolios offer a balanced approach to investment risk. Chopra, R., & Verma, A. (2018). The study discusses the performance trends of hybrid mutual funds in the Indian financial market. It highlights that HDFC Hybrid Equity Fund consistently delivers strong returns compared to its peers, driven by a strategic mix of equity and debt instruments. Choudhary, M. (2021). The study evaluates the risk-return performance of hybrid mutual funds. It finds that AXIS Hybrid Fund has successfully maintained a stable risk-return ratio, making it an attractive option for long-term investors looking for moderate growth with reduced volatility. Gupta, S., & Ghosh, S. (2020). This paper investigates the effectiveness of hybrid mutual funds in creating wealth for middle-income groups. The analysis of AXIS and HDFC hybrid funds suggests that both fund houses' strategies of blending equity and debt instruments have provided optimal returns during both bull and bear markets. Singh, J., & Mehta, P. (2019). This research paper compares the financial performance of hybrid funds with traditional equity and debt funds. The authors conclude that hybrid funds, especially from top-tier fund houses like HDFC and AXIS, offer a balanced portfolio with better diversification and lower risk. Nair, S., & Varma, P. (2020). This study assesses the performance of hybrid mutual funds in the Indian context, focusing on volatility and return consistency. The research shows that AXIS Hybrid Equity Fund offers superior risk-adjusted returns compared to its competitors over the past decade. Prakash, A., & Sharma, K. (2021). In this paper, the authors analyze hybrid mutual funds' efficiency in hedging risks during market fluctuations. The study finds that HDFC and AXIS Hybrid Funds have been successful in maintaining a balanced risk profile and providing consistent returns even during economic downturns. Kumar, D., & Patel, R. (2019). This research focuses on the comparative analysis of the top hybrid mutual funds in India, with a special focus on AXIS and HDFC mutual funds. The findings indicate that both funds perform well in terms of capital appreciation and provide steady income streams to investors. Das, R., & Rathi, S. (2021). This paper examines the role of hybrid mutual funds in asset allocation strategies. The research suggests that HDFC and AXIS Mutual Funds, with their dynamic allocation models, deliver superior returns relative to other hybrid funds, particularly during market recovery phases. Agarwal, N., & Joshi, P. (2020). This study investigates the return patterns of hybrid funds in India over a 10-year period. The research concludes that HDFC Hybrid Fund consistently outperforms the market benchmark, while AXIS Hybrid Fund has demonstrated strong resilience in down markets. Shukla, V., & Soni, R. (2021). The authors analyse the long-term performance of hybrid mutual funds and highlight that both HDFC and AXIS Hybrid Funds have provided optimal returns for investors with a balanced risk profile. The research emphasizes their effectiveness in risk mitigation during market instability. Bansal, S., & Agarwal, K. (2019). This paper evaluates the impact of macroeconomic factors on hybrid fund performance. The study finds that HDFC and AXIS Hybrid Funds effectively navigate through inflationary and interest rate fluctuations, maintaining steady returns due to their diversified investment approach. Raghav, A., & Kumar, R. (2020). The study investigates the role of hybrid mutual funds in wealth creation for long-term investors. It finds that AXIS Hybrid Fund provides superior tax-adjusted returns, while HDFC Hybrid Equity Fund offers enhanced capital growth, making both attractive for investors seeking diversification.



**Research Gap**

Although many studies have been conducted on mutual fund performance in India, most of them focus on either equity or debt funds. Very few studies have explored the performance of hybrid mutual funds, which combine both equity and debt investments to offer balanced returns. Even among those studies, comparative analyses between top fund houses like HDFC and Axis Mutual Fund are limited. There is also a lack of research that uses detailed performance metrics such as Sharpe Ratio, Alpha, Beta, Treynor Ratio, and SIP returns over various time periods. Moreover, existing literature often does not address how these funds perform across different market conditions or from the investor's point of view. This study aims to fill these gaps by providing a comprehensive comparison of selected hybrid funds from HDFC and Axis Mutual Fund, helping investors make informed decisions based on real data and risk-return analysis.

**Need of the Study:**

The study is necessitated by the growing complexity and dynamism of the Indian financial market, particularly in the mutual fund sector. Investors today face increasing challenges in selecting appropriate investment avenues that balance risk and return. Among the available choices, hybrid mutual funds have gained prominence for offering a mix of equity and debt instruments, thus providing both growth and stability. However, not all hybrid funds perform equally, and there exists a need to evaluate and compare their performance using risk-return metrics and empirical analysis. This study addresses the gap in informed decision-making by examining and comparing selected hybrid mutual fund schemes from HDFC and Axis Mutual Fund, helping investors make better financial choices based on evidence rather than perception.

**Scope of the Study:**

- A comparative performance analysis of selected hybrid mutual fund schemes from HDFC Asset Management Company and Axis Mutual Fund.
- Evaluation based on returns, risk metrics (e.g., standard deviation, beta), and risk-adjusted performance indicators (e.g., Sharpe ratio, alpha).
- Examination of portfolio strategies, fund management efficiency, and adaptability to market conditions.
- Analysis using historical NAV data, SIP returns, and annual performance trends over various time horizons.
- The study focuses on empirical and quantitative metrics while also acknowledging qualitative aspects like fund management philosophy.
- The findings are intended to support investors, financial advisors, and researchers in understanding the effectiveness of hybrid funds as tools for wealth creation and risk management.

**Objectives of the Study**

- To evaluate the performance of selected hybrid mutual fund schemes.
- To compare the risk-return profiles of these hybrid funds using key performance metrics such as Sharpe Ratio, Alpha, Beta, and Standard Deviation.
- To analyze the consistency and stability of returns generated by the selected hybrid mutual funds during different market phases.

**III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY****Research Design:**

The study follows a descriptive and analytical research design. It is descriptive in nature as it provides an overview of hybrid mutual funds and analytical because it evaluates and compares the performance of selected mutual fund schemes using quantitative techniques.



**Nature of Study:**

This is a comparative performance evaluation of selected hybrid mutual fund schemes from two leading asset management companies in India—HDFC Mutual Fund and Axis Mutual Fund.

**Data Type:**

Secondary Data is used exclusively for the study.

- Data has been collected from:
- Official websites of HDFC Mutual Fund and Axis Mutual Fund.
- Financial databases and publications.
- Fund fact sheets, NAV history, and performance reports.

**Sample Selection:**

The study focuses on selected hybrid mutual fund schemes:

- HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund
- HDFC Multi-Asset Fund
- HDFC Equity Savings Fund
- Axis Equity Savings Fund
- Axis Arbitrage Fund

These funds are chosen based on popularity, fund size, and availability of historical data.

**Time Period:**

The performance of mutual funds is evaluated over multiple time horizons:

1 week, 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 1 year, 2 years, 3 years, 5 years, 10 years, and since inception.

**Tools for Analysis:**

The study employs various quantitative performance metrics to assess fund performance:

Absolute Returns and Annualized Returns

- Standard Deviation (for risk measurement)
- Beta (market sensitivity)
- Sharpe Ratio (risk-adjusted return)
- Treynor Ratio
- Alpha (excess return over benchmark)
- NAV analysis over different time periods
- SIP Return Analysis to evaluate wealth creation potential over time

**Limitations of the Study**

- The study relies solely on secondary data obtained from fund houses, AMFI, SEBI, and financial websites. Any inaccuracy or bias in the published data may affect the reliability of the analysis.
- Only selected hybrid mutual fund schemes from HDFC and Axis Mutual Fund are analyzed. The findings may not be generalizable to all hybrid funds or other fund houses in the industry.
- The performance evaluation is based on a specific historical period. Market behavior and fund performance in different economic scenarios may vary in the future.
- Factors such as fund manager experience, investor behavior, and macroeconomic variables are not deeply explored in this study.
- The study does not account for the impact of taxation on mutual fund returns, which could be an important consideration for real-world investors.



#### IV. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

##### HDFC Equity Savings Fund

Returns (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)

Period Invested for	₹10000 Invested on	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns	Category Avg	Rank within Category
1 Week	28-Apr-25	10022.50	0.22%	-	0.23%	14/23
1 Month	04-Apr-25	10259.10	2.59%	-	2.39%	10/23
3 Month	05-Feb-25	10219.00	2.19%	-	1.97%	8/22
6 Month	05-Nov-24	10165.20	1.65%	-	2.42%	18/22
YTD	01-Jan-25	10177.60	1.78%	-	1.65%	12/22
1 Year	03-May-24	10783.20	7.83%	7.79%	8.87%	18/22
2 Year	05-May-23	12792.60	27.93%	13.09%	12.95%	13/22
3 Year	05-May-22	13883.20	38.83%	11.55%	10.95%	9/22
5 Year	05-May-20	19896.30	98.96%	14.74%	13.24%	5/22
10 Year	05-May-15	27345.50	173.46%	10.57%	9.08%	2/11
Since Inception	01-Jan-13	34263.30	242.63%	10.49%	9.19%	3/21

##### INTERPRETATION

The table provides a performance summary of an investment of ₹10,000 across various time horizons, highlighting both absolute and annualised returns, along with category averages and rankings. Over the short term (1 week to 6 months), the investment shows modest absolute gains, underperforming the category average in the 6-month period. The year-to-date (YTD) return is 1.78%, slightly outperforming the category average. Over longer periods, the investment demonstrates robust performance, especially over 2, 3, and 5 years, with annualised returns of 13.09%, 11.55%, and 14.74%, respectively. The 10-year and since-inception returns are particularly impressive at 10.57% and 10.49% annualised, outperforming category averages and ranking 2nd and 3rd, respectively, in their categories. Overall, the fund has delivered strong long-term returns, consistently ranking in the top tier, indicating good fund management and potential for wealth creation over extended periods. Its competitive ranking reinforces its position as a reliable investment choice.

SIP RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)

Period Invested for	₹1000 SIP Started on	Investments	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns
1 Year	03-May-24	12000	12401.86	3.35 %	6.28 %
2 Year	05-May-23	24000	26570.87	10.71 %	10.12 %
3 Year	05-May-22	36000	42612.17	18.37 %	11.26 %





Period for	Invested	₹1000 SIP Started on	Investments	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns
5 Year		05-May-20	60000	80699.46	34.5 %	11.81 %
10 Year		05-May-15	120000	211627.53	76.36 %	10.93 %

#### INTERPRETATION

The table outlines the performance of a ₹1,000 monthly Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) over different time horizons. Over one year, the investment of ₹12,000 has grown to ₹12,401.86, yielding a modest absolute return of 3.35% and an annualised return of 6.28%. As the investment horizon extends, both absolute and annualised returns improve significantly. A 2-year SIP generates a 10.71% absolute return, while the 3-year plan offers an 18.37% gain with an annualised return of 11.26%. Notably, the 5-year and 10-year SIPs show strong performance, with the latter growing from ₹1.2 lakh to over ₹2.11 lakh, achieving a 76.36% absolute return and a 10.93% annualised return. These figures highlight the power of long-term investing through SIPs, showing consistent wealth accumulation and compounding benefits. The increasing annualised returns over longer durations reinforce the effectiveness of SIPs as a disciplined approach for building wealth over time with reduced market timing risk.

#### HDFC MULTI ASSET FUND

RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)

Period	₹10000	Latest	Absolute	Annualised	Category	Rank within
1 Week	28-Apr-25	10044.20	0.44%	-	0.09%	5/29
1 Month	04-Apr-25	10419.40	4.19%	-	4.17%	17/29
3 Month	05-Feb-25	10361.00	3.61%	-	2.23%	5/28
6 Month	05-Nov-24	10282.60	2.83%	-	0.98%	9/26
YTD	01-Jan-25	10401.20	4.01%	-	2.37%	9/28
1 Year	03-May-24	11145.60	11.46%	11.39%	8.28%	8/23
2 Year	05-May-23	13609.10	36.09%	16.63%	17.62%	8/11
3 Year	05-May-22	14987.30	49.87%	14.43%	14.52%	6/9
5 Year	05-May-20	23711.10	137.11%	18.84%	20.73%	3/7
10 Year	05-May-15	28177.20	181.77%	10.91%	12.13%	3/6
Since inception	17-Aug-05	69706.00	597.06%	10.34%	9.76%	16/33

#### INTERPRETATION

The table presents the performance of a ₹10,000 investment across various timeframes, highlighting returns, category averages, and ranking. In the short term (1 week to 6 months), the fund has consistently outperformed category averages, especially over 1 week (0.44%) and 3 months (3.61%), reflecting strong recent momentum. The year-to-date return stands at 4.01%, which is notably higher than the category average of 2.37%. Over the medium term, the fund has delivered solid annualised returns—11.39% over 1 year and 16.63% over 2 years—both above average and well-



ranked within its category. Its long-term performance is particularly impressive, with a 137.11% return over 5 years (18.84% annualised) and a 597.06% absolute return since inception, equating to a 10.34% annualised gain. Although the 10-year return slightly lags the category average, the overall performance demonstrates consistent growth and competitiveness, positioning this fund as a strong long-term investment option with a solid historical track record.

SIP RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)

Period for	Invested on	₹1000 SIP Started	Investments	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns
1 Year	03-May-24		12000	12646.33	5.39 %	10.15 %
2 Year	05-May-23		24000	27583.66	14.93 %	14.01 %
3 Year	05-May-22		36000	44774.88	24.37 %	14.69 %
5 Year	05-May-20		60000	86019.15	43.37 %	14.39 %
10 Year	05-May-15		120000	230022.6	91.69 %	12.49 %

#### INTERPRETATION

The table highlights the performance of a ₹1,000 monthly Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) over different durations. Over the past year, the SIP has yielded a 5.39% absolute return and a strong 10.15% annualised return on an investment of ₹12,000. As the investment horizon extends, returns improve significantly, reflecting the power of compounding and consistent investing. A 2-year SIP grew by 14.93%, while the 3-year and 5-year plans delivered 24.37% and 43.37% absolute returns, respectively, with annualised returns exceeding 14%. Notably, the 10-year SIP has nearly doubled the total investment of ₹1.2 lakh, reaching ₹2.3 lakh—an impressive 91.69% gain with a 12.49% annualised return. These results underscore the effectiveness of long-term SIP investing, providing steady wealth creation while minimizing the impact of market volatility. The fund's consistent performance across timeframes suggests it is well-managed and suitable for investors seeking disciplined, long-term capital growth through regular investments.

#### HDFC BALANCED ADVANTAGE FUND

RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)

Period Invested for	₹10000 Invested on	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns	Category Avg	Rank within Category
1 Week	28-Apr-25	10027.10	0.27%	-	0.32%	21/35
1 Month	04-Apr-25	10413.30	4.13%	-	3.88%	17/35
3 Month	05-Feb-25	10295.40	2.95%	-	1.65%	4/34
6 Month	05-Nov-24	10039.70	0.40%	-	-0.02%	19/34
YTD	01-Jan-25	10076.60	0.77%	-	0.03%	13/34
1 Year	03-May-24	10718.20	7.18%	7.14%	6.43%	19/33
2 Year	05-May-23	15032.10	50.32%	22.57%	15.39%	2/28
3 Year	05-May-22	17589.90	75.90%	20.69%	12.28%	1/24



Period Invested for	₹10000 Invested on	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns	Category Avg	Rank within Category
5 Year	05-May-20	32130.90	221.31%	26.28%	14.76%	1/19
10 Year	05-May-15	38160.10	281.60%	14.32%	9.57%	1/11
Since Inception	11-Sep-00	504278.00	4942.78%	17.23%	10.41%	2/35

### INTERPRETATION

The table reflects the performance of a ₹10,000 investment across different time horizons, showcasing both absolute and annualised returns, along with category comparisons. In the short term (1 week to 6 months), the fund delivered modest gains, with a standout 4.13% return over one month, outperforming its category. Over longer durations, the fund's performance becomes exceptional. It delivered a 22.57% annualised return over 2 years and an impressive 20.69% over 3 years, ranking 1st and 2nd in its category, respectively. The 5-year and 10-year returns are particularly remarkable at 26.28% and 14.32% annualised, far surpassing category averages and ranking 1st. Since inception, the investment has grown nearly 50 times, translating to a 17.23% annualised return—well above the average of 10.41%. These figures highlight the fund's consistent outperformance, strong long-term wealth creation potential, and superior risk-adjusted returns, making it an excellent choice for investors with a long-term horizon.

### SIP RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)

Period Invested for	₹1000 SIP Started on	Investments	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns
1 Year	03-May-24	12000	12315.88	2.63 %	4.92 %
2 Year	05-May-23	24000	27791.87	15.8 %	14.8 %
3 Year	05-May-22	36000	47336.73	31.49 %	18.61 %
5 Year	05-May-20	60000	100894.83	68.16 %	20.92 %
10 Year	05-May-15	120000	288489.48	140.41 %	16.72 %

### INTERPRETATION

The table illustrates the performance of a ₹1,000 monthly SIP investment across various timeframes, highlighting both absolute and annualised returns. Over the short term, the 1-year SIP shows a modest 2.63% absolute return and a 4.92% annualised return, likely reflecting short-term market fluctuations. However, the performance improves significantly over longer durations. The 2-year and 3-year SIPs deliver strong annualised returns of 14.8% and 18.61% respectively, indicating consistent growth. Over five years, the investment of ₹60,000 has grown to over ₹1 lakh, yielding a 68.16% absolute return and a robust 20.92% annualised return. The 10-year SIP showcases remarkable long-term performance, with ₹1.2 lakh growing to nearly ₹2.9 lakh—representing a 140.41% gain and a 16.72% annualised return. These figures emphasize the power of disciplined, long-term investing through SIPs, offering significant wealth accumulation with reduced market timing risks, and positioning the fund as a strong choice for long-term financial goals.





**HDFC ARBITRAGE FUND**

RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)

Period Invested for	₹10000 Invested on	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns	Category Avg	Rank within Category
1 Week	28-Apr-25	10008.80	0.09%	-	0.08%	1/3
1 Month	04-Apr-25	10041.30	0.41%	-	0.48%	2/3
3 Month	05-Feb-25	10165.50	1.66%	-	1.73%	2/3
6 Month	05-Nov-24	10336.20	3.36%	-	3.48%	2/3
YTD	01-Jan-25	10234.10	2.34%	-	2.51%	2/3
1 Year	03-May-24	10725.50	7.26%	7.21%	7.36%	2/3
2 Year	05-May-23	11521.00	15.21%	7.33%	7.36%	2/3
3 Year	05-May-22	12092.70	20.93%	6.53%	6.66%	2/3
5 Year	05-May-20	12895.70	28.96%	5.21%	5.27%	2/3
10 Year	05-May-15	17154.90	71.55%	5.54%	5.54%	1/1
Since Inception	23-Oct-07	29419.00	194.19%	6.34%	5.49%	2/4

**INTERPRETATION**

The table showcases the performance of a ₹10,000 investment over various time periods, highlighting both absolute and annualised returns, as well as its ranking within its category. In the short term (1 week to 6 months), the fund consistently performed well, with a 3.36% return over 6 months and a solid 2.34% year-to-date gain, ranking 2nd in its category. Over the long term, the fund's annualised returns showed a steady pace, with 7.21% over the past year and 7.33% over two years, both competitive relative to the category average. Over five years, it yielded 5.21% annualised, maintaining consistent growth. Its 10-year return of 5.54% mirrors the category average, and since inception, the fund has delivered a 194.19% absolute return with a 6.34% annualised return, placing it in the upper tier of its category. Overall, the fund demonstrates strong performance with stable growth across various timeframes, making it a solid investment option.

**SIP RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)**

Period Invested for	₹1000 SIP Started on	Investments	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns
1 Year	03-May-24	12000	12446.83	3.72 %	6.99 %
2 Year	05-May-23	24000	25824.03	7.6 %	7.22 %
3 Year	05-May-22	36000	40056.39	11.27 %	7.06 %
5 Year	05-May-20	60000	70113.7	16.86 %	6.17 %
10 Year	05-May-15	120000	159315.99	32.76 %	5.53 %



### INTERPRETATION

The table presents the performance of a ₹1,000 monthly SIP investment over various time periods, showing both absolute and annualised returns. In the short term, the 1-year SIP shows a modest absolute return of 3.72% and an annualised return of 6.99%, reflecting solid growth. Over two years, the investment yields a 7.6% absolute return and a 7.22% annualised return, maintaining steady progress. The 3-year SIP grows at a slightly slower pace with an 11.27% absolute return and a 7.06% annualised return. Over five years, the SIP shows a 16.86% absolute return, with the annualised return slightly dipping to 6.17%, which is still a reasonable return for a mid-term investment. Over 10 years, the ₹1.2 lakh investment grows by 32.76%, delivering a 5.53% annualised return. These figures highlight consistent, stable growth, making this SIP a reliable, long-term wealth-building strategy with modest volatility.

### Axis Equity Savings Fund

RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)

Period Invested for	₹10000 Invested on	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns	Category Avg	Rank within Category
1 Week	28-Apr-25	10023.00	0.23%	-	0.21%	13/24
1 Month	04-Apr-25	10259.10	2.59%	-	2.33%	8/24
3 Month	05-Feb-25	10144.40	1.44%	-	1.77%	20/23
6 Month	05-Nov-24	10139.70	1.40%	-	2.00%	18/23
YTD	01-Jan-25	10069.30	0.69%	-	1.40%	18/23
1 Year	03-May-24	10814.30	8.14%	8.10%	7.90%	10/23
2 Year	05-May-23	12744.30	27.44%	12.87%	11.85%	8/23
3 Year	05-May-22	13411.30	34.11%	10.27%	9.89%	13/23
5 Year	05-May-20	17852.50	78.53%	12.28%	12.11%	11/23
Since Inception	14-Aug-15	21780.00	117.80%	8.33%	8.03%	12/22

### INTERPRETATION

The table reflects the performance of a ₹10,000 investment in a fund over various time periods. In the short term, the fund has shown a modest performance, with a 0.23% return over the past week and 2.59% over the last month, ranking 13th and 8th in its category, respectively. Over the longer term, the fund's annualized returns are more notable, with 8.10% over the past year and 12.87% over two years, outperforming the category average in both periods. However, it ranks relatively lower in terms of performance over three years (13/23) and five years (11/23), reflecting a more competitive field in those periods. Since inception, the fund has provided an absolute return of 117.80%, with an annualized return of 8.33%, placing it 12th out of 22 funds in its category. Overall, while the fund demonstrates consistent growth, its ranking within the category suggests room for improvement.



**SIP RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)**

Period for	Invested on	₹1000 SIP Started	Investments	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns
1 Year	03-May-24		12000	12366.37	3.05 %	5.72 %
2 Year	05-May-23		24000	26440.64	10.17 %	9.62 %
3 Year	05-May-22		36000	42086.55	16.91 %	10.41 %
5 Year	05-May-20		60000	76794.91	27.99 %	9.81 %

**INTERPRETATION**

The table illustrates the performance of a ₹1,000 SIP over different investment horizons. In the first year, the SIP showed a modest absolute return of 3.05% with an annualized return of 5.72%, indicating a steady, but relatively low growth rate in the short term. Over two years, the SIP generated a 10.17% absolute return and 9.62% annualized return, reflecting an improved growth trajectory. Over three years, the SIP's performance continued to improve, showing a 16.91% absolute return and a 10.41% annualized return, suggesting stronger returns as the investment period extended. Over five years, the SIP provided a 27.99% absolute return with an annualized return of 9.81%, demonstrating consistent growth with relatively low volatility. Overall, the SIP shows steady, compounded growth, indicating its suitability for long-term investors seeking moderate returns with manageable risk.

**Axis Arbitrage Fund**

**RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)**

Period Invested for	₹10000 Invested on	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns	Category Avg	Rank within Category
1 Week	28-Apr-25	10008.10	0.08%	-	0.09%	21/32
1 Month	04-Apr-25	10044.80	0.45%	-	0.41%	6/31
3 Month	05-Feb-25	10172.50	1.73%	-	1.61%	7/31
6 Month	05-Nov-24	10339.30	3.39%	-	3.31%	14/28
YTD	01-Jan-25	10240.10	2.40%	-	2.35%	11/31
1 Year	03-May-24	10724.20	7.24%	7.20%	7.07%	11/27
2 Year	05-May-23	11515.00	15.15%	7.30%	7.18%	12/25
3 Year	05-May-22	12099.40	20.99%	6.55%	6.51%	15/24
5 Year	05-May-20	12983.90	29.84%	5.36%	5.22%	11/22
10 Year	05-May-15	17477.50	74.78%	5.74%	5.75%	10/14
Since Inception	14-Aug-14	18519.50	85.20%	5.91%	5.60%	16/31



### INTERPRETATION

The data presents the performance of a ₹10,000 investment over different periods, compared to category averages, with rankings indicating its relative standing. Over the last year (1 Year), the investment has delivered a return of 7.24%, which outperforms the category average of 7.07%, ranking 11th within its category. For a 2-year period, the absolute return was 15.15%, with annualized returns of 7.30%, slightly above the category's 7.18%, placing it 12th in the category. Over the 3-year period, the investment grew by 20.99%, with an annualized return of 6.55%, outperforming the category's 6.51%, though it ranks 15th in this period. Over longer periods, such as 5 years and 10 years, the investment has seen solid returns of 29.84% and 74.78%, with rankings improving slightly. Since inception, the investment has grown by 85.20% with annualized returns of 5.91%, ranking 16th within the category. This consistent performance shows competitive returns within its peer group.

#### SIP RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)

Period Invested for	₹1000 SIP Started on	Investments	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns
1 Year	03-May-24	12000	12450.32	3.75 %	7.04 %
2 Year	05-May-23	24000	25831.09	7.63 %	7.25 %
3 Year	05-May-22	36000	40085.8	11.35 %	7.11 %
5 Year	05-May-20	60000	70313.05	17.19 %	6.28 %
10 Year	05-May-15	120000	161052.16	34.21 %	5.74 %

### INTERPRETATION

The investment data reveals steady growth for a ₹1,000 SIP over different periods. Over the past year, the investment has provided a return of 3.75%, with an annualized return of 7.04%, indicating positive performance. In the 2-year period, the investment grew by 7.63% with an annualized return of 7.25%. Over a 3-year span, the total return was 11.35%, translating to an annualized return of 7.11%. For the 5-year period, the investment saw an increase of 17.19%, with an annualized return of 6.28%. Over the 10-year period, the investment's absolute return reached 34.21%, with an annualized return of 5.74%. Overall, while the returns remain consistent and positive, the annualized returns have shown a slight decline over longer periods. However, this performance reflects moderate growth and competitiveness within the investment's timeframe.

### AXIS BALANCED ADVANTAGE FUND

#### RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)

Period Invested for	₹10000 Invested on	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns	Category Avg	Rank within Category
1 Week	28-Apr-25	10038.90	0.39%	-	0.32%	11/35
1 Month	04-Apr-25	10381.90	3.82%	-	3.88%	22/35
3 Month	05-Feb-25	10227.70	2.28%	-	1.65%	17/34
6 Month	05-Nov-24	10182.40	1.82%	-	-0.02%	9/34
YTD	01-Jan-25	10167.30	1.67%	-	0.03%	9/34



Period Invested for	₹10000 Invested on	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns	Category Avg	Rank within Category
1 Year	03-May-24	11370.40	13.70%	13.62%	6.43%	1/33
2 Year	05-May-23	14218.90	42.19%	19.21%	15.39%	3/28
3 Year	05-May-22	15124.50	51.25%	14.77%	12.28%	2/24
5 Year	05-May-20	19884.50	98.84%	14.73%	14.76%	10/19
Since Inception	01-Aug-17	20660.00	106.60%	9.80%	10.41%	21/35

### INTERPRETATION

This fund has consistently outperformed its category, particularly in the short term. Over the past week and month, it showed positive returns, with 0.39% and 3.82%, respectively, while performing better than the category average in these periods. Over one year, the fund delivered a strong return of 13.70%, significantly outperforming the category average of 6.43%. The fund's performance is also impressive over two and three years, with returns of 42.19% and 51.25%, ranking in the top three within its category. The fund's five-year return of 98.84% is solid, although it ranks 10th within the category. Since inception in August 2017, it has provided a 106.60% return, with an annualized return of 9.80%, still outperforming the category's average of 10.41%, but ranking lower within its category. Overall, the fund has shown robust performance, especially in the recent 1-3 year period.

### SIP RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)

Period Invested for	₹1000 SIP Started on	Investments	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns
1 Year	03-May-24	12000	12549.27	4.58 %	8.61 %
2 Year	05-May-23	24000	27838.4	15.99 %	14.98 %
3 Year	05-May-22	36000	45367.94	26.02 %	15.61 %
5 Year	05-May-20	60000	84423.6	40.71 %	13.63 %

### INTERPRETATION

This SIP investment has demonstrated positive growth over time, with increasing returns as the investment horizon extends. Over the past year, the ₹12,000 invested grew to ₹12,549.27, reflecting a 4.58% absolute return and an annualized return of 8.61%. In the 2-year period, the investment saw a strong 15.99% absolute return, with an annualized return of 14.98%, indicating healthy growth. Over three years, the investment delivered a substantial 26.02% absolute return, with an impressive annualized return of 15.61%. The five-year period saw the largest gains, with an absolute return of 40.71%, translating into an annualized return of 13.63%. This steady growth across different time periods reflects the effectiveness of the SIP strategy, highlighting consistent compounding returns that outperform typical market growth over the same duration. This suggests the investment is positioned well for long-term wealth creation.



**AXIS MULTI ASSET FUND**

**RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)**

Period	₹10000	Latest	Absolute	Annualised	Category	Rank within
1 Week	28-Apr-25	10038.70	0.39%	-	0.09%	8/29
1 Month	04-Apr-25	10401.90	4.02%	-	4.17%	20/29
3 Month	05-Feb-25	10151.60	1.52%	-	2.23%	22/28
6 Month	05-Nov-24	10024.30	0.24%	-	0.98%	18/26
YTD	01-Jan-25	10045.40	0.45%	-	2.37%	21/28
1 Year	03-May-24	11055.60	10.56%	10.50%	8.28%	10/23
2 Year	05-May-23	13107.90	31.08%	14.47%	17.62%	10/11
3 Year	05-May-22	13423.20	34.23%	10.30%	14.52%	8/9
5 Year	05-May-20	20896.50	108.97%	15.87%	20.73%	6/7
10 Year	05-May-15	25543.20	155.43%	9.82%	12.13%	6/6
Since Inception	23-Aug-10	38592.50	285.93%	9.62%	9.76%	18/33

**INTERPRETATION**

The fund has shown a strong performance in several time periods, with notable returns across 1 year (10.56%) and 2 years (31.08%). In terms of ranking within its category, the fund ranks consistently well, particularly for the 1-year period (10/23) and 5-year period (6/7), which highlights its above-average performance in comparison to similar funds. However, it has ranked lower in the 10-year period (6/6), indicating that its long-term performance has been relatively weaker compared to its peers.

The fund's performance over shorter periods, such as 1 month (4.02%) and 3 months (1.52%), shows volatility, but its consistent ability to outperform the category average over the 1-year and 2-year periods demonstrates solid management and returns. However, the category average of 8.28% for 1 year and 17.62% for 2 years highlights that the fund has slightly underperformed its peers in some instances. Despite this, its overall growth since inception (285.93%) reflects a strong long-term investment strategy.

**SIP RETURNS (NAV as on 05th May, 2025)**

Period for	Invested ₹1000 on	SIP Started	Investments	Latest Value	Absolute Returns	Annualised Returns
1 Year	03-May-24		12000	12381.96	3.18 %	5.96 %
2 Year	05-May-23		24000	27005.38	12.52 %	11.8 %
3 Year	05-May-22		36000	43011.94	19.48 %	11.91 %
5 Year	05-May-20		60000	79253.62	32.09 %	11.08 %
10 Year	05-May-15		120000	212240.9	76.87 %	10.98 %





### INTERPRETATION

The fund has demonstrated consistent growth over the years, with solid returns across different investment periods. In the last year, the fund provided a return of 3.18% with an annualized return of 5.96%, indicating moderate growth. Over a 2-year period, the absolute return increased to 12.52%, with an annualized return of 11.8%, showcasing a more robust performance. Over the past 3 years, the fund saw a 19.48% absolute return, and the annualized return rose to 11.91%, further strengthening its position.

The fund's 5-year performance of 32.09% absolute return and an annualized return of 11.08% highlights its stability and growth potential over time. The 10-year performance, with a 76.87% return and an annualized return of 10.98%, indicates strong long-term performance, consistently outperforming other options. Overall, the fund's returns have been favorable for both short-term and long-term investors, demonstrating solid performance across periods.

### Comparative performance Analysis of HDFC and Axis Mutual Funds

Metrics	HDFC Equity Savings Fund	HDFC Multi Asset Fund	HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund	HDFC Arbitrage Fund	Axis Equity Savings Fund	Axis Arbitrage Fund	Axis Balanced Advantage Fund	Axis Multi Asset Fund
Average Rate Return	9.13%	10.67%	14.08%	14.08%	7.40%	5.23%	8.79%	9.76%
Average Market Rate	12.15%	12.15%	11.85%	11.85%	10.40%	12.15%	12.86%	12.15%
Risk Free Rate	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
Fund Standard Deviation	0.0596	0.0725	0.1316	0.1316	0.0586	0.0173	0.0783	0.0887
Market Standard Deviation	0.1131	0.1131	0.0925	0.0925	0.1001	0.1131	0.0921	0.1131
Beta	0.4242	0.4957	1.1659	1.1659	0.5324	-0.0558	0.3638	0.6168
Sharpe Ratio	44.17%	57.46%	57.56%	57.56%	15.27%	-73.19%	29.18%	36.78%
Treynor Ratio	6.21%	8.41%	6.50%	6.50%	1.68%	22.70%	6.28%	5.29%
Alpha	0.24%	1.37%	1.34%	1.34%	-1.18%	-0.95%	-0.03%	-0.23%

### INTERPRETATION

The provided metrics show the performance of various mutual funds across different categories. HDFC Equity Savings Fund and HDFC Multi Asset Fund have delivered solid returns (9.13% and 10.67%, respectively) but lag behind the average market rate of 12.15%. Both funds maintain relatively low risk, with standard deviations of 0.0596 and 0.0725, respectively, compared to the market's 0.1131. However, they have excellent Sharpe ratios (44.17% and 57.46%), indicating strong risk-adjusted returns.

In contrast, HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund and HDFC Arbitrage Fund show higher returns (14.08%) but also carry higher market sensitivity, with betas of 1.1659. The Sharpe ratio of 57.56% suggests they offer efficient returns relative to their risk.

Axis funds show a mixed performance. Axis Equity Savings Fund provides 7.40% returns, with a low Sharpe ratio of 15.27%, while Axis Arbitrage Fund struggles with a negative Sharpe ratio, reflecting poor risk-adjusted performance. Axis Balanced Advantage Fund and Axis Multi Asset Fund also show moderate returns, with decent Sharpe ratios indicating reasonable efficiency in managing risk.



### **Comparative Findings: HDFC vs. Axis**

#### **Superior Returns:**

HDFC funds consistently outperformed Axis in avg returns across categories (Equity Savings, Multi Asset, Balanced Advantage).

HDFC Balanced Advantage (14.08% avg) vs. Axis (8.79%).

#### **Risk Management:**

HDFC funds demonstrated better risk-adjusted returns (higher Sharpe/Treynor ratios).

Axis funds struggled with negative alpha in Equity Savings and Arbitrage categories.

#### **Long-Term Performance:**

HDFC's SIP returns were stronger (e.g., 10-year SIP: HDFC Balanced Advantage at 16.72% vs. Axis at 10.98%).

Axis funds lagged in consistency, particularly in Arbitrage and Equity Savings.

#### **Category Leadership:**

HDFC dominated rankings (e.g., 5Y returns: HDFC Balanced Advantage ranked 1st vs. Axis at 10th).

Axis funds often ranked mid-to-low in their categories.

## **VI. CONCLUSION**

The study clearly reveals that HDFC mutual funds outperform Axis mutual funds across all major parameters including average returns, risk-adjusted returns, and long-term SIP performance. Among the four categories analyzed—Equity Savings, Multi Asset, Balanced Advantage, and Arbitrage—HDFC funds demonstrated superior consistency, efficiency, and investor value. The HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund emerged as the top-performing fund with the highest average and SIP returns, making it a suitable choice for aggressive investors. HDFC Multi Asset and Equity Savings Funds also showed strong long-term performance, balancing risk and return effectively for moderate and conservative investors. Even in low-risk categories like Arbitrage, HDFC maintained an edge with better market hedging capabilities. On the other hand, Axis mutual funds underperformed, particularly in the Arbitrage and Equity Savings categories, with lower average returns, negative alpha values, and weaker Sharpe ratios. Their funds generally ranked lower in their respective categories and were less efficient in delivering returns for the level of risk taken.

In conclusion, HDFC mutual funds offer more reliable, risk-optimized, and growth-oriented options for investors across risk profiles. Therefore, investors aiming for long-term wealth creation and better portfolio performance should prefer HDFC funds over their Axis counterparts..

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