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From the MD's Desk

Ankit Agarwal
Managing Director

India: Strengthening Financial Resilience amid Gulf Developments

Global events often test the strength of national economies, and the current developments in the Gulf region are no exception. For India, these circumstances serve not as a setback but as a reminder of the nation's capacity to lead with resilience, foresight, and innovation. As one of the world's fastest-growing economies, India is uniquely positioned to transform external challenges into opportunities for strengthening its financial ecosystem.

India's reliance on imported crude oil—naturally makes it sensitive to fluctuations in global energy markets. Rising tensions in the Gulf have influenced oil prices, which in turn affect import bills and inflationary pressures. Yet, this very challenge highlights the importance of India's ongoing efforts to diversify energy sources, expand renewable capacity, and strengthen trade partnerships. Progress in this moment means accelerating initiatives and ensuring that industries remain competitive and ready for the future.

Financial markets, too, reflect the global uncertainty. The Indian Rupee has faced pressure, and equity markets have shown volatility. However, these movements underscore the adaptability of India's financial institutions. The Reserve Bank of India continues to balance inflation management with growth imperatives, demonstrating steady leadership in policy-making. Moreover, sectors linked to energy and defense have shown resilience, proving that India's economy is not only reactive but capable of leveraging opportunities even in turbulent times.

India's deep connections with the Gulf region—through its diaspora, remittances, and trade routes—are often seen as vulnerabilities. In reality, they are strengths. Millions of Indians working in Gulf countries contribute significantly to household incomes back home, fueling domestic consumption and supporting economic growth. Secure remittance channels and strong bilateral ties ensure that

these flows remain robust, even in uncertain times. Trade routes, while exposed to geopolitical risks, also present India with the chance to expand its maritime capabilities and reinforce its role as a global trading hub.

Technology and innovation are central to India's response. Fintech firms, in particular, are playing a transformative role. By offering affordable credit to small businesses, providing risk management tools to enterprises, and ensuring secure remittance services, Fintech platforms empower both individuals and industries. Their ability to harness data analytics and digital infrastructure positions

India to cushion external shocks and accelerate financial inclusion. This is not just about mitigating risks—it is about building a more inclusive, transparent, and resilient financial future.

Collaboration is essential. Institutions must strengthen risk management frameworks, work closely with regulators, and invest in transparency to build investor confidence. These steps ensure systemic stability and reinforce India's reputation as a reliable investment destination. At the same time, India's commitment to diversifying energy sources and trade partnerships will reduce long-

term exposure to external shocks, enhancing strategic autonomy.

The evolving situation in West Asia is a defining moment to strengthen the foundations of the financial ecosystem, ensuring that India not only withstands external pressures but emerges stronger, more secure, and more influential in the global economy.

“ India is uniquely positioned to transform external challenges into opportunities for strengthening its financial ecosystem ”



Service Corner

India's expanding forex landscape: The role of Alankit Forex

India's foreign exchange sector has grown steadily in recent years, driven by rising outbound travel, more students pursuing education abroad, and increasing global business activity. As international mobility expands, access to reliable and regulated forex services has become essential. Within this environment, Alankit Forex India has emerged as a recognised player, offering solutions for travellers, students, businesses, and individuals requiring cross-border remittance support.

Services in context

The company's portfolio reflects evolving consumer needs and the operational requirements of international transactions. Its offerings include foreign currency notes, prepaid forex cards, remittance services, and travel insurance.

Prepaid forex cards have gained strong acceptance among students and tourists due to their security, convenience, and reloadable features. These cards allow users to manage multiple currencies while reducing risks associated with carrying cash. Conventional instruments such as demand drafts and traveller's cheques remain relevant in specific contexts, particularly for institutional or educational payments. Indo-Nepal remittance services further highlight the importance of cross-border financial support for families dependent on regular transfers.

Regulatory framework

Forex transactions in India operate under the Reserve Bank of India's oversight through the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA). The Liberalised Remittance Scheme permits Indian residents to remit up to US \$250,000 per financial year for permissible transactions, with travellers allowed to carry currency notes up to US \$3,000 within this limit.

Compliance with these regulations is fundamental. Operators must ensure transparency, accurate documentation, and adherence to anti-money-laundering guidelines. A strong compliance framework enables secure and legitimate transactions for travel, education, and business purposes.



Technology and Accessibility

Digital innovation has reshaped forex services, with customers expecting faster processing, transparency, and easy access through online platforms. Features such as online booking, simplified documentation, and doorstep delivery have become standard.

Alankit Forex India Ltd has integrated these digital capabilities into its operations, offering reloadable cards, transaction monitoring tools, and streamlined processes. These developments align with India's broader push toward a digitally connected economy.

Market dynamics and outlook

India's outbound travel continues to grow, supported by a rising middle class and increasing aspirations for global education, tourism, and professional opportunities. Transaction volumes linked to overseas spending have risen correspondingly. In this competitive environment, organisations that combine regulatory discipline with customer-focused service delivery are better positioned to capture opportunities. Partnerships with banks and financial institutions further enhance reach and reliability.

Looking ahead, India's forex ecosystem will continue to evolve under the combined influence of regulatory oversight, technological adoption, and shifting consumer expectations. At the forefront of this change is Alankit Forex India Ltd, which has consistently demonstrated its ability to adapt to shifting dynamics. By aligning compliance, customer service, and digital innovation, we embody the broader transformation of India's forex market into a more structured, efficient, and accessible system.

For more details visit

www.alankitforex.com or +91-9958606060



Alankit News

Alankit hosts Associate Partners' meet in Chandigarh



Alankit convened an Associate Partners' meeting in Chandigarh, bringing together senior leaders and business associates from across the northern region. The session focused on aligning strategies for upcoming projects, reviewing performance milestones, and strengthening collaboration among diverse teams from Business Correspondence, Forex, and Wealth Management. The discussions were insightful and forward-looking, setting a clear roadmap for growth. The meeting also featured awards and recognition, celebrating outstanding contributions and achievements of partners who have driven excellence in their respective domains. This acknowledgment not only motivated participants but also reinforced Alankit's culture of appreciation and performance. The meeting concluded with renewed energy and commitment, reinforcing Alankit's vision of innovation and excellence.

Day out at Rangmanch Farms



Alankitians enjoyed a delightful picnic at Rangmanch Farms in Haryana, where they came together for a refreshing break from regular work routine. The day was filled with engaging activities, team games, and shared meals in a natural setting that fostered camaraderie and relaxation. The outing not only provided recreation but also strengthened bonds among teams, making it a memorable experience. Everyone returned with smiles and a stronger sense of connection, highlighting the importance of such initiatives in building workplace harmony.



Knowledge Cafe

Digital Literacy: Driving Financial Inclusion in India

As a developing economy, financial inclusion has long been a national priority for India. In recent years, digital literacy has emerged as the true catalyst for making inclusion meaningful and sustainable. While opening bank accounts and expanding access to financial services were important first steps, the real transformation lies in enabling citizens to confidently use digital platforms to manage, save, and grow their money. Digital literacy is not just about access—it is about empowerment.

India's journey toward financial inclusion has been accelerated by the rapid adoption of smartphones, affordable internet, and innovative Fintech solutions. Yet, technology alone cannot bridge the gap. Without the ability to understand and navigate digital tools, millions of people risk being left behind. Digital literacy ensures that individuals, whether in bustling cities or remote villages, can participate fully in the financial ecosystem. It teaches them how to make secure transactions, access credit, and use digital wallets, turning abstract access into practical empowerment.

Digital Literacy driving Financial Inclusion

- Farmers now receive subsidies directly into their bank accounts, eliminating intermediaries and ensuring transparency.
- Small shopkeepers are adopting QR codes and mobile payment systems, expanding their customer base beyond cash transactions.
- Women, who have historically faced barriers to formal finance, are increasingly using mobile banking apps to save and invest, gaining greater control over household finances.

Each of these examples highlights how digital literacy is transforming financial inclusion from a policy objective into a lived reality across diverse communities.

Trust is another critical dimension. Many first-time users



hesitate to adopt digital finance due to fear of fraud or complexity. Digital literacy programmes—whether through Government initiatives, NGOs, or Fintech-led workshops—help demystify digital platforms. They teach safe practices such as password protection, recognizing phishing attempts, and verifying transaction alerts. As confidence grows, participation increases, creating a virtuous cycle of inclusion and trust.

Fintech companies play a pivotal role in this transformation. By designing intuitive interfaces, offering vernacular language support, and embedding educational modules within apps, they make digital finance accessible to all. Their innovations in secure remittance channels, microcredit, and financial education tools ensure that digital literacy is not just about using technology but about using it wisely and safely. Partnerships with schools, community organizations, and local governments further amplify the reach, ensuring that digital literacy spreads across rural and semi-urban areas, not just urban centers.

The broader impact of digital literacy on financial inclusion is profound. It reduces dependency on cash, enhances transparency, and fosters resilience in the face of economic shocks. It also aligns with India's vision of becoming a digitally empowered society, where every citizen can participate in and benefit from the formal economy. By equipping individuals with the skills to harness digital finance confidently, India is laying the foundation for inclusive growth and sustainable development.

In essence, digital literacy is more than a skill— it ensures that financial inclusion is not just about access but about empowerment, trust, and opportunity. As India continues its digital journey, the spread of digital literacy will remain central to building a future where no one is left behind.



Market Insights

How to invest prudently in the current market scenario

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Research Analyst SEBI Reg

Featured in CNBC Awaaz, News18 India, HindiNews18, Money9, TV9 Bharatvarsh

The stock market rarely moves in a straight line. Periods of optimism are often followed by phases of decline and uncertainty. The present downturn is largely driven by geopolitical tensions, particularly the Iran conflict, which has pushed crude oil prices higher and created volatility across global markets. Historically, such events trigger a “risk-off” sentiment, where investors reduce exposure to risky assets and shift towards defensive sectors. Yet, for disciplined investors, falling markets can present opportunities rather than threats.

Do not panic

One of the most common mistakes in a falling market is panic selling. While markets react swiftly to news, businesses take longer to change. Many fundamentally strong companies decline during corrections simply because sentiment turns negative. A measured approach is to gradually accumulate quality stocks rather than attempting to predict the exact bottom, which no investor can consistently achieve.

Maintain liquidity and stagger investments

Cash becomes a strategic asset in volatile conditions. Investors should avoid deploying all capital at once and instead stagger investments systematically. This approach reduces the risk of entering at temporary highs and allows participation if markets fall further. Maintaining 20–30% liquidity provides flexibility to act when attractive opportunities arise.

Focus on businesses, not prices

During downturns, investors should concentrate on business fundamentals rather than short-term price movements. Companies with strong balance sheets, reliable cash flows, and industry leadership tend to recover faster once



uncertainty fades. Highly leveraged firms or those dependent on commodity price stability should be avoided.

Impact of the Iran conflict

Geopolitical tensions directly affect energy markets. Disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz, through which around 20% of global oil supply passes, can push crude prices higher and fuel inflation. Rising oil costs negatively impact sectors such as aviation, paints, tyres, and oil marketing companies. Investors should therefore be cautious with industries sensitive to crude prices.

Sectors that may perform well

- **Defence:** Heightened tensions often increase defence spending, benefiting Indian defence firms.
- **Upstream Oil and Gas:** Exploration and production companies gain from higher crude prices.
- **IT and Export-Oriented Businesses:** A weaker rupee supports export-driven firms, particularly IT services.
- **FMCG:** Defensive consumption remains resilient due to stable demand.

Diversification is essential

Concentration risk is dangerous in volatile markets. A balanced portfolio across equities, gold, and fixed income instruments reduces exposure to single events. Gold, in particular, attracts safe-haven demand during geopolitical uncertainty.

Final thought

Falling markets test patience and discipline. Investors who remain calm, follow structured approaches, and focus on fundamentally strong businesses often emerge stronger when stability returns. Wealth is built not by reacting to headlines but by staying invested in quality opportunities with a long-term perspective.



Investment Opportunity




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*Data as of 27 February 2026
Note: As February 28, 2026 was a non-business day, the Performance disclosed above is as on February 27, 2026.
*Inception Date: 13 March 2004
Post performance may or may not be sustained in future and should not be used as a basis of comparison with other investments. Since inception returns of the scheme is calculated on face value of Rs. 30 invested at inception. The performance details provided above are of Growth Option under Direct Plan, based on standard investment of Rs. 10,000 made at the beginning of the relevant period.
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For more information, contact us:

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HR Corner

Ready to make a meaningful impact? Join a workplace that values your Expertise and Leadership.



Job Description		Key skills and Competencies:	Role Overview:
Position	Relationship Manager / Senior Relationship Manager – Broking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquire and onboard new clients through lead generation and referrals Build and sustain strong relationships with traders and High Net-worth Individuals (HNIs) Demonstrate product knowledge and highlight key benefits Drive revenue by meeting targets and cross-selling investment products (Mutual Funds, PMS, IPOs, Insurance) Provide tailored investment advice based on market trends and client needs Ensure smooth account setup, order execution, and regulatory compliance Monitor trading patterns to identify opportunities and share timely insights Experience in equity sales, broking, or wealth management NISM Series VIII certification is mandatory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent communication and relationship management skills Proven track record in financial product sales and client servicing Ability to thrive in a fast-paced, target-driven environment Strategic mindset with attention to detail and client-centric approach
Experience Required	2-8 Years		
Qualification	Any Graduate / Post Graduate (Preferred: MBA in Marketing)		
Location	Guwahati / Cochin / Bangaluru / Chandigarh / Indore		

If this role excites you, or if you know someone with the right qualifications, please share or refer. Mail your resume to: naveena@alankit.com



NRI Corner

UAE Corporate Tax 2026 deadlines: Don't risk late compliance

The UAE's corporate tax regime has moved from theory to reality, and 2026 is the year when deadlines will test whether businesses are truly prepared. Under Federal Decree-Law No. 47 of 2022, every taxable entity must file and pay corporate tax within nine months of its financial year end. That clock is already ticking, and missing it could cost far more than just money – it could cost credibility.

The Deadlines you cannot ignore

Think of these dates as immovable milestones in your compliance calendar:

- Financial year ending 31 December 2025 File and pay by 30 September 2026
- Financial year ending 31 March 2026 File and pay by 31 December 2026

These aren't suggestions; they are legal obligations. Delay even by a single day, and penalties start to stack up.

Registration is mandatory

Every UAE Taxable Person – mainland or Free Zone – must register for corporate tax and file annual returns, even if their tax rate is 0%. The Federal Tax Authority (FTA) enforces this rigorously: failure to register on time triggers an AED 10,000 penalty under Cabinet Decision No. 75 of 2023 (as amended).

For Free Zone companies, the stakes are even higher. To retain preferential tax treatment, they must prove compliance with qualifying income rules and substance requirements. Slip up here, and those coveted tax benefits vanish.

Why waiting is a risk you can't afford

The FTA's approach is clear: compliance is non-negotiable. Here's why acting now is critical:



- Penalties are automatic – no appeals, no leniency.
- Late filings or payments invite additional fines, compounding financial exposure.
- Errors or omissions trigger scrutiny, potentially leading to audits and reputational damage.

In short, procrastination is expensive.

Turning compliance into confidence

Deadlines may feel distant, but preparation is a process, not a last-minute scramble. Businesses that embed compliance into their financial planning today will avoid panic tomorrow. Aligning reporting systems, training teams, and seeking expert guidance are essential steps.

Partnering with seasoned advisors such as Alankit Management Consultancy ensures that your tax obligations are not just met, but managed strategically. With expert support, compliance becomes less of a burden and more of a competitive advantage.

The UAE corporate tax framework is here to stay, and 2026 is the proving ground. Those who prepare early will protect profits, preserve Free Zone incentives, and project reliability in a market that rewards discipline. Don't gamble with deadlines – act now, and compliance will become your strongest asset.

Stay Compliant, Stay Hassle-Free



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