



A STUDY ON PERFORMANCE OF SELECTED BLUECHIP MUTUAL FUNDS IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT :

Mutual fund institutions play critical roles in a country's economic development, with a well-established market being especially important for growth in industrialised countries. India has grown as an open market for different investments, providing investors with a wide range of financial investment options. Recognising that past performance does not predict future mutual fund performance, the study is based on secondary data. Performance is evaluated using various tools and metrics, including average return, standard deviation, beta, Sharpe ratio and Treynor ratio. This study intends to provide significant insights to investors, allowing them to make informed decisions regarding their investment portfolios. Mutual Funds were established into the Indian financial system to give average investors with a relatively safe investment option. In this study, the researcher attempted to understand the performance of chosen large-cap mutual funds in India. Secondary data was considered for performance analysis, which was accomplished through findings from the company websites and information provided by AMFI (Association for Mutual Funds in India).

KEYWORDS: Mutual Funds, Blue-Chip Mutual Funds, Performance Evaluation, Ratios

INTRODUCTION & REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

Mutual funds can be classified as equity, debt, or balanced funds based on the assets they hold, as well as growth, income, and money market funds based on their investing goals. Mutual funds operate by pooling money from a large number of small participants into a fund managed by a professional fund manager, commonly known as an Asset Management Company (AMC). The study's findings can be used to inform future research on fund performance measurement.

Blue-chip mutual funds are funds that invest in large, well-known, financially secure companies with a track record of consistent success. These companies are often industry leaders, known for their strong market positions, dependable management teams, and long-term competitive advantages. The purpose of this study is to analyse the performance of selected BlueChip mutual funds in India over the last year, taking into account their net asset value returns, Sharpe ratio, Treynor ratio, Jensen's Alpha and Beta. These performance metrics give helpful insights for investors, but it is important to note that their findings may vary due to variances in timing and aim between studies.

Statement of research problem

While there are individual studies on specific blue-chip funds, there is no comprehensive analysis comparing the performance of leading funds over the last five years. This study aims to close this gap by analysing and comparing the performance of top ten best performing blue-chip funds: Canara Robeco Blue-Chip Fund, SBI Blue-Chip Fund, ICICI Prudential Blue-Chip Fund, Axis Blue-Chip Fund, HDFC Top 100 Fund, Kotak Blue-Chip Fund, DSP equity opportunities Fund, Invesco India Large Cap Fund, Mirae Asset Large Cap Fund, Franklin India Blue-Chip Fund from the year 2021 to 2023. The Research is to analyse the performance of above mentioned funds with their Risk Ratios and Return on yearly basis.

Review of literature

Patel Krenish Dineshbhai (2022), in his Research paper, studying about comparative performance of SBI Blue-chip Mutual Fund during research paper about the study comprising investments in blue-chip stocks, concluded with results that disclose that the returns of small and mid-cap funds are better than the large cap funds. The results also disclose that the SBI and ICICI large cap and small and mid-cap funds performed well compared to other funds.

Sharma, S. & Singh, D (2019), in their research focused on blue-chip funds and their comparison with benchmark indices. Research suggests that blue-chip funds, investing in well-established companies with stable growth, often exhibit lower volatility compared to other fund categories. However, their

returns might also be lower. Studies have shown mixed results, with some funds consistently outperforming and others underperforming the benchmark.

Jyesta Bhoopal, Ms. Shireesha, Dr. T. Vara Lakshmi (2019), According to their research paper they examined the performance of selected mutual fund schemes, Findings of the study reveals that, mutual funds out perform naïve investment. Mutual funds as a medium-to-long term investment option are preferred as a suitable investment option by investors.

Kalyan N.B, P Subramanyam (2017), have evaluated the fund's ability to generate excess returns compared to benchmark. Analysis comparing SBI Blue Chip Fund with similar offerings from other AMCs reveal its competitive performance in terms of risk-adjusted returns and volatility.

Sharma, R., & Gupta, S. (2020), acknowledges the importance of evaluating mutual fund performance, particularly in the context of risk-adjusted measures, using 10 large-cap and blue-chip mutual funds in India for a five-year period (2014-2019) Overall, the selected funds generated positive returns, exceeding the benchmark in most years. Risk-adjusted measures revealed that certain funds offered superior returns per unit of risk compared to others. Fund size and expense ratio did not exhibit a significant influence on performance.

Verma, R., & Joshi, L. (2010), conducted the study on 15 blue-chip equity mutual funds in India over a five-year period. Overall, growth options exhibited slightly higher average returns compared to dividend options. Dividend options generally demonstrated lower volatility than growth options.

Kumar, V., & Singh, A. (2018), in their research paper studies the performance of blue-chip funds in India, acknowledging their potential for stability and lower risk compared to the performance of 10 blue-chip mutual funds in India over a three-year period (2014-2017). The studied funds generated positive returns overall, exceeding the benchmark S&P BSE Sensex in most years. The study recommends investors consider diversifying across blue-chip funds with distinct performance characteristics and alpha potential.

Margi Choksi, Dr. Priyanka Bhatt (2020), The study contributes to literature and provides a practical perspective on performance evaluation of large cap equity mutual funds. It uses style-exposure analysis and the CAPM model to analyse risk-return relationships. The findings suggest that corporate investors invest heavily in debt funds, while retail investors prefer equity and balanced schemes.

OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

- Compare the performance of Top 10 Blue-chip mutual funds in India for the period 2021 to 2023.
- Evaluate each fund's Absolute returns using performance metrics such as Sharpe Ratio, Treynor Ratio, Standard Deviation, Beta value and Jensen's Alpha.
- Identify any significant trends or patterns in the performance of these funds over the past three years.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY USED IN PRESENT STUDY

- The study will focus on ten top performing BlueChip mutual funds from various mutual fund companies: Kotak Mutual Funds, Axis Mutual Funds, ICICI Mutual Funds, Canara Robeco Mutual Fund, SBI Mutual Fund, HDFC Mutual Funds, Invesco Mutual Fund, Franklin Tempelton Mutual Fund, Mirae Assets Mutual Fund, DSP Mutual Fund.
- The selection criterion was based on funds that have exhibited consistent performance and stability throughout the time

a) Sample Selection

This study focused on Direct scheme investment under mutual Fund that have been in operation for more than three years and have performed well between 2021 and 2023. The Mutual Fund category chosen for the study is Blue-chip SIP plans. Secondary data were employed in the current investigation. Secondary data were gathered from AMFI, Company Factsheets, numerous research publications, including books, journals, magazines, and bulletins.

b) Time Frame

The study is based on a time frame of 3 years from January 2021 to December 2023, evaluating the NAV returns and risk related to selected BlueChip mutual funds Annually with monthly NAV Data.

c) Methods and Test used in Study

Tools used to compare the funds' performance were Net Asset Value, Standard Deviation, Portfolio Beta value, Sharpe Ratio and Treynor Ratio.

Net Asset Value: It is the per-unit or per-share value of a mutual fund plan. It is typically used as an indicator of the fund's overall success. It is computed by reducing the mutual fund's liabilities and expenses from its total asset value, then dividing by the number of outstanding units. NAV is significant in mutual funds because it can provide insight into how they have performed in the past. The NAV of the fund is normally declared on a daily basis for open-end mutual funds, indicating the fund's worth at the conclusion of each trading day. Closed-end funds' NAV is often determined less regularly, such as weekly or monthly.

Standard Deviation: The standard deviation is a figure that indicates how much a mutual fund scheme's returns are expected to fluctuate from its average annual returns. When applied to historical returns over time, the standard deviation can be used to measure a fund's volatility. The bigger the standard deviation, the greater the volatility.

Sharpe Ratio: The Sharpe Ratio is an index that measures excess return for risk taken. Standard deviation measures risk. Thus, the index represents the excess return over the risk-free rate for 1 Unit of risk taken. Fund selection is typically based on a higher index.

$$\text{Sharpe Ratio} = \frac{\text{Return of Portfolio} - \text{Risk Free Rate of Return}}{\text{Standard Deviation of Returns}}$$

Portfolio Beta Value: Beta in a mutual fund is frequently used to express the fund's volatility (gains or losses) in comparison to its benchmark index. The Beta of an index is always set to 1. Now, if your mutual fund's beta is also 1, it means that its returns move in lockstep with the benchmark's returns.

Treynor Ratio: The Treynor ratio is an important metric for analysing mutual funds. It calculates the excess return over the risk-free return to market risk that an investment portfolio can generate. In other words, it calculates the excess return per unit of market risk borne by the portfolio. Thus, it is also known as the reward-to-volatility ratio since it demonstrates how the investor is compensated for taking systematic risks.

$$\text{Treynor Ratio} = \frac{\text{Return of Portfolio} - \text{Risk Free Rate of Return}}{\text{Portfolio Beta value}}$$

Jensen's Alpha: It compares the risk-adjusted return provided by a mutual fund scheme to the expected market return projected by the Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM). Higher Alpha shows that the portfolio has outperformed the market's expected returns.

$$\text{Jensen's Alpha} = \text{Return of Portfolio} - (\text{Risk free rate of Return} + \text{Beta value} \times (\text{Market Return} - \text{Risk free rate of Return}))$$

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

SHARPE RATIO

| SHARPE RATIO | | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-------|-------|------|----------------------|---------|
| | FUNDS | YEAR | | | Highest Sharpe Ratio | |
| | | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | Year | Highest |
| 1 | Axis Blue-chip Fund | 3.72 | -5.51 | 3.54 | 2021 | 3.72 |
| 2 | Kotak Blue-chip Fund | -0.24 | 0.55 | 0.55 | 2023, 2022 | 0.55 |
| 3 | ICICI Prudential Blue-chip Fund | 4.46 | -0.40 | 2.87 | 2021 | 4.46 |
| 4 | CANARA Robeco Blue chip Fund | 4.63 | -2.87 | 4.23 | 2021 | 4.63 |
| 5 | SBI Blue Chip Fund | 5.12 | -1.23 | 4.29 | 2021 | 5.12 |
| 6 | HDFC Top 100 Fund | 0.31 | 0.04 | 0.29 | 2021 | 0.31 |
| 7 | Franklin India Blue-chip Fund | 0.33 | -0.29 | 0.25 | 2021 | 0.33 |
| 8 | Invesco India Large cap Fund | 4.97 | -4.40 | 4.48 | 2021 | 4.97 |
| 9 | DSP Equity Opportunities Fund | 0.59 | -0.19 | 0.57 | 2021 | 0.59 |
| 10 | Mirae Asset Large Cap Fund | 2.54 | -1.40 | 1.93 | 2021 | 2.54 |

Table 1

The table above shows the Sharpe Ratio calculations done on top ten blue chip Mutual Funds in India. The Sharpe ratio of funds is calculated based on the annual excess return of Funds at the opening date and Closing date using the NAV value and the risk-free rate of return on 10-year Indian bond price, based on calculations the following funds have the highest Sharpe Ratios:

- SBI Blue-chip Fund -(5.12)
- Invesco India large cap Fund -(4.97)
- Canara Robeco Blue-chip Fund-(4.63)

A higher Sharpe ratio suggests that a fund has a higher return than its risk. In other words, these funds have produced higher returns for the level of risk taken than the other funds on the list. Hence under the large-cap funds considering Sharpe ratio, SBI Blue-Chip Fund has reached the highest Sharpe ratio of 5.12 on the year, so it is considered as excellent in its performance and to invest expecting higher return then followed by Invesco Blue-chip Fund, Canara Robeco Blue-chip Fund, HDFC Top 100 funds is least performer by Sharpe ratio for all three years in the selected schemes.

PORTFOLIO BETA

| PORTFOLIO BETA | | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|------|-------|------|--------------|---------|
| | FUNDS | YEAR | | | Highest Beta | |
| | | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | Year | Highest |
| 1 | Axis Blue-chip Fund | 0.88 | 5.00 | 0.78 | 2022 | 5.00 |
| 2 | Kotak Blue-chip Fund | 1.09 | 2.01 | 1.30 | 2022 | 2.01 |
| 3 | ICICI Prudential Blue-chip Fund | 1.08 | 0.60 | 1.42 | 2023 | 1.42 |
| 4 | CANARA ROBECO BLUE CHIP FUND | 0.96 | 2.56 | 1.08 | 2022 | 2.56 |
| 5 | SBI Blue Chip Fund | 0.97 | 1.10 | 1.06 | 2022 | 1.10 |
| 6 | HDFC Top 100 Fund | 0.99 | -0.64 | 1.55 | 2023 | 1.55 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 7 | Franklin India Blue-chip Fund | 1.16 | 3.68 | 0.97 | 2022 | 3.68 |
| 8 | Invesco India Large cap Fund | 1.42 | 4.25 | 1.58 | 2022 | 4.25 |
| 9 | DSP Equity Opportunities Fund | 1.20 | 1.60 | 1.84 | 2023 | 1.84 |
| 10 | Mirae Asset Large Cap Fund | 1.03 | 2.22 | 0.85 | 2022 | 2.22 |

Table 2

The Table above shows the calculations done on Beta value for all the ten funds based on the information of Excess Annual returns found by comparing the NAV values of each year, risk free rate of return, benchmark return of funds which is considered as Nifty 50 tri. A beta value shows the volatility of funds based on its performance comparison with the market performance as a whole. A beta value of 1 & above explains that fund is highly volatile to market and a value of 1 shows its equally volatile to market volatility and value less than 1 shows less volatility of fund to market values and fluctuations.

Here Axis Blue-chip fund shows the highest beta value of 5.00 which means that fund is the most volatile when compared to others and will most closely follow the market conditions followed by Invesco India Large cap Fund and Franklin India blue-chip Fund. SBI mutual Fund has the lowest beta value among other funds over the period of three years which indicates that it is less volatile and will have lower fluctuations to market changes.

TREYNOR RATIO

TREYNOR RATIO

| | FUNDS | YEAR | | | Highest Treynor Ratio | |
|----|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------------|---------|
| | | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | Year | Highest |
| 1 | Axis Blue-chip Fund | 17.88 | -2.65 | 14.15 | 2021 | 17.88 |
| 2 | Kotak Blue-chip Fund | 19.66 | -2.60 | 12.66 | 2021 | 19.66 |
| 3 | ICICI Prudential Blue-chip Fund | 19.77 | -2.18 | 14.75 | 2021 | 19.77 |
| 4 | CANARA ROBECO Blue-chip Fund | 19.59 | -1.92 | 15.25 | 2021 | 19.59 |
| 5 | SBI Blue Chip Fund | 19.49 | -1.89 | 14.67 | 2021 | 19.49 |
| 6 | HDFC Top 100 Fund | 21.70 | -6.38 | 14.79 | 2021 | 21.70 |
| 7 | Franklin India Blue-chip Fund | 17.02 | -2.36 | 15.28 | 2021 | 17.02 |
| 8 | Invesco India Large cap Fund | 18.60 | -2.05 | 13.79 | 2021 | 18.60 |
| 9 | DSP Equity Opportunities Fund | 20.50 | -1.13 | 13.48 | 2021 | 20.50 |
| 10 | Mirae Asset Large Cap Fund | 20.75 | -2.04 | 14.39 | 2021 | 20.50 |

Table 3

The Table above shows the calculations done on Treynor ratio value for all the ten funds based on the information by dividing the excess return (the return above the risk-free rate) of the investment over the risk-free rate by its beta, which measures its systematic risk. A beta value shows the volatility of funds based on its performance comparison with the market performance as a whole. Treynor ratio greater than 1 is considered favourable as it indicates that the investment has provided excess returns relative to its risk level. A Treynor ratio of 1 indicates that the investment's return matches precisely the level of systematic risk (beta) it carries relative to the risk-free rate. A Treynor ratio of 1 indicates that the investment's return matches precisely the level of systematic risk (beta) it carries relative to the risk-free rate. Top of Form And less than 1 is considered less favourable as it indicates that the investment has not adequately compensated investors for the risk taken by them.

Here, HDFC Top 100 Fund has the highest Treynor ratio of 21.70 in the year 2021, which shows that it has generated a significantly higher return relative to its systematic risk (beta) compared to other funds in the market, which is followed by DSP Equity Opportunities Fund and Mirae Asset Large Cap fund. Franklin India Blue chip fund has the lowest ratio among the three years, it shows that fund has provided relatively lower returns for the level of systematic risk it carries compared to its peers.

JENSEN'S ALPHA

JENSEN'S ALPHA

| | FUNDS | YEAR | | | Highest Alpha | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|---------|
| | | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | Year | Highest |
| 1 | Axis Blue-chip Fund | -2.03 | -8.72 | -2.80 | 2021 | -2.03 |
| 2 | Kotak Blue-chip Fund | 1.53 | -2.20 | 3.78 | 2023 | 3.78 |
| 3 | ICICI Prudential Blue-chip Fund | 1.44 | 0.88 | 5.29 | 2023 | 5.29 |
| 4 | CANARA Robeco Blue Chip Fund | -0.74 | -3.39 | 1.05 | 2023 | 1.05 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|
| 5 | SBI Blue Chip Fund | -0.58 | -0.22 | 0.80 | 2023 | 0.80 |
| 6 | HDFC Top 100 Fund | -0.13 | 3.57 | 6.91 | 2023 | 6.91 |
| 7 | Franklin India Blue-chip Fund | 2.66 | -5.84 | -0.33 | 2021 | 2.66 |
| 8 | Invesco India Large cap Fund | 7.21 | -7.08 | 7.29 | 2023 | 7.29 |
| 9 | DSP Equity Opportunities Fund | 3.38 | -1.31 | 10.66 | 2023 | 10.66 |
| 10 | Mirae Asset Large Cap Fund | 0.54 | -2.67 | -1.93 | 2021 | 0.54 |

Table 4

The Table above shows the calculations done on Jensen's Alpha value for all the ten funds that evaluates the excess return of an investment relative to its expected return based on its systematic risk (beta). This evaluates whether an investment's actual returns outperform or underperform those predicted by the Capital Asset Pricing Model, indicating the investment excess returns over the benchmark return for the fund, for Blue-Chip mutual Funds the NIFTY 50 TRI Value is considered on yearly basis.

Here DSP Equity Opportunities Fund has a value of 10.66, which is the highest over the three years and it shows that the fund's actual returns have significantly exceeded those predicted by the Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM), indicating superior performance in generating excess returns compared to its benchmark. This is followed by Invesco India Large cap Fund and HDFC Top 100 Fund. Here Axis Blue Chip Fund has a value of -2.80 which indicates that the fund's actual returns have significantly underperformed those predicted by the Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM), suggesting poor performance in generating excess returns relative to its systematic risk.

FINDINGS

On basis of study done and the results it is clear that few Blue-Chip Funds performs at a same level in terms of Sharpe ratio that is performance of Fund over and above the Risk-free rate of return which is considered as Bond yield price of Indian Government. As it can be inferred from the table the Blue-Chip Fund ICICI Mutual Fund, Canara Robeco Mutual Fund and SBI Mutual Fund is at a same level over the year performance on basis of Sharpe Ratio. The Highest Performing Fund being the SBI Blue Chip Fund of value (5.12) and Least Performing Fund being the HDFC Top 100 Fund of value (0.31). It is Understood that any of the ten funds haven't produced a negative return which means that all the funds have performed over and above the Risk-Free rate of Return. Since Sharpe Ratio measures the Returns to the risk taken, SBI Blue-Chip Fund is the fairly good investment option for investors in terms of Sharpe Ratio calculations.

The above table is based on the Portfolio Beta Value calculations of all the ten funds for the year 2021-2023 and depicted values are the highest beta portfolio value of each fund among the three years of study conducted. The results clearly show that all the ten funds have a beta value which above 1, and it is considered that a beta value above 1 for any fund is always those funds which are highly volatile and have a greater correlation to market volatility and fluctuations. Since blue-Chip funds are primarily focused on investments in equity funds of Top 50-100 companies the market standings are determined by these companies, because of this factor blue-chip mutual funds have a higher beta value.

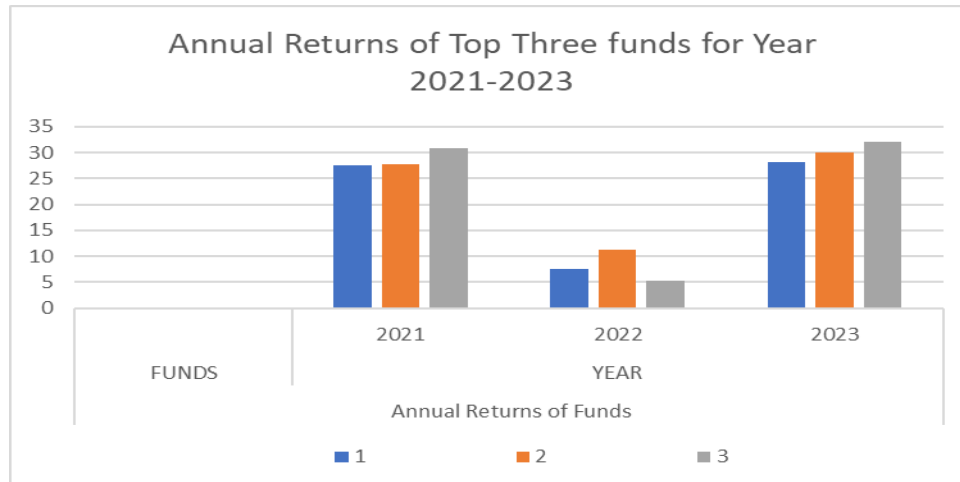
It is understood from the study that the Yearly Beta value of Blue-Chip Funds usually have an average of 1.5 – 2.5, so this can be considered as fair value for the fund's performance evaluation on the basis of Beta value. Here Axis Mutual Fund has shown the highest beta value of (5) in the year 2022 it is also understood from the study that during that period Treynor ratio of same fund was in negative value of (-2.65), this shows the relation between beta value and the Treynor ratio of funds. SBI Mutual Fund has shown the lowest Beta value of (1.10) during the year 2022 and same had less impact on the Treynor ratio of same year which was (-1.89) hence, with these results it is clearly evident that beta value of a fund is very much related to the Treynor ratio.

The table depicts the fund which has the highest Treynor ratio as HDFC Treynor Ratio (21.7) for the year 2021, which shows that it has generated a significantly higher return relative to its systematic risk (beta) compared to other funds in the market, which is followed by DSP Equity Opportunities Fund and Mirae Asset Large Cap fund. It is also understood from the study that HDFC Top 100 Fund had a beta value of 0.99 during the year 2021 and it clearly evidences the fact that Beta value of 1 means fund is equally volatile to the market volatility and in year 2021 most of the funds have performed well by providing the good returns to investments. Franklin India Mutual Fund had the Lowest Treynor ratio of value (17.02) in the year 2021, among all the other funds which shows that fund provided the lowest Excess Returns on Portfolio above the Risk-Free Rate of Return. Higher the Treynor Ratio higher the performance of fund so based on the yearly calculation of Treynor ratio it is fair to say that investing in funds like SBI Blue-Chip fund, HDFC Top 100 Fund and ICICI Blue-Chip Fund is better for the investors looking for higher returns with risk taking appetite.

The values given in table implies that DSP Equity Opportunities Fund has the best performance in terms of returns comparison with the Nifty 50 returns during the year 2023. During this period the benchmark return was 19.89 and DSP funds returns for the year was 32.05 this evidences that the fund has overperformed the benchmark performance. The lowest value among all the funds' performance is of Axis Blue-chip Mutual fund which has been constantly not able to provide a return above the benchmark for any one year of concerned study done. This makes the fund riskier for investors as the fund being not able to perform better in any of the three years above the Nifty 50 index returns. On the basis of Jensen's Alpha calculations taking into consideration of all the three-year values investing in ICICI Blue-Chip Fund is better for the investors has the fund was able to provide with a return above the benchmark return for all the three years.

| Annual Returns of Top Three Funds | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|------|-------|---------|
| | FUNDS | YEARS | | | AVERAGE |
| | | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | |
| 1 | ICICI Prudential Blue-chip Fund | 27.63 | 7.53 | 28.14 | 21.1 |

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 2 | HDFC Top 100 Fund | 27.73 | 11.27 | 30.08 | 23.03 |
| 3 | DSP Equity Opportunities Fund | 30.76 | 5.37 | 32.05 | 22.73 |



The table and Chart above depict the annualized returns of top three best performing funds found from ten funds of research study. The generated returns of Funds show that each have increased its annual returns over the period of three years. DSP Equity Opportunities Fund have clocked the highest returns in the year 2021(30.76) and in the year 2023(32.05). HDFC Top 100 Fund is the best performing among the top three funds because of its returns in the year 2021 and 2023 and during the year 2022 HDFC Top 100 Fund is the only fund which have generated a good return when compared to other funds. ICICI Blue-Chip Fund have generated a return of (27.63) in the year 2021 and (28.14) in the year 2023. So on the basis of return on an average basis as shown in the table it is evident that HDFC Top 100 Fund have provided better returns (23.30) compared to average returns of ICICI Blue-Chip Fund (21.1) and of DSP equity opportunities Fund (22.73).

CONCLUSION

The study investigated and analysed the performance of five open-ended, blue-chip equity mutual fund schemes from January 2021 to December 2023. Monthly Average of high and low value of NAV schemes of top ten blue-chip fund were utilised to determine fund returns. The study examined the past performance of selected mutual fund schemes using Sharpe ratio, Treynor ratio, and Jensen's ratio to make informed investment and financial decisions. performed similarly to other schemes. Additionally, all selected mutual fund schemes had a positive Sharpe ratio for the years 2021 and 2023, indicating that they outperformed the risk-free rate, but for the year 2022 most of the funds had a negative Sharpe ratio and the research on the same evidenced that Stock-specific rallies in large caps, as well as global events-induced volatility in the Indian stock market, had a significant impact on the performance of mutual funds. At the same time, value equities outperformed growth stocks, and as a result, value funds outpaced other equity mutual fund categories in 2022.

As per the study of researcher it is fair to say that HDFC Top 100 Fund and ICICI Blue Chip Fund are two top funds to invest as both funds were able to provide its investors with a good return over and above the benchmark returns for all the three years. Further on the basis of risk basis also it is noticeable that these funds have performed better than other funds having excess returns over the risk taken in investments and also based on the Volatility of funds in large cap Mutual Funds.

This study suggests that systematic investment strategies are an effective way for investors to invest their hard-earned resources. Blue Chip Fund is one of the top options for investors. This investment yields great profits while posing low risk. Although the Indian economy experienced a slowdown during and after the COVID outbreak, blue-chip funds continued to perform well in the year 2021 and also outperforming the benchmark in year 2023 after a downfall in 2022 due to market fluctuations and political issues in global scenario which affected the stock market around the globe.

LIMITATIONS OF STUDY

- In the present study, only the large cap equity funds especially focusing on the blue-chip investment Mutual Funds have been taken into consideration. A similar study could be done by including other types of schemes like Debt Funds, Sector-Specific Funds, Small or Mid cap or a comparison between all the three caps in mutual fund can be done in future.
- Only three years (2021-2023) has been considered for analysing and comparing the performances of Mutual Funds schemes. This time period could be extended so as to view the overall performance of the Mutual Fund Schemes.

- Limited no. of statistical tools has been used to analyse the performance of Mutual Funds and have limitations which are inevitable. It could be increased so as to come down at a conclusion with precision.
- The returns and hence the performance of the mutual fund schemes has been compared only to the returns and performance of Nifty 50 tri and 10-year Bond rate. Same can be done with various other benchmarks and different risk-free return and a comparison study of funds with numerous benchmarks can provide a more exclusive idea for the investors for their investment planning.
- The study was conducted on the monthly NAV calculations, a study based on daily NAV of each fund for three-year period would provide an accurate result as to the industry analysis and better understanding of the funds performances.

FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

The Indian mutual fund business has grown significantly in recent years, with blue-chip mutual funds drawing a large number of investors. These funds, which are predominantly invested in well-known large-cap corporations, provide a sense of security and stability. However, a better grasp of the risk-return trade-off inherent in this asset class is required for making sound investing decisions. Based on this research companies and investors can deep dive into the long-term implications of results for the performance of chosen blue-chip mutual funds in India, examining potential trends and considerations for investors navigating the changing market landscape. Large cap mutual fund schemes are ideal for investors seeking consistent returns without danger of swings. Because of these considerations, in times of adversity, many portfolio managers encourage customers to invest in large-cap mutual funds. Investing in large cap mutual fund schemes requires a realistic understanding of risk and rewards, as they may not provide the projected profits.

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