# India Capital Growth Fund

Vedant Fashions

## FEBRUARY 2022

#### **Net Asset Value**

The Net Asset Value (NAV) per share as at 28 February 2022 was 119.83 pence. In February the NAV was down 9.04% in Sterling terms, whilst the BSE MidCap TR Index was down 5.15%. In local currency terms, the NAV was down 8.78% for the month.

#### Portfolio activity

New purchases

Exits Gujarat Gas

#### Holdings in focus

Vedant Fashion (Vedant) is a garmenting company specialising in ethnic wear for weddings and celebratory occasions. 85% of its revenues come from its men's wear brand 'Manyavar', positioned as an aspirational yet value for money brand. In 2017, the company also launched 'Mohey' an ethnic women's wear brand. The ethnic wear market is large at an estimated size of US\$ 24bn (80% being women's wear). The market is highly fragmented largely due to supply chain issues and varying consumer preference across cities. The organized market is growing at 15-20% p.a. driven by 10m+ weddings annually, each wedding having 3-5 occasions and consumers getting more brand conscious. Vedant is the only national player in this market selling 3m+ garments annually. Its brand `Manyavar' is over 20x the size of its nearest competitor. The company owes its success to its unique business model - asset light, extensive use of technology for supply chain efficiencies (outsourced from multiple artisans) and data analysis for forecasting. Hence, there is minimum deadstock or raw material wastage despite over 2500 Stock Keeping Units (SKUs). The company sells through franchisee led Exclusive Brand Outlets. They have a presence across 222 cities with a retail footprint of 578 stores and total size of 1.21m sq.ft. This is expanding at 15-16% annually. Vedant has impressive financial metrics. Revenues have compounded at 30% p.a. over FY10-20 and profits at 31% p.a. over FY17-20. It also has one of the highest operating margins (at 43%) in the industry and a strong debt free balance sheet with pretax ROCE of 48% (average FY19-20). All the above reflects in the pricing power the brand enjoys. The company is a key proxy to the rapidly rising trend of preference towards Indian-wear during festivals and celebrations. We expect Vedant Fashion's revenue to witness a growth of ~38% CAGR over FY21-24 and net profit CAGR of 49%.

**Aarti Industries (Aarti)** is India's leading specialty chemicals company focused on benzene-based specialty chemicals and pharmaceuticals. Using benzene as the key raw material, Aarti produces value-added products through multiple steps such as chlorination, nitration, hydrogenation and oxidation. The company has a portfolio of around 200+ products to serve more than 700 domestic and 400 global customers, across diverse applications such as polymers, agrochemicals, paints and pigments, pharma intermediates, APIs, fuel additives, home and personal care products. Aarti derives ~45% of its revenues from exports to customers across more than 60 countries. The global market shares of its various products range between 25-40%. The company is ranked among the five largest global companies for nearly 75% of its key products. It has 20 manufacturing plants and 4 R&D facilities. Aarti has emerged as a key beneficiary of the trend of global companies de-risking their supply chains out of China. The company has been aggressively expanding capacities and has entered into strategic long-term supply contracts with some key customers. Aarti is entering a high growth phase with both revenues and profits expected to double in the next 3 years. We see Aarti as an attractive play on the specialty chemicals and a qualified management team with a focus on R&D.

#### Rebased NAV Performance since 31 December 2011 (%)



#### Performance (%)

	1m	3m	6m	1yr	3yr	5yr
ICGF NAV	(9.0)	(9.0)	(8.8)	12.4	30.4	17.8
BSE MidCap TR Index	(5.1)	(6.0)	(1.5)	19.4	58.4	49.9

<sup>1</sup> The Rebased NAV is the fairest representation of the Manager's performance across all periods excluding the dilutive effect of the new ordinary shares issued on 8 August 2016 following the exercise of subscription share rights. Source: Ocean Dial Asset Management Limited, Bloomberg

# India Capital GROWTH FUND

#### Fund information

Listing	LSE Main Market		
Domicile	Guernsey		
NAV publication	Monthly (daily estimate)		
Size (NAV)	£115.76m		
Firmwide AUM	US\$288.6m		
Launch	22 December 2005		
Adviser start	31 December 2011		
Portfolio Manager	Ocean Dial Asset Management		
Portfolio Adviser	Gaurav Narain		
Benchmark S&P BSE MidCap			
AMC	1.25% of market cap		
Share price / NAV p	per share (p) 102.00 / 119.83		
Discount to NAV	14.88%		

#### Portfolio characteristics

Number of holdings	32
Median market cap	£1.7bn
PE FY23E	16.7
ROE (3y Avg)	18.0%
Tracking Error	7.9%
Active Share	91.4%

India highlights	MTD	YTD
BSE 500 (US\$)	(4.3%)	(6.0%)
iShares MSCI Asia ex-Japan (US\$)	(3.7%)	(4.9%)
iShares MSCI EM Index (US\$)	(4.3%)	(4.3%)
INR vs US\$ [stronger/(weaker)]	(1.0%)	(1.3%)
FII Net flows (US\$m)	(5,290)	(9,750)
DII Net flows (US\$m)	6,090	8,696
Macro indicators		
CPI inflation (January / 3m avg)	6.0%	5.5%
GDP Q3 FY22		5.4%
Current account/GDP Q2 FY22		(0.5%)

Source: Ocean Dial Asset Management Limited

#### **Team commentary**

9 March	<u>Monthly Book Review - Between</u> the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea – Colin Freeman
11 February	HOODnote: Digital Adoption
10 February	HOODnote: India Budget - January 2022
8 February	Monthly Book Review - The Innovator's Dilemma by Clayton M Christensen
26 January	Hoodfolio: 2022 Outlook and Portfolio Strategy

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### FEBRUARY 2022

#### Top ten holdings

Top ten nordings	,		
Portfolio Company	Weight	Characteristics	Market cap
Federal Bank	6.8%	Well run mid-sized private sector bank, attractive valuations	£2bn
Emami	5.0%	Dominant player across multiple niche consumer product categories, attractive valuations	£2bn
IndusInd Bank	4.6%	Fifth largest private sector bank in India and poised to gain market share. Value play with ebbing asset quality concerns	£7bn
IDFC Bank	4.4%	Well capitalised private sector retail bank. Digitally-focused and on a high growth trajectory	£3bn
Ramkrishna Forgings	4.3%	Auto ancillary company manufacturing forgings for commercial vehicles in both domestic and international markets	£257m
Persistent Systems	4.2%	IT services company benefitting from 'digital transformation' of businesses globally	£3bn
Tech Mahindra	4.0%	IT services, leads telecommunications vertical with structural tailwinds	£14bn
Affle India	3.8%	India's leading advertising technology company with high growth and profitability	£2bn
Welspun India	3.6%	India's largest home textile company, strong industry tailwinds in global supply chains and increased consumer focus on health	£1bn
City Union Bank	3.4%	High quality regional bank, consistent compounder, dominant in SME lending	£917m

Source: Ocean Dial Asset Management Limited, Bloomberg

#### Portfolio analysis by sector



#### Portfolio analysis by market capitalisation



Quarterly attribution - 3 months to 28 February 2022 (%)

Тор 5	Ave. weight	Ave. index weight	Return	Contribution
Federal Bank	6.15	1.26	10.72	0.46
CCL Products India	2.85	0.00	10.55	0.25
Indusind Bank	4.08	0.00	3.30	0.10
Affle India	3.25	0.00	5.05	0.09
Bajaj Electricals	2.69	0.00	5.77	0.07
Bottom 5	Ave. weight	Ave. index weight	Return	Contribution
Aegis Logistics	2.05	0.00	(26.41)	(0.63)
Finolex Cables	2.23	0.00	(27.74)	(0.66)
JK Lakshmi Cement	2.40	0.00	(29.97)	(0.78)
Welspun India	4.19	0.00	(24.63)	(1.04)
Neuland Laboratories	2.80	0.00	(39.72)	(1.23)

Source: Ocean Dial Asset Management Limited, Statpro



## India Capital GROWTH FUND

### Fund adviser



Gaurav Narain joined the Group in November 2011, having been immersed in the Indian equity markets for the previous 21 years. He has held senior positions as both a fund manager and an equities analyst in New Horizon Investments, ING Investment Management India and SG (Asia)

Securities India. He holds a Masters degree in Finance and Control and a Bachelor of Economics degree from Delhi University.

#### Investment philosophy

The investment manager believes that in India, optimal returns will be generated over time by investing in companies that are well placed to benefit from the structural growth potential of the Indian economy, combined with the highest quality of management best able to exploit this opportunity. The fund uses a consistent and disciplined bottom up stock picking process to select investments from our best ideas, unconstrained by a benchmark.

#### **Investment objective**

To provide long term capital appreciation by investing predominantly in listed mid and small cap Indian companies. Investments may also be made in unquoted Indian companies where the Fund Manager believes long-term capital appreciation will be achieved. The Company may hold liquid assets (including cash) pending deployment in suitable investments. It is the Company's declared policy not to hedge exposure to the Indian Rupee.

#### **Capital structure**

96,680,857 ordinary shares in issue with voting rights.

#### Board

Elisabeth Scott (Chairman) Peter Niven Patrick Firth Lynne Duquemin

#### Other advisers

Administrator Apex Fund and Corporate Services (Guernsey) Limited

Broker Shore Capital Stockbrokers Limited

Registrar and CREST Agent Neville Registrars Limited

#### Manager

Ocean Dial Asset Management Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Tel: +44 (0) 20 7068 9870 Email: enguiries@oceandial.com

#### Website

www.indiacapitalgrowth.com

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#### Important information

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Where reference to a specific Class of security is made, it is for illustrative purposes only and should not be regarded as a recommendation to buy or sell that security. Market index information shown herein such as that of the S&P BSE Midcap TR is included to show relative market performance for the periods indicated and not as standards of comparison, since indices are unmanaged, broadly based and differ in numerous respects from the Fund.

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