

# "Maximizing Investment in Mutual Funds by NRIs: Strategies and Tips"

Investment in Mutual Funds by Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) is a great way to diversify their portfolios and maximize their returns. Mutual funds are one of the most popular forms of investment for NRIs, as they offer numerous advantages, including tax benefits, diversification and professional fund management. In this blog post, we will discuss the advantages of investing in mutual funds by NRIs, the types of mutual funds available and some tips to help NRIs make the most of their investments.

# How Can Nris Invest In Mutual Funds?

Non Resident Indians (NRIs) can invest in mutual funds just like any other Indian citizen. NRIs are eligible to invest in any open-ended mutual fund scheme, subject to the applicable regulations. They can also invest in close-ended mutual funds and ETFs. NRIs can invest either through the Indian custodian or through the foreign custodian route. NRIs need to provide the required documents such as PAN card, passport, bank statement etc. for investing in mutual funds. Additionally, NRIs need to provide the appropriate KYC documents for the custodian to process their investments. NRIs can also invest in mutual funds online through their registered online broker or through the mutual fund's website. NRIs can also invest through the Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) route, which allows them to invest a fixed amount at a regular interval. This helps them to accumulate a corpus over a period of time.

## Can Nris Invest In Mutual Funds In India?

Yes, NRIs (Non-Resident Indians) can invest in mutual funds in India. An NRI can invest in mutual funds via the repatriable and non-repatriable route, depending on the purpose of the investment. The repatriable route allows NRIs to repatriate or send the proceeds of the investment back to their country of residence. The non-repatriable route does not allow money to be sent abroad and the proceeds must be kept in India. NRIs must provide proof of identity, address and other documents as required. They must also open an NRE or NRO account to be able to invest in mutual funds. Mutual funds offer NRIs the opportunity to benefit from the Indian markets while also enjoying the convenience of investing from abroad.

#### What is the Procedure?

Non-resident Indians (NRIs) can invest in Indian mutual funds through the Portfolio Investment Scheme (PIS) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The NRI must have a Non-Resident External (NRE) or Non-Resident Ordinary (NRO) account with a bank in India in order to invest in mutual funds. An NRI can invest a maximum of 10% of the total corpus of any Indian mutual fund through the PIS route. The investment has to be in the form of a lump sum or through a systematic investment plan (SIP). The NRIs must fill out the PIS permission form and submit it to the bank, along with the necessary documents such as PAN, address and bank details. Once the bank approves the PIS form, the NRI can start investing in mutual funds. The mutual fund company will then link the NRI's bank account to the mutual fund account and the investment process can begin.

#### Step 1: Set Up an Account

If you are an NRI (Non-Resident Indian) looking to invest in mutual funds, the first step is to set up an account. This account should be with a registered broker or mutual fund company in India. You will need to provide documents such as your passport, PAN card, and other financial documents as proof of identity and residence.

#### Step 2: Choose a Mutual Fund

Once your account is set up, you will need to decide which mutual fund to invest in. You can choose from a variety of categories such as equity, debt, liquid, and balanced funds. Be sure to research each fund and its performance before investing.

#### **Step 3: Make an Investment**

Once you have chosen a mutual fund, you will need to make a payment to the fund house. This payment can be made from your NRO or NRE account via online banking or by cheque. Be sure to keep all records of payments and investments for future reference.

### **Step 4: Monitor Your Investment**

Once you have made your investment, it is important to keep track of its performance. You should monitor the fund's NAV (Net Asset Value) on a regular basis to ensure it is performing

as expected. You should also review your portfolio periodically to ensure it is still aligned with your investment goals.

#### A. Self or Direct

Investment Non Resident Indians (NRIs) investing in mutual funds is an attractive option for those seeking international diversification. Mutual funds provide a variety of options to NRI investors, such as diversified equity funds, debt funds, money market funds, and balanced funds. Investing in mutual funds through self or direct investment requires a thorough research of the fund's portfolio and performance. The benefits of investing directly in mutual funds include access to transparent and cost-effective funds, efficient tax structure, and the freedom to switch between different funds. Mutual fund investments are also relatively liquid, meaning they can be sold quickly and at a fair market value. In addition, NRIs can benefit from professional fund management and diversification of their investments.

### B. Through the Power of Attorney (poa)

Arrangement, NRIs can invest in mutual funds. Mutual funds are a type of professionally managed investment that pools money from many investors and invests in a variety of securities, such as stocks, bonds, and other assets. Investing in mutual funds can help NRIs diversify their portfolios, potentially reducing the risk of investment, and allowing them to get the most out of their money. Mutual funds provide access to a variety of asset classes, giving NRIs the ability to invest in a portfolio that best meets their individual needs. Furthermore, NRIs can benefit from the expertise of professional fund managers, who are able to provide advice and guidance on the best investments for their individual situation. Investing in mutual funds is a great way for NRIs to gain exposure to the global markets and to increase their financial portfolios.

# Step 2: Get Your Kyc Done

Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) are eligible to invest in mutual funds in India. To do so, they must meet certain requirements and complete the Know Your Customer (KYC) process. KYC is a set of processes used by financial institutions to verify the identity of their customers and to assess their suitability for investing. It is a one-time process and needs to be done before investing in any mutual fund. NRIs must submit documents such as address proof, identity

proof and PAN card, to complete the KYC process. Once the KYC is done, the investor can start investing in mutual funds.

## Step 3: How to Redeem?

Redeeming investments in mutual funds by NRIs is relatively straightforward and can be done in two ways: online or offline. Online redemption is a quicker process and allows NRIs to access their mutual fund investments from anywhere in the world. This is done by logging into their portfolio account or the mutual fund's website and entering the details of the redemption request. Offline redemption requires NRIs to fill out redemption forms from their portfolio account and submit it to their mutual fund service provider. Once the redemption request is approved, the mutual fund provider will transfer the redemption proceeds to the NRI's designated bank account.

#### What about Taxation for Nris?

Nris investing in mutual funds benefit from attractive returns as compared to traditional savings options. However, taxation for Nris investing in mutual funds can be complex, as the tax liability depends on the type of fund, the Nri's residential status, and other factors. Generally, capital gains from equity-oriented mutual funds attract short-term and long-term capital gains tax. Debt mutual funds are subject to taxation based on the nature of the fund and the holding period. In addition, Nris have to consider any foreign taxes that may be applicable on their investments. It is therefore important for Nris to understand the taxation implications before making an investment in mutual funds.

#### Important Points to Be Noted for Nris

**Investing in Mutual Funds** 

NRI investors should be aware of the following important points before investing in mutual funds:

- 1. NRI investors must open a Non-Resident External (NRE) or Non-Resident Ordinary (NRO) bank account to invest in mutual funds.
- 2. NRIs should always invest in mutual funds through their NRE or NRO accounts to avail tax benefits.

- 3. NRI investors must be aware of the rules and regulations regarding investments in mutual funds in the country in which they are investing.
- 4. NRIs should be aware of the repatriation rules of their home country while investing in mutual funds.
- 5. NRI investors should always be aware of the risk associated with the investment in mutual funds.
- 6. NRIs should always be aware of the fees, charges and other expenses associated with the mutual fund before investing.
- 7. NRI investors should have a long-term investment horizon to avail maximum benefit from their investments in mutual funds.