

APRIL NEWSLETTER

Gold vs stocks — What gives you better returns, what history suggests

Ankush Jain, CFA, Director & Fund Manager, quoted "One of the most common beliefs among investors is that gold and stocks (Sensex) move in opposite directions. While this may be true over short periods, historical evidence suggests otherwise when viewed from a longer-term perspective"

He believes that citing historical cycles of 2015, 2020, and 2026, Ankush Jain, CFA, Director and Fund Manager at Steptrade Capital, believes that the gap between gold and the Sensex has widened again. He noted that gold typically outperforms during periods of uncertainty, while equities lag initially.



No Rain, No Gain: Why Monsoon Matters To Stock Markets

Akshay Dawra of Chanakya Opportunities Fund-II describes this as a layered relationship rather than a linear one. He notes that while improved rainfall can trigger a consumption uptick, investors must watch whether this demand sustains beyond a quarter or two and translates into earnings visibility.



Markets Rally, FIIs Exit: What's Driving the Disconnect?

"The drivers for FII outflows are familiar—elevated US yields, a strong dollar, India's valuation premium and the AI trade pulling capital back into US tech," said Ankush Jain, Director and Fund Manager at Steptrade Capital. "When geopolitical risk flared, risk-off simply accelerated what was already happening."

"The structural story has changed. DIIs absorbed every FII exit without the market breaking," Mr. Jain said, pointing to strong SIP inflows of over ₹25,000 crore per month as a key support factor.

Sector Updates

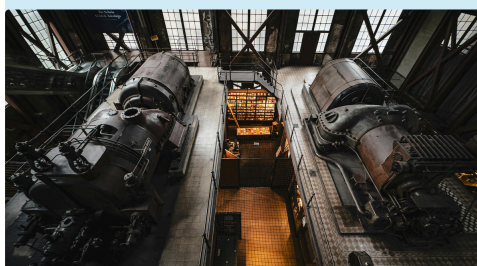
1. Renewable Energy

India crossed a landmark milestone in April 2026 – over 50% of total installed electricity capacity now comes from non-fossil sources, five years ahead of the 2030 Paris Agreement target, with solar capacity reaching 150.26 GW.



2. Defence Manufacturing

India's defence exports hit an all-time high of ₹38,424 crore in FY 2025-26 – a 62.66% jump over the previous year. The private sector contributed 45.16% of total exports, with active exporters rising from 128 to 145.



3. Manufacturing Activity

India's Manufacturing PMI rose to 55.9 in April 2026, up from 53.9 in March, with output, new orders, and employment all expanding – keeping PMI above 50 for over three consecutive years.

