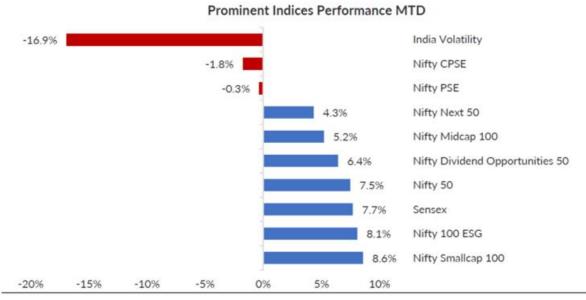


## FAITH & PATIENCE

July 31, 2020

For the month ended July 31, 2020, Nifty 50 index was up 7.49% over previous month's close. Mid and small caps continued to rally. NSE Midcap 100 Index was up 5.22% and NSE Small cap Index was up 8.57%. Within sectors, information technology was up 22.5%, pharma was up 11.65%, auto was up 8.34% whereas realty, banking and consumer durables were relatively weak. Foreign funds were net buyers at USD1.27bn whereas domestic funds net sellers at USD1.34mn.



Source: Bloomberg

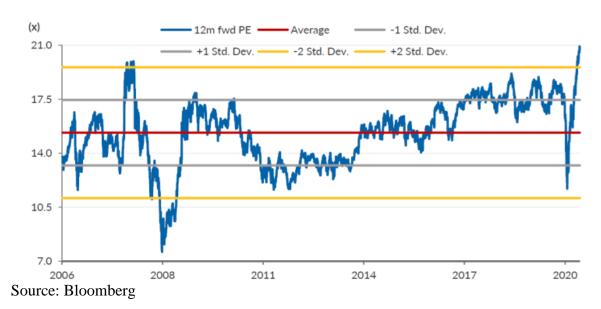
Quarter one FY2021 earning reported so far by Nifty companies appears better than market's beaten down expectations. But we should exclude banks as they benefit from one off moratorium. Ex Financials, Nifty companies have reported revenue decline of 31% whereas EBIDA decline is only at 16.5% as the companies went into cost control mode. PAT decline at 38.3% has been better than consensus estimate of -45% declines.

Autos, telecom, banks, oil & gas, infrastructure and consumers have seen most downgrades for FY2021, whereas metals, cement & IT services have seen some earnings upgrades. Street expectations for FY21 earnings are -4%, with FY22 earnings at +39%. March 21' base case Nifty target of 9900 by the street suggests an unfavourable risk reward and we continue to have a cautious market outlook.

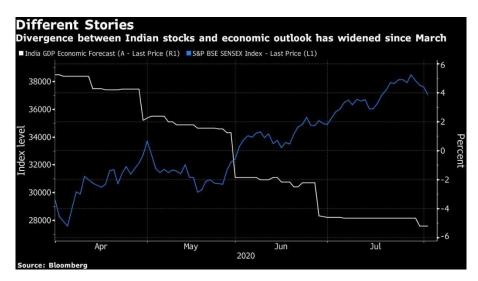
# EquiPoise

### FAITH & PATIENCE

#### 1Year forward Nifty PE multiple at 15 year high



Given that the lockdown in India, and quite a severe one at that compared to the rest of world, has been extended till August 31, the economy is bearing the brunt though the challenges on border with Pakistan, China and Nepal seem to have abated, at least for now. Any adverse news flow related to COVID-19 or geopolitics will obviously have an impact on markets which have run-up ahead of fundamentals. The divergence between Indian stocks (S&P BSE Sensex) and street GDP forecasts has widened since March 2020. (chart attached). We believe Indian economy is best positioned to revive faster than others given the investment focus of Government of India and low penetration levels in virtually all consumer sectors including financial services.





#### FAITH & PATIENCE

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Best,

Aashish Wakankar www.equipoise.in

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