



## Devina Mehra has this advice for market investors ahead of Budget

The Founder, Chairperson and MD, of First Global also discussed her sectoral bets.

By [Prashant Nair](#) | [Sonia Shenoy](#)

July 22, 2024



Devina Mehra, Founder, Chairperson and MD, First Global is fully invested in the market with a 50% hedge to take care of any interim volatility.

While she is not negative on the market for the next 1-2 years, she advises investors to shift to a steadier portfolio and be particularly cautious with small and micro-cap stocks.

"In our portfolios, while we normally used to have about maybe 14-15% investment in stocks, between ₹1,000 and ₹5,000 crore market cap, now we are down to 6% or so. That's because it's an area which you cannot manage risk effectively... Now is the time to go into a steadier portfolio.," she noted.

Mehra manages funds worth over ₹475 crore does see [Budget 2024](#) to be presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman tomorrow (July 23), as a big event.

While there may be some tweaks to the direct and indirect taxes, she does not expect any change in corporate taxes in the budget.

Any change in personal income taxes will help boost consumption.

First Global, which recently rejigged its portfolio, has been slightly overweight on IT since October 2021 and continues to be overweight.

"Our systems are showing that IT has probably bottomed out," Mehra said.

She remains underweight on banks as they have underperformed in every single year since 2020 barring 2022.

"The grave underperformance period might be a little behind you. We have moved out of some public sector undertaking (PSU) banks and added some private sector banks," she said.