

Money Today

A Different SIP

A systematic investment plan (SIP) has so far been restricted to mutual fund (MF) investments alone. However, Kotak Securities has come up with an SIP proposition that allows investments in direct equity and gold along with MFs, thus building a diversified portfolio. Says Prasanth Prabhakaran, senior vice-president and head, broking, Kotak Securities: "With the markets going down in the past seven months, investors are looking at gold to hedge the fall, and this product takes the SIP format to spread into gold and equities." The product, called Auto Invest, allows investment at as low as Rs 2,500 a month. Anyone looking at Auto Invest is first made to undergo a Q&A session with a relationship manager to arrive at his risk profile (*see box*). There are no additional charges on this product, but one needs to pay a brokerage fee. — NARAYAN KRISHNAMURTHY

Risk profile	Feature
Aggressive gold	Only Gold Exchange Traded Funds (ETF)
Aggressive gold—moderate profile	Equity (30%) Diversified MF (50%) Gold ETF (20%)
Aggressive equity	Only stocks—investing in large-, small- and mid-cap firms
Moderate equity	Only large cap stocks
Moderate profile	Equity (80%) Diversified MF (20%)
Conservative equity	Equity (100%)
Conservative equity & mutual funds	Equity (20%) Mutual fund (80%)