




BASICS OF FOREX DERIVATIVES



CH – 2 MODULE A BFM BY ASHISH SIR

Any activity you engage in carries **uncertainty** — and this may result in either a **loss**  or a **gain** .

What is Risk in Financial Terms?




In financial parlance, **risk** is associated with a potential **loss** that may arise due to the **occurrence or non-occurrence of specific events**. It refers to an **unplanned situation** that has **financial consequences**, such as reduced earnings or direct losses.

 **Degree of risk may vary based on:**

	 Parameter	 Influence on Risk
#1	Area of operation	Risk increases with complexity
#2	Volume of transactions	Higher volume = higher risk
#3	Number of players	More stakeholders = more risk




Why is International Trade & Forex Risky?

International trade and foreign exchange operations are highly vulnerable due to:










-  **Complexity of transactions**
-  **Volatile currency behaviors**
-  **Expansive global operations**

 **Risks are unavoidable** in such global activities.

Common Risks in International Trade:

	Type of Risk	Description
#1	 Buyer Risk	Buyer defaults or delays payment
#2	 Seller Risk	Seller fails to deliver goods or services
#3	 Shipping Risk	Goods lost/damaged in transit

\$¥ Common Risks in Forex Operations:

 Type of Risk	 Description
 Exchange Risk #1	Fluctuation in currency value after trade agreement
 Settlement Risk #2	Failure of one party to deliver the funds or currency
 Liquidity Risk #3	Inability to liquidate assets or obtain funds in time
 Country Risk #4	Adverse economic/political changes in the foreign country
 Sovereign Risk #5	Government failing to meet obligations (e.g., defaulting on debts)
 Interest Rate Risk #6	Loss due to fluctuating interest rates
 Operational Risk #7	Internal process failures, system issues, or human error

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Risk-Return Relationship:

Higher Risk ➡ Higher Return ⬆,

But unmanaged risks can exceed acceptable thresholds 🚨.

✅ Need for Risk Management

Risks must be:

- Accepted
- Monitored
- Managed efficiently ✅

👉 This helps minimize negative impacts and maximize profitability or strategic goals of the organization 📈.

📈 Innovative Risk Management: Derivatives

Risks involving **price volatility**, **exchange rates**, and **interest rates** — especially on commodities, currencies, and financial assets — need smart hedging tools.

🎯 **Derivatives** are one such solution.

📊 What Are Derivatives?

A **derivative** is a financial instrument whose **value is derived from an underlying asset** (e.g., currency, commodity, bond, etc.)

🛡️ **Purpose:** To neutralize or reduce the uncertainty or volatility in the exposure.

🌟 Popular Derivative Instruments in Forex:

📖 Instrument	🔍 Purpose
📄 Forward Contracts #1	Lock in exchange rates for future transactions
🇮🇹 Options Call put Buy sell	Right (but not obligation) to buy/sell currency at a set rate
🔄 Swaps	Exchange of cash flows between parties (e.g., interest or currency swap)
📅 Forward Rate Agreements	Lock in interest rates for a future period
📈 Futures	Standardized contracts to buy/sell currency at a future date

exchange
Traded

OTC

→ Bilateral
contracts

Real-Time Examples


#1 Example 1 – Exchange Risk:

An Indian exporter secures a USD payment. Due to a drop in USD-INR rates before settlement, the exporter incurs a **conversion loss**.

 **Solution:** Use a **forward contract** to lock in rates.

Example 2 – Country Risk:

#2 A bank has exposure in Venezuela. Political turmoil leads to **restrictions on fund repatriation**.

 **Solution:** Monitor country credit ratings and limit exposure.


Example 3 – Interest Rate Risk:

#3 A company borrows on a floating interest rate. A sudden spike in interest rates increases its repayment cost.

 **Solution:** Use **interest rate swaps** to convert to fixed-rate.

Human Element of Risk

Risk arises from **uncertainty** — humans cannot predict future outcomes with certainty. Hence, the attempt is always to **control the future impact** by **planning and hedging**.

 Managing risk is about ensuring favorable conditions **on a future date** while reducing the harmful effects of potential adversity.



DEFINITION OF RISK & RISKS IN FOREX OPERATIONS



Risk is an unplanned event that results in financial consequences such as **loss or reduced earnings**.



If the outcome of an activity is uncertain and may lead to loss, it is termed a **risky proposition**, regardless of the potential for gain.



In Life vs. Business



Life: Illness, disability, death



Business: Profit/loss based on operations management



In short: Risk is the **uncertainty of outcomes** — in currencies, commodities, or any object due to **exposure** in that element.



Peculiarities of Forex Markets

Forex markets differ from other commodity markets due to several unique features:

★ Unique Forex Features	🔍 Explanation
🕒 24x7 Market	Operates round the clock globally
📄 OTC Market	Over-the-counter, not limited to any location
📈 High Frequency Fluctuations	Rates change every few seconds
🌐 Government Interventions	Policies & controls can influence exchange rates
🕒 Time Zone Differences	Delayed settlements due to differing business hours



These factors expose participants to a **wide range of risks**, requiring **utmost caution and robust risk management**.

🚨 Any laxity in forex operations can lead to significant losses — even business failure.

🔄 Recap of Major Risks in Forex:

📌 Type of Risk	📝 Quick Definition
💱 Exchange Risk	Currency value fluctuations post-trade
🔄 Settlement Risk	Payment/delivery failure
💧 Liquidity Risk	Difficulty in converting assets to cash
🌐 Country Risk	Political/economic instability abroad
👑 Sovereign Risk	Foreign government default
📈 Interest Rate Risk	Changing interest rates affect profitability
⚙️ Operational Risk	Internal system failures, errors, or fraud

🧩 Summary Table: Key Concepts

🧠 Concept	📌 Description
What is Risk?	<u>Uncertainty leading to financial loss</u>
Why is it unavoidable?	Due to unpredictability in global trade & forex operations
<u>Risks in International Trade</u>	<u>Buyer</u> , <u>Seller</u> , <u>Shipping Risks</u>
Risks in Forex Operations	Exchange, Settlement, Liquidity, Country, Sovereign, Interest, Operational #1 #2
Risk Management Goal	Minimize losses, maximize profits
Derivative Instruments	Tools like forwards, options, swaps used for hedging
Real-Life Examples	Currency drop, country instability, rising interest rates
Forex Market Characteristics	OTC, 24x7, high volatility, global influences

#1 A. Exchange Risk – Most Common Forex Risk

Exchange risk arises from adverse movements in exchange rates that impact the **value of receivables or payables** in foreign currencies. If not **timely covered**, this can lead to losses.

How It Works




Dealers are expected to immediately cover transactions (via matching opposite deals). Delay in doing so exposes them to **exchange risk**, as market rates may move against their position.



Understanding Currency Positions

1000s

500s

 Position Type	 Meaning	 Risk Exposure
#1 Overbought (Long) <i>long</i>	<u>Assets + purchase contracts ></u> Liabilities + sales contracts	Loss if currency depreciates
#2 Oversold (Short) <i>short</i>	Liabilities + sales contracts > Assets + purchase contracts	<u>Loss if currency</u> <u>appreciates</u>



👉 The difference between purchase and sale positions is the **open position** — the dealer's exposure to exchange rate movements.

Why It's Crucial Today

In a **digitally connected world**, currencies are floating against each other 24x7. This makes **open positions highly sensitive** to even small market changes.

Controls to Manage Exchange Risk

Due to trading lags, market volatility, or strategic views, positions are sometimes left open — but strictly within **RBI-approved limits**, such as:




 Limit Type	 Purpose
✅ Daylight Limit #1	Max open position allowed during the day
🌙 Overnight Limit #2	Max position to carry forward overnight
👛 Single Deal Limit #3	Exposure cap on individual trades
🔄 Forward Mismatch (Gap) Limit #4	Controls mismatches in delivery/settlement timing
🛑 Stop Loss Limit #5	Caps loss per trade
📦 Volume/Trading Position Limit #6	Restricts total daily exposure



🏦 RBI allows each bank's **Board of Directors** to define their own exposure limits based on:

- Merchant turnover
- Trading capabilities
- Volume
- Capital base

RBI Limit type
BoD

Types of Exchange Rate Exposures

 Exposure Type	 Description	 Real Example
🔄 Transaction Exposure #1	Arises from day-to-day operations (e.g., sales/purchases in foreign currencies)	An Indian firm invoices \$100,000 in USD. If USD falls before payment, loss occurs.

 Translation Exposure #2	Occurs when revaluing assets/liabilities during financial reporting	Subsidiary books in USD, but parent co. reports in INR – affects financials
 Operating Exposure #3	Comes from market changes affecting competitiveness or pricing indirectly	Reduced import duties → more imports → affects local exporter's profitability

B. Settlement Risk – Also Called Herstatt Risk

OTC

Settlement risk arises from the **failure of a counterparty** during the final stages of a foreign exchange transaction.

 **Forex Market Size:**






Daily turnover exceeds **US\$ 1.5 trillion** – all traded **without a central clearing house** 😬.

What Makes It Risky?

Each transaction is settled **individually between counterparties**.

Without central clearance, there's a chance that one party pays and the other defaults — leading to **total loss** for the paying party.

Types of Settlement Risk

 Type	 Definition	 Risk Level
 Pre-settlement Risk #1	Risk that a counterparty may <u>default before maturity</u> of the contract	Partial (based on market rate difference)
 Settlement Risk #2	Risk of default during actual payment due to time zone differences	Total (if currency is delivered but not received)

Real-World Example – Herstatt Risk







What Happened?

Temporal Risk

In 1974, German bank **Bankhaus Herstatt** received Deutsche Marks but failed before releasing US Dollars.





👉 This caused **losses** for global banks in different time zones. The incident coined the term **“Herstatt Risk”**.

Time Zones & Settlement Failure

 Country	 Time Zone	 Scenario
 Japan	GMT+9	Sends Yen in early hours
 Germany	GMT+1	Yet to open → fails before sending Euros
 Result	—	Japan loses its Yen without receiving Euros (Total loss!)

How Banks Manage Settlement Risk

Banks apply **credit limits per counterparty** to cap risk:








 Credit Controls	 Description
 Maximum Outstanding Limit	Caps total exposure at any time with a single counterparty
 Daily Delivery Limit	Restricts daily currency delivery to reduce loss in case of failure

Global Solutions:

- Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) systems
- **Payment vs. Payment (PvP) frameworks**

- Unified **GMT-based books** to eliminate time lags

Summary Table – Exchange & Settlement Risk


 Risk Type	 Definition	 Potential Impact	 Mitigation Strategy
 Exchange Risk	Currency fluctuation after contract but before settlement	Financial loss on payables/receivables	<u>Immediate covering, RBI limits, stop-loss</u>
 Pre-settlement Risk	Default before contract maturity	Partial loss (market difference)	Counterparty credit assessment
 Settlement Risk	Default during actual fund transfer (time zone issue)	Total loss of funds delivered	<u>PvP systems, RTGS, time zone sync (GMT)</u>

#3

C. Liquidity Risk – When Markets or Funds Dry Up

funding Risk

Liquidity risk arises when a party involved in a forex transaction is unable to meet its funding requirement or execute a deal at a reasonable price.

 It's also the risk of not being able to exit or offset a position quickly due to market illiquidity.

Market Liquidity Risk
Asset Liquidity Risk

 Real Example – USD Deal

◆ An Indian bank purchases USD against INR. However, its USD nostro account lacks sufficient funds.

➡ The bank cannot borrow or buy USD at a reasonable rate in time.

🎯 Result: **Liquidity risk is triggered.**

📊 Key Characteristics of Liquidity Risk

⚠️ Risk Scenario	💥 Consequence
#1 Inability to fund forex settlements	Delayed payments or failed contracts
Market becomes illiquid #2	<u>Cannot liquidate positions without significant cost</u>
High bid-offer spreads #3	Reduced profitability or forced losses

🛡️ Managing Liquidity Risk

To mitigate liquidity risk, banks must:

- Maintain **strong cash/funds management**
- Control asset-liability maturity mismatches
- Set maturity mismatch limits and open position limits

ALM

either overbought or oversold

📋 Control Measures	🔍 Purpose
✅ <u>Maturity Mismatch Limit</u>	Avoid timing mismatches in cash inflows/outflows
📉 <u>Reduce Open Position</u>	<u>Minimize exposure that can't be exited quickly</u>
🔄 <u>Funds Management System</u>	Ensure real-time funding capability

🌐 D. Country Risk & 🏰 Sovereign Risk

Part 2 (11-2 A BFM)

Country risk arises when a **foreign entity (private or sovereign)** is **unable or unwilling to fulfill obligations** due to **external, non-commercial factors**.

🧠 Key Triggers of Country Risk

🧱 Trigger	📌 Description
💵 Exchange Controls #1	Local government restricts foreign currency flows
📜 Regulatory Restrictions #2	Sudden laws or directives block payments
📉 Economic Instability #3	Issues like BOP crisis, low forex reserves
⚖️ Legal Restrictions #4	Foreign laws prevent honoring of existing contracts

💡 Real Example – Externalization Risk

A company in Country A wants to repay its USD loan to a bank in India.

However, Country A's central bank imposes **currency controls** restricting outward remittance.







🎯 Though the borrower **intends to repay**, it is **legally restricted** — this is **country risk**.

👑 Sovereign Risk – A Special Case

Sovereign risk arises when the **foreign government or its agency** itself is the counterparty.

👑 Sovereign Risk Features	💥 Impact
Government has sovereign immunity #1	<u>No legal recourse available to affected parties</u>
Policy or regime change #2	Existing contracts may become invalid
No intent to default #3	But external laws may prohibit compliance

Managing Country/Sovereign Risk

 Risk Mitigation Techniques	 Description
 Country-wise Exposure Limits #1	Set maximum allowable risk by country
 Regular Monitoring of Difficult Countries #2	Continual reassessment of high-risk zones
 Third-country Jurisdiction Clauses #3	Legal contracts governed by neutral countries
 Sovereign Risk Disclaimers in Contracts #4	Limit bank's exposure to unforeseeable foreign legal changes

E. Interest Rate Risk – The GAP Trap

Also known as **GAP risk**, interest rate risk is the potential **financial loss due to unfavorable movements** in interest rates or rate differentials.


When & How Does It Occur?

Banks engage in:

47.1

- Spot & forward currency trades \$¥
- Borrowing/lending in foreign currencies 💵
- Derivative contracts like **swaps, futures, or options** 📄

➡ These activities rarely match perfectly in terms of cash flow timings or interest basis ➡ this **mismatch is called a GAP**.

 **Real Example** – A bank borrows at **LIBOR + 1%** and lends at a fixed rate of **5%**.

If LIBOR increases significantly, the cost of borrowing rises,
narrowing or reversing the spread.

🎯 Result: Interest rate risk.

$$\text{forward points} = \frac{\text{Spot Rate} \times \text{fwd period} \times \text{Intt Rate Diff}}{360 \times 100}$$





Types of Interest Rate Risk

Risk Type	Explanation
Forward Differential Impact #1	Forward rates change with interest rate movement, affecting swap/forward contracts
#2 Cash Flow Mismatches	Irregular inflows/outflows due to asset-liability misalignment
Basis Risk #3	Different interest bases (e.g., <u>LIBOR</u> vs <u>SOFR</u>) fluctuate at different rates
Spread Risk #4	Unanticipated narrowing of the spread between borrowing and lending

Managing Interest Rate Risk

Risk Control Strategy	Purpose
Individual & Aggregate GAP Limits #1	Caps total mismatches in exposure
Sensitivity Analysis / Interest Rate Projections #2	Forecast profit/loss scenarios under different rate environments
Value at Risk (VaR) / Interest Rate Sensitivity Test #3	Measure & quantify exposure
Derivatives (Swaps, FRAs, Options) #4	Hedge against adverse rate movements



Summary Table – Liquidity, Country & Interest Rate Risks

Risk Type	Definition	Impact	Mitigation Tools
 Liquidity Risk #1	Inability to fund obligations or <u>exit positions quickly</u>	Delays, high-cost trades, default	<u>Maturity matching, cash management, position limits</u>
 Country Risk #2	Foreign counterparty unable/unwilling to pay due to external laws/regulations	Blocked payments, legal complications	<u>Country exposure limits, disclaimers, legal clauses</u>
 Sovereign Risk #3	Foreign government itself defaults or changes contract terms	No legal recourse, total loss	3rd country jurisdictions, <u>sovereign disclaimers</u>
 Interest Rate Risk #4	Financial loss from fluctuating interest rates or mismatches (GAP)	Lower spreads, cash flow mismatches	<u>GAP limits, swaps, FRAs, sensitivity testing</u>

F. Operational Risk – Risks from Within

Operational risk arises due to **failures in internal processes, information systems, human errors, or infrastructure deficiencies**, especially within a **dealing room**.

What Can Go Wrong?

Source of Risk	Impact
 Computer system failure #1	Halt in trading, delayed settlements, missed opportunities
 Communication breakdown #2	Inability to confirm or execute trades



Human error or negligence

Incorrect bookings, unauthorized deals, regulatory violations

#3









Real Example: A dealer enters the wrong amount in a forex trade due to a manual input error. Without system validation or immediate oversight, it leads to a major financial loss and non-compliance with internal limits.



Mitigating Operational Risk




To contain operational risk, banks should implement:

 Control Measures	 Description
 State-of-the-art IT infrastructure #1	Reliable, secure, and fast systems for trade execution
 Back-up systems (Mirroring) #2	Duplication of data & systems at remote sites
 Disaster Recovery & Contingency Plans #3	Plans to resume operations in case of total failure
 Manpower redundancy #4	Alternate staff availability during crises



G. Legal Risk – Risk of Contracts Going Void

Legal risk occurs when a transaction is **not legally enforceable** due to:

-  Lack of legal authority or capacity by the counterparty
-  Violation of legal/regulatory guidelines
-  Misinterpretation of applicable rules/laws

💡 **Real Example – Invalid Counterparty Deal:** A trader enters a forex swap with a counterparty that is later found to lack regulatory clearance to trade derivatives.

🎯 The contract becomes **unenforceable**, exposing the bank to loss.

🔍 Elements of Legal Risk

⚠️ Issue Type	📝 Description
❌ Incapacity #1	Counterparty lacks legal status to contract
📄 Documentation Errors #2	Missing or flawed clauses leading to disputes
📋 Regulatory Non-compliance #3	Breach of laws/guidelines leads to fines or voided agreements
🤝 Dispute over Jurisdiction #4	Courts disagree on applicable legal authority

🛡️ Legal Risk Management Measures









📋 Legal Safeguard	🔍 Purpose
📖 Standardized Legal Documentation #1	Use templates vetted by legal experts
⚖️ Third-party Legal Review #2	Especially for large/value-based transactions
🌐 Jurisdiction Clauses #3	Clearly state applicable laws and courts in contracts
🔴 Counterparty Legal Vetting #4	Verify licenses, registration, and regulatory clearances

📊 Risk Management Framework – Structured Control of Risks

Managing risk begins with **identifying and assessing** the risk.

#1 Identify
#2 Quantification




Can All Risks Be Measured?

 Risk Type	 Quantifiable?	 Measurement Tools
 Exchange /  Interest Rate Risk	Yes	Value at Risk (VaR), gap analysis, scenarios
 Country /  Operational Risk	Not fully quantifiable	Qualitative assessment, limits, controls
 Legal Risk	No	Legal audits, documentation reviews

Risk Management: Process & Policy





A robust risk management system involves:

Top-Level Policy Setting

- The **Board of Directors** sets:
 -  Detailed risk policy
 -  Limit structures
 -  Risk appetite vs. reward expectation



Ultimate Responsibility

Implementation by Management








- Provides:
 -  Trained manpower
 -  Required tools & tech
 -  Monitoring & reporting systems
 -  Regulatory compliance assurance

Continual Monitoring & Review








- Risk profiles, limits, and tools must be:

-  Regularly reviewed
-  Updated based on changing market dynamics

Core Components of a Risk Management Framework

 Component	 Function
 Risk Policy #1	Defines goals, roles, acceptable risk levels
 MIS (Management Info System) #2	Provides timely, accurate data for decision-making
 Risk Measurement Tools #3	<u>VaR, duration analysis, sensitivity analysis</u>
 Risk Limits #4	Set boundaries for acceptable exposures
 Review & Reporting Mechanism #5	Tracks breaches and ensures accountability

Final Summary Table – Operational, Legal & Risk Management



 Area	 Definition / Purpose	 Risk Exposure	 Mitigation Tools
 Operational Risk #1	Internal failures: systems, people, processes	<u>Missed trades,</u> <u>incorrect deals,</u> <u>reputational loss</u>	<u>Backup systems, disaster plans, automation, mirroring</u>
 Legal Risk #2	Transaction not legally valid or enforceable	Contract disputes, penalties, nullified deals	<u>Legal vetting, proper documentation, jurisdiction clauses</u>
 Risk Management #3	Structured process to identify, measure & manage risk	Inadequate policies lead to uncontrolled risk	Board-set policies, limits, MIS, sensitivity analysis, VaR tools

BoD
RBI

FEDAI

Guidelines for Risk Management in Forex Operations

The **broad risk policy** approved by a bank's **Board of Directors**, and implemented by its **top management**, must comply with the **regulatory guidelines** issued by:




-  **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**
-  **Foreign Exchange Dealers' Association of India (FEDAI)**

These guidelines aim to ensure **safe and controlled** foreign exchange operations.

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RBI's Internal Control Guidelines (ICG)







RBI's **Internal Control Guidelines (ICG)** cover various areas related to **forex dealing room operations**, such as:

-  Code of conduct for dealers and brokers
-  Setup of dealing rooms and back offices
-  Risk control framework and limits

ICG








Key Dealing Limits under ICG

 Limit Type	 Description
 Overnight Limit #1	Maximum exposure a bank can hold after market hours (i.e., overnight)
 Daylight Limit #2	Maximum exposure allowed during the day for trading or client deals
 Gap Limit #3	Limits on inter-period/month exposures (unhedged forward positions)

 Counterparty Limit	Max exposure allowed on a single counterparty #3
 Country Risk Limit	Max exposure allowed to a particular country #4
 Dealer Limit #5	Max exposure that an individual dealer can take during operations
 Stop Loss Limit #6	Max adverse rate movement allowed before the position must be exited
 Settlement Risk Limit #7	Max amount maturing with a single counterparty on a specific day
 Deal Size Limit #8	Cap on size of individual forex deals to limit operational risk

Additional Risk Controls **gmp**

Banks also implement limits on:









 Control Area	 Description
 Value at Risk (VaR) #1	Statistical measure to quantify potential portfolio loss
 Currencies Traded #2	Authorized currencies for trading by bank/dealers
 Nostro Balance Limit #3	Max permissible funds in foreign accounts
 Overdraft Limits #4	Caps on OD facilities in nostro accounts
 Approved Broker Panels #5	Only empaneled brokers allowed for trading

RBI's Master Circular – Risk Management & Interbank Dealings

RBI's Master Circular provides a **comprehensive framework** for:

-  **Risk management tools for residents/non-residents**
-  **Hedging of forex exposures**
-  **Authorized dealer facilities**
-  **Documentation & reporting norms**

What the Circular Covers

 Section	 Summary
 Forward Contracts #1 <i>Vanilla</i>	Booking allowed based on exposure or past turnover
 Interest Rate Swaps / Options #2	Guidelines for structured interest rate hedging
 FX Derivatives for ADs #3	Rules for dealers to hedge foreign currency assets/liabilities
 Interbank Dealings	Procedures, deal size limits, gap norms, position limits
 FCY Accounts / Lending / Borrowing	Norms for foreign currency accounts, loans, borrowings
 Reporting to RBI	Mandatory reports on exposures and positions





Settlement Risk Mitigation – Indian Scenario

India has a specialized solution for mitigating **settlement risk** in forex and money markets:





CCIL – Clearing Corporation of India Ltd.

 CCIL acts as a **central counterparty** to interbank deals, especially

in:

-  **Repos**
-  **CBLOs (Collateralized Borrowing and Lending Obligation)**
-  **Government securities (gilts)**
-  **USD/INR forex deals**




🧠 How CCIL Works

🔍 Feature	📝 Explanation
 Netted Settlement	Only net amount (payable/receivable) is settled for each participant
 Member-only Access	<u>Both parties in a forex deal must be CCIL members</u>
 Settlement Guarantee Fund (SGF)	<u>Covers defaults using a common pooled fund</u>
 Deal File Submission	Participants submit trade details for netting and settlement



💡 **Example:** Bank A and Bank B are both CCIL members. Each submits their forex trade files to CCIL.

Instead of settling multiple trades individually, CCIL **nets** them and only one **final INR & USD transfer** is done. **This reduces both liquidity and settlement risk.**

🧩 Summary Table – Risk Guidelines & Settlement Controls

📌 Area	📝 Description	🎯 Risk Mitigation Tool / Limit
 RBI's ICG	Framework for forex operations & internal control	Deal limits, counterparty/country/position exposure caps
 RBI Master Circular	Comprehensive risk & derivative guidelines	Forward contracts, swaps, options, AD permissions
 Settlement Risk	Risk of counterparty failure during transaction closure	CCIL net settlement, <u>SGF</u> , member-only access <i>Gilt Reps CBLO USD/INR</i>

8 Rules

 FEDAI	Operational procedures and best practices	Dealer conduct, market discipline
 Internal Bank Policy	Limits as per risk appetite and capital	<u>RB1 + FEDAI</u> Stop loss, VaR, nostro limits, broker panel, jurisdiction rules

What Are Derivatives – History and Development

Derivatives are often viewed with a **sense of mystery or complexity**. However, their foundation is straightforward — a derivative is a **financial instrument whose value is derived from another asset**, known as the **underlying**.






Definition




A **derivative** is a contract whose value depends on the price of an underlying asset, index, rate, or variable.

Relationship with the Underlying

Even if an investor holds no direct interest in the underlying asset, the **price movement of the underlying directly impacts the value of the derivative** — and vice versa.

What Can Be the Underlying?



 Type of Underlying	 Examples
 Commodities #1	Agricultural goods, oil, gas, metals like gold/silver
 Currencies #2	USD, EUR, INR, JPY
 Interest Rates #3	LIBOR, SOFR, Repo rates

#4  Financial Instruments	Treasury bills, government bonds, corporate debt
 Stock Indices #5	SENSEX, NIFTY, S&P 500
 Equity Shares #6	Individual company stocks



Historical Evolution of Derivatives

Although the formal term "derivative" is modern, the **concept dates back centuries**.

Early Usage

-  **Japan (Edo period)**: Farmers sold rice produce for future delivery.
-  **High Seas Trade**: Merchants priced goods for future delivery.

Major Milestones in Derivatives Development






 Year	 Milestone
1971	Collapse of Bretton Woods System and USD delinking from gold
Early 1970s	 Chicago Mercantile Exchange launches currency futures
1975	 First interest rate futures introduced
1983	 Philadelphia Stock Exchange launches currency options
Early 1980s	 Introduction of interest rate swaps
Mid-1980s	 Surge in commodity, interest rate, and exchange rate derivatives

Trigger for Market Explosion:

Volatility in exchange and interest rates post-Bretton Woods collapse


led to **demand for hedging tools**, igniting global derivative market growth.


Who Uses Derivatives?

 Participant	 Purpose
 Hedgers	Manage risk in real asset or liability (e.g., exporters, importers)
 Speculators	Take directional bets on market movements
 Arbitrageurs	Profit from mispricing across markets by executing simultaneous trades






Impact on Financial Markets

Derivatives provided **risk management tools** that:

- Boosted **global trade** 
- Enhanced **investment flows**
- Encouraged **financial innovation**
- Expanded market participation

 By **adding liquidity, depth, and pricing efficiency**, derivatives became essential instruments in modern finance.

Growth Explosion – Derivatives Market Stats (BIS Data)

 Time Period	 Market Statistics
April 1988	 Daily average derivatives turnover: USD 1.3 trillion
June 1998	 Notional outstanding for OTC contracts: USD 72 trillion
	 Notional outstanding for exchange-traded contracts: USD 14 trillion

⚙️ Key Drivers of Derivative Market Growth

🚀 Factor	🔍 Description
📄 Increased Volatility #1	In FX, interest rates, and commodities → need for hedging tools
🛢️ Oil Shocks (1971 onwards) #2	Sudden price surges increased market uncertainty
🌐 Globalization #3	Cross-border investments exposed businesses to multi-currency risks
🕒 Real-time Trading Platforms #4	Enabled 24x7 global trading
🏢 Advanced Pricing Models #5	Developed using computing power (e.g., Black-Scholes, Monte Carlo methods)
👤 Professional Market Participants #6	Banks, corporates, traders adopted derivatives for risk mitigation
🏠 Product Innovation #7	Rise in futures, swaps, options, and structured derivative products

🧩 Summary Table – Derivatives: History & Development

📌 Topic	📝 Key Details
🔄 Underlying Assets #1	Commodities, currencies, interest rates, bonds, stock indices, etc.
🍷 Historical Use #2	Futures and options in Japan and maritime trade
📅 Key Milestones	<u>Currency futures (1970s), interest rate swaps (1980s), options (1983)</u>
📈 Market Participants	<u>Hedgers, speculators, arbitrageurs</u>
🚀 Growth Drivers	Volatility, globalization, tech innovation, market professionalism

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