
Introduction

Welcome to **Market Fundamentals**, the first step in your trading journey. In this module, we will build a strong foundation by understanding how financial markets work, the key players involved, and the factors that drive prices. Whether your interest is in **Indian Stock Markets, Forex, or Cryptocurrencies**, these basics apply everywhere.

1. What Are Financial Markets?

A **financial market** is where buyers and sellers come together to trade financial assets like stocks, currencies, and digital tokens.

Types of markets covered here:

- **Indian Stock Market (NSE & BSE)**
 - **Forex Market (Global currency trading)**
 - **Crypto Market (Digital assets like Bitcoin, Ethereum, etc.)**
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2. Market Participants

- **Retail Traders:** Individuals like you and me.
 - **Institutional Investors:** Banks, mutual funds, hedge funds.
 - **Governments & Central Banks:** Major influence in forex.
 - **Whales & Exchanges:** Big movers in crypto.
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3. Indian Stock Market Basics

- **NSE (National Stock Exchange)** and **BSE (Bombay Stock Exchange)** are India's primary exchanges.
- **Indices:** Nifty 50, Sensex – benchmarks of the market.
- **Instruments:** Equity shares, futures, options.
- **Key Drivers:** Economic growth, RBI policies, corporate earnings.

4. Forex Market Basics

- World's largest financial market, trading **24/5**.
- Currencies are traded in **pairs** (e.g., USD/INR, EUR/USD).
- **Major Influences:**
 - Interest rates
 - Inflation data
 - Global events (elections, wars, etc.)

5. Cryptocurrency Market Basics

- **Decentralized** and runs **24/7**.
- Traded on exchanges like Binance, Coinbase, Indian exchanges like WazirX.
- **Key Concepts:** Blockchain, tokens, stablecoins, volatility.
- **Risks:** High price swings, regulation uncertainty, scams.

6. Fundamental vs Technical Analysis

- **Fundamental Analysis:** Study of economic, financial, and real-world factors affecting price.
- **Technical Analysis:** Study of price charts and patterns.
Both are important and will be covered in upcoming modules.

7. Risk Awareness

- All markets carry **risk**.
- No system guarantees profit.
- Start small, practice discipline, and never trade with money you can't afford to lose.

Summary

In this module, you've learned:

- What markets are and why they exist.
- Key differences between stock, forex, and crypto markets.
- Basic factors that drive prices.
- Importance of risk management.

This foundation will prepare you for **Module 2: Technical Analysis Mastery**, where we'll explore how to read charts, indicators, and price action.

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