WEEKLY BULLETIN September 2025: Issue #1

Quote of the Week.

"Spotting problems is easy — it takes real insight to uncover the opportunities within them" – Anonymous

Three points worth noting as we step into September:

1. Fed Cut Hopes Drive U.S. Momentum

Markets are leaning toward a 50 bps cut in September, fueling equity optimism. The key risk: whether rate cuts lead to sustainable growth or just liquidity-driven rallies.
Investor takeaway: U.S. assets may rally near-term, but sticky inflation could spark disappointment.

2. Tariff "TACO" Fatigue

Trump's tariff flip-flops ("Trump Always Chickens Out") are eroding confidence, even among allies, and have accelerated deeper trade ties between India and China. The uncertainty is now compounded by internal clashes in Washington, where Trump faces pushback from lawmakers questioning both the legality and economic wisdom of his tariff strategy. This political tug-of-war risks creating a blizzard of unpredictable headlines that will keep markets on edge.
Investor takeaway: Expect volatility around tariff headlines, but the structural shift is toward non-U.S. trade partnerships.

3. China's Painful Pivot but Resilient Transition

China's U.S. exports fell 33% in August, yet shipments to Asia, the Middle East, and Africa are rising—solar panel exports to Africa alone jumped 60% YTD. While short-term pain is real, Belt & Road trade corridors are planting seeds for long-term resilience. With India, South Korea and Australia showing interest to deepen relationship with China, the pain will likely turn into sweet fruits ahead. .
Investor takeaway: Watch infrastructure, logistics, and renewables across Belt & Road regions as structural growth plays.

Conclusion & Action Plan

- Trade U.S. momentum tactically – ride the Fed-cut optimism but be ready to trim if inflation disappoints.
- Diversify beyond tariff risk – increase exposure to ASEAN, India, and MENA as alternatives to U.S.-centric flows.
- Position for China's pivot – focus on infrastructure, logistics, and renewables in Belt & Road regions as long-term growth plays.

Last Week 's Notable Events.

US Economy/Politics

- Trump warns 'fairly substantial' chip tariffs are coming; signals Apple, Meta, Oracle will be safe - 4th Sep
- Trump signs order cutting Japanese tariffs to 15%, part of $550 billion investment deal – 5th Sep
- US August Nonfarm Payroll +22K vs exp +75K; Unemployment 4.3% vs last 4.2% - 5th Sep
- Trump signs order granting exemptions; zero duties begin Monday for aligned partners – 7th Sep
- Treasury Secretary Bessent warns of massive refunds if the Supreme Court voids Trump tariffs – 8th Sep

Europe Economy/Politics

- European companies cut jobs as economy slows – 5th Sep
- Euro Q2 GDP 1.5% y/y vs exp 1.4% - 5th Sep

Asia Pacific Economy/Equity

- Trade Minister touts Malaysia's advantage as a chip investment destination – 4th Sep
- China slaps up to 78% tariffs on US Fiber Optic Imports in first-ever anti-circumvention case – 5th Sep
- China-Russia landmark pipeline deal tilts global energy politics – 5th Sep
- Thai tycoon Anutin takes office as PM after royal endorsement, third PM in 2 years- 6th Sep
- Japan PM Ishiba resigns after bruising election losses – 8th Sep

Weekly Data Monitor

Weekly chart:

- S&P500 hit fresh record on 4th Sep.
- US dollar index fall on Fed cut hope
- Gold traded above $3,500 on weakening US economic data.

Note: The chart shows normalised weekly highs and lows for the Indicator, BLUE being the LATEST.

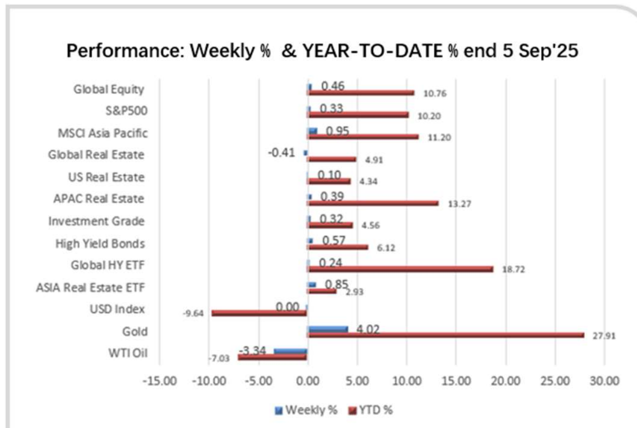

Chart of the Week

Société Générale GLP FP) shares have staged a powerful rally this year, climbing from €27 to a high of €59.42 YTD on the back of strong earnings and robust capital returns. More recently, the stock has pulled back by over 11%, not due to business fundamentals, but amid heightened political uncertainty in France.

This dip presents a compelling setup. Historically, French leadership transitions tend to generate short-term volatility but have little long-term impact on the performance of leading financial institutions. Société Générale, with its solid balance sheet, resilient earnings, and an active €1 billion share buyback program (already 30% executed), remains well-positioned.

Key Levels to Watch:

- Resistance zone between €53 to €54 (recent pivot)
- Support zone between €46 to €48 (multiple trend lines converge here)

With an upside of 16-17% under base case scenario, and $1 billion buyback program (30% executed), I believe