

# Bulk and block deals hit ₹91,645 cr in May as promoters exit stakes

**BIG JUMP.** Sell-side bulk deals soared over five-fold to ₹62,230 crore from ₹11,338 crore in April

**Suresh P. Iyengar**  
Mumbai

The value of bulk and block deals on stock exchanges hit a new high this year at ₹91,645 crore in May as promoters of leading companies trimmed their holdings, given the growing economic uncertainty.

The sell-side bulk deals increased more than five times last month to ₹62,230 crore against ₹11,338 crore logged in April while on the buy-side, it was up 86 per cent to ₹18,113 crore (₹9,734 crore), according to data sourced from Prime Database.

The number of bulk deals also jumped last month to 941 against 762 deals in April.

Similarly, sell-and-buy side block deals increased

multifold to ₹5,647 crore (₹506 crore) last month while the number of deals were up at 26 (5) last month.

Block deals are private arrangements between a single seller and buyers transacted in a separate window of exchanges with a minimum transaction size of ₹10 crore.

On trading days, two 15-minute block deal sessions are conducted in the morning and afternoon.

Bulk deals involve transactions where at least 0.5 per cent of a company's equity changes hands.

## MAJOR DEALS

The large deals include Bharti Airtel promoter Pastel selling shares worth ₹12,880 crore through bulk deal last month.

Pastel directly holds 9.49 per cent stake in the telecom operator as of March-end.

## Bulk/block deals

	Total deals	Buy (₹ crore)	Sell (₹ crore)
Jan, 2025	1,218	24,630.18	26,008.36
Feb, 2025	857	20,631.17	19,931.77
Mar, 2025	1,386	27,436.36	29,025.83
Apr, 2025	767	10,240.40	11,844.55
May, 2025	967	23760.18	67,885.01

Source: primebbdatabase.com

Similarly, British multinational BAT Plc trimmed its ownership in conglomerate ITC by divesting a 2.5 per cent stake for ₹12,927 crore while InterGlobe Aviation promoter Rakesh Gangwal and his family trust sold a 5.7 per cent stake in the airline for about ₹11,385 crore through block deal.

Ajay Garg, CEO, SMC Global Securities said that the increase in bulk and block deals were led by promoters selling the stake to

lock in gains, funding new ventures or diversifying their portfolios.

## SIGNALS CAUTION

However, concentration of selling in certain segments could raise concerns about market liquidity and stability, particularly in smaller companies, though this does not necessarily reflect domestic economic weakness, he added.

Nikunj Saraf, VP, Choice Wealth, said when pro-

motors unload stakes at record volumes, it reflects that valuations have peaked and signals caution on future growth.

## MONETISING HOLDINGS

With rich market multiples, promoters are encouraged to monetise their holdings even at 3-8 per cent discounts on block deals as they opt to lock in gains rather than risk a potential fall in valuation, he said.

The rising global headwinds and muted March quarter earnings have cast doubt on near term earnings momentum, he added.

However, Saraf added many promoters reinvest proceeds into diversified portfolios — creating family offices, setting up alternate asset classes or estate planning vehicles to secure wealth across generations.