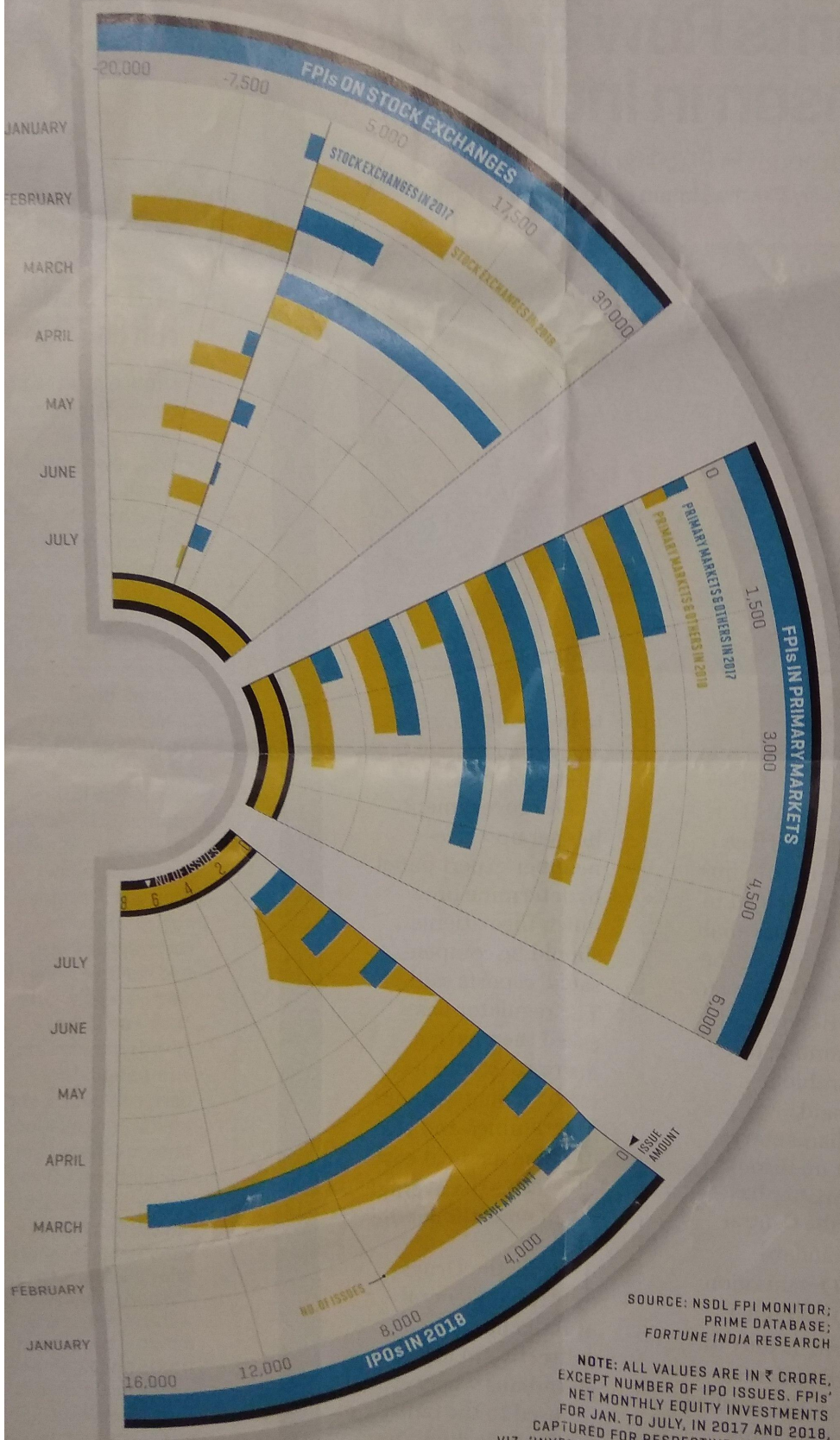


**20,663** ₹ CRORE  
 The amount FPIs invested in primary markets during January-July 2018

# ANALYTICS

Seeing Trends in the Data



SOURCE: NSDL FPI MONITOR; PRIME DATABASE; FORTUNE INDIA RESEARCH

NOTE: ALL VALUES ARE IN ₹ CRORE, EXCEPT NUMBER OF IPO ISSUES. FPIs' NET MONTHLY EQUITY INVESTMENTS FOR JAN. TO JULY, IN 2017 AND 2018, CAPTURED FOR RESPECTIVE CATEGORIES, VIZ. 'INVESTMENTS ON STOCK EXCHANGE' AND 'INVESTMENTS IN PRIMARY MARKETS & OTHERS'.

## ■ EQUITIES

### FPIs' PRIMARY MARKETS CUSHION

If foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) hadn't invested ₹20,663 crore in primary markets between January and July, one would have thought they'd given up on India. That's because in the same period, they had a net outflow of ₹24,829 crore on the bourses—at a time the broader equity indices were hitting new highs. Thanks to their primary market bets, FPIs' net equity investments in the first seven months of 2018 were a negative ₹4,166.7 crore. Compared to the corresponding period in 2017, the current bull run looks treacherous. Because, in 2017, while FPIs invested a net ₹15,771 crore in primary markets, their investments on stock exchanges were a positive ₹42,744 crore. So, it is only fair to believe that FPIs are timing surging indices with their paring of investments. And with a steady pipeline of initial public offerings (IPOs), 'hot money' is still chasing returns within India. According to data from New Delhi-based PRIME Database, which tracks fundraising activities in primary markets, the first seven months of 2018 have seen 20 IPO issues, which have mopped up ₹27,364 crore.

By Rajiv Bhuvra