Rs 21,000 crore IPO rush in August highest in one year. Will September break all records?

By Akash Podishetti, ETMarkets.com Last Updated: Aug 24, 2026, 09:37:00 AM IST

Synopsis
In August, India's IPO market witnessed a remarkable recovery, becoming the most active month in nearly a year. Over twenty companies successfully raised more than twenty-one thousand crore rupees through public offerings. This revitalization comes after a quieter first half characterized by market instability and concerns over valuations. Positive market sentiment, coupled with strong performances from recent listings, has encouraged a significant number of companies to prepare for their IPOs.

India's IPO market is seeing its busiest month in nearly a year, with 20 companies raising more than Rs 21,000 crore in August so far, helped by better market sentiment, stronger listing gains and a large pipeline of companies waiting to go public. The number of IPOs in August is the highest in the last one year. The last busier month was September 2025, when 25 companies launched public issues.

In terms of fundraising, August is the second-best month of this year. July remains the strongest month of 2026 so far, with companies raising more than Rs 28,000 crore.

The surge marks a sharp pick-up after a slower first half of the year, when volatile markets and valuation concerns had delayed several offerings. Bankers and market experts said many companies had kept their IPO plans ready but were waiting for better market conditions before launching their issues.

Pranav Haldea, Managing Director of Prime Database, said August's IPO activity is largely a release of pent-up supply after a subdued first half, rather than a sudden change in fundamentals.

"The slight improvement in market sentiment, strong performance of recent listings and more realistic pricing by issuers together helped in reopening the IPO window," Haldea said. "Importantly, this is a more selective market, with investors showing a greater willingness to back companies where valuations and business quality are compelling."

Grey market activity has also improved. Several IPOs opening this week are commanding GMPs of more than 50%, showing strong demand in the unofficial market. GMPs are not official indicators and can change quickly, but they are closely tracked by retail investors before subscription opens and ahead of listing.

The pick-up in GMPs follows a period of strong listing performance in select recent IPOs. That has helped revive retail and high-net-worth investor interest, especially in issues where valuations appear reasonable and the business has a clear growth story.

Still, the market is not accepting every issue blindly. Some companies have had to defer IPO plans, cut valuations or reduce issue sizes. Investors are looking more closely at profitability, debt levels, promoter exits and the use of fresh issue proceeds.

Haldea said this remains a difficult market despite the return of IPO momentum. "This is not an easy market as we have already seen from the deferments and cuts in valuation and issue sizes," he said. "Nevertheless, I expect the momentum to continue in September, especially in light of the approvals which shall soon be expiring."

The pipeline remains large. According to Prime Database data as of July, 251 companies are waiting to raise about Rs 4.93 lakh crore through IPOs. That gives the market enough supply for the coming months, provided secondary market conditions remain stable.

The next few weeks will be important for the primary market. A strong run of subscriptions and listings could encourage more companies to launch their issues before regulatory approvals lapse. A weak listing or a sharp fall in the broader market could slow the rush again.

(Disclaimer: Recommendations, suggestions, views and opinions given by the experts are their own. These do not represent the views of Economic Times)