

Retail stake in NSE firms at 6-year high

■ Smaller companies preferred by retail investors

New Delhi, May 26

RETAIL investors' holding in NSE-listed companies has hit a 6-year high of 21.35% at the end of March 2015, with a valuation of nearly ₹8 lakh crore, primarily due to a sharp jump in equity markets.

Interestingly, retail investors opted for smaller companies to invest as institutional investors typically gave them a miss.

According to Prime Database, the holding went up to 21.35% at the end of March 2015, from 20.99% as of March 2014.

Foreign portfolio investors' (FPIs) ownership in NSE-listed firms read 6.44% while that of domestic institutional investors (DIIs) came in at 5.01%.

"The retail ownership at 21.35% is the highest in the last six years, rising from 20.96% in June 2009... The value of retail holdings has recorded a handsome increase, reaching the highest level at ₹7.94 lakh crore, up 50% from a year ago, courtesy the buoyant markets," the report stated.

However, the retail share in Nifty companies stood at a meagre 7.31% whereas for the top 100 NSE-listed firms, it read 8.19%.

The increase was driven largely by the optimism about reform measures taken by the Narendra Modi government, according to experts.

The analysis is based on shareholding patterns filed by 1,467 of the total 1,471 companies listed on NSE for the quarter ended March this year.

Overall, retail holding rose in 712 companies listed on NSE while their stake fell in 718 firms.

The increase in retail shareholding is in sync with the BSE benchmark Sensex surging



Companies which saw the highest increase in retail holdings in percentage terms in last 1 year

Company	Retail holding (%) as on March 31 2014	Retail holding (%) as on March 31 2015	Increase in holding (%)
Arvind Remedies	25.05	73.47	48.42
REI Agro	9.34	45.57	36.23
GSS Infotech	27.52	54.74	27.22
VKS Projects	5.73	31.08	25.35
Sudar Industries	16.09	40.77	24.68
Sundaram Multi Pap	15.85	39.16	23.31
Aksh Optifibre	11.76	35.06	23.30
Texmo Pipes & Products	36.39	59.67	23.28
Zylog Systems	36.24	58.99	22.75
Syncom Healthcare	15.84	37.49	21.65

Source: www.nseinfobase.com- Developed & Powered by Prime Database

Rakesh Jhunjunwala emerged as the largest 'individual' public shareholder with a cumulative holding of ₹8,331 crore

25% in the past fiscal. In terms of retail shareholders by numbers, the Reliance Group took the lead.

The top five companies with highest number of retail share

holders are Reliance Power (37.82 lakh), Reliance Industries (27.44 lakh), Reliance Communications (16.35 lakh), State Bank of India (11.95 lakh), Reliance Infrastructure (11.48 lakh) and Reliance Capital (10.25 lakh).

Rakesh Jhunjunwala (along with his wife Rekha Jhunjunwala) is the largest 'individual' public shareholder with their cumulative holding as of March 2015 at ₹8,331 crore compared with ₹5,262 crore a year ago.

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