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Equity Resource Mobilization in India: A Sector-wise Analysis

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Abstract

The primary equity stock market plays a significant role in mobilizing long term financial resources of a country for productive investment and enhancing economic growth. The present study examines the pattern of equity resource mobilization across twenty-four industry sectors, as classified by The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), over a decade, covering the period from 2016-17 to 2025-26. Taking secondary data from SEBI and stock exchange publications, the study analyses the number of equity issuances, the amount mobilized from equity issuance, average amount per issue, participation of different industrial sectors in equity issuance and ranking of different sectors on the basis of number of equity issues and funds raised from such issues. The analysis indicates a substantial expansion in India's equity issuance activity during the study period. Equity resource mobilization, however, was found to be unevenly distributed across sectors. The study concludes that issue frequency and funds mobilized do not necessarily move together, as some sectors raised substantial amounts through relatively lesser issues. Overall, the study highlights that there has been expansion of India's primary equity market but it has remained heterogeneous in sectoral access, transaction size and timing. The findings provide useful insight into the changing structure of equity resource mobilization across Indian industries and suggest the need for sector-level analysis of primary-market financing.

Keywords

Equity resource mobilization, Primary capital market, Equity issues, IPOs, Capital formation, Sectoral analysis.

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1. Introduction

The primary capital market plays a vital role in the economic development of a country. It enables to channelize household and institutional savings into productive investments by connecting investors seeking investment opportunities with businesses requiring funds. Out of various sources of corporate finance, equity capital occupies a unique position as it enables firms and businesses to raise long-term funds without commitment of fixed interest payments and repayment schedules associated with borrowings. Equity financing enables businesses to go for expansion, modernization, innovation and capacity enhancement etc. and thus contributing to industrial growth and overall economic development of any country. The relationship between stock market development and economic growth is also supported by Levine and Zervos (1998). In an emerging economy like India, investment requirements continue to rise across various industries. Therefore, a well-functioning equity market has become an indispensable part of the Indian financial system.

India's capital market has undergone significant transformation during the last decade. Regulatory initiatives introduced by the SEBI, such as, enhanced disclosure standards, corporate governance requirements, integrated risk management systems and investor protection measures have significantly improved market transparency, operational efficiency, investor confidence and accessibility of the primary market (Securities and Exchange Board of India, 2024 a). The SEBI has also introduced measures to simplify the Initial Public Offering (IPO) process and reduced public issue listing timelines (from T+6 to T+3 days in 2023), making the fund-raising process timelier for issuers and investors. Further, the rapid advancement in financial technology along with widespread adoption of electronic trading systems, dematerialization of securities, online brokerage platforms, mobile-based investing and algorithmic trading have significantly changed the functioning of the securities market (Mahajan, 2025). All these developments have enhanced the ability of Indian businesses to access equity capital and have reinforced the role of capital markets in corporate financing. Such developments provide an opportunity to study the primary market of an emerging country (Chatterjee *et. al.*, 2024).

The amount of funds raised through equity issues is influenced by a number of industry-specific characteristics like capital intensity, investment required, growth opportunities, technological factors, regulatory environment and profitability etc. Myers (2001) argued that financing choices of the firms depended on their circumstances, rather than a single universally applicable explanation. Rajan and

Zingales (1995) demonstrated that industry characteristics played an important role in determining firms' capital structures across countries. Their study found that firm specific characteristics, such as, asset tangibility, size, profitability etc. influenced leverage decisions of the firms for G-7 countries, (the US, the UK, Japan, Germany, Italy, France and Canada), although the strength of these relationships varied across countries. Similarly, Sibindi (2016) identified firm size, profitability, growth, asset tangibility, tax shields, risk, dividend policy and age as important determinants of capital structure. These studies provide a conceptual basis for investigating sectoral differences. Since, different sectors, such as, financial services, manufacturing, infrastructure, information technology and telecommunications have different financing patterns, it is therefore necessary to examine and analyze how capital markets allocate financial resources across different segments/sectors of the economy.

The present study examines industry-wise equity resource mobilization in India over the last decade (2016-17 to 2025-26). The period under study covers the years preceding the COVID-19 pandemic, the pandemic times and the subsequent recovery period. This provides a perfect setting for comparing fundraising patterns across different economic conditions. The study examines both the number of issues and the amount mobilized by different sectors, as some of the sectors may record frequent but relatively small issues, while others may raise substantial funds through only a few transactions. Against this background, the present study investigates whether equity mobilization has broadened across industries or remained concentrated in selected sectors.

2. Review of Literature

A substantial body of literature has examined the functioning of primary capital markets, determinants of equity issuance, IPO performance, investor behaviour and corporate financing decisions. The theoretical foundation of equity financing can be traced to the capital structure literature. Modigliani and Miller (1958) demonstrated that under perfect market conditions, the value of a business is independent of its financing mix. But later proposition claimed that taxation, information asymmetry, transaction costs and agency conflicts influenced financing choices. In the real world, however, several scholars challenged their propositions (Sibindi, 2016).

Jensen and Meckling (1976) highlighted the importance of agency considerations and examined how the use of equity and debt affect agency costs. The authors argued that as the share of external ownership increases, the interest of managers may diverge and hence increasing the agency costs. They concluded that the ownership structure and financing decisions are closely associated with managerial incentives and value of the firm. Similarly, the paper by Ross (1977) connects the capital structure decision with the Signaling theory. The author argued that financing decision of the firm serves as signal of firm's quality, as managers have better information about a firm's future prospects. These theoretical

perspectives remain relevant in explaining differences in equity issuance across the various industry sectors.

Myers (1984) observed that the firm's financing choice depends on information asymmetry and availability of internal funds. The equity mobilization by the firms depends on the financing requirements of firms as the firms generally prefer internal funds, followed by debt and then equity because of information asymmetry.

Research in primary markets has largely focused on Initial Public Offerings (IPOs). Ritter (1991) took a sample of 1526 IPOs that went public in the US from 1975-1984 and observed that such firms significantly underperformed three years after they went public as compared to other firms matched by industry and market value. The author observed underperforming firms to be relatively young growth companies that went public in high volume years of 1980s and the possible reason of under-performance could be over optimism of the irrational investors about the future potential of firms. Similarly, Loughran and Ritter (1995) observed that IPO or seasonal equity offering (SEO) between 1970-1990 proved to be poor investments for investors as compared to non-issuing firms; offering an average return of 5% and 7% respectively for IPO and SEO. The authors concluded that the firms issuing equity during high volume periods underperform. Ljungqvist (2007) documented widespread IPO underpricing and the influence of market timing on equity issuance and concluded that IPO underpricing was influenced by multiple interacting factors and varies across countries, market conditions, institutional environments, and issuer characteristics. These studies, thus, established that investor sentiment, market conditions, firm quality and regulatory frameworks significantly affect the success of public issues.

Taking firm-level data from G-7 countries, Rajan and Zingales (1995) explored if the factors associated with leverage in the US also explained the capital structure in other countries. The authors concluded asset tangibility and firm size to be positively related with leverage, while profitability and market-to-book ratios to be negatively related. The authors also concluded that capital structure determinants were by and large consistent internationally, although institutional differences and theoretical explanations required further investigation.

Levine and Zervos (1998), while examining the role of banking development and stock market liquidity established that every equity issue may not generate productive investment. They observed that stock market liquidity and banking development predict subsequent growth, capital accumulation, and growth in productivity. Frank and Goyal (2009) also identified profitability, firm size, investment opportunities and industry effects as major determinants of financing behaviour.

Sibindi (2016) reviewed the theoretical and empirical literature on determinants of capital structure and concluded that capital structure decisions were influenced by both firm specific characteristics and external factors and no single theory explained financing choices of the firms across different economies.

Chakrabarti (2018) observed that regulatory reforms transformed India's primary market into a more efficient and credible platform for corporate fundraising. Saha (2018) observed that Public and Rights issues constituted the largest source of funds from the primary capital market to the corporate sector in India. The authors concluded that the Moving Average Model of order 1 was the most appropriate model for predicting a rising trend in funds raised through Public and Rights issue and for forecasting capital formation.

Gupta (2020) made a comparative review of the Indian primary equity market for the years 2019-20 over the year 2018-19 and observed that the year 2019-20 marked a sharp recovery in terms of resource mobilization because of SEBI initiatives and policy changes in primary market. The author observed that the end of the COVID-19 pandemic can improve activity in the primary market.

Chatterjee *et al.* (2024) in their review found post-listing volatility, IPO grading and impact of corporate governance on IPO performance as the dominant research themes. The authors also noted that relatively limited attention has been given to analyzing industry-level patterns of equity resource mobilization. The authors highlighted the need for comparative sectoral studies to examine how different industries access the primary market under varying economic conditions.

Highlighting the role of institutional investors in determining IPO success, Singhal *et al.* (2025) found that institutional participation contributes to more efficient allocation of equity capital by directing investment towards firms with stronger growth prospects.

The ability of firms to raise equity capital is closely linked to industry characteristics. Studies on corporate financing have linked sector-specific factors, such as, capital intensity, growth prospects, business risk, regulatory environment and technological change to financing decisions (Rajan and Zingales, 1995; Myers, 2001; Sibindi, 2016). Thus, different studies suggest that difference in equity mobilization across industries is influenced by both firm-specific and sector-specific factors. In India, however, industry-wise evidence remains fragmented. Most studies concentrate on individual sectors, such as, banking, information technology, pharmaceuticals or infrastructure. Also, a little empirical evidence exists regarding the persistence of sectoral leadership in equity mobilization or the changing contribution of industries over extended periods.

The volume and timing of equity issues are also influenced by macroeconomic conditions. Many factors, such as, economic growth, monetary policy, inflation, interest rates, market liquidity and investor confidence determine corporate financing decision and also the attractiveness of equity markets. During periods of economic expansion, firms generally increase capital expenditure and are more inclined to raise equity funds. On the other hand, economic uncertainty often delays investment decisions and public issues. According to PricewaterhouseCoopers India (2025), India's IPO market remained one of the strongest in the Asia-Pacific region during financial year 2024-25 and financial

year 2025-26. Their sector-wise analysis indicates considerable variation in fundraising activity across industries; financial services, real estate and materials experienced strong growth in IPO mobilization, whereas information technology, healthcare and communication services recorded comparatively weaker activity during certain periods. These shifts reflect changing investor preferences, evolving sectoral prospects and change in macroeconomic conditions.

Further, Viswan M G (2026) found underpricing of Indian IPOs to be strongly and negatively influenced by the proportion of fresh capital in the issue. The author also observed that strategic use of the secondary shares (offer for sale) particularly during favourable market conditions would allow existing shareholders to have a successful exit, thereby reinforcing the importance of issue structure as a key financial signal. Gudipati (2026) used ICICI securities as a case study for the period from 2006-2025 and examined changes in patterns in financing of different sectors through IPOs and found IPOs financing concentrated in credit-oriented sectors, such as, NBFCs, Banks and Fintech firms, which constituted a significant share of the firms financed by ICICI securities.

3. Research Gap

Literature review shows that a number of studies have been done to understand IPO pricing, corporate financing decisions, capital structure and investor behaviour, stock market performance and firm-level financing decisions/determinants of equity issuance. However, relatively fewer studies have investigated equity resource mobilization from an industry-level perspective, particularly in emerging markets such as India.

The present study seeks to bridge this gap through a decade-long comparison of twenty-four sector-wise businesses and industries in India from the financial year 2016-17 to 2025-26 by comparing equity mobilization with number of IPO issues and amount raised. This enables comparison of market breadth, transaction scale, sectoral shares and long-term growth, and show changes in industry-wise financing patterns over time.

4. Objectives of the Study

Objectives of this study are as follows:

1. To examine the growth pattern of equity resource mobilization across industrial sectors in India during 2016-17 to 2025-26 in terms of both the number of equity issues and the amount raised.
2. To compare sector-wise participation and growth.

5. Research Methodology

The study uses secondary data compiled from SEBI and stock-exchange publications on industry-wise equity resource mobilization for twenty-four sectors in India in last decade i.e., from 2016-17 to 2025-26. The study adopts the twenty-four-sector classification used in SEBI's industry-wise equity resource-

mobilization data. The original SEBI classification has been retained to ensure consistency and comparability across the study period. Further, the indicators, i.e., number of issues and amount raised have been analyzed for every sector for the study period.

6. Data Analysis

6.1 Year-wise Growth in IPO Issue Activity and Funds Raised

India's primary market has emerged as one of the most active in the Asia-Pacific region (PWC, India, 2025). Strong liquidity, favourable macroeconomic fundamentals and sustained investor confidence have contributed to a vibrant initial IPO market. Table-1 below reports the annual growth rate of issues and amount mobilized as well as the average amount per issue for the study period. The column 'Total no of Issues' in Table-1 shows the total equity issues of all 24 sectors in the respective years. The column 'Amount / issue (₹ crore)' shows the average amount raised in the respective years. It has been calculated by dividing Amount raised from issue of equity divided by number of equity issues in that respective year. The ten-year period recorded a total of 2,344 equity issues and mobilized funds to the tune of ₹ 10,76,010.02 crores. Number of equity issues increased from 118 in 2016-17 to 506 in the year 2025-26, registering a 17.56% Cumulative annual growth rate (CAGR), while the amount raised increased from ₹32,483.37 crore to ₹ 2,34,868.39 crore for the same period (24.58% CAGR).

Table-1: Year-wise Growth of Equity Resource Mobilization

Financial year	Total no of Issues	Issue growth (%)	Amount (₹ crore)	Amount growth (%)	Amount/ Issue (₹ crore)
2016-17	118	—	32,483.37	—	275.28
2017-18	212	79.66	99,764.95	207.13	470.59
2018-19	145	-31.60	23,721.85	-76.22	163.60
2019-20	79	-45.52	77,052.10	224.81	975.34
2020-21	78	-1.27	1,10,118.35	42.91	1,411.77
2021-22	164	110.26	1,38,895.74	26.13	846.93
2022-23	238	45.12	65,823.22	-52.61	276.57
2023-24	340	42.86	83,092.52	26.24	244.39
2024-25	464	36.47	2,10,189.53	152.96	452.99
2025-26	506	9.05	2,34,868.39	11.74	464.17
Total	2344		10,76,010.02		

Source: Author's computation from SEBI/NSE/BSE/MSEI Industry-wise Equity Issue Data

It can be observed from the above table that in financial year 2017-18, 212 issues raised ₹99,764.95 crore, followed by declines of 31.6% in issue count and a decline of 76.22% in amount mobilized from equity issues in 2018-19. Further, number of equity issue counts decreased to 79 and 78, respectively in the years

2019-20 and 2020-21. However, the amount mobilized rose to ₹77,052.10 crore and ₹110,118.35 crore for the above said period. Average amount per issue peaked at ₹1,411.77 crore in the year 2020-21 owing to large funds raised from fewer issues of equity. Heightened activity in the equity market can be observed starting from the year 2021-22, both in terms of number and amount of equity issues. These findings suggest that fundraising performance depends on the size and composition of offerings as well as the number of IPOs; consequently, listing activity alone may provide an incomplete measure of primary-market strength (PWC, 2026).

Figures-1 and 2 below show the annual paths of equity issue counts and amounts raised from the period 2016-17 to 2025-26:

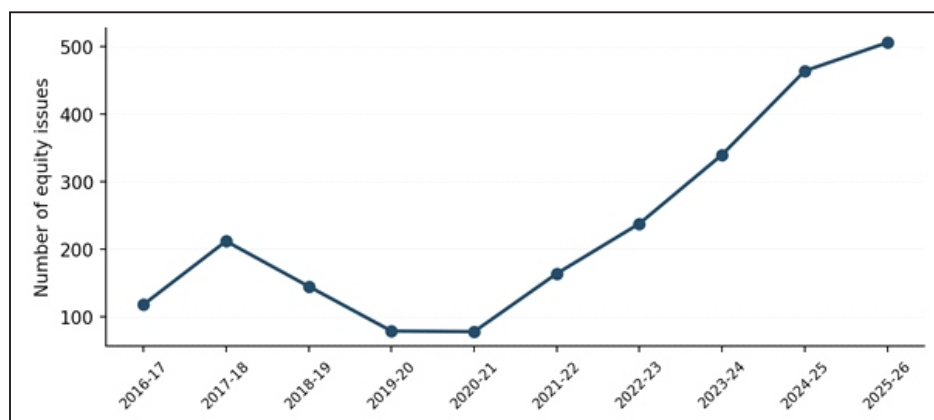


Figure-1: Number of Equity Issues (2016-17 to 2025-26)

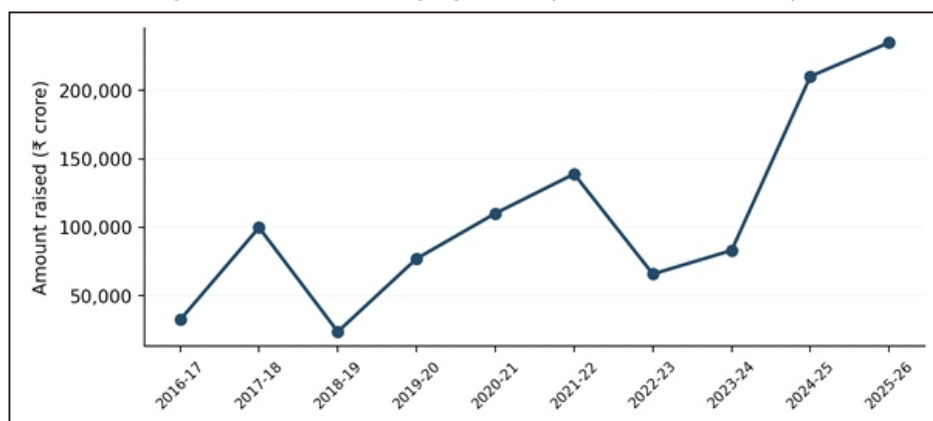


Figure-2: Amount Raised from Equity Issues (2016-17 to 2025-26)

6.2 Sector-wise Participation: Frequency of Issues and Funds Raised

Table-2 compares sector wise totals of equity issues, funds raised and average amount per issue over the decade under study. The columns ‘Total Issues’ and ‘Total amount (₹ crore)’ in Table-2, for example, imply the total number of equity issues and amount raised by different sectors (as classified by SEBI) from equity issuance from the years 2016-17 to 2025-26.

**Table-2: Sector-wise Equity Issue Activity and Funds Raised
(2016-17 to 2025-26)**

Sr. No.	Industry	Total issues	Issue share (%)	Total amount (₹ crore)	Amount share (%)	Amount / Issue (₹ crore)
1.	Airlines	1	0.04	4,113.13	0.38	4,113.13
2.	Automobile	50	2.13	59,168.40	5.50	1,183.37
3.	Banking/FIs	37	1.58	38,060.45	3.54	1,028.66
4.	Cement/ Construction	127	5.42	31,360.93	2.91	246.94
5.	Chemicals	115	4.91	24,652.79	2.29	214.37
6.	Consumer Services	92	3.92	62,576.62	5.82	680.18
7.	Electrical Equipment/ Production	258	11.01	53,151.91	4.94	206.02
8.	Engineering	66	2.82	7,690.72	0.71	116.53
9.	Entertainment	42	1.79	3,678.84	0.34	87.59
10.	Finance	119	5.08	1,14,526.86	10.64	962.41
11.	Food processing	118	5.03	26,506.04	2.46	224.63
12.	Healthcare	148	6.31	65,076.83	6.05	439.71
13.	Hotels	17	0.73	13,006.13	1.21	765.07
14.	Information Technology	148	6.31	40,007.77	3.72	270.32
15.	Insurance	12	0.51	84,707.02	7.87	7,058.92
16.	Miscellaneous	774	33.02	2,56,939.05	23.88	331.96
17.	Oil & Natural Gas	17	0.73	63,123.72	5.87	3,713.16
18.	Paper & Pulp	11	0.47	456.35	0.04	41.49
19.	Plastic	18	0.77	897.72	0.08	49.87
20.	Power	18	0.77	14,027.28	1.30	779.29
21.	Printing	5	0.21	81.15	0.01	16.23
22.	Roads & Highways	13	0.55	2,524.09	0.23	194.16
23.	Tele- communication	18	0.77	96,996.99	9.01	5,388.72
24.	Textile	120	5.12	12,679.23	1.18	105.66

Source: Author's compilation from SEBI/NSE/BSE/MSEI Industry-wise Equity Issue Data.

Note: Calculations have been done from figures taken from the above reports.

The sector, Electrical Equipment/Production recorded the highest number of equity issues (258), followed by Miscellaneous sector (not interpreted as a single homogeneous industry). Miscellaneous industry recorded 774 issues (33.02%) and raised the funds to the tune of ₹256,939.05 crore (23.88%). While Healthcare and Information Technology each recorded 148 issues, and Cement/Construction recorded 127; Finance sector ranked second by the total amount of issues, with 119 issues mobilizing ₹1,14,526.86 crore. While the highest average amount per issue was recorded for Insurance sector, the smallest average was recorded for Printing sector. Thus, it can be observed from the above Table that the differences in ranking on different basis, as, no of issues, amount raised from them and the average amount per issue differ for different sectors.

6.3 Sector-wise Growth Between 2016-17 to 2025-26

Table-3 compares the annual observations of the year 2015-16 with 2025-26. Cumulative annual growth rate (CAGR) summarizes the change between those years and does not imply a smooth or sustained annual growth path.

Table-3: Sector-wise Growth in Number of Issues and Amount Raised (2016-17 to 2025-26)

Sr. No.	Industry	Issues 2016-17	Issues 2025-26	Issue CAGR (%)	Amount 2016-17 (₹ crore)	Amount 2025-26 (₹ crore)	Amount CAGR (%)
1.	Airlines	—	—	NA	—	—	NA
2.	Automobile	3	13	17.69	1,342.14	10,787.46	26.06
3.	Banking/FIs	4	1	-14.28	3,626.92	949.08	-13.84
4.	Cement/Construction	7	28	16.65	149.80	5,068.27	47.89
5.	Chemicals	4	32	25.99	19.17	4,293.72	82.44
6.	Consumer Services	3	27	27.65	281.51	26,453.93	65.66
7.	Electrical Equipment/Production	7	92	33.14	55.18	20,656.86	93.16
8.	Engineering	3	—	NA	12.51	—	NA
9.	Entertainment	3	14	18.67	511.78	1,035.49	8.15
10.	Finance	6	29	19.13	6,313.04	34,801.79	20.89
11.	Food processing	7	43	22.35	2,354.52	5,136.38	9.05
12.	Healthcare	6	33	20.85	1,882.86	9,907.99	20.26
13.	Hotels	—	—	NA	—	—	NA
14.	Information Technology	5	37	24.91	2,607.78	8,329.15	13.77

15.	Insurance	1	1	0.00	6,056.79	2,515.95	-9.30
16.	Miscellaneous	40	119	12.88	4,670.45	95,582.57	39.85
17.	Oil & Natural Gas	1	4	16.65	1,039.00	3,927.70	15.92
18.	Paper & Pulp	1	6	22.03	49.75	247.47	19.51
19.	Plastic	—	—	NA	—	—	NA
20.	Power	2	2	0.00	364.58	3,129.31	26.98
21.	Printing	—	—	NA	0.00	—	NA
22.	Roads & Highways	1	—	NA	653.98	—	NA
23.	Tele-communication	—	2	NA	0.00	844.28	NA
24.	Textile	14	23	5.67	491.60	1,200.98	10.43

Source: Author's computation from SEBI/NSE/BSE/MSEI data.

Note: CAGR is calculated over nine annual intervals only when both 2016-17 and 2025-26 values are positive. NA denotes a zero-end point base.

It can be observed from the above table that Electrical Equipment/Production sector recorded the highest CAGR (93.16%), followed by Chemicals (82.44%) and Consumer Services (65.66%) in terms of amount raised from the equity issues, whereas, CAGR for number of equity issues were 33.14%, 25.99% and 27.65%, respectively for these sectors. Such high CAGR rate of amount raised from issue reflect low amounts raised in the initial years. For example, the amount mobilized by Electrical Equipment/Production sector was only 55.18 crores in 2016-17 as compared to 20,656.86 crores in 2025-26.

Banking/Financial Institutions declined from four issues and ₹3,626.92 crore funds to one issue and ₹949.08 crore, resulting in a CAGR of -13.84%. Similarly, the Insurance sector also recorded zero CAGR for number of equity issuances, and a negative CAGR of -9.30% for the funds raised from issue of equity. Though, the Insurance and banking/financial institutions recorded relatively few equity issues during the study period, but their average issue sizes (as mentioned in table-2) exceeded the overall sector average. This indicates that lower issuance frequency does not necessarily imply less amount of funds raised/mobilized. The relatively low frequency of recorded equity issues may also imply access to other sources of capital. Moreover, in public sector institutions, like, Banking and Insurance sectors, government is the majority stakeholder and provide capital support to them. Also, under Basel-III framework, the banks can raise additional Tier-1 funds from perpetual bonds/preference-type instruments to meet RBI's eligibility requirements. Muduli and Behera (2020) also observed in their paper that retained earnings and government capitalization may also influence the availability of internal capital in the banking sector.

It can also be observed from Table-3 that India's equity market grew in 2025-26, but not all sectors benefitted equally. The insurance sector, for example,

had fewer issues but raised large amounts of money. This implies that the number of issues and the amount raised should be looked at separately.

It was also observed that the Engineering and Roads & Highways sectors had equity issuances in the base-year, but zero issue in 2025-26. On the other hand, Telecommunication sector had a zero base and positive number in 2025-26. Such cases have been marked NA in the above Table. Zero observations in the Table, however, don't mean that a particular sector had no funding, rather it implies that financing has been done through other sources/channels.

6.4 Sector Rankings by Mean Annual Equity Resource Mobilization and Total number of Issues

Tables-4.1 and 4.2 below rank sectors by mean annual mobilization, calculated as cumulative amount divided by ten, including zero-issuance years. This differs from average amount per issue in Table-2, which divides cumulative amount by cumulative issue count.

Table-4.1 gives the ranking of the top 10 sectors on the basis of mean of annual funds mobilized through equity issuance. Table-4.2 gives the ranking of the bottom 10 sectors on the basis of mean of annual funds mobilized. Further, Table-4.3 and Table-4.4 give the rankings of the top 10 sectors and bottom 10 sectors respectively on the basis of number of issues.

Table-4.1: Top 10 Sectors by Mean Annual Mobilization

Rank	Industry	Mean Annual Mobilization (₹ crores)
1.	Miscellaneous	25,693.91
2.	Finance	11,452.69
3.	Telecommunication	9,699.70
4.	Insurance	8,470.70
5.	Healthcare	6,507.68
6.	Oil & Natural Gas	6,312.37
7.	Consumer Services	6,257.66
8.	Automobile	5,916.84
9.	Electrical Equipment/ Production	5,315.19
10.	Information Technology	4,000.78

Note: Ranks in the table are from highest to lowest

Table-4.2: Bottom 10 Sectors by Mean Annual Mobilization

Rank	Industry	Mean Annual Mobilization (₹ crore)
1.	Printing	8.11
2.	Paper & Pulp	45.63
3.	Plastic	89.77
4.	Roads & Highways	252.41

5.	Entertainment	367.88
6.	Airlines	411.31
7.	Engineering	769.07
8.	Textile	1,267.92
9.	Hotels	1,300.61
10.	Power	1,402.73

Note: Above ranking is from lowest to highest.

Table-4-3: Top 10 Sectors Ranked by Number of Equity Issues

Rank	Sector	Total number of issues
1.	Miscellaneous	774
2.	Electrical Equipment/ Production	258
3.	Healthcare	148
4.	Information Technology	148
5.	Cement/Construction	127
6.	Textile	120
7.	Finance	119
8.	Food processing	118
9.	Chemicals	115
10.	Consumer Services	92

Note: Ranks in the table are from highest to lowest

Table-4-4: Bottom 10 Sectors Ranked by Number of Equity Issues

Rank	Sector	Total number of issues
1.	Airlines	1
2.	Printing	5
3.	Paper & Pulp	11
4.	Insurance	12
5.	Roads & Highways	13
6.	Hotels	17
7.	Oil & Natural Gas	17
8.	Plastic	18
9.	Power	18
10.	Telecommunication	18

Note: Above ranking is from lowest to highest.

Table-4-1 shows that the five leading sectors by amount of funds raised from equity were Miscellaneous, Finance, Telecommunication, Insurance and Healthcare and they together accounted for 57.46% of cumulative mobilization, and the top ten accounted for 83.30% (as calculated from Table-2). On the other hand, the five leading sectors on the basis of the number of issues were Miscellaneous, Electrical Equipment/Production, Healthcare, Information Technology and Cement/

Construction (Table-4.3) and they together constituted 62.07% of the total number of issues, whereas, the top 10 accounted for 86.13% of the total issues (as calculated from table-2).

Another observation was that the first five years (2016-17 to 2020-21) recorded 632 number of issues and ₹343,140.62 crore funds raised from them as compared to 1,712 issues and ₹732,869.41 crore raised in the last five years (2021-22 to 2025-26) of the study. Issue count, thus, was 2.71 times as high and the amount raised was 2.14 times as high. The corresponding average amounts per issue were ₹542.94 crore and ₹428.08 crore. Thus, issuance frequency increased faster than aggregate funds between the two halves, and average transaction size declined.

7. Findings of the Study

The major findings of the study are presented below:

1. It was observed that India's equity-issue activity expanded during the period from 2016-17 to 2025-26. A total of 2,344 issues mobilized ₹1,076,010.03 crore of funds. Whereas, the number of issues increased 4.29 times, the amount mobilized increased 7.23 times during the period under study. The overall size of India's equity market has expanded substantially, but the study observed that equity resource mobilization has not been uniform across various businesses and industry sectors.
2. The year 2025-26 recorded the largest number of equity issues and amount mobilized, but the highest average amount mobilized per issue was recorded in the year 2020-21.
3. The sectors which showed highest growth in number of issues and funds mobilized depended on the indicator used. The Miscellaneous sector ranked number 1 both in terms of number of issues and average funds mobilized during the period under study.
4. The later five-year period of the study recorded a greater number of issues and funds mobilized than the earlier five-year period, but a lower average amount per issue.
5. Sector-wise participation was observed to be concentrated to some of the sectors. Also, the large number of industries categorized under Miscellaneous category by SEBI makes it difficult to understand the performance of individual sectors clearly. These findings are only descriptive and it cannot be inferred that industry sector conditions or investor sentiment impacts fund raising/mobilized through equity issues.

8. Conclusion

The ten-year analysis shows expansion in equity resource mobilization alongside differences in issue frequency, transaction size and sectoral concentration. Assessing both number of equity issues as well as amount mobilized/raised helps to differentiate between large fundraising sectors vis a vis those having frequent issues. The results show that the primary equity market has expanded over the decade, but has remained heterogeneous in sectoral access,

transaction size and timing. Thus, the expansion was neither smooth nor uniform across businesses and industries. The results support closer examination of sectors with intermittent issuance and more detailed classification of Miscellaneous sector by policymakers and market institutions.

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