April 2026

Monthly Digest

Decoding Markets, Deals and Regulation

Indcap Advisors

Enabling Growth | Creating Value

A SEBI registered Category I Merchant Banker

Contents

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Executive Summary

- **Market backdrop**: Global and domestic markets rallied strongly in April 2026, driven by **easing macro pressures and inflation expectations**. The Nifty 50 gained 5.8%, while the NASDAQ led global performance with a 14.3% surge. Domestic currency remained under pressure as the USD rose to 94.9 against the Rupee

- **M&A landscape:** Transaction activity was headlined by Sun Pharma's landmark **~₹10.86 lakh crore acquisition of Organon & Co.**, the largest outbound deal by an Indian biopharma. Other key moves included **Wipro's ~₹34,940 Mn** digital transformation play for Mindsprint and strategic regional entries by Max Healthcare and Emami Group

- **Private equity & VC:** Investment momentum aligned with innovation-led **businesses** such as Everstone Capital committing ~**₹25,700 Mn** to Apothecon Pharmaceuticals and a consortium led by Premji Invest injecting **~₹20,400 Mn** into KreditBee to support its upcoming IPO. Investments also targeted real estate tech and quick service expansion via Sila and Snabbit

- **Debt markets:** The 10-year G-Sec yield firmed at **7.1%**, while the benchmark yield stood at 7.0%. The Reserve Bank of India maintained liquidity through a **₹2,90,000 Mn** G-Sec auction, and state governments scheduled SGS issuances totaling over **₹3,20,000 Mn**. Regulatory measures on market infrastructure and derivatives reporting indicate ongoing market deepening

- **Regulatory tone:** SEBI maintained a proactive and reform-driven stance, introducing measures across FPIs, SSE norms, certifications, lock-in mechanisms, and compliance relaxations.

- **Overall takeaway:** April 2026 reflected a robust and globally ambitious Indian ecosystem, characterized by record-breaking outbound M&A, strong IPO momentum and continued regulatory evolution toward institutional maturity

M&A Deals

Key Announced Merger and Acquisition Deals April 2026

Buyer	Target company	Industry	Amt in INR Mn	Stake
Sun Pharmaceutical Industries	Organon & Co.	Pharmaceutical	~10.86 lakh crore	100.0%
The acquisition positions Sun Pharma among the top global players in women's health, provides an entry into biosimilars, expands its footprint to 140+ countries via Organon's portfolio, diversifies revenue toward innovative medicines, and strengthens its branded generics business				
Wipro	Mindsprint	Information Technology	~34,940	100.0%
The acquisition enables Wipro to access Mindsprint's domain expertise, AI-led platforms, and 3,200+ professionals to strengthen digital capabilities, secure long-term annuity revenue, and expand its Southeast Asia presence				
Enviro Infra Engineers Limited	Suyog Urja Limited	Renewable Energy	~3,110	100.0%
The acquisition enables Enviro, through its subsidiary EIE Renewables, to enter the wind EPC segment and diversify beyond solar and water infrastructure, while leveraging Suyog Urja Private Limited's execution expertise and ₹ 6,500 million order book				
Max Healthcare Institute	Kalinga Hospital Limited	Healthcare	~3,000	~58.4%
The acquisition enables Max Healthcare to enter high-growth Eastern India via Bhubaneswar by acquiring Kalinga Hospital, alongside a ₹1,000 Mn capex plan to upgrade infrastructure, aligning with its strategy to expand into high-potential regional markets with limited competition				
Emami Group	Axiom Ayurveda	Health and Wellness	~2,000	~73.5%
The acquisition enables Emami to enter the functional beverages segment by acquiring Axiom Ayurveda and its brand AloFrut, expand its health and wellness portfolio, leverage distribution and marketing synergies, and capitalize on the fast-growing ayurveda and natural products market, backed by prior partnership-driven conviction				
Rubicon Research	Arinna Lifesciences	Pharmaceuticals	~1,760	~85.0%
The acquisition enables Rubicon to enter India's domestic formulations market via Arinna Lifesciences as a launchpad, focusing on high-growth CNS therapies, leveraging an established prescriber network and brand portfolio, introducing its differentiated IP-led products and ensuring continuity with founder Vivek Seth retaining a stake and leadership role				

PE/VC Deals

Key announced Private Equity and Venture Capital Deals April 2026

Buyer	Target Company	Industry	Amt In INR Mn	Series
Everstone Capital	Apothecon Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceutical	~25,700	PE
The funds will be used to expand manufacturing capacity, accelerate R&D across complex chemistries and dosage forms, drive geographic and product expansion, and pursue selective bolt-on acquisitions in regulated markets				
Premji Invest, Motilal Oswal, etc	KreditBee	Financial Services	~20,400	E
KreditBee will use the funds to strengthen its balance sheet ahead of a 2026–27 IPO, expand into secured and MSME lending, scale AUM to ~₹3,00,000 million, enhance AI-led underwriting, and support growth via a stronger capital base				
Permira	Sila	Real Estate Business Services	~9,290	PE
The funds will accelerate pan-India expansion and technology capabilities, scale operations across 450+ million sq. ft. of assets in 125 cities including integration of acquisitions like SMS Integrated Facility Services, expand adjacent service lines, and reflect strong investor confidence in India's business services and real estate tech sector				
Kedaara Capital	Axis Finance Limited	Financial services	~7,500	PE
Axis Finance will use the funds to strengthen its capital base, expand lending across key segments, support regulatory compliance, and benefit from strategic backing by Kedaara Capital and Axis Bank				
SIG Venture Capital, Mirae Asset, etc.	Snabbit	Quick Service	~5,280	D
Snabbit will use the funds to expand into new cities and scale to 250–300 micro-markets, improve unit economics and operational efficiency, launch new high-frequency services, and strengthen its position in the quick home services market				
Siguler Guff	Trimex Foods	Food and Beverage	~3,790	PE
The investment reflects strong conviction in India's premium food services shift and will fund rapid pan-India expansion of Trimex Foods' brands including Chili's Grill & Bar, PAUL, and Cinnabon, scale to 200+ outlets, and support new international brand acquisitions				

Debt Market

Debt Market Insights

Market Snapshot (%)	Current Week	1 month ago	3 months ago	6 months ago	1 year ago
Avg. Call Rates	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.9
Avg. Repo Rates	5.1	5.3	5.2	5.6	5.9
Bank rate	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.8	6.3
CRR	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.3	4.0
RBI-LAF Repo Rate	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.5	6.0
RBI-LAF Reverse Repo Rate	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
91-Day Cut-off	5.3	-	5.5	5.5	5.9
182 Day Cut-off	5.5	-	5.7	5.6	5.9
364 Day Cut-off	5.7	-	5.7	5.6	5.9
1-yr G-Sec yield	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.9
5-yr G-Sec yield	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.2	6.1
10-yr G-Sec yield	7.1	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.4
10-yr Benchmark yield	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.4

Debt Market Highlights

- Reserve Bank of India conducted a G-Sec auction of **₹2,90,000 Mn** on April 30, 2026
- State governments conducted and scheduled SGS issuances aggregating **₹1,43,460 Mn** and **₹1,86,000 Mn**, respectively
- Scheduled banks' investments in Government securities stood at **₹70.51 lakh crore, up YoY**
- The interest rate on FRB 2034 has been set at **6.45%** for the current half-year
- Reserve Bank of India issued key measures on NDS-OM access, Basel III norms, and INR OTC derivatives reporting

Merchant Banking

Market Scenario

Particulars	No of Issues in April	Amt in INR Mn
Public Issue (IPO)	4	20,988.5
Public Issues (IPO – SME)	7	3,943.4
Rights Issues	11	18,022.3
Public Issues (Debt)	2	20,000.0

Regulatory Updates by SEBI

- **SEBI permits net settlement of funds for FPIs in cash market:** Allows net settlement for outright transactions undertaken by FPIs in the cash market; implementation required on or before December 31, 2026 *(Further Information)*
- **SEBI relaxes SSE norms for Not-for-Profit Organizations:** Extends registration validity from 2 to 3 years without mandatory fundraising and reduces minimum subscription for ZCZP instruments from 75% to 50%; effective immediately *(Further Information)*
- **SEBI mandates NISM certification for Social Impact Assessors:** Requires Social Impact Assessors to obtain the NISM Series XXIII certification from the National Institute of Securities Markets; effective immediately *(Further Information)*
- **SEBI streamlines lock-in mechanism for pledged shares under ICDR Regulations:** Mandates Stock Exchanges, Depositories, Merchant Bankers, and issuers to ensure compliance with the updated lock-in mechanism for pledged shares as prescribed by Depositories *(Further Information)*
- **SEBI grants one-time relaxation on MPS compliance under LODR Regulations:** Waives penal provisions for listed entities with MPS compliance deadlines between April 1, 2026 and September 30, 2026; effective immediately *(Further Information)*
- **SEBI extends validity of Observation Letters:** One-time extension for letters expiring between April 1–September 30, 2026 up to September 30, 2026, subject to Lead Manager compliance undertaking; effective immediately *(Further Information)*

A copy of all the afore mentioned Notifications/ Circulars are available on SEBI website at www.sebi.gov.in.

Merchant Banking: Case Study

SEBI cancels merchant banker license over non-compliance

SEBI cancelled Basan Financial Services Limited's registration for persistent regulatory non-compliance. The action was taken despite the company's claim of ceased operations and pending license surrender

Case Overview

- SEBI conducted an inspection of Basan Financial Services Limited at its registered office
- The inspection reviewed **compliance with the SEBI (Merchant Bankers) Regulations, 1992 and SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015**
- It focused on reporting, governance, and investor protection requirements
- The findings were used to assess the company's continued eligibility to operate as a registered merchant banker

Key Allegations

- The company demonstrated consistent and **prolonged non-compliance** across multiple regulatory requirements
- Lapses were observed in governance, reporting, investor protection, and financial norms
- The extent of failures indicated **weak internal controls and regulatory oversight**

Violations

- **Investor Grievance & Disclosures:** Failure to maintain investor grievance and disclosure mechanisms
- **Regulatory Reporting:** Non-compliance with reporting and filing requirements
- **Governance & Controls:** Weak internal governance, including lack of required certifications and records
- **Financial Compliance:** Failure to meet net worth and fee obligations

Resolution

- Based on the violations, SEBI recommended cancellation of the company's merchant banking registration
- The company argued that it had ceased operations since 2014 and that its voluntary surrender application remained unprocessed
- SEBI therefore **cancelled the certificate of registration** granted to the Company as a Merchant Banker

Supreme Court Case Overview

Supreme Court

Shankar Khandelwal vs. Omkara Asset Reconstruction Private Limited

Supreme Court held that an ARC acquiring debt through assignment becomes a full-fledged financial creditor under IBC, entitled to initiate and continue insolvency proceedings

Case Overview

- Shankar Khandelwal, former director of the corporate debtor, was linked to DHFL loans (2014) that turned **NPA on Dec 6, 2016**
- Post DHFL insolvency, the loans were assigned to **Omkara ARC in Jan 2023**
- Omkara filed a fresh **Section 7 IBC plea** on Sept 23, 2024 after closure of an earlier CIRP
- NCLT and NCLAT admitted the case, treating RP's claim admission as debt acknowledgment extending limitation. This interpretation has been **challenged** before the Supreme Court

Main Issues Raised

- **Limitation Trigger:** Whether the three-year filing window resets based on administrative actions during insolvency
- **RP Authority:** Whether a Resolution Professional's admission of a claim constitutes an "acknowledgment of debt" under **Section 18 of the Limitation Act**
- **Admissibility:** Whether the creditor's **Section 7** application was time-barred despite various statutory exclusions

Observations and Decisions

- **Administrative vs. Legal:** The Court ruled that an **RP's collation of claims is a clerical task**, not a debtor's admission of liability
- **No Extension:** Admission of a claim by an RP does **not** reset the limitation clock under **Section 18** of the Limitation Act
- **Calculation:** Even after excluding COVID-19 extension periods and prior moratoriums, the **filing deadline had expired** on August 1, 2024
- **Timing Rule:** Acknowledgment of debt must occur **before the limitation period expires** to be legally valid

Final Ruling

- **Appeals Allowed:** The Supreme Court found in **favor of the appellant**, holding that the creditor's Section 7 petition filed on September 23, 2024, was unequivocally barred by limitation
- **Tribunal Orders Set Aside:** The Court quashed and set aside the previous NCLAT judgment (dated October 15, 2025) and the NCLT order (dated January 22, 2025), **effectively halting the belated insolvency proceedings** against the corporate debtor, no order as to costs was made

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Source: https://ibbi.gov.in/orders/supreme-court

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M&A Case Study

Sun Pharma signs definitive agreement to acquire US-based Organon & Co.

Sun Pharma, India's largest pharma company, has struck the biggest ever overseas pharma deal acquiring US-listed Organon & Co. for ~ ₹10.86 lakh crore in an all cash transaction

About the Deal

- **Acquirer:** Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd, India's largest pharmaceutical company
- **Target:** Organon & Co., a global pharma company focused on women's health, established branded medicines and biosimilars
- **Deal Structure:** All-cash consideration of ~ **₹10.86 lakh crore**, representing a **24%** premium to Organon's last closing price
- **Deal Structure:** Merger of Organon with a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sun Pharma with subsequent delisting from New York Stock Exchange

Deal Rationale

- **Women's Health & Biosimilars Scale:** Builds a top 3 global Women's Health platform and makes Sun Pharma the 7th largest biosimilar player, leveraging Organon's **70+** products and EU manufacturing base
- **Portfolio Premiumization:** Increases innovative medicines share to ~27%, aligning with Sun Pharma's shift toward higher-margin specialty products.
- **Stronger Financials:** EBITDA and FCF nearly double, with Net Debt/EBITDA improving from **4.0x to 2.3x**

Strategic Importance in Pharma Sector

Largest Outbound M&A by an Indian Biopharma: The transaction represents a structural milestone in Indian pharma's cross-border M&A capability, a sector that has historically been a target rather than an acquirer of global assets

Establishes a Platform for In-Licensing & Product Acquisition: Positions Sun Pharma as a global consolidator capable of absorbing future portfolio additions, a structurally important role in a sector increasingly defined by portfolio reshuffling among Big Pharma

Globally Distributed Manufacturing Network in EU and Emerging Markets: Organon operates 6 manufacturing facilities across the EU and emerging markets. The acquisition transfers a regulated, multi-jurisdiction manufacturing footprint to the Indian acquirer

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Source: IBEF

M&A Case Study

Emami Group acquires Axiom Ayurveda for beverage expansion

Emami has acquired the remaining 73.5% stake in Axiom for ~₹2,000 Mn, marking its formal entry into the fast-growing functional and health beverages segment leveraging distribution scale and prior partnership to drive growth and category diversification

Deal Overview

- **Apr 2026:** Emami acquires the remaining **73.5%** stake in Axiom Ayurveda for **~₹2,000 Mn** in a phased, all-cash deal
- Founded in 1995, Axiom operates across **health and wellness** categories with brands such as AloFrut, Jeevan Ras, and Mukti Gold
- The Emami Group is one of India's fastest-growing, conglomerates with a strong leadership presence in FMCG, edible oil, paper, and healthcare services
- The move is a significant step to enter the high-growth, functional health beverage market

Deal Rationale – Deepening Horizontal Capabilities

- The deal provides immediate access to a rapidly growing **15–20%** ayurveda and natural products market, allowing Emami to capitalize on increasing demand for health-oriented beverages
- Emami can scale Axiom's portfolio by leveraging its extensive pan-India distribution network of **4.9 million** retail outlets, improving reach, visibility, and market penetration

Bottom Line - A Strategic Win

- **Stronger Growth Platform:** Establishes a scalable platform in the high-growth health beverages segment, creating a new long-term revenue driver **beyond traditional FMCG categories**
- **Enhanced Market Positioning**: Strengthens Emami's positioning as a **holistic wellness-focused FMCG player** rather than a pure personal care company
- **Execution Visibility:** Prior partnership with Axiom reduces integration risks and provides confidence in execution, enabling faster realization of synergies and growth

Market & Commodities

Global Indices | BSE | NSE | Currency | Gold | Silver

Stock Indices	Opening (INR) (1st Apr 2026)	Closing (INR) (30th Apr 2026)	Change %
Sensex	73,134.3	76,913.5	5.2%
Nifty	22,679.4	23,997.6	5.8%
FTSE	10,436.3	10,378.8	-0.6%
Nikkei	53,739.7	59,284.9	10.3%
Dow Jones	46,565.7	49,652.1	6.6%
S&P 500	6,575.3	7,209.0	9.6%
NASDAQ	24,020.0	27,452.1	14.3%
SSE Composite (SSEC)	3,948.6	4,112.2	4.1%
Gold (INR/10 Grams)	1,50,101.0	1,51,090.0	0.7%
Silver (INR/1 Kgs)	2,41,817.0	2,37,414.0	-1.8%
USD $	93.5	94.9	1.6%
Euro €	108.2	110.9	2.5%
GBP £	123.8	128.0	3.4%
Yen ¥	0.58	0.59	0.5%

April 2026 Snapshot: Markets Climb on Easing Macro Pressures and Growth Optimism

- Nifty 50 gained strongly in April, driven by **easing inflation, rate cut expectations and solid earnings in banking and infrastructure**. Continued DII inflows and returning FII interest, supported by India's macro stability, sustained the rally
- **Nasdaq was the top performer** among global indices, driven by **strong Q1 earnings** from AI and tech majors. Improved sentiment from easing trade tensions and confidence in AI monetization fueled a sharp risk-on rally
- Silver declined in April, weighed down by a **weak industrial demand outlook**, particularly from China and Europe. Its dual role as a precious and industrial metal, along with profit-booking after a prior rally, added further pressure
- The Euro appreciated modestly against the Rupee, supported by a weaker US Dollar and **stable Eurozone macro conditions**.

About Indcap

About Us | Our Services

Executed more than **INR 7,50,000** Mn in various transactions across Debt and Structured Debt, M&A/PE and Corporate Debt Restructuring

400+ clients

25+ years of experience

SEBI Registered Category I Merchant Banker

Nationwide presence and global alliances

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