2015 FOR START-UPS: OF **EXUBERANCE, CORRECTION,** AND RATIONALISAT

The dream run for startups that bega n in mid-2014, continued till mid driven by excess liquidity and a FOMO (fear of missing out) effect. Hedge funds, some of whom made big bets on Chinese internet firms and won, and others who missed out on them, raced to acquire a slice of the Indian consumer internet pie These drove valuations and saw start-ups raising \$5.70 billion in 2015, with many raising fresh rounds of money in a span of six to eight weeks. Investors were already concerned as valuations were ahead of fundamentals, and they began to slow down from May-June. The sentiment thus, changed: Investors were no longer in a hurry to close deals or write big cheques. The same investors who were asking start-ups to chase growth were now asking for unit economics. As it became clear that fundraising will become tougher, start-ups began to rationalise (Housing, Foodpanda, Zomato, PepperTap) and conserve cash to stay longer in the game. Here's a snapshot of what 2015 meant for start-ups

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FUNDRAISING BY START-UPS



CAPITAL MAGNETS: COMPANIES

III Date		
lipkart	\$3.15 billion	12 rounds
la Cabs	\$1.18 billion	7 rounds
napdeal	\$1.54 billion	10 rounds
aytm	\$585 million	4 rounds
)uikr	\$346 million	6 rounds
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n 2015 (\$ million)

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la Cabs	Paytm
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THE \$100 MILLION CLUB*				
Flipkart	\$15 billion			
Snapdeal	\$6 billion +			
Ola Cabs	\$5 billion +			
Paytm	\$3 billion +			
InMobi	\$2.5 billion +			
Zomato	\$1 billion +			
Quikr	\$1 billion +			
Shopclues	\$500 million			
Practo	\$500 million			
Jabong	\$450 million			
BigBasket	\$400 million			
Grofers	\$300 million +			
GirnarSoft	\$300 million			
Capillary Tech	\$150 million +			
Urban Ladder	\$150 million +			
Pepperfry	\$100 million +			
*Start-ups with a valuation of \$100 million+ based on media reports				

Source: Tracxn

CAPITAL MAGNETS: SECTORS

Sector	No. of deals	Funding
Retail	102+	\$1.8 billion
Fintech	66+	\$1.2 billion
Transport	31+	\$1 billion+
Enterprise & SAAS	152+	\$602 million
Logistics	44+	\$540 million
Health-tech	79+	\$332 million
Food	52+	\$196 million
Local services	40+	\$83 million
Edu-tech	42+	\$70 million
Groceries	19+	\$116 million

Grofers counted under logistics; Paytm under fintech though it is in e-commerce too; Practo counted under health-tech though it has big play in SAAS; Other companies which raised over \$100 million: Quiks, Saavn, Oyo, Pepperfry Source: Trackn

BIG M&As AMONG START-UPS eCharge Target: Fr

Acquired: Snapdeal Deal value: \$400 million Funds raised: \$117 million Investors: Sequoia Capital, Sofina, ru-Net, Tybourne, InnoVen Capital

Acquired: OlaCabo

Deal value: \$200 million

Target: TaxiForSure

Funds raised: \$36 million vestors: Helion, Bessemer, Accel, Blume

Target: ApnaPaisa Acquired: Andromedalo Deal value: Undisclosed Funds raised: \$20.2 million Investors: Helion, Bessemer.

Accel, Blume

Target: Exclusively Acquired: Snapd Deal value: Undisclosed Funds raised: \$18.8 million Investors: Accel Partners, Helion

Target: babyove Acquired: Mahindra Retail Deal value: Undisclosed Funds raised: \$14.5 million Investors: Accel, Tiger Global, Helion

START-UPS IN THE NEWS Housing: This SoftRank-led real estate nortal has

been in the news for all the wrong reasons, which included firing two CEOs, laying off almost a 1,000 people. It has rationalised operations to focus on key verticals. Likely to survive 2016

TinyOwl: The food tech start-up has struggled to find traction in 2015. It, too, had to go through large-scale layoffs after the company could not make money or raise fresh capital. Outlook: Will survive. May pivot to delivery of

homemade food only

ato: After food discovery, Zomato forayed into food delivery and table reservations in 2015, where its products yet to prove its mettle. It laid off 300 people, and is conserving cash by segregating markets for b2b products and ad sales. 2016 will test it in food delivery

orders and governance issues. The food tech firm has since then been on damage control and is losing out to Swiggy, Will survive but with small customer pool Ola Cabs: Ola was one of the hottest start-up in

Foodpanda: Operations in India came under a

cloud with allegations of fake restaurants, fake

India in 2015. In November, it raised \$500 million in a fresh round of funding to battle Uber. It entered into ride sharing and shuttle services. But it's not clear how long investors will support its cash burn

pdeal: Snapdeal, run by Kunal Bahl, made probably the most high-profile acquisition -Freecharge, for an estimated cost of \$400 million. In ugust, after it raised \$500 million from Alibaba, SoftBank and others, it was valued at \$4.8 billion

Source: Compiled by BS Reporters

MOST ACTIVE INVESTORS IN START-UPS



