SHARE MARKET A TO Z

The Complete Glossary — Every Term You'll Actually Run Into

ShareMarketBazar.com

Most “A to Z” guides promise more than they deliver — a list of buzzwords with no real explanation attached. This one is built differently: every term below gets an actual, plain-language explanation, in alphabetical order, so you can read start to finish or jump straight to the one word that's been confusing you. A couple of letters (J, mainly) don't have a natural share market term, so they've been skipped rather than forced in.

The Complete Glossary

A — ASM (Additional Surveillance Measure)

When a stock shows unusual price or volume swings, exchanges can place it under ASM, adding extra margin requirements and trading restrictions until things settle down. Landing on this list is a caution flag on recent trading behavior, not necessarily a verdict on the company itself.

B — Bull Market & Bear Market

A bull market describes a sustained stretch of rising prices and rising confidence; a bear market is the mirror image, a sustained decline. Neither moves in a straight line, and neither lasts forever.

C — Circuit Breaker

An automatic, exchange-wide trading halt triggered when the market — or a single stock — moves beyond a set percentage in either direction. It's a built-in pause designed to stop panic from feeding on itself.

D — Demat Account

The electronic account that holds your shares, replacing the paper certificates investors used decades ago. Most accounts today open as a Basic Services Demat Account by default if holdings stay under the current threshold, which keeps annual charges minimal.

E — Equity

Another word for a share: a unit of ownership in a company. “Equity market” and “stock market” get used interchangeably in almost every everyday conversation about investing.

F — F&O (Futures & Options)

Derivative contracts whose value is based on an underlying stock or index, used for hedging existing positions or for pure speculation. F&O carries meaningfully higher risk than buying shares outright, which is exactly why regulators have tightened eligibility and margin requirements around it in recent years.

G — GTT Order (Good Till Triggered)

An order that stays live until a price you set is actually hit, rather than expiring at the end of the trading day — useful for setting a target sale or a stop-loss without watching a screen all day.

H — Holding Period

The length of time you own a stock before selling it, which directly determines whether any gain gets taxed as short-term or long-term capital gains.

I — IPO (Initial Public Offering)

The first time a company sells shares to the public, moving from private ownership into a publicly listed, publicly tradable one.

K — KYC (Know Your Customer)

The identity verification process — PAN, address proof, a photograph — every broker must legally complete before opening your account. It's a one-time process, not something you repeat with every trade.

L — LTCG (Long-Term Capital Gains)

The tax treatment applied to profit from shares held longer than a set period, generally taxed more favorably than short-term gains to reward patience over quick flipping.

M — MTF (Margin Trading Facility)

A facility that lets you buy shares using funds borrowed from your broker, putting up only a portion of the purchase price yourself. It amplifies both gains and losses equally, which makes it worth understanding thoroughly before using.

N — NSE (National Stock Exchange)

One of India's two major exchanges, alongside the BSE, where the actual buying and selling of listed shares takes place.

O — Open Interest

The total number of outstanding derivative contracts that haven't yet been settled or closed — a measure of how much money is actively committed to a position, not which direction it's betting.

P — P/E Ratio (Price-to-Earnings)

A company's share price divided by its earnings per share — a quick, rough way to gauge whether a stock is priced cheaply or expensively relative to how much profit it's actually generating.

Q — Quarterly Results

The financial performance a listed company must disclose every three months, covering revenue, profit, and management commentary — one of the biggest, most predictable sources of short-term price movement on the calendar.

R — Resistance Level

A price point where a stock has historically struggled to rise past, as selling pressure tends to increase near that level. It's a pattern observed in past price action, not a guaranteed ceiling going forward.

S — SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India)

The regulator overseeing India's securities markets, enforcing disclosure rules, broker conduct, and investor protection so the whole system stays trustworthy enough for ordinary people to use.

T — T+1 Settlement

The current standard timeline for when shares and funds actually change hands after a trade — one trading day after the transaction, faster than the T+2 and T+3 cycles India used in earlier years.

U — Upper Circuit & Lower Circuit

The maximum percentage a stock, or the market as a whole, is allowed to move in a single session before trading automatically pauses — upper for a sharp rise, lower for a sharp fall.

V — Volatility

How much and how quickly a stock's price swings, in either direction. Higher volatility means bigger potential gains and bigger potential losses in the same breath — it's a measure of movement, not of quality.

W — Watchlist

A saved list of stocks you're tracking without necessarily owning yet. Most trading apps let you build one, so you're not searching for the same tickers every single day.

X — XIRR (Extended Internal Rate of Return)

The return calculation used for investments made at irregular intervals, like SIPs, since a simple percentage return doesn't account for money going in at different times and earning returns for different lengths of time.

Y — Yield

The income, typically dividends, a stock generates relative to its price, usually expressed as a percentage — a way to compare income-generating potential across different stocks regardless of their actual share price.

Z — Zero Coupon Bond

A bond that doesn't pay periodic interest at all. Instead, it's sold at a discount to its face value, and the entire return comes from the gap between what you paid and what you receive at maturity.

> *A glossary won't make you a better investor by itself. But not knowing these words will quietly make every article, every app screen, and every broker conversation harder than it needs to be.*

Want to Go Deeper?

This glossary covers the vocabulary. These guides on ShareMarketBazar.com cover the parts that actually require a decision:

- Stock Market for Beginners — the full starting walkthrough
- How to Open a Demat Account — documents, charges, and the 2026 rule changes
- What Is MTF? — margin trading explained in full
- Best Stock Market Apps in India — which broker actually fits you