The country's <u>current account deficit</u> (CAD) rose to \$13 billion (Rs 878 billion and 1.9 per cent of gross domestic product, or GDP) in the fourth and final quarter (Q4 of 2017-18), compared to \$2.6 billion (Rs 176 billion and 0.4 per cent of GDP) in the same period of 2016 -17.

It, however, moderated marginally from \$13.7 billion (2.1 per cent of GDP) in the third quarter (October to December 2017), stated the Reserve Bank of India.

For the full financial year (2017-18), the deficit increased to 1.9 per cent of GDP, from 0.6 per cent in 2016-17. The trade deficit rose to \$160 billion, from \$112.4 billion in 2016-17.

<u>Net services receipts</u> increased by 8.8 per cent over the year; software earnings was a contributor. Private transfer receipts, mainly remittances by Indians working abroad, were \$18.1 billion, a rise of 15.1 per cent from a year before.

In the financial account, net foreign direct investment was \$6.4 billion in Q4, from \$5 billion in the same quarter of 2016-17. Portfolio investment recorded a net inflow of \$2.3 billion in Q4, well down from an inflow of \$10.8 billion a year before, with moderation in net purchases seen in both the debt and equity markets.

Net receipts on account of non-resident deposits amounted to \$4.6 billion in Q4, compared to \$2.7 billion a year before.

The quarter also saw an accretion of \$13.2 billion to the <u>foreign exchange</u> reserves as compared with one of \$7.3 billion in Q4 of 2016-17. The accretion was \$43.6 billion for the entire year.

During 2017-18, net invisible receipts (from trade in 'invisible' services, instead of 'visible' goods) were higher.

Gross foreign direct investment (FDI) rose marginally to \$61 billion in 2017-18, from \$60.2 billion in 2016-17. Net FDI moderated to \$30.3 billion, from \$35.6 billion the previous year.

<u>Portfolio investment</u> had net inflow of \$22.1 billion in 2017-18, as compared with \$7.6 billion a year before.