



**NATIONAL APEX CHAMBER**

# **FOREX & FEMA Newsletter**

September 2018

**PHD Research Bureau**

**PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

PHD House, 4/2 Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi - 110016

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## FOREX & FEMA NEWSLETTER

The daily average monthly turnover in India's foreign exchange market including merchant and interbank transactions in the category of purchases stands at USD 2545 million in July 2018 as compared to USD 2646 million in June 2018. In the category of sales, the average daily turnover stands at USD 2445 million in July 2018 as against USD 2638 million in June 2018.

In the month of August 2018, the average exchange rate of rupee against USD stands at 69.55. The average exchange rate of rupee against Japanese yen stands at 62.59. The exchange rate of rupee against Euro has remained at an average of 80.44 in the month of August 2018. While, the average exchange rate of rupee against pound sterling is at 89.69 during August 2018.

India's foreign exchange reserves stands at about USD 400.10 billion as on August 31st, 2018 of which Foreign Currency Assets consists of USD 375.98 billion, Gold reserves at USD 20.16 billion, SDRs at USD 1.47 billion and reserve position in the IMF at USD 2.47 billion.

At commodity front, the average price of Gold has decreased from Rs. 30097.32 per 10 grams in July 2018 to Rs. 29628.79 per 10 grams in August 2018. The average price of silver has decreased from Rs. 38547.73 per 1 kg in July 2018 to Rs. 37286.48 per 1 kg in August 2018. The average price of copper has registered a decrease to Rs. 415.8 per 1 kg in the month of August 2018 from Rs. 425.96 per 1 kg in the month of July 2018. In addition, Zinc has witnessed a decrease in its average price from Rs. 183.09 per 1 kg in July 2018 to Rs. 175.38 per 1 kg in August 2018. While, the average price of crude oil has decreased to around to Rs. 4719.41 per barrel in August 2018 as compared to Rs. 4870 per barrel in July 2018.

RBI released its Annual Report 2017-18 which stated that the Indian economy exhibited resilience during 2017-18, with upturns in investment and construction. Inflation eased on a year-on-year basis in an environment characterised by high variability. In the evolution of monetary aggregates, currency in circulation surpassed its pre-demonetisation level while credit growth revived to double digits from a historic low in the previous year. Domestic financial markets were broadly stable, with rallies in equity markets and intermittent corrections, hardening bond yields, the rupee trading with a generally appreciating bias except towards the close of the year and ample liquidity in money markets.

The implementation of GST achieved another important milestone towards an efficient indirect tax structure. On the external front, the current account deficit was comfortably financed with accretions to foreign exchange reserves. Hon'ble PM launched India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)- A major initiative towards financial inclusion. Through the India Post Payments Bank, banking services will conveniently reach the remotest places in the country, and the people living there. The launch of IPPB is one more step to achieve objective of financial inclusion.

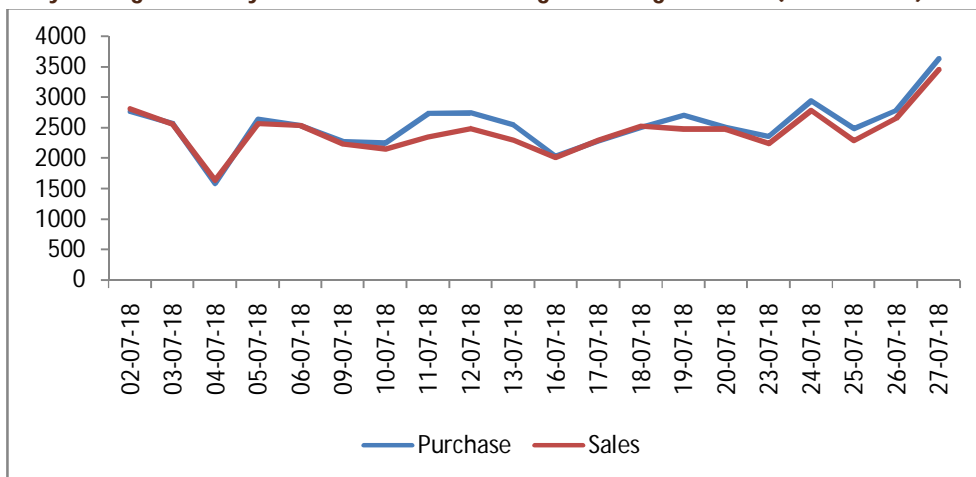
At market front, BSE Sensex closed at 38,645.07 as on 31st August 2018 as against 37,606.58 as on 31st July 2018 registering a growth of 2.8% over previous month. During August 2018, Sensex recorded an intraday high of 38,989.65 and an intraday low of 37,128.99. While, Nifty closed at 11680.5 as on 31st August 2018 as against 11356.5 as on 31st July 2018 registering an increase of about 2.9% over previous month. During July 2018, Nifty recorded an intraday high of 11,760.2 and an intraday low of 11,234.95.

## India's foreign exchange market turnover (daily average)

The daily average monthly turnover in India's foreign exchange market including merchant and interbank transactions in the category of purchases stands at USD 2545 million in July 2018 as compared to USD 2646 million in June 2018. In the category of sales, the average daily turnover stands at USD 2445 million in July 2018 as against USD 2638 million in June 2018.



### Daily average monthly turnover in India's foreign exchange market (USD million)

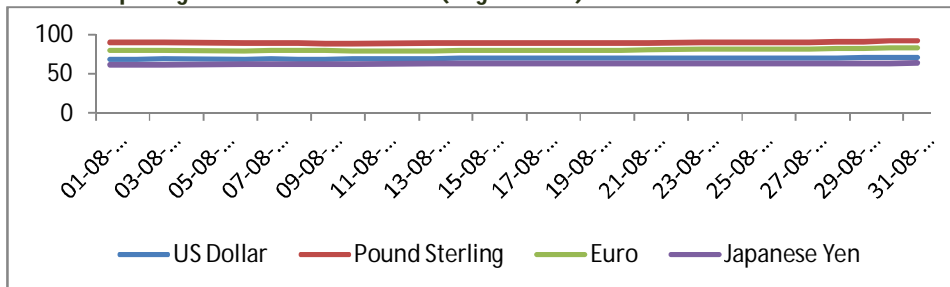


Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled from RBI

## Overview of Indian rupee

In the month of August 2018, the average exchange rate of rupee against USD stands at 69.55. The average exchange rate of rupee against Japanese yen stands at 62.59. The exchange rate of rupee against Euro has remained at an average of 80.44 in the month of August 2018. While, the average exchange rate of rupee against pound sterling is at 89.69 during August 2018.

### Trend of rupee against various currencies (August 2018)



Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled from RBI

### Indian rupee overview

Average Exchange rate of rupee against USD stands at 69.55 in August 2018, against pound sterling at 89.69, against Euro at 80.44 and against Japanese Yen at 62.59.





# Trade & Investment Facilitation Services



## SINGLE WINDOW INFORMATION AND PROCEDURAL FACILITATION

**Trade and Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS)** is a vital component for international trade and investment community. It is envisioned to facilitate firms across the globe for trade and investments in India while simultaneously meeting India's rapidly growing appetite for new markets to enhance trade and investments.

Considering the thirst of the Nation to place India at the forefront of Global Economic Architecture, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry launched a specialized desk on Trade and Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS) on 31st March 2017. TIFS is an information and advisory hub to provide requisite and detailed information to facilitate national and international business firms to invest in India; advising them on prospective business opportunities in India in general and in States and promising sectors in particular.

### Vision of TIFS

We aim to make India a US\$ 100 billion (per annum) investment destination in the next five years and to enhance India's trade trajectory to the higher level. We envisage US\$ 1000 billion merchandise trade (exports and imports) and US\$ 500 billion services trade (exports and imports) per annum in the next five years.

### Geographical Area

TIFS covers pan India from Jammu Kashmir in the North to Tamil Nadu in the South and from Gujarat in the West to Arunachal Pradesh in the East.

### Three role dimensions

#### 1. Information role:

Serving as a key link to all information centres on all national and regional/local regulations and clearances. This includes maintaining or having direct and easy access to such information. This also means constant updating of such information.

#### 2. Catalyst role:

Providing facilitative advisory services to help overcome key obstacles and strengthen key positive enablers for enhanced trade and investments. This includes providing information or "leads" on opportunities that would benefit international business community to invest in India.

#### 3. Networking role:

Effective networking with relevant Indian and overseas agencies and leveraging of such networks in the direction of risk mitigation and enhancing trade and investments.

## Strategic Collaborators of TIFS

TIFS work in close coordination with Trade Consulars' of different countries as well as international trade and business community and international chambers of commerce. Further, for facilitating and providing information on procedural requirements, TIFS also work in close coordination with the government both at the central and the state level as well as industry associations in India.

Trade Consular's of  
different countries

Government including  
Central and State

Industry  
Associations

International Trade  
and  
Business Community

International  
Chambers  
of Commerce

International  
Consulting Firms



## How TIFS work in assisting investors?

It is envisaged to be the first-point-one-stop reference for potential investors from around the world. Our team of domain and functional experts provides sector-and state-specific inputs, and hand-holding support to investors. We assist with location identification, expediting regulatory approvals, facilitating meetings with relevant government and corporate officials among others. For instance, if an investor A from Germany wants to invest USD 100 million in a textile business in India.

- A team of trained staff will be associated with the task for maintaining a physical helpdesk and provide the investor with all the help required regarding the relevant approvals to set up a business and information related to investment areas across India.
- Facility to set up meetings of the investors with Government officials for specific investor queries, both at the state government and central government level.
- Regular updates on various economic developments in India in general and sector specific in particular.
- Updates on state level developments related to policy amendments, sectoral developments, taxation mechanism, infrastructural, etc.
- Updates on Foreign Direct Investment norms, Foreign Trade Policy, etc.

## TIFS undertakes the following activities

- i. Through regular research and networking with Government bodies, Entrepreneurs, Industry associations, Embassies/Consulates, Investment delegations, etc., the TIFS gather information on possible trade and investment opportunities in various sectors of the Indian economy.
- ii. TIFS advises prospective traders and investors, national and international, in their process of filing applications and helping them meet other procedural and regulatory requirements. For this purpose, information on specific trade and investment guidelines at the state and central level is provided by TIFS.
- iii. TIFS provides information at a broad level to international investors about possible potential joint venture partners in India. If TIFS is aware of any Indian parties interested in formation of Joint Ventures (JVs) with some global partners, such information is made available to interested investors.
- iv. In case of requests made by individual investors to undertake specific research assignments, financial analysis or due diligence of any specific joint venture partner or Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) targets, TIFS provides adequate resources to carry out such requests on an agreed cost.
- v. In a nutshell, TIFS increases understanding amongst national and international investors on the promising investment areas and requirements and regulations for making investments. Facilitates in dealing with the Government in application procedures amongst the national and international Investors. Reduce lead time in investment processes and procedural transactions.

## Registration

Registration is open to both Indian and foreign entities.

Registration fee is for your registration with TIFS program to receive updates on trade and investment scenario regularly for 1 year from the date of registration. However, for your specific queries consultancy charges would vary from case to case basis for facilitation services on detailed projects and exhaustive research studies.

### For details, contact:

**Dr. S P Sharma, Chief Economist**

**PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

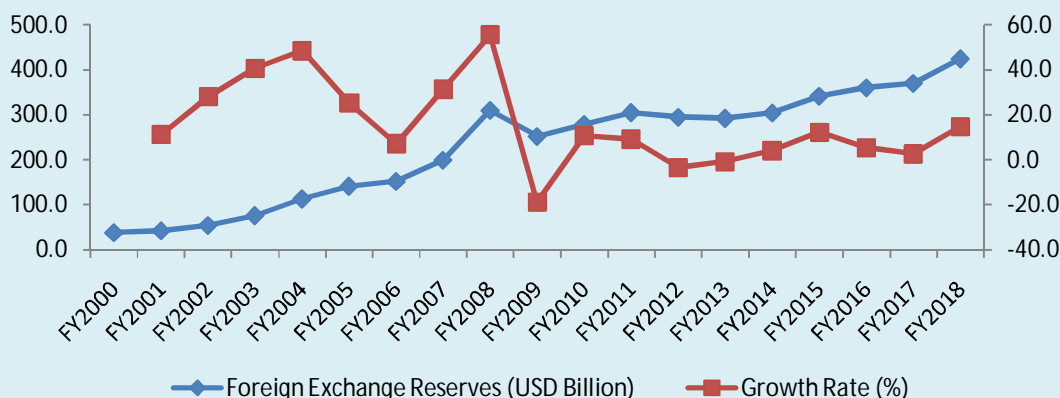
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## Trend of India's Foreign Exchange Reserves in short term period ( Apr-Sep FY19) vis-a-vis long term period (since FY2000)

The foreign exchange reserves in FY2000 stood at USD 38 billion, which continuously increased in absolute terms till FY2008. In FY2009, the foreign exchange reserves declined to USD 252 billion as compared to USD 309.7 billion in the previous financial year. The foreign exchange reserves stood at USD 424.5 billion in FY2018, as compared to USD 370 billion in the previous financial year. Over the time span of 18 years, the foreign exchange reserves grew at an average of 15.7%.

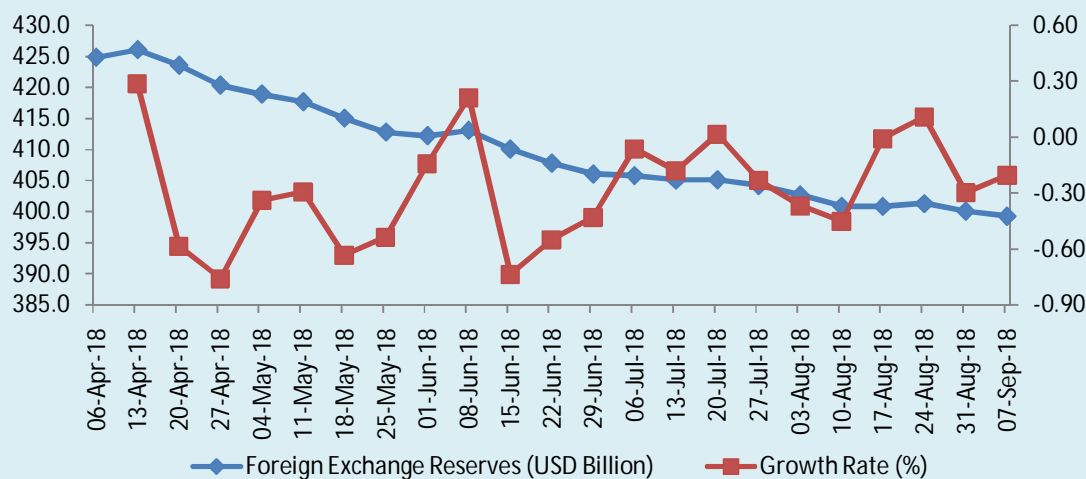
### Long Term Foreign Exchange Reserves Trend



Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled by RBI

In the short term, the foreign exchange reserve recorded high fluctuations. In the start of the FY2019, the foreign exchange reserve stood at USD 424.9 billion (6<sup>th</sup> April 2018), which continuously declined till 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018 to USD 412.2 billion. Foreign exchange reserve then increased by 0.2% to USD 413.1 on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018, and then again started declining. The foreign exchange reserve showed positive growth only twice, 0.02% on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018 and 0.11% on 24<sup>th</sup> August. On 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018, the foreign exchange reserves stood at USD 399.3 billion. Over the FY2019, the foreign exchange reserves contracted at an average growth rate of 0.28%.

### Short Term Foreign Exchange Reserves Trend (USD Billion)



Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled by RBI

## Monthly trend of rupee exchange rate (high and low) against currencies

In the month of August 2018, the exchange rate of rupee against USD recorded highest at 70.93, while it registered lowest at 68.36. The exchange rate of rupee against pound registered highest at 92.35 and lowest at 88.19. In case of Euro currency, exchange rate of rupee recorded highest at 82.84 and lowest at 78.99. The exchange rate of rupee against Japanese yen recorded highest at 63.91 and lowest at 61.21.

### Indian rupee overview

(August 2018)

INR against foreign currency	Open	High	Low	Close
USD	68.61	70.93	68.36	70.93
Pound Sterling	89.93	92.35	88.19	92.35
Euro	80.12	82.84	78.99	82.84
Japanese Yen	61.23	63.91	61.21	63.91

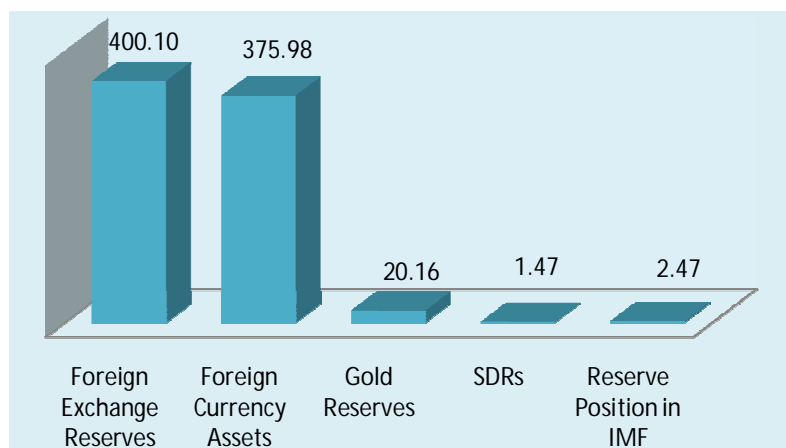
Exchange rate of rupee against USD stood highest at 70.93 and lowest at 68.36 in August 2018.

Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled from RBI

## Foreign exchange reserves

India's foreign exchange reserves stands at about USD 400.10 billion as on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 of which Foreign Currency Assets consists of USD 375.98 billion, Gold reserves at USD 20.16 billion, SDRs at USD 1.47 billion and reserve position in the IMF at USD 2.47 billion.

### Foreign exchange reserves as on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 (USD Billion)



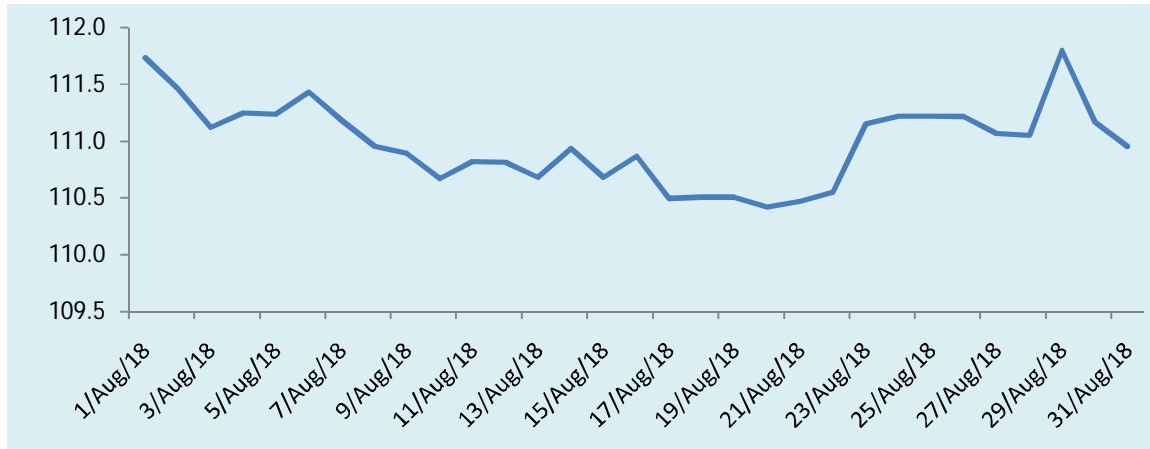
India's foreign exchange reserves are at about USD 400.10 billion as on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018

Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled from RBI

## Trend of USD against Japanese Yen, British Pound and Euro in August 2018

### Trend of USD against Japanese Yen

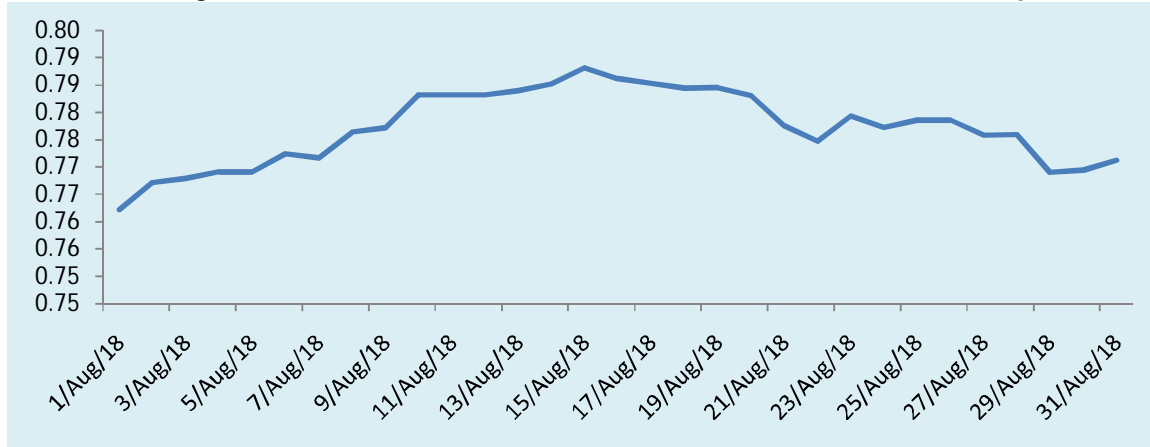
(August 2018)



Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled from x-rates.

### Trend of USD against British Pound

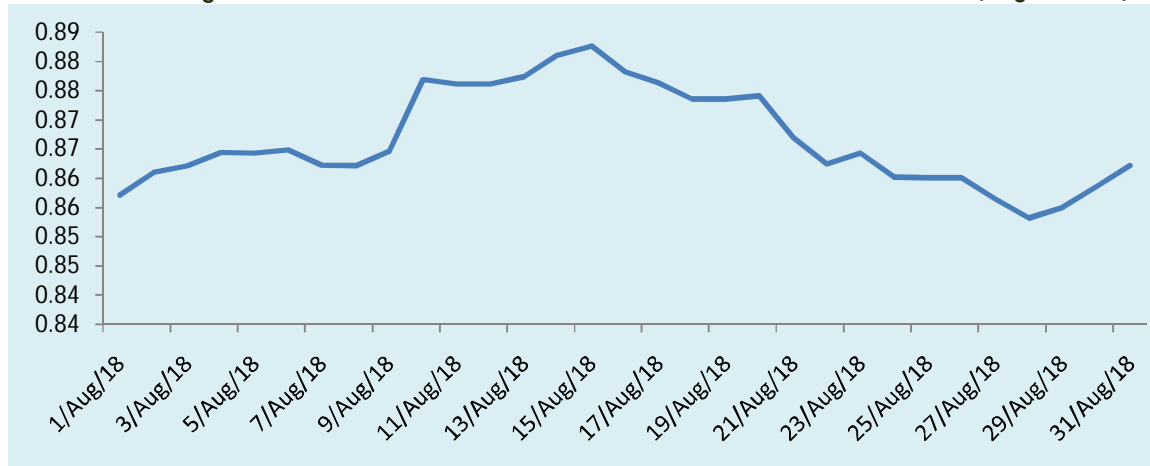
(August 2018)



Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled from x-rates.

### Trend of USD against Euro

(August 2018)



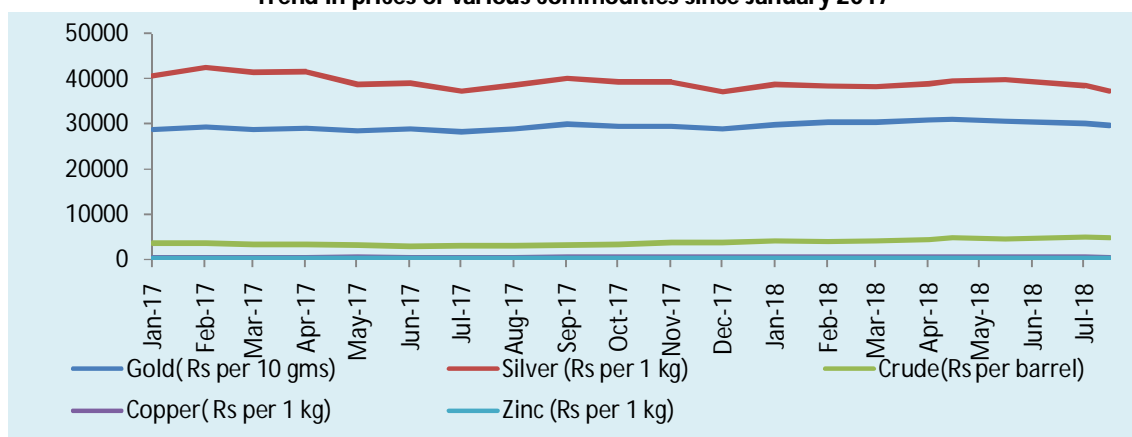
Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled from x-rates.



## Commodity Markets

At commodity front, the average price of Gold has decreased from Rs. 30097.32 per 10 grams in July 2018 to Rs. 29628.79 per 10 grams in August 2018. The average price of silver has decreased from Rs. 38547.73 per 1 kg in July 2018 to Rs. 37286.48 per 1 kg in August 2018. The average price of copper has registered a decrease to Rs. 415.8 per 1 kg in the month of August 2018 from Rs. 425.96 per 1 kg in the month of July 2018. In addition, Zinc has witnessed a decrease in its average price from Rs. 183.09 per 1 kg in July 2018 to Rs. 175.38 per 1 kg in August 2018. While, the average price of crude oil has decreased to around to Rs. 4719.41 per barrel in August 2018 as compared to Rs. 4870 per barrel in July 2018.

Trend in prices of various commodities since January 2017



Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from MCX.

## Financial Markets

Select international indices such as NIKKEI, SENSEX and DJIA have exhibited positive growth trend in August 2018 over July 2018, while DAX and SHSZ exhibited a negative growth. NIKKEI, SENSEX, DAX, DJIA and SHSZ registered growth rate of 1.34%, 2.76%, -3.45%, 2.16% and -5.21%, respectively in August 2018 over July 2018.

Global Indices			
Index	Index (as on 31-Jul 2018)	Index (as on 31-Aug 2018)	Monthly Change ( in % )
<b>DAX<sup>1</sup></b>	12,805.50	12,364.06	-3.45
<b>DJIA<sup>2</sup></b>	25,415.19	25,964.82	2.16
<b>NIKKEI<sup>3</sup></b>	22,553.72	22,856.00	1.34
<b>SENSEX<sup>4</sup></b>	37,606.58	38,645.07	2.76
<b>SHSZ<sup>5</sup></b>	3517.66	3334.50	-5.21

Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from various sources. Note: <sup>1</sup> Deutscher Aktien Index (Germany) data, <sup>2</sup> Dow Jones Industrial Average (US) Data, <sup>3</sup> NIKKEI (Japan), <sup>4</sup> BSE SENSEX (India), <sup>5</sup> Shanghai Shenzhen CSI 300 Index (China).

## Recent regulatory developments

### **RBI launches the September 2018 Round of Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH)**

The Reserve Bank of India has been regularly conducting Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH). The September 2018 round of the survey is now being launched. The survey aims at capturing subjective assessments on price movements and inflation, of 6,000 households, based on their individual consumption baskets, across 18 cities viz., Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, Patna, Raipur, Ranchi and Thiruvananthapuram. The survey seeks qualitative responses from households on price changes (general prices as well as prices of specific product groups) in the three months ahead as well as in the one year ahead period and quantitative responses on current, three months ahead and one year ahead inflation rates. The results of this survey provide useful information for monetary policy formulation.

The agency, M/s Hansa Research Group Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai has been engaged to conduct the field work of this round of the survey on behalf of the Reserve Bank of India.

### **RBI launches the September 2018 Round of Consumer Confidence Survey (CCS)**

The Reserve Bank of India has been regularly conducting Consumer Confidence Survey (CCS). The September 2018 round of the Survey is now being launched. The survey seeks qualitative responses from households, regarding their sentiments on general economic conditions, income, spending, prices, employment scenario etc. The survey is conducted regularly in 13 cities viz. Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bhopal, Chennai, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Patna and Thiruvananthapuram. The survey covers 5,400 respondents across 13 cities. The results of this survey provide useful information for monetary policy formulation.

The agency M/s Hansa Research Group Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai has been engaged to conduct the field work of this round of the survey on behalf of the Reserve Bank of India.

### **Survey of Foreign Liabilities and Assets of Mutual Fund Companies – 2017-18**

The Reserve Bank released the results of the 2017-18 round of the Survey of Foreign Liabilities and Assets of Mutual Fund (MF) Companies on its website. The survey covers 42 Indian MF companies and their Asset Management Companies (AMCs), which held/acquired foreign assets and/or liabilities during the reference year 2017-18 and/or in the preceding year. Highlights are mentioned below:

#### I. Mutual Fund Companies:

- Foreign assets of MF companies declined by 11.7 per cent; however, their foreign liabilities increased by 19.3 per cent, with their net foreign liabilities at ₹ 824.3 billion (US\$ 12.7 billion) in March 2018.
- UAE, UK, Singapore, USA, Mauritius and Hong Kong together accounted for 49 per cent of the MF units held by non-residents in March 2018; units (at face value) held in Mauritius and Singapore declined (by 11 per cent each), coinciding with the signing of the Protocol to amend the 'India-Mauritius Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA)' in 2016-17 and 'India-Singapore DTAA' effective since April 2017.
- Luxembourg and USA remained the major overseas investment destinations for MFs companies with Mauritius regaining importance as a preferred overseas investment destination.

#### II. Asset Management Companies:

- Net foreign liabilities of AMCs associated with MFs increased by 132.7 per cent to ₹121.0 billion (US\$ 1.9 billion) in March 2018 over the previous year; foreign liabilities of AMCs were largely owed to non-residents in Japan (increased by 698 per cent), Mauritius and UK whereas Guernsey was the main destination of their relatively small overseas assets.
- The reinvested earnings of foreign direct investors in the AMCs (estimated from their share in the difference between a company's net profit and distributed dividends) stood at ₹ 9.7 billion in 2017-18.

#### **RBI releases 'Quarterly Statistics on Deposits and Credit of SCBs: June 2018'**

The Reserve Bank released its web publication entitled Quarterly Statistics on Deposits and Credit of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), June 2018, on its Database on Indian Economy (DBIE) portal (web-link: <https://dbie.rbi.org.in/DBIE/dbie.rbi?site=publications#13>). Data on deposits are disaggregated by type and total credit is classified by states, districts, centres, population groups and bank groups. These data are collected from all SCBs, including regional rural banks (RRBs) and small finance banks (SFBs), under the basic statistical return (BSR) – 7 systems. Highlights:

- Private sector banks continued to lead deposit mobilisation, with a modest pick-up in growth (y-on-y) in deposits of public sector banks and moderation in deposit growth of foreign banks.
- Bank credit growth (y-on-y) reached a four year high led by metropolitan branches; rural credit growth decelerated in the first quarter of 2018-19.
- Private sector banks continued to record over 20 per cent credit growth (y-on-y) and foreign banks recorded double-digit credit growth on a low base; credit growth was higher for all bank groups except RRBs than in the previous quarter.
- Bank branches/offices in metropolitan cities, which account for nearly 64 per cent of bank lending, recorded higher credit growth for the third consecutive quarter.
- Over two-thirds of the total business (deposits + credit) of SCBs came from seven states (viz., Maharashtra, Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and West Bengal).

- The credit-deposit (C-D) ratio at the all-India level remained unchanged over the quarter (75.6 per cent). It was more than 100 per cent for Chandigarh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Telangana.

### RBI releases Data on Overseas Direct Investment

The Reserve Bank of India released the data on Overseas Direct Investment, both under Automatic Route and the Approval Route, for the month of July 2018.

#### Summary of Outward Foreign Direct Investment (OFDI) based on Reporting date - Comparative Position – July 2018

(amount\* in USD million)

Month	Equity	Loan	Guarantee Issued	Total Financial Commitment
	1	2	3	1+2+3
June 2018	925.17	323.29	816.78	2065.24
July 2018	608.52	406.74	371.86	1387.12

Month	Equity	Loan	Guarantee Issued	Total Financial Commitment
	1	2	3	1+2+3
July 2017	544.96	517.45	1106.60	2169.01
July 2018	608.52	406.74	371.86	1387.12

\* The data published is provisional and subject to change based on online reporting by AD banks.

### The Reserve Bank introduces Internal Ombudsman Scheme, 2018 for Scheduled Commercial Banks

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had, in May 2015, advised all public-sector and select private and foreign banks to appoint Internal Ombudsman (IO) as an independent authority to review complaints that were partially or wholly rejected by the respective banks. The IO mechanism was set up with a view to strengthen the internal grievance redressal system of banks and to ensure that the complaints of the customers are redressed at the level of the bank itself by an authority placed at the highest level of bank's grievance redressal mechanism so as to minimize the need for the customers to approach other fora for redressal.

As a part of this customer-centric approach, to enhance the independence of the IO while simultaneously strengthening the monitoring system over functioning of the IO mechanism, RBI has reviewed the arrangement and issued revised directions under Section 35 A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 in the form of 'Internal Ombudsman Scheme, 2018'. The Scheme covers, inter-alia, appointment / tenure, roles and responsibilities, procedural guidelines and oversight mechanism for the IO.



All Scheduled Commercial Banks in India having more than ten banking outlets (excluding Regional Rural Banks), are required to appoint IO in their banks. The IO shall, inter alia, examine customer complaints which are in the nature of deficiency in service on the part of the bank, (including those on the grounds of complaints listed in Clause 8 of the Banking Ombudsman Scheme, 2006) that are partly or wholly rejected by the bank. As the banks shall internally escalate all complaints, which are not fully redressed to their respective IOs before conveying the final decision to the complainant, the customers of banks need not approach the IO directly. The implementation of IO Scheme, 2018 will be monitored by the bank's internal audit mechanism apart from regulatory oversight by RBI.

### **RBI releases Data on India's International Trade in Services: June 2018**

The Reserve Bank releases monthly data on India's international trade in services with a lag of around 45 days. The value of exports and imports of services during the month of July 2018 are given in the following Table.

<b>International Trade in Services</b>		(US\$ Million)
Month	Receipts (Exports)	Payments (Imports)
April-18	17,563	10,915
May-18	16,173	10,208
June-18	16,872	10,299
July- 18	17,553	10,850

Source: Data Compiled by PHD research Bureau from RBI

### **India's CAD moderated marginally to 2.4% of GDP in Q1 of 2018-19 from 2.5% of GDP in Q1 of 2017-18**

India's CAD moderated marginally to 2.4 per cent of GDP in Q1 of 2018-19 from 2.5 per cent in Q1 2017-18. However, on the back of a widening of the trade deficit, in absolute terms, India's current account deficit (CAD) increased to US\$ 15.8 billion (2.4 per cent of GDP) in Q1 of 2018-19 from US\$ 15.0 billion (2.5 per cent of GDP) in Q1 of 2017 -18, and from US\$ 13.0 billion (1.9 per cent of GDP) in the preceding quarter.

#### **Key Features of India's BoP in Q1 of 2018-19**

- India's current account deficit (CAD) stood at US\$ 15.8 billion (2.4 per cent of GDP) in Q1 of 2018-19 as compared with US\$ 15.0 billion (2.5 per cent of GDP) in Q1 of 2017-18.
- The widening of the CAD on a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis was primarily on account of a higher trade deficit at US\$ 45.7 billion as compared with US\$ 41.9 billion a year ago.
- Net services receipts increased by 2.1 per cent on a y-o-y basis mainly on the back of a rise in net earnings from software and financial services.
- Private transfer receipts, mainly representing remittances by Indians employed overseas, amounted to US\$ 18.8 billion, increasing by 16.9 per cent from their level a year ago.
- In the financial account, net foreign direct investment at US\$ 9.7 billion in Q1 of 2018-19 was higher than US\$ 7.1 billion in Q1 of 2017-18.

- Portfolio investment recorded net outflow of US\$ 8.1 billion in Q1 of 2018-19 – as compared with an inflow of US\$ 12.5 billion in Q1 last year – on account of net sales in both the debt and equity markets.
- Net receipts on account of non-resident deposits amounted to US\$ 3.5 billion in Q1 of 2018-19 as compared with US\$ 1.2 billion a year ago.
- In Q1 of 2018-19, there was a depletion of US\$ 11.3 billion of the foreign exchange reserves (on BoP basis) as against an accretion of US\$ 11.4 billion in Q1 of 2017-18.

### Major Items of India's Balance of Payments (BoP)

USD Billion

	April-June 2018 P			April-June 2017 PR		
	Credit	Debit	Net	Credit	Debit	Net
A. Current Account	155.7	171.5	-15.8	139.9	154.9	-15.0
1. Goods	83.4	129.1	-45.7	73.1	115.1	-41.9
Of which:						
POL	11.9	34.7	-22.8	7.5	22.8	-15.4
2. Services	48.2	29.5	18.7	45.9	27.6	18.3
3. Primary Income	5.3	11.1	-5.8	4.7	10.6	-5.8
4. Secondary Income	18.8	1.7	17.1	16.1	1.6	14.5
B. Capital Account and Financial Account	142.4	125.9	16.6	155.7	140.2	15.5
Of which:						
Change in Reserve (Increase (-)/Decrease (+))	11.3	0.0	11.3	0.0	11.4	-11.4
C. Errors & Omissions (-) (A+B)		0.8	-0.8		0.6	-0.6

Source: RBI P: Preliminary. PR: Partially Revised Note: Total of subcomponents may not tally with aggregate due to rounding off.

## **Hon'ble PM launches India Post Payments Bank- A major initiative towards financial inclusion**

The Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, on 01st September 2018, launched the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) at Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi. The function was witnessed at over 3000 locations across the country, which were connected to the main event in Delhi.

Speaking on the occasion, the Hon'ble Prime Minister said that through the India Post Payments Bank, banking services will conveniently reach the remotest places in the country, and the people living there. He said that launch of IPPB is one more step to achieve objective of financial inclusion.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister said that the postman has long been a respected and accepted person in the villages. He said the trust on the postman remains, despite the advent of modern technology. He said that the Government's approach is to reform existing frameworks and structures, and hence, transform them in accordance with the changing times. He said that there are over 1.5 lakh post offices and over three lakh postmen or "grameen dak sevaks" who are connected to the people of the country. Now they shall be empowered with smartphones and digital devices to provide financial services.

Enumerating the benefits of IPPB, he said it will enable money transfer, transfer of government benefits, bill payments and other services such as investment and insurance. He added that postmen would deliver these services at the doorstep. He said that IPPB will also facilitate digital transactions, and help deliver the benefits of schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, which provide assistance to farmers.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister said that since 2014, the Union Government has been dealing firmly with the distortions and problems that had arisen in India's banking sector due to indiscriminate loan advances. He said existing loans have been reviewed and a professional approach has been taken with regard to the banking sector. He mentioned other measures such as the Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill, which have been taken to ensure that the guilty are punished.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister said that now Mudra loans worth over 13 lakh crore rupees have been given to the poor and middle class, for creating self-employment opportunities. He said that today, as India achieves its best ever Asian Games performance, and the economy shows excellent growth numbers, the entire country is full of new self-confidence. He said this is the result of the collective efforts of the people. He said today India is not just the fastest growing economy in the world, but also the country that is eradicating poverty the fastest.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister said that 3 lakh "dak sevaks" would be the key to provide financial services to every home, every farmer and every small enterprise in the villages. He mentioned that in recent months, several steps have been taken for the welfare of "dak sevaks" and to meet their long pending demand. These have led to a substantial increase in

their salary, he added. He expressed confidence that IPPB shall reach over 1.5 lakh post offices across the country within the next few months.

### **RBI releases its Annual Report 2017-18**

In a milieu of a strengthening global economy, a cyclical rebound in world trade and generally buoyant financial markets, the Indian economy in 2017-18 turned in a resilient performance that was also entrenched in macroeconomic stability. Although real GDP growth was somewhat slower than in the preceding year, the turnaround in capital formation and construction activity, together with record agricultural production, considerably brightens the near-term outlook. The combination of (i) a steady easing of inflation for the fifth year in succession to undershoot the target in 2017-18, (ii) a modest current account deficit of 1.9 per cent of GDP, and (iii) public finances having sturdily weathered the implementation of a major structural reform – the Goods and Services Tax (GST), reinforces the prospects for 2018-19.

Assessment for the year 2017-18: The year 2017-18 turned out to be a year of inflexions in the growth path of the Indian economy, despite the lingering after-effects of demonetisation and the GST implementation. Green shoots of recovery sprung up from Q2, finding expression in a sequential rise in real GDP growth from a 13-quarter low of 5.6 per cent in Q1 to 7.7 per cent in Q4. A significant accelerator was gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) which snapped out of a four-quarter soft patch and posted expansion right through Q2 and until Q4. Private final consumption expenditure (PFCE) was supported by rural demand on the back of a bumper harvest and the government's thrust on rural housing and infrastructure. In contrast, support from government final consumption expenditure ebbed in relation to the preceding year and there was a leakage of domestic demand through net exports, in contrast to a slender contribution a year ago. Given these diverse pull factors, the fact that the loss of speed in real GDP growth was contained at only 0.4 percentage points on a year-on-year basis reflects innate resilience, and possibly, the onset of a new phase, in the life of the economy.

Infrastructure activity, which could be the force multiplier for India in the take-off to the middle income group of countries, gained pace in terms of projects under implementation, but new project announcements remained subdued across public and private sectors. There were several noteworthy achievements, though. In the road sector, the sustained growth in construction of national highways and the length of roads awarded was a silver lining.

As regards the price situation, inflation eased to its lowest level in the new consumer price index (CPI) series in June 2017, with food prices going into deflation. Thereafter, a confluence of domestic and global developments pushed inflation up – an unseasonal spike in the prices of vegetables during October-November 2017, disbursement of house rent allowance (HRA) for central government employees under the 7th Central Pay Commission's award and firming up of global commodity prices.

Stressed assets [gross non-performing assets (GNPAs) plus restructured standard advances] in the banking system remained elevated at 12.1 per cent of gross advances at end-March



2018. The combined impact of the increase in provisioning against NPAs and mark-to-market (MTM) treasury losses on account of the hardening of yields eroded the profitability of banks, resulting in net losses. In a pre-emptive response, the Reserve Bank allowed banks to spread their MTM losses over four quarters – starting from Q3. Going forward, the stress tests carried out by the Reserve Bank suggest that under the baseline assumption of the current economic situation prevailing, the GNPA ratio of scheduled commercial banks may increase further in 2018-19.

### **Highlights of the RBI's Annual Report 2017-18:**

**Economic Review:** The Indian economy exhibited resilience during 2017-18, with upturns in investment and construction. Inflation eased on a year-on-year basis in an environment characterised by high variability. In the evolution of monetary aggregates, currency in circulation surpassed its pre-demonetisation level while credit growth revived to double digits from a historic low in the previous year. Domestic financial markets were broadly stable, with rallies in equity markets and intermittent corrections, hardening bond yields, the rupee trading with a generally appreciating bias except towards the close of the year and ample liquidity in money markets. The implementation of GST achieved another important milestone towards an efficient indirect tax structure. On the external front, the current account deficit was comfortably financed with accretions to foreign exchange reserves.

**Monetary policy operations:** Following a reduction in the policy rate by 25 basis points (bps) in August 2017, the policy rate was kept on hold until June 2018 when it was raised by 25 bps. The policy stance remained neutral from February 2017 onwards. Surplus liquidity in the system generated in the wake of demonetisation was gradually drained away by the Reserve Bank's liquidity management operations. Transmission of policy impulses to deposit and lending rates improved further during the year, albeit with large variations across sectors and bank groups.

**Credit delivery and Financial inclusion:** The Reserve Bank undertook several new initiatives during the year for strengthening credit delivery mechanism and also enhancing financial inclusion. Some of these measures include revised guidelines on priority sector lending, launch of Certified Credit Counsellors (CCCs) Scheme for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), conduct of survey for assessing the challenges faced by the MSME sector, revamp of Lead Bank Scheme (LBS), implementation of some of the key recommendations of the Committee on Medium-Term Path on Financial Inclusion and also innovative approaches for financial literacy. The work is also underway for the formulation of a National Strategy for Financial Inclusion. In order to ascertain efficacies, the Reserve Bank would undertake the impact assessments of some of the projects under credit delivery and financial inclusion during 2018-19.

**Financial markets and foreign exchange management:** During 2017-18, the Reserve Bank made concerted efforts to strengthen various segments of the financial markets. The Reserve Bank used a variety of instruments to absorb the persisting surplus liquidity in the system for ensuring better alignment of money market rates with the policy rate in order to achieve efficient transmission of monetary policy signals. The Reserve Bank operated in

both over-the-counter (OTC) and exchange traded currency derivatives (ETCD) segments to maintain orderly conditions in the forex market. Further rationalisation of regulations while maintaining a mechanism for effective monitoring of foreign exchange transactions was carried out during the year for facilitating cross-border flow of funds.

Regulation, supervision and financial stability: During 2017-18, the banking sector continued to grapple with the problems of deteriorating asset quality and declining profitability. In order to align the resolution process with the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016, the framework for resolution of stressed assets was revised and the previous schemes were withdrawn. Customer rights were strengthened by limiting liability of customers in unauthorised electronic banking transactions. Further, given the increasing popularity of digital payments medium, data protection and cyber security norms were strengthened. For effective and timely redressal of grievances of customers of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), an Ombudsman Scheme for deposit taking NBFCs was initiated. Regulatory policies for cooperative banks were further harmonised with those of scheduled commercial banks (SCBs). In order to bring about ownership-neutral regulations, government-owned NBFCs will be required to adhere to the Bank's prudential regulations in a phased manner.

Public Debt Management: The Reserve Bank successfully achieved the objectives of the debt management by ensuring that the government's financing needs and its payment obligations were met at the lowest possible cost. Notwithstanding the multiple challenges emanating from the glide path for reduction in Held to Maturity (HTM) category of banks' investment portfolio and Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR), the Reserve Bank managed the borrowing requirements of the central and the state governments for 2017-18 within the overall contours of the debt management strategy of low cost, risk mitigation and market development while factoring in domestic and global economic and financial conditions. On the macroeconomic front, the tilting risks to inflation, pressure emanating from the fiscal slippages, event-specific announcements, viz., farm loan waivers coupled with global factors such as the increasing crude oil prices and the monetary policy normalisation in major economies were the pre-dominant factors that impacted the yields.

Currency management: Currency management during 2017-18 was geared towards managing the process of remonetisation and processing and reconciliation of specified banknotes (SBNs). The year was marked by issuance of banknotes of ₹10 and ₹50 under the new series and introduction of ₹200, a new denomination. New banknotes under the Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series highlighting the cultural heritage and scientific achievements of the country were issued. Sustained efforts were made towards indigenisation of banknotes production with sophisticated security features.

### **Prospects for 2018-19:**

The global economy expanded at a strong pace in the first half of 2018. In advanced economies (AEs), activity was accompanied by tightening labour markets, firm commodity prices and resilient trade dynamics. Emerging market economies (EMEs) front-ran the AEs in Q1 but fell back somewhat in Q2 as capital flows exited on risk aversion generated by a cocktail of trade wars, rising interest rates in the US, geo-political tensions and the

unrelenting hardening of crude oil prices. As per the International Monetary Fund's (IMF's) estimate, global growth is expected to pick up by 0.2 percentage points to 3.9 per cent in 2018 and is projected to sustain at the same level in 2019.

Headline inflation which averaged 4.8 per cent during Q1:2018-19, is likely to face upside risks over the rest of the year from a number of sources, warranting continuous vigil and a readiness to head off those pressures from getting generalised. Rising global commodity prices, especially of crude oil, and recent global financial market developments are firming up input cost pressures. The staggered impact of HRA revisions by various state governments could also pose an upside risk through second round effects. Much will depend on how food prices play out and how effective are the supply management strategies.

With regard to the fiscal position of states, budget estimates for 2018-19 have envisaged a revenue surplus and a lower fiscal deficit. During the year, however, fiscal risks may emanate from many states going for elections, the additional burden of farm loan waivers announced outside budgeted outlays, and the implementation of pay/pension/allowances revisions. Revenue mobilisation remains the key to attaining the budgeted targets. The cushion provided by compensation cess by the centre for any interim shortfall in GST revenue could help smooth state finances on the revenue front.

Global headwinds are likely to confront India's external sector in 2018-19. Even though exports have gathered momentum in Q1 of 2018- 19, the worsening global trade environment as a result of protectionist policies may impinge upon external demand. Elevated crude oil prices and the strengthening of domestic demand may push up the import bill. With India being a net energy importer, the changing demand-supply dynamics in the international crude oil market may impact heavily on India's trade deficit.

Several initiatives set in motion to secure the soundness of the banking system are expected to reach critical mass during 2018-19. First, keeping in view the IBC process and the need to put in place a harmonised and simplified generic framework for resolution of stressed assets, the Reserve Bank has introduced a new framework for resolution of stressed assets, which is more outcome-oriented and provides considerable flexibility for banks to determine the minutiae of the restructuring process. Second, institutional reforms in India's financial system and credit information availability are poised for a transformation. Third, the Reserve Bank has put in place a graded enforcement action framework for any lapses observed in conducting a bank's statutory audit to address large divergences in asset classification and provisioning in the credit portfolio of banks as well as rein in the rising incidence of frauds in the Indian banking system.

## Macro-economic indicators

### July 2018 IIP stands at 6.6%

Growth in industry output, as measured in terms of IIP, for the month of July 2018 stands at 6.6% as compared to 7.0% in June 2018. The growth in the three sectors mining, manufacturing and electricity in July 2018 stands at 3.7%, 7.0% and 6.7% respectively over July 2017. Primary goods growth stands at 6.9%, capital goods growth stands at 3.0%, intermediate goods growth stands at 1.2%, infrastructure/construction goods growth stands at 8.4%, consumer durables growth stands at 14.4% and consumer non-durables growth stands at 5.6% during July 2018 as compared to the previous year..

### August 2018 CPI inflation grows at 3.69%

The all India general CPI inflation (Combined) for August 2018 (Prov.) grows at 3.69% as compared to 4.17% in July 2018. The inflation rates for rural and urban areas for August 2018 (Prov.) are 3.41% and 3.99%, respectively, as compared to 4.11% and 4.32% respectively, for July 2018. Rate of inflation during August 2018 (Prov.) for fuel and light is 8.47%, housing (7.59%), eggs (6.96%), education (6.03%), transport and communication (5.97%), etc.

### August 2018 WPI inflation stands at 4.53%

The WPI inflation grows at 4.53% in August 2018 as compared to 5.09% in July 2018, 5.68% in June 2018, 4.78% in May 2018, 3.62% in April 2018, 2.74% in March 2018. The rise in WPI inflation in the month of August 2018 is attributed to rise in the prices of Potato (71.89%), Crude Petroleum (53.47%), LPG (46.08%). Driven by rise in the prices of Potato, Crude Petroleum and LPG, WPI inflation stands at 4.53% in August 2018 as compared to 5.09% in July 2018. The official Wholesale Price Index for 'All Commodities' (Base: 2011-12=100) for the month of August, 2018 rose by 0.3% to 120.0 (provisional) from 119.7 (provisional) for the previous month.

### ECBs stand at USD 2.2 billion during July 2018

Indian firms have risen about USD 2.2 billion through external commercial borrowings (ECBs) by automatic and approval route in July 2018 as against USD 2.7 billion in June 2018. The borrowings stood at USD 1.9 billion in July 2017.

### Merchandise exports and imports grew by 19.21% and 25.41% during August 2018, respectively

India's Exports during August 2018 were valued at USD 27.84 Billion as compared to USD 23.36 Billion during August 2017 exhibiting a positive growth of 19.21 per cent. India's Imports during August 2018 were valued at USD 45.24 Billion which was 25.41 per cent higher in Dollar terms over the level of imports valued at USD 36.07 Billion in August 2017.



## India's trade statistics at a glance

Merchandise	Jan-18	Feb-18	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18	June-18	July-18	Aug-18
Exports (USD billion)	24.38	25.83	29.11	25.91	28.86	27.7	25.77	27.84
Growth (%)	9.07	4.48	-0.66	5.17	20.18	17.57	14.32	19.21
Imports (USD billion)	40.68	37.81	42.80	39.63	43.48	44.3	43.79	45.24
Growth (%)	26.1	10.41	7.15	4.6	14.85	21.31	28.81	25.41
Trade Balance (USD billion)	-16.29	-11.97	-13.69	-13.72	-14.62	-16.6	-18.02	-17.39

Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt of India

## Gross Bank Credit grows at 10.5% in July 2018

Gross bank credit grows at 10.5% in July 2018 as against 11.07% in June 2018. The gross bank credit growth stands at 4.7% in July 2017. On a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, non-food bank credit increased by 10.6% in July 2018 as against 11.1% in June 2018. Credit to agriculture and allied activities increased by 6.6% in July 2018 as compared to 6.5% in June 2018.

## Trends in the secondary market

BSE Sensex closed at 38,645.07 as on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018 as against 37,606.58 as on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018 registering a growth of 2.8% over previous month. During August 2018, Sensex recorded an intraday high of 38,989.65 and an intraday low of 37,128.99.

### Movement of BSE Sensex since April 2016

Month	Open	High	Low	Close	% change on closing values over previous month
Apr-16	25,301.70	26,100.54	24,523.20	25,606.62	1.04
May-16	25,565.44	26,837.20	25,057.93	26,667.96	4.14
Jun-16	26,684.46	27,105.41	25,911.33	26,999.72	1.23
July-16	27,064.33	28,240.20	27,034.14	28,051.86	3.8
Aug-16	28,083.08	28,532.25	27,627.97	28,452.17	1.42
Sep-16	28,459.09	29,077.28	27,716.78	27,865.96	-2.06
Oct-16	27,997.29	28,477.65	27,488.30	27,930.21	0.23
Nov-16	27,966.18	28,029.80	25,717.93	26,652.81	-4.57
Dec-16	26,756.66	26,008.57	26,707.81	26,626.46	-0.09
Jan-17	26,711.15	27,980.39	26,447.06	27,655.96	3.86
Feb-17	27,669.08	29,065.31	27,590.10	28,743.32	3.93
Mar-17	28,849.04	29,824.62	28,716.21	29,620.50	3.05
Apr-17	29,737.73	30,184.22	29,241.48	29,918.40	1.0
May-17	30,021.49	31,255.28	29,804.12	31,145.80	4.1
June-17	31,117.09	31,522.87	30,680.66	30,921.61	-0.72
July-17	31,156.04	32,672.66	31,017.11	32,514.94	5.15
Aug-17	32,579.80	32,686.48	31,128.02	31,730.49	-2.41
Sep-17	31,769.34	32,524.11	31,081.83	31,283.72	-1.41
Oct-17	31,537.81	32,699.86	31,440.48	33,213.13	6.16

Nov-17	33,344.23	33,865.95	32,683.59	33,149.35	(-)0.19
Dec-17	33247.66	34137.97	32565.16	34056.83	2.73
Jan-18	34,059.99	36,443.98	33,703.37	35,965.02	5.60
Feb-18	36,048.99	36,256.83	33,482.81	34,184.04	(-)4.95
Mar-18	34,141.22	34,278.63	32,483.84	32,968.68	(-)3.56
Apr-18	33,030.87	35,213.30	32,972.56	35,160.36	6.6
May-18	35,328.91	35,416.03	34,302.89	35,322.38	0.5
Jun-18	35,373.98	35,877.41	34,784.41	35,423.48	0.3
Jul-18	35545.22	37644.59	35106.57	37606.58	6.2
Aug-18	37643.87	38989.65	37128.99	38645.07	2.8

Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled from BSE Sensex

While, Nifty closed at 11680.5 as on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018 as against 11356.5 as on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018 registering an increase of about 2.9% over previous month. During July 2018, Nifty recorded an intraday high of 11,760.2 and an intraday low of 11,234.95.

#### Movement of NIFTY since April 2016

Month	Open	High	Low	Close	% change on closing values over previous month
Apr-16	7718.05	7992.00	7516.85	7849.80	1.4
May-16	7822.70	8213.60	7678.35	8160.10	3.95
Jun-16	8179.20	8308.15	8063.90	8287.75	1.56
July-16	8313.05	8674.70	8287.55	8638.50	4.2
Aug-16	8654.30	8601.15	8518.15	8786.20	1.7
Sep-16	8793.60	8968.70	8555.20	8611.15	(-) 1.9
Oct-16	8666.15	8806.95	8506.15	8625.70	0.16
Nov-16	8542.80	8598.45	7916.40	8224.50	-4.65
Dec-16	8244.00	8274.95	7893.80	8185.80	-0.47
Jan-17	8210.10	8672.70	8133.80	8561.30	4.58
Feb-17	8570.35	8982.15	8537.50	8879.60	3.71
Mar-17	8904.40	9218.40	8903.95	9173.75	3.31
Apr-17	9220.60	9367.15	9075.15	9304.05	1.42
May-17	9339.85	9649.60	9285.30	9621.25	3.41
June-17	9603.55	9709.30	9560.80	9520.90	-1.04
July-17	9587.95	10114.85	9543.55	10077.10	5.84
Aug-17	10101.05	10137.85	9740.10	9917.90	(-) 1.57
Sep-17	9937.65	10178.95	9687.55	9788.60	(-) 1.3
Oct-17	9893.30	10384.50	9831.05	10335.30	5.58
Nov-17	10390.35	10490.45	10094.00	10226.55	(-)1.05
Dec-17	10263.7	10552.4	10033.35	10530.70	2.97
Jan-18	10531.70	11171.55	10404.65	11027.70	4.72
Feb-18	11044.55	11117.35	10276.30	10492.85	(-)4.9
Mar-18	10479.95	10525.50	9951.90	10113.70	(-)3.61
Apr-18	10151.65	10759.00	10111.30	10739.35	6.19
May-18	10783.85	10929.20	10417.80	10736.15	(-)0.03
Jun-18	10738.45	10893.25	10550.90	10714.30	(-)0.2
Jul-18	10732.35	11366	10604.65	11356.5	6.0
Aug-18	11359.8	11760.2	11234.95	11680.5	2.9

Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled from NSE.

## India's key statistics so far...

S. NO.	Indicators	August 2018
1	Daily average monthly turnover in foreign exchange market	
	Purchase (USD billion) *	25.45
	Sales (USD billion) *	24.45
2	Exchange rate of rupee against USD (monthly average)	69.54
3	Exchange rate of rupee against Pound Sterling (monthly average)	89.69
4	Exchange rate of rupee against Euro (monthly average)	80.43
5	Exchange rate of rupee against Japanese Yen (monthly average)	62.59
6	Foreign exchange reserves (USD billion)^	400.10
7	IIP (growth in %)-July 2018	6.6
8	CPI inflation (%) –August 2018	3.69
9	WPI inflation (%) - August 2018	4.53
10	FDI equity inflow (USD billion)***	12.75
11	FDI equity inflow (% growth)****	23%
12	External Debt (USD billion)@	514
13	ECBs (USD billion) –July 2018	2.2
14	Current account deficit as a % of GDP Q1 of FY2019	2.4
15	India's exports (USD billion) –August 2018	27.84
16	Growth of exports (%)–August 2018	19.21
17	India's imports (USD billion)- August 2018	45.24
18	Growth of imports (%)–August 2018	25.41
19	Trade balance (USD billion) –August 2018	(-)17.39
20	BSE Sensex \$	38645.07
21	Nifty \$	11680.5
22	Repo rate ^^	6.5%
23	Reverse repo rate^^	6.25%
24	Cash reserve ratio^^	4%
25	Statutory liquidity ratio^^	19.5%

Source: PHD Research Bureau compiled from various sources. \*Data for the month of July 2018. ^ Foreign exchange reserves on August 31, 2018 @Data for the end-June 2018, \$Data for BSE SENSEX and CNX NIFTY are closing figures of the month of April 2018. ^^Key policy rates such as repo, CRR, reverse repo and SLR pertains to as on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018. \*\*\* 2018-2019 (April to June 2018-19), \*\*\*\*Growth (YOY) over previous period.

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## PHD Research Bureau

PHD Research Bureau; the research arm of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry was constituted in 2010 with the objective to review the economic situation and policy developments at sub-national, national and international levels and comment on them in order to update the members from time to time, to present suitable memoranda to the government as and when required, to prepare State Profiles and to conduct thematic research studies on various socio-economic and business developments.

The Research Bureau has been instrumental in forecasting various lead economic indicators national and sub-national. Many of its research reports have been widely covered by media and leading newspapers. Recently, the Research Bureau has undertaken various policy projects of Government of India including Framework of University-Industry Linkages in Research assigned by DSIR, Ministry of Science & Technology, Study on SEZ for C&AG of India, Study on Impact of Project Imports under CTH 9801 for C&AG of India, among others.

Research Activities	Comments on Economic Developments	Newsletters	Consultancy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research Studies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Macro Economy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic Affairs Newsletter (EAC)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trade &amp; Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State Profiles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>States Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Economic Monitor (GEM)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impact Assessments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trade &amp; Investment Facilitation Services (TIF)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thematic Research Reports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foreign exchange market</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State Development Monitor (SDM)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Releases on Economic Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Economy &amp; International Trade</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forex and FEMA Newsletter</li> </ul>	



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**Research Associate**  
Macroeconomic Developments in National and  
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Committee, FOREX and FEMA  
Committee, TIFS, Banking and Financial  
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**Associate Economist**  
Developments in Foreign Trade and  
Investment

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**Research Officer**  
Banking and Financial Markets, FOREX  
and FEMA

**Ms. Shivani Mehrotra**  
**Research Associate**  
Taxation - Direct and Indirect

**Ms. Bhavana Kakkar**  
**Research Associate**  
Developments in Foreign Trade

**Ms. Sunita Gosain, Secretarial Assistant**  
Secretarial and Administrative Processes

## Studies undertaken by the PHD Research Bureau

### A: Thematic research reports

1. Comparative study on power situation in Northern and Central states of India (September 2011)
2. Economic Analysis of State (October 2011)
3. Growth Prospects of the Indian Economy, Vision 2021 (December 2011)
4. Budget 2012-13: Move Towards Consolidation (March 2012)
5. Emerging Trends in Exchange Rate Volatility (Apr 2012)
6. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2010-11 (May 2012)
7. Global Economic Challenges: Implications for India (May 2012)
8. India Agronomics: An Agriculture Economy Update (August 2012)
9. Reforms to Push Growth on High Road (September 2012)
10. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2011-12: Beating Slowdown (March 2013)
11. Budget 2013-14: Moving on reforms (March 2013)
12. India- Africa Promise Diverse Opportunities (November 2013)
13. India- Africa Promise Diverse Opportunities: Suggestions Report (November 2013)
14. Annual survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry-2012-13 (December 2013)
15. Imperatives for Double Digit Growth (December 2013)
16. Women Safety in Delhi: Issues and Challenges to Employment (March 2014)
17. Emerging Contours in the MSME sector of Uttarakhand (April 2014)
18. Roadmap for New Government (May 2014)
19. Youth Economics (May 2014)
20. Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2014-15 (July 2014)
21. Budget 2014-15: Promise of Progress (July 2014)
22. Agronomics 2014: Impact on economic growth and inflation (August 2014)
23. 100 Days of new Government (September 2014)
24. Make in India: Bolstering Manufacturing Sector (October 2014)
25. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2013-14 (November 2014)
26. Participated in a survey to audit SEZs in India with CAG Office of India (November 2014)
27. Role of MSMEs in Make in India with reference to Ease of Doing Business in Ghaziabad (Nov 2014)
28. Exploring Prospects for Make in India and Made in India: A Study (January 2015)
29. SEZs in India: Criss-Cross Concerns (February 2015)
30. Socio-Economic Impact of Check Dams in Sikar District of Rajasthan (February 2015)
31. India - USA Economic Relations (February 2015)
32. Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2015-16 (February 2015)
33. Budget Analysis (2015-16)
34. Druzhba-Dosti: India's Trade Opportunities with Russia (April 2015)
35. Impact of Labour Reforms on Industry in Rajasthan: A survey study (July 2015)
36. Progress of Make in India (September 2015)
37. Grown Diamonds, A Sunrise Industry in India: Prospects for Economic Growth (November 2015)
38. Annual survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry 2014-15 (December 2015)
39. India's Foreign Trade Policy Environment Past, Present and Future (December 2015)
40. Revisiting the emerging economic powers as drivers in promoting global economic growth (February 2016)
41. Bolstering MSMEs for Make in India with special focus on CSR (March 2016)
42. BREXIT impact on Indian Economy (July 2016)
43. India's Exports Outlook (August 2016)
44. Ease of Doing Business : Suggestive Measures for States (October 2016)
45. Transforming India through Make in India, Skill India and Digital India (November 2016)
46. Impact of Demonetization on Economy, Businesses and People (January 2017)
47. Economy on the eve of Budget 2017-18 (January 2017)
48. Union Budget 2017-18: A budget for all-inclusive development (January 2017)
49. Annual Survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry 2015-16 (February 2017)
50. Worklife Balance and Health Concerns of Women: A Survey (March 2017)
51. Special Economic Zones: Performance, Problems and Opportunities (April 2017)
52. Feasibility Study (socio-Economic Survey) of Ambala and Rohtak Districts in Haryana (March 2017)
53. Goods and Services (GST): So far (July 2017)
54. Reshaping India-Africa Trade: Dynamics and Export Potentiality of Indian Products in Africa (July 2017)
55. Industry Perspective on Bitcoins (July 2017)
56. Senior Housing: A sunrise sector in India (August 2017)
57. Current state of the economy (October 2017)
58. Equitable finance to fulfill funding requirements of Indian Economy (October 2017)
59. The Wall of Protectionism: : Rise and Rise of Protectionist Policies in the Global Arena, (November 2017)
60. India-Israel Relations: Building Bridges of Dynamic Trade (October 2017)
61. Role of Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) in Improving Export Competitiveness (November 2017)
62. India - China Trade Relationship: The Trade Giants of Past, Present and Future (January 2018)
63. Analysis of Trade Pattern between India and ASEAN (January 2018)
64. Union Budget 2018-19 – (February 2018)
65. Ease of Doing Work for Women: A survey of Delhi NCR (February 2018)
66. Restraining Wilful Defaults: Need of the hour for Indian Banking System (March 2018)
67. Impact of GST on Business, Industry and Exporters (April 2018)

68. India – Sri Lanka Bilateral Relations: Reinforcing trade and investment prospects (May 2018)
69. Growth Prospects of the Indian Economy: Road to US \$5 Trillion Economy(May 2018)
70. India's Free Trade Agreements Dynamics and Diagnostics of Trade Prospects(May 2018)

#### **B: State profiles**

71. Rajasthan: The State Profile (April 2011)
72. Uttarakhand: The State Profile (June 2011)
73. Punjab: The State Profile (November 2011)
74. J&K: The State Profile (December 2011)
75. Uttar Pradesh: The State Profile (December 2011)
76. Bihar: The State Profile (June 2012)
77. Himachal Pradesh: The State Profile (June 2012)
78. Madhya Pradesh: The State Profile (August 2012)
79. Resurgent Bihar (April 2013)
80. Life ahead for Uttarakhand (August 2013)
81. Punjab: The State Profile (February 2014)
82. Haryana: Bolstering Industrialization (May 2015)
83. Progressive Uttar Pradesh: Building Uttar Pradesh of Tomorrow (August 2015),
84. Suggestions for Progressive Uttar Pradesh (August 2015)
85. State profile of Telangana- The dynamic state of India (April 2016)
86. Smart Infrastructure Summit 2016- Transforming Uttar Pradesh (August 2016)
87. Smart Infrastructure Summit 2016-Transforming Uttar Pradesh : Suggestions for the State Government (August 2016)
88. Rising Jharkhand: An Emerging Investment Hub (February 2017)
89. Punjab: Roadmap for the New Government Suggestions for the Industrial and Socio-Economic Development – Focus MSMEs ease of doing business (May 2017)
90. Prospering Himachal Pradesh: A Mountain of Opportunities (August 2017)
91. Kashmir: The way forward (February 2018)
92. Analysis of State Budgets for 2018-19: Select States (March 2018)
93. Rising Uttar Pradesh One District One Product Summit (August 2018)



## NATIONAL APEX CHAMBER

# About the PHD Chamber

**P**HD Chamber of Commerce & Industry, a leading Industry Chamber of India, ever since its inception in 1905, has been an active participant in the India Growth Story through its Advocacy Role for the Policy Makers and Regulators of the Country. Regular interactions, Seminars, Conference and Conclaves allow healthy and constructive discussions between the Government, Industry and International Agencies bringing out the Vitals for Growth. As a true representative of the Industry with a large membership base of 48000 direct and indirect members, PHD Chamber has forged ahead leveraging its legacy with the Industry knowledge across sectors (58 Industry verticals being covered through Expert Committees), a deep understanding of the Economy at large and the populace at the micro level.

At a Global level we have been working with the Embassies and High Commissions in India to bring in the International Best Practices and Business Opportunities.

