

# VIDYA BHAWAN BALIKA VIDYA PITH

शक्तिउत्थानआश्रमलखीसरायबिहार

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## Trial Balance and Rectification of Errors

### Objectives of Preparing the Trial Balance

The trial balance is prepared to fulfill the following objectives :

1. To ascertain the arithmetical accuracy of the ledger accounts.
2. To help in locating errors.
3. To help in the preparation of the financial statements. (Profit & Loss account and Balance Sheet).

### To Ascertain the Arithmetical Accuracy of Ledger Accounts

As stated earlier, the purpose of preparing a trial balance is to ascertain whether all debits and credit are properly recorded in the ledger or not and that all accounts have been correctly balanced. As a summary of the ledger, it is a list of the accounts and their balances. When the totals of all the debit balances

### To Help in Locating Errors

When a trial balance does not tally (that is, the totals of debit and credit columns are not equal), we know that at least one error has occurred. The error (or errors) may have occurred at one of those stages in the accounting process: (1) totalling of subsidiary books, (2) posting of journal entries in the ledger, (3) calculating account balances, (4) carrying account balances to the trial balance, and (5) totaling the trial balance columns. It may be noted that the accounting accuracy is not ensured even if the totals of debit and credit balances are equal because some errors do not affect equality of debits and credits. For example, the book-keeper may debit a correct amount in the wrong account while making the journal entry or in posting a journal entry to the ledger. This error would cause two accounts to have incorrect balances but the trial balance would tally. Another error is to record an equal debit and credit of an incorrect amount. This error would give the two accounts incorrect balances but would not create unequal debits and credits. As a result, the fact that the trial balance has tallied does not imply that all entries in the books of original record (journal, cash book, etc.) have been recorded and posted correctly. However, equal totals do suggest that several types of errors probably have not occurred.

### To Help in the Preparation of the Financial Statements

Trial balance is considered as the connecting link between accounting records and the preparation of financial statements. For preparing a financial statement, one need not refer to the ledger. In fact, the availability of a tallied trial balance is the first step in the preparation of

financial statements. All revenue and expense accounts appearing in the trial balance are transferred to the trading and profit and loss account and all liabilities, capital and assets accounts are transferred to the balance sheet.(Preparation of the financial statements is explained in chapters, 9 and 10).

<i>Account Title</i>	<i>L.F.</i>	<i>Debit Balance Rs.</i>	<i>Credit Balance Rs.</i>
• Capital			✓
• Land and Buildings		✓	
• Plant and Machinery		✓	
• Equipment		✓	
• Furniture and Fixtures		✓	
• Cash in Hand		✓	
• Cash at Bank		✓	
• Debtors		✓	
• Bills Receivable		✓	
• Stock of Raw Materials		✓	
• Stock of Finished Goods		✓	
• Purchases		✓	
• Carriage Inwards		✓	
• Carriage Outwards		✓	
• Sales			✓
• Sales Return		✓	
• Purchases Return			✓
• Interest Paid		✓	
• Commission/Discount Received			✓
• Salaries		✓	
• Long Term Loan			✓
• Bills Payable			✓
• Creditors			✓
• Advances from Customers			✓
• Drawings		✓	
<b>Total</b>		<b>xxx</b>	<b>xxx</b>

**Fig. 6.2** : Illustrative trial balance