

INSTRUMENT	LAST PRICE	1 DAY	1 MONTH	1 YEAR
USD/INR	72.62	-0.10%	3.4%	10%
EUR/INR	85.28	-0.43%	4.4%	9%
GBP/INR	95.46	-0.20%	5.5%	8%
JPY/INR	64.40	0.11%	2.1%	10%
EUR/USD	1.1749	0.09%	0.6%	0%
GBP/USD	1.3152	-0.11%	2.0%	-2%
USD/JPY	112.76	0.03%	1.5%	0%
USD/CNH	6.8709	-0.12%	1.1%	3%
10 YR YIELD- IN	8.07	(0.05)	0.20	1.40
10 YR YIELD- USA	3.05	0.00	0.21	0.74
GOLD (\$/Oz)	1,198	0.3%	-1%	-7%
SILVER (\$/Oz)	14.45	0.9%	-3%	-14%
BRENT CRUDE (\$/Brl)	82.22	1.1%	8%	42%
COPPER 3M (\$/Ton)	6282	-0.6%	3%	-2%
NIFTY	11054	-0.12%	-5.46%	14%
HANGSENG	27810	-0.02%	-1.63%	1%
S&P 500	2906	-0.33%	0.32%	16%
INR 1M FWD	0.28	(0.00)	0.01	0.04
INR 2M FWD	0.59	0.00	0.07	0.10
INR 3M FWD	0.84	(0.00)	0.05	0.15
INR 6M FWD	1.60	(0.03)	0.08	0.26
INR 12M FWD	3.26	0.01	0.23	0.51
	1 DAY	MTD	QTD	CTD
FII INVESTMENT- EQ (\$ Mn)	(506)	(1,069)	(1,139)	(1,761)
FII INVESTMENT- DEBT (\$ Mn)	(52)	(1,187)	(727)	(6,836)
TOTAL- (\$ Mn)	(558)	(2,256)	(1,866)	(8,597)

CURRENCY	ECONOMIC EVENT
EUR	German Prelim CPI
USD	Durable Goods Orders

FX VIEW

Govt hiked import duty on 19 major commodities to support Rupee. Will it help? We do not think so, except for a couple of sessions, due to reflexive trades from speculators.

Readers of our reports are aware that we always approach demand and trade from its source, viz., national income and net foreign capital inflow. Foreign capital inflows can also be termed as savings from foreigners. Net foreign capital flow (after adjusting for central bank intervention related outflow) is far more volatile than the trend of national income. Therefore, in any year if a country receives a net inflow of foreign capital, aka, savings, it leads to surplus on capital account (using terminology of IMF BPM5) after adjusting for outflow generated by central bank via reserves account. A capital account surplus drives domestic spending. Higher spending over national income leads to negative savings or in other words, deficit on current account. Therefore, logically, current account balance is not number to draw moral judgements on about a country's citizens or policymakers.

How the mix of spending behaves, between consumption and investments, depends on other macro/micro economic factors. Logically, India needs savings to grow. There are two ways of generating savings

1) Enact FX, rates, factor market policies that represses household income share of GDP. This will drive consumption share of GDP as well. Assuming Govt keeps its own share of spending to GDP relatively unchanged. The share of savings as % GDP will rise. e.g. Germany

2) Import savings from foreigners by way of capital inflow. This will cause surplus in capital account, after adjusting for central bank outflow. Surplus in capital account will cause current account to be in deficit.

India needs to look at policies that encourage more FDI inflows. Reforms in labour and land can help. At the same time, privatisation of PSUs will be well received. Also, ongoing reforms in taxation and formalisation of economy should continue. However, as India becomes an attractive investment destination, with relatively open capital markets, it will also attract significant amount portfolio flows, debt and equity. All these will be beneficial for Rupee.

Therefore obsessing about current account deficit and attacking trade to correct is a senseless policy action. Having said that we are not arguing for absolutely free trade. There is enough historical precedence of countries growing significantly and sustainably, while having infant industry tariffs. We will be covering those aspects in our future reports.

Turning our attention to go global factors. First up was Fed. FOMC hiked rates by 25 bps to 2.00-2.25%, widely expected. Fed upgraded the outlook for US economic growth for 2018 & 2019. Inflation was downgraded for 2019. They exuded confidence and paved the way for another 5 more hikes till mid-2020. At the same time, Fed changed gear from accommodative to neutral signalling that the central bank remains committed to either press ahead with faster hikes or flip to lowering rates, depending on the macro economy. All in all, USD is trading a bit strong. Dollar Rupee can open around 72.40 and then trade with a positive bias. Support is around 72.40 and 72.00 levels on spot. Resistance is around 73.00 and 73.50 on spot. Tactical uptrend is intact as long as above 71.50 on spot. On the crosses, EUR/INR continues to be our favoured long bet. JPYINR can be bought on decline towards 63.00 levels. GBPINR is going to be highly volatile due to Brexit.

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