

# **Daily Forex Insight**

Date: 29 Feb 2024

### **KEY HEADLINES:**

The Indian rupee against the US dollar ended inch lower on Wednesday weigh down by dollar demand from oil marketing companies for month end payment added by weak equity market and rally in Crude oil prices with fall in Asian pears pressure local currency despite expected dollar inflows on strong domestic equity and bond markets.

The rupee at NSE Future 28 Mar. ended marginally down by 2 paise at 83.02 against previous close of 83.0 and after make low of 82.99 and high of 83.06.

The RBI's upcoming \$5 billion swap maturity was probably leading to a receiving interest, pushing forward premiums lower. The central bank's sell dollars/buy rupees swap matures on March 11.

The U.S. dollar jumped on Wednesday as investors position for U.S. and European inflation data due on Thursday, while the Australian and New Zealand dollars tumbled after New Zealand's central bank cut its forecast peak for interest rates and Australian consumer price inflation held at a two-year low.

Month-end portfolio rebalancing is also likely to sway market direction, with volatility picking up on Wednesday. The implied volatility used by banks to price three-month options on the euro against the dollar reached 6.01 on Wednesday, the highest since Feb. 15, and was last at 5.78. Volatility in major currency pairs has been declining, with the euro/dollar measure falling to the lowest since January 2022 on Tuesday.

The dollar index was last up 0.18% at 104.02. The euro dipped 0.18% to \$1.0826. The yen also continued to weaken against the greenback, approaching the 150.88 level reached on Feb. 13, which was the weakest since Nov. 16.

U.S. economic growth in the fourth quarter was lowered slightly, but its composition was much stronger than initially thought, which bodes well for the near-term outlook even as activity got off to a weak start because of freezing temperatures. GDP increased at a 3.2% annualized rate last quarter, revised slightly down from the previously reported 3.3% pace, the Commerce Department's Bureau of Economic Analysis said in its second estimate of fourth-quarter GDP growth.

New Zealand's central bank held the cash rate steady at 5.5% on Wednesday and trimmed the forecast peak for rates, catching markets by surprise as policymakers said the risks to the inflation outlook have become more balanced. The bank lowered its

forecast cash rate peak to 5.6% from a previous projection of 5.7% - toning down its hawkish stance and effectively reducing the risk of further tightening.

U.S. January's personal consumption expenditures price index, which is the Fed's preferred measure of inflation, will be released Thursday. Consumer price data for Germany, France and Spain is also due on Thursday, ahead of euro area figures on Friday.

Fed funds futures show a 54.9% chance that the Fed starts cutting rates in June, with a 35.3% probability of no cut at all, a shift from bets on Feb. 1 of a 62% chance of a cut in March, according to CME Group's FedWatch Tool. Futures traders also are betting on about 81 basis points of cuts by December, about half the amount they anticipated at the end of last year.

Money markets see a 51% chance of a BoE rate cut in June and a 75% chance of one in August, according to LSEG's Refinitiv app.

In cryptocurrencies, bitcoin breached \$60,000 for the first time in two years, boosted by the launch of new U.S. spot bitcoin exchange-traded products. Bitcoin was last up 7.03% on the day at \$60,711.

### **Economic Indicators to be released.**

Indicator	Currency	Forecast	Previous	Impact

Core PCE Price Index m/m	USD	0.4%	0.2%	HIGH
Chicago PMI	USD	48.1	46.0	HIGH

## **Support Resistance Levels – Currency Future:**

Currency	LTP	<b>S1</b>	S2	R1	R2	Trend
USDINR	83.02	82.95	82.20	83.30	83.55	BEARISH
FUTURE						
EURINR	89.89	89.75	89.20	90.50	91.30	BEARISH
FUTURE						
GBPINR	105.03	104.30	103.50	105.50	106.50	BEARISH
FUTURE						
JPYINR	55.53	55.40	54.90	56.0	56.85	BEARISH
FUTURE						

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