

Daily Forex Insight

KEY HEADLINES:

The Indian rupee spot against the US dollar end at record closing low on Thursday as global currency route still pressure Indian rupee and recovery in dollar index as well dollar demand from local importers pressure rupee, while rally in global as well domestic equity market and likely central bank buying at lower level to cap losses in domestic currency offer support from sharp fall in Indian rupee. Global risk sentiment has soured this week as investors have been unwinding carry trades funded by the Japanese yen and amid concerns of a economic slowdown in the United States.

The rupee at NSE Future 28 Aug. ended flat by 0 paise at 84.0 against previous close of 84.0 and after make low of 83.97 and high of 84.04. Most Asian currencies rose with the Indonesian rupiah, up nearly 0.9%, leading gains.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept its key interest rate unchanged on Thursday, as widely expected, retaining its focus on bringing inflation down even as global market volatility left other major central banks poised to ease policy. The MPC, kept the repo rate unchanged at 6.50% for a ninth straight policy meeting. Four out of six MPC members voted in favour of the rate decision. The MPC last changed rates in February 2023, when the policy rate was raised to 6.50%. "Growth remains resilient, inflation has been trending downward and we have made progress in achieving price stability, but we have more distance to cover," Das said. The RBI kept its growth forecast for fiscal 2025 unchanged at 7.2%, slower that the 8.2% expansion in fiscal 2024. The central bank also retained its inflation forecast at 4.5% in the current year.

India's foreign exchange reserves hit a record high of \$675 billion as of Aug. 2, Shaktikanta Das, the governor of the central bank said. The reserves rose by \$7.6 billion in the reporting week, as per Reuters' calculations. They had fallen by \$3.5 billion in the prior week, the biggest in over three months.

India's central bank could cut interest rates by 100 basis points in a monetary easing cycle that is likely to start in December as inflation eases towards its 4% target, a fixed income official at Bank of America, India said.

Despite the recent pressure on the rupee, the RBI's routine interventions have kept volatility expectations in check. The rupee's 1-month implied volatility is at 1.55 - 1.75%, hovering close to its lowest in nearly two decades.

The dollar rose on Thursday after new U.S. labor market data showed that

unemployment benefits fell more than expected last week, easing fears of an imminent recession.

Initial jobless claims fell to a seasonally adjusted 233,000 for the week ended Aug. 3, the Labor Department said on Thursday, suggesting fears that the labor market is unraveling were overblown.

The yen was last down 0.37% at 147.205, having slid 1.6% on Wednesday and the Swiss franc , another currency that was used to fund carry trades and that benefited from the unwinding momentum earlier this week, was down 0.47% at 0.866 per dollar, after dropping more than 1% on Wednesday. The euro was down 0.05% at \$1.0917, while sterling was up 0.48% at \$1.275.

Investor focus will now be on the U.S. consumer price inflation report for July due next week, as well as comments by Fed Chair Jerome Powell at the central bank's Jackson Hole Economic Policy Symposium on Aug. 22-24.

On Monday, Fed fund futures reflected traders pricing a near 100% chance of a 50 basis point cut at the central bank's September meeting, according to CME FedWatch. Futures imply 106 basis points of cuts this year, LSEG data showed.

Economic Indicators to be released.

Indicator	Currency	Forecast	Previous	Impact
СРІ у/у	CNY	0.3%	0.2%	HIGH

Support Resistance Levels - Currency Future: (NSE CUR - 28 Aug 24)

Currency	LTP	S1	S2	R1	R2	Trend
USDINR FUTURE	84.0	83.60	83.0	84.50	85.10	BULLISH
EURINR FUTURE	91.76	91.50	89.90	92.20	93.0	BULLISH
GBPINR FUTURE	106.54	106.40	105.70	106.90	107.40	BEARISH
JPYINR FUTURE	57.59	57.10	56.40	58.20	59.0	BULLISH

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