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Thursday, February 22, 2024

Fed worried about cutting rates too soon, minutes of January meeting show

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The bulk of policymakers at the Federal Reserve's last meeting were concerned about the risks of cutting interest rates too soon, with broad uncertainty about how long borrowing costs should remain at their current level, according to the minutes of the Jan. 30-31 session. U.S. stocks were trading lower following the release of the minutes before recovering ground later in the session, while the U.S. dollar was little changed against a basket of currencies. U.S. Treasury yields rose. The minutes seemed to reinforce the recent message of Fed policymakers that they would be in no hurry to deliver on rate cuts that officials still expect to begin sometime this year. The minutes cited concerns among "some" Fed officials that progress on inflation could outright stall if the economy continues to perform as strongly as it has, while Fed staff suggested some weak points in an economy policymakers like to characterize as unnaturally resilient - with growth above potential and an historically low 3.7% unemployment rate.

Japan manufacturing activity shrinks in Feb, services growth slows

Japanese manufacturing activity shrank more than expected in February, preliminary data showed on Thursday, while service sector activity grew at a slower pace as the broader economy remained under pressure from sticky inflation. The au Jibun Bank Flash Manufacturing output purchasing managers index (PMI) read 47.2 the first three weeks of February. The reading was weaker than expectations of 48.2, and also slowed further from the 48.0 seen in January. A reading below 50 indicates contraction, with Thursday's reading marking Japan's worst contraction in manufacturing activity in a year. The au Jibun Bank Flash Services PMI fell to 52.5 in February from 53.1 in the prior month, signaling a slower pace of growth.

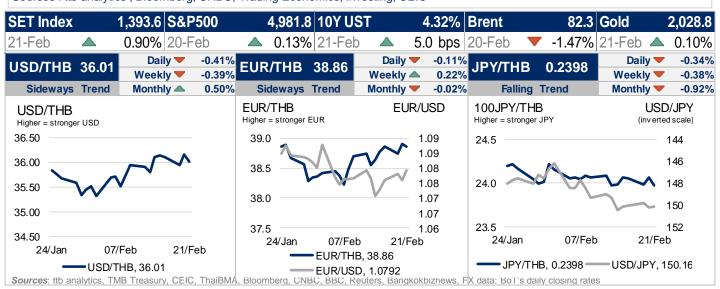
Japan sees 2.69 million visitors in January, matching 2019's record pace

Japan welcomed more than 2 million visitors for an eighth consecutive month in January, setting the stage for a potential record year for tourism. The number of foreign visitors for business and leisure was 2.69 million last month, down slightly from 2.73 million in December, data from the Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) showed. Arrivals in December were an all-time high for that month and capped a pandemic recovery year that saw a little more than 25 million visitors enter the country. Tourism to Japan all but halted for more than two years during the COVID-19 pandemic. But the industry was dealt a major tailwind last year by rapid depreciation in the yen that made Japan a bargain compared to many destinations.

Dollar edges down as Fed meeting minutes meet expectations

The 10-year government bond yield (interpolated) on the previous trading day was 2.54, -1.64 bps. The benchmark government bond yield (LB31DA) was 2.55, +0.00 bps. Meantime, the latest closed US 10-year bond yields was 4.32, +5.00 bps. USDTHB on the previous trading day closed around 36.01 Moving in a range of 35.89-35.96 this morning. USDTHB could be closed between 35.80-36.00 today. The dollar index edged lower on Wednesday after minutes from the Federal Reserve's January meeting came in largely as expected and showed that the bulk of policymakers were concerned about the risks of cutting interest rates too soon. Traders have pushed back expectations on when the Fed will begin cutting rates to June as officials caution that they want to see more evidence that inflation will continue to decline. "Participants highlighted the uncertainty associated with how long a restrictive monetary policy stance would need to be maintained" to return inflation to the Fed's 2% target, said the meeting minutes.

Sources: ttb analytics, Bloomberg, CNBC, Trading Economics, Investing, CEIC





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Currency Market

Curronov	1M History	Loct	% Cha (1D)	% Cha (1\A/)	9/ Cha (1M)	1M Range		
Currency	TWI HISTORY	Last	%Chg (1D)	%Chg (1W)	%Chg (1M)	Min	Max	
Dollar Index	_	104.42	0.0%	-0.4%	1.1%	102.96	104.06	
	/						104.86	
EUR/USD		1.0760	-0.2%	0.5%	-1.2%	1.0706	1.0892	
USD/JPY	$\overline{}$	150.26	0.3%	-0.2%	1.6%	146.19	150.50	
USD/CHF	/	0.8833	0.3%	-0.4%	1.8%	0.8567	0.8868	
GBP/USD	\	1.2582	-0.3%	0.0%	-1.1%	1.2549	1.2757	
USD/CAD	\sim	1.3515	0.3%	-0.4%	0.3%	1.3371	1.3570	
AUD/USD		0.6524	-0.2%	1.1%	-1.0%	0.6453	0.6612	
NZD/USD		0.6135	-0.1%	1.2%	0.7%	0.6062	0.6152	
ASEAN Dollar	<u></u>	108.30	0.0%	0.2%	0.7%	106.92	108.37	
USD/THB	~~~	36.16	0.6%	0.2%	1.5%	35.32	36.16	
USD/SGD		1.3467	0.2%	-0.3%	0.5%	1.3350	1.3507	
USD/MYR		4.7906	0.2%	0.2%	1.2%	4.7164	4.7906	
USD/IDR		15,585	0.1%	0.3%	-0.1%	15,538	15,769	
USD/PHP	~	56.42	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	56.06	56.59	
USD/CNY	$\overline{}$	7.2032	0.0%	-0.1%	0.4%	7.1595	7.2154	
USD/HKD		7.8227	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	7.8085	7.8298	

FX Swap Market and BoT's Reserves

USTH FX Sp	1M History	Last	%Chg(1D)
1-month	~	0.35	-0.20
3-month		1.10	-0.30
6-month		2.00	-0.40
Reserves (\$mn)	3M History	Last	\$mn Chg(1W)
Total		220,705	-127
	a allema Latina	220,705 15,892	-127 -112
Golds		,	
Golds		15,892	-112
Golds SDR IMF Reserves	a distant	15,892 5,454	-112 - 3
Total Golds SDR IMF Reserves Foreign Ccy Net Fwd Position		15,892 5,454 1,164	-112 -3 -1

Foreign Fund Flows (THR mn)

Date	Equity	Bond	Total		
21/2/2024	6,312	3,695	10,007		
20/2/2024	-74	-541	-616		
19/2/2024	1,223	-196	1,027		
16/2/2024	834	2,653	3,486		
15/2/2024	-1,342	-1,978	-3,319		
Last 5 days	6,953	3,632	10,585		
Period-to-	date Equity	Bond	Total		
MTD Month	7,268	-16,112	-8,844		
QTD Quarter	-23,606	-20,346	-43,951		
TD Year	J -23,606	J -20,346	43,951		

Money Market

MONE	Money Market															
ТНВ	1M Hist	Loct	1M R	ange	THBFIX	1M Hist	Loct	1M R	ange	USD	1M Hist	Last	1M R	ange		
BIBOR	IIVI MISL	Lasi	Min	Max	I UDLIV IIVI UI	IIVI FIISU	IIVI MIST	TIVI HIST	1M Hist │ Last ├	Min	Max	LIBOR	IIVI MISL	Lasi	Min	Max
ON	,	2.50	0.00	2.50	ON		1.72	1.14	1.72	ON		0.07	0.07	0.08		
1W	<i></i>	2.53	0.00	2.53	1W		1.61	0.22	1.61	1W	<u></u>	0.00	0.00	0.09		
1M	/······	2.55	0.00	2.55	1M		1.59	0.88	1.72	1M		0.11	0.08	0.11		
2M		2.60	0.00	2.60						2M		0.00	0.00	0.15		
3M		2.65	0.00	2.65	3M		1.81	1.09	1.82	3M		0.26	0.11	0.26		
6M	<u></u>	2.73	0.00	2.73	6M		1.95	1.31	1.99	6M		0.44	0.15	0.44		
12M		2.84	0.00	2.84	12M	~~	2.26	1.59	2.26	12M		0.80	0.22	0.80		
							Las	t Updated:	29/6/2023			Last	t Updated:	9/3/2022		

Note: D=d=day; M=mth=month; Y=year; %chg = percentage change; chg = change; USTH FX Sp = USD/THB FX Swap point; \$mn=million US dollar; THB.mn= Thai baht million; Hist=history; THB implied = Thai baht rate that are calculated by FX forward rate; ASEAN Index = value average ASEAN FX Jan2008=100

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www.ttbbank.com/analytics Fixed Income Market

Fixed Income	1M History	YTM (%)	Bps Chg (1D)	Bps Chg (1W)	Bps Chg (1M)	1M Ra Min	nge Max
UST10y	<u></u>	3.9500	-9.00	-66.00	40.00	3.30	4.98
Gilt 10y		3.6776	-30.02	-83.45	12.16	3.32	4.67
Bund 10y	~	2.0700	1.00	-80.00	-17.00	2.06	2.95
JGB 10y	~~	0.6240	-17.40	-13.00	9.70	0.33	0.96
TGB 1y	<u></u>	2.2444	-0.95	-1.84	-10.63	2.24	2.36
TGB 2y		2.1624	-0.40	-1.54	-17.67	2.16	2.34
TGB 5y	1	2.2727	-1.00	-1.51	-14.49	2.25	2.45
TGB 7y	\	2.3967	-2.10	-2.10	-16.86	2.40	2.59
TGB 10y	<u></u>	2.5598	-1.12	-1.85	-18.32	2.55	2.78
AAA Spread	~	62.56	-4.81	-2.80	-10.42	62.56	75.10
AA Spread	<u></u>	74.71	1.14	4.92	-19.31	67.07	94.02
A Spread	$\overline{}$	108.90	-0.05	-10.47	-14.65	108.90	128.03
BBB Spread	✓	235.72	0.04	1.39	10.18	225.54	237.97

Note: UST = US Treasury; Gilt = UK Government Bond; JGB = Japanese Government bond; Bund = German Government Bond; TGB = Thai government Bond; tenors of the bonds are put after their name; bps=basis point; Corporate spreads are Thai and reported in basis points over government bond for the tenors 3-5 years.

Commodity Market

Commodity	1M History	Loct	9/ Cha (1D)	9/ Cha (1\M)	9/ Cha (4M)	1M Range		
Commodity	TWI HISTORY	Last	% Chg (1D)	%Chg (1W)	%Chg (1M)	Min	Max	
Brent Crude	~~~	82.34	-1.5%	0.4%	4.8%	77.33	83.56	
London Gold	~~~	2049.1	0.7%	11.9%	7.8%	1,831.9	2,049.1	
Note: Unit of Brent crude of	oil price is \$/barrel; unit o	f gold price is \$/ou	ınce					

Equity Market

Equity Index 11M History		100+	ast %(Cha (1D) %(Cha (1W)		U/ ("ba /1 k/l)			
Equity Index	1M History	Last	%Chg (1D)	%Chg (1W)	%Chg (1M)	Min	Max	
S&P500 (US)		4,942.8	2.0%	3.3%	12.0%	4,317.8	4,995.1	
STOXX (EU)		465.8	2.2%	0.4%	6.2%	425.3	476.2	
FTSE All-Share(UK)	\	4,088.1	0.8%	2.6%	2.4%	3,954.4	4,172.4	
DAX (DE)		16,617.3	-0.8%	9.0%	12.5%	14,768.2	16,752.2	
CAC All-Tradable(FR)		5,513.1	-1.1%	3.8%	4.7%	5,054.9	5,578.9	
TOPIX (JP)	\	2,362.0	0.4%	-1.0%	16.0%	1,959.4	2,392.5	
Shanghai (CH)		3,039.5	-2.4%	-7.3%	-11.6%	3,039.5	3,548.9	
Hang Seng (HK)	~	16,788.6	2.5%	-3.9%	-18.4%	16,374.5	21,958.4	
ASX 200 (AU)		7,523.2	4.0%	7.1%	7.3%	6,962.0	7,523.2	
SET (TH)		1,434.6	3.0%	-2.5%	-11.0%	1,391.0	1,682.1	
SET50 (TH)	<u></u>	881.4	1.9%	-2.0%	-8.4%	858.0	998.6	
Straits Times (SG)	\sim	3,199.4	2.4%	-0.6%	2.1%	3,076.7	3,360.7	
FTSE Malay (MY)	✓	1,454.7	0.5%	0.6%	0.1%	1,376.7	1,489.8	
JSX Index (ID)		7,272.8	2.6%	5.0%	5.8%	6,636.4	7,272.8	

Sources: ttb analytics. CEIC

Note: A = actual, P = previous; C = consensus

5,989.3

1,021.3

6,971.0

1,242.2

-1.6%

6.6%

1M Range

PSE Index (PH)

Vn Index (VN)

5.8%

-2.8%

6,498.9

1,122.0

3.9%

-0.3%