

Rupee weakened against the dollar, on the NDF, as the greenback rose against its major crosses after US reported hotter- than-expected inflation figures. An uptick in inflation was driven by higher fuel prices. Dollar Index accelerated above 105 after data showed US inflation rate rose for a second consecutive month to 3.5%, slightly exceeding market expectations of 3.4%. A robust labor market report and signs of rising inflation in March, fueled bets of Fed keeping interest rates higher for longer and reducing the expectations of three cuts to now only two; which may support the greenback further. For the day, CPI figure from India is set to release today and is expected to rise by 4.9%. Also we will have industrial production number which will be keenly eyed. Euro traded flat after the ECB decided to hold its rate steady at 4.5%, as widely expected. In the comments, Lagarde didn't provide timeframe on when the central bank will start reducing interest rates and mentioned a data dependent approach will be maintained. Today, apart from India CPI and IIP number, market participants will focus on UK GDP and that could trigger volatility for major crosses. We expect USDINR(Spot) to trade sideways and quote in the range of 83.20-83.50.



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