

MORNING NEWS



SELECT

World Markets

24-Apr-2024

	Index	Value at close	Day on Day	YTD	YTD(Rs)
	MSCI All Country World	758.15	1.18%	4.28%	9.73%
US	S&P 500	5,070.55	1.20%	6.30%	11.86%
	DOW JONES	38,503.69	0.69%	2.16%	7.49%
	NASDAQ	15,696.64	1.59%	4.57%	10.02%
	STOXX 600	507.79	1.09%	6.01%	8.00%
Europe	CAC 40	8,105.78	0.81%	7.46%	9.48%
	DAX	18,137.65	1.55%	8.27%	10.31%
	FTSE 100	8,044.81	0.26%	4.03%	7.08%
Asia	NIKKEI 225	37,552.16	0.30%	12.22%	7.89%
	HANG SENG	16,828.93	1.92%	-1.28%	3.76%
	CSI 300	3,506.22	-0.70%	2.19%	5.20%
	SENSEX	73,738.45	0.12%	2.07%	7.27%
Mauritius	SEMDEX	2,154.74	0.08%	5.72%	5.72%
	SEM-10	399.55	0.14%	8.88%	8.88%
	SEMTRI	9,283.32	0.08%	6.22%	6.22%
	DEMEX	259.99	-0.40%	-2.79%	-2.79%
Commodities	Bloomberg Commodity	102.95	0.17%	4.37%	9.82%
	WTI Crude Oil	83.36	0.62%	16.34%	22.42%
	Gold	2,322.02	-0.23%	12.56%	18.43%
	Silver	27.31	0.41%	14.76%	20.75%

Country	Central Bank	Policy Rate	Govt Yields	
			2 Yr	10 Yr
US	FED	5.25-5.50%	4.93%	4.60%
UK	BOE	5.25%	4.35%	4.24%
Europe	ECB	4.00%	2.93%	2.50%
Japan	BOJ	0-0.1%	0.29%	0.89%
Mauritius	BOM	4.50%	4.23%	5.52%

Currency*	Value Today	Day on Day	YTD
USD/MUR	46.35	-0.43%	5.22%
GBP/MUR	58.03	0.39%	2.94%
EUR/MUR	49.89	0.04%	1.88%
AUD/MUR	30.66	0.48%	0.41%
ZAR/MUR	2.48	0.40%	2.69%
GBP/USD	1.24	0.80%	-2.22%
EUR/USD	1.07	0.43%	-3.06%
AUD/USD	0.65	0.57%	-4.77%
USD/JPY	154.83	-0.01%	9.78%
USD/CNY	7.25	0.02%	2.05%

*Foreign Currency Rates against the Mauritian Rupee are MCB's mid-rates. For transactions purposes, kindly contact your Private Banker.

Weekly Events Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
EU Consumer Confidence Flash	US New Home Sales US S&P Global Composite PMI Flash	Aust. Inflation Rate YoY Mauritius Auction of 3-Yr GoM Treasury Notes	US GDP Growth Rate QoQ Adv	JP Tokyo Core CPI YoY

World News

US

- US app stores will be banned from carrying TikTok in 270 days unless its Chinese owner sells the video-sharing platform after Congress passed a security package that includes measures to counter threats from China. The Senate on Tuesday voted 79-18 to approve the legislation, firing the starting gun for ByteDance to divest TikTok to avoid the ban. TikTok is expected to bring legal action in an effort to block the legislation after a lobbying campaign failed to dent Congressional support for the bill. [\(Source\)](#)
- U.S. business activity cooled in April to a four-month low due to weaker demand, while rates of inflation eased slightly even as input prices rose sharply, suggesting some possible relief ahead as the Federal Reserve looks for signs that the economy is ebbing enough to bring inflation down further. S&P Global said on Tuesday that its flash U.S. Composite PMI Output Index, which tracks the manufacturing and services sectors, fell to 50.9 this month from 52.1 in March. [\(Source\)](#)

Europe

- Business activity in the Eurozone has expanded at the fastest pace for almost a year. The flash composite PMI rose to an 11-month high of 51.4 in April, up from 50.3 a month earlier. Forecasts pointed to a reading of 50.8. The reading has risen for six months, signalling a rebound after the economy ground to a halt for most of 2023. But the gap between the stronger services sector and the struggling manufacturing industry is widening as manufacturers indicated that their continuous two-year decline in demand only worsened in April. Despite the woes of its manufacturers, Germany's PMI reading rose above the 50 for the first time in 10 months. France's reading also improved but remained fractionally in contraction territory. There was an even stronger performance in the UK, where the flash composite PMI output index rose to 54 in April from 52.8 in March, well above the forecast of 52.6. [\(Source\)](#)
- JD Sports Fashion has proposed to buy American athletic fashion retailer Hibbett Inc for about USD 1.08bn, as Britain's biggest sportswear retailer looks to expand across the southeastern US. JD Sports will pay USD 87.50 per Hibbett share in cash, representing a premium of about 20% to the US firm's last closing price. Hibbett's shares were up nearly 19% at USD 86.17 in US noon trading. JD's acquisition of Hibbett, which has about 1,169 stores across 36 US states, will extend its breadth in the country, as it already owns Shoe Palace. JD Sports shares, which have fallen more than 20% so far this year, closed up 3.8%. [\(Source\)](#)

Asia & Emerging

- Hong Kong is set to follow in the footsteps of the US by listing a batch of cryptocurrency exchange-traded funds, providing a window on whether it is making progress on fashioning a hub for digital assets. Some of China's top asset managers are in the final leg of preparations for the spot-Bitcoin and Ether ETFs to begin trading by the end of April. The launches will likely invite comparison with a slew of three-month-old US Bitcoin funds that took Wall Street by storm, garnering USD 56 billion in assets to date. [\(Source\)](#)
- Japan is on the brink of currency intervention if the yen weakens any further, according to one of the country's former top currency officials. "Amid no change in US and Japan interest rates, the yen has depreciated against the dollar quite rapidly," said Mitsuhiro Furusawa, former vice minister of finance for international affairs, in an interview with Bloomberg on Tuesday. "Should this trend continue, intervention will come," Furusawa said, adding that "we are very close." He cited market reaction to US data as a factor that may nudge Japanese authorities to act and pointed to last week's joint statement between Japan, the US and South Korea as an indication that Tokyo's allies won't stop it entering the market. The comments from the former finance ministry official come with Japan's currency close to Tuesday's fresh 34-year low of 154.88 against the dollar. Finance Minister Shunichi Suzuki reiterated Tuesday that authorities are prepared for action to address the situation. [\(Source\)](#)

Others

- Australia's inflation came in faster than expected in the first three months of 2024, suggesting price pressures are proving stickier and bolstering the case for the central bank to hold interest rates at a 12-year high. Yields on the policy-sensitive three year government bonds jumped the most since May after the consumer price index advanced 3.6% from a year earlier, exceeding the 3.5% estimate, government data showed Wednesday. A closely watched core inflation gauge, the trimmed mean, rose 4%, also higher than forecast and well above the RBA's 2-3% target. Money markets wound back pricing for RBA easing this year, with three-year yields rising as much as 18 basis points to 4.03%. Swaps traders see almost no prospect of a rate cut in December versus about a two-in-three chance prior to the report. The currency climbed 0.7% to 65.30 US cents. [\(Source\)](#)

Local News

- SEMDEX rose by 0.1% to close at 2154.74. MCBG closed at MUR 378.00 (+0.3%) with MUR 6.5m traded while SBMH fell to MUR 4.81 (-0.2%) with MUR 5.8m traded and MUA dropped to MUR 87.00 (-1.1%). Alteo rose to MUR 9.82 (+0.2%) while ENL and VIVO rose to MUR 20.00 (+0.8%) and MUR 345.00 (+0.7%) respectively. On hotels side, NMH rose to MUR 10.40 (+1.0%) with MUR 555k traded.
- For the third quarter ended 31 March 2024, LUX reported a 20% growth in revenue from MUR 2.4bn in Q3 2023 to MUR 2.8bn in Q3 2024 while normalised EBITDA improved by 21% to reach MUR 915m in Q3 2024. Despite a fall in Mauritius hotels' occupancy rate to 78% in Q3 2024 (Q3 2023: 81%), the Room Revenue per available room (RevPAR) rose by 11%, boosted by an increase of 14% in Room Revenue per occupied room (ADR). In Maldives (LUX* Ari Atoll), RevPAR grew by 6% compared to the same quarter last year while in Reunion (LUX* Saint Gilles) RevPAR declined by 5%. In its outlook, management expressed satisfaction with reservations for all properties for Q4 2024, anticipating favorable results for the next quarter and year ending 30 June 2024, if the current booking trend persists.

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Sources: Bloomberg, Reuters, FT



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