

**Global:**USA

- The Federal Reserve (Fed), raised its key benchmark rate from 1.5% to 1.75%, continuing its gradual pace of interest rate hike. This is the sixth hike since December 2015.
- Initial claims for state unemployment benefits increased to 229,000, it's a 45-year low, for the week ended March 17, 2018, as stated by the Labor Department.
- The flash manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) stood at 55.7 in March 2018, slightly above from the prior month's final reading of 55.3, according to IHS Markit report.
- The flash services Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) stood at 54.1 in March 2018, from the prior month's 55.9, according to IHS Markit report.

UK

- The Consumer Prices Index (CPI) eased to 2.7% (Y-o-Y) in February 2018, which is the lowest figure since July 2017, as per the Office of National Statistics (ONS). The rise was attributed to increase in food and fuel prices. The CPI rose 0.4% (M-o-M) in February 2018, after falling 0.5% in January.
- Unemployment rate stood at 4.3% in the three months ended January 2018, down from 4.4% in the quarter ended December 2017 as per ONS data.
- Retail sales rebounded 0.8% (M-o-M) in February 2018, while it contracted 0.2% in January 2018, as per ONS report.
- Bank of England, the central bank, held its current benchmark rate at 0.5%, amid lower-than-expected inflation numbers and modest improvements to wage increases.

Eurozone

- ZEW economic sentiment index fell to 13.4 in March 2018, from 29.3 in February 2018, on fears that the announced U.S. import tariffs could escalate to a trade conflict.
- Flash Consumer Confidence came in at 0.1 in March 2018, unchanged from previous month's figure, as per European Commission.
- IHS Markit flash manufacturing PMI stood at 56.6 in March 2018, touching its 8-month low.
- IHS Markit Flash PMI services fell to 55 in March 2018, its lowest in 5 months, from 56.2 in February.

Germany

- The Producer Price Index (PPI) fell -0.1% (M-o-M) and rose 1.8% (Y-o-Y) in February 2018 as per Destatis.
- IHS Markit flash manufacturing PMI came in at 58.4 in March 2018, an 8-month low.
- IHS Markit flash services PMI dropped to a 7-month low at 54.2 in March 2018, from 55.3 in February.

Japan

- IHS Markit / Nikkei flash manufacturing PMI declined to 53.2 in March 2018, from 54.1 in February 2018.
- CPI rose 1.5% (Y-o-Y) in February 2018, up from 1.4% in January 2018. CPI rose 0.1% (M-o-M) in February 2018.

IndiaCrude Oil Prices:

Oil prices	March 16, 2018	March 23, 2018	%W-o-W change
Brent crude (US\$)	66.10	70.27	6.31%

Indian Forex Reserves:

(in US\$ billion)	March 09, 2018	March 16, 2018	W-o-W Change
Forex reserves	421.5	421.3	-0.04%

Consumer Sentiment:

	March 16, 2018	March 23, 2018	%W-o-W change
India	92.25	92.78	0.57%
Rural	94.90	95.08	0.19%
Urban	88.37	88.87	0.57%

Unemployment Rate:

in %	March 16, 2018	March 23, 2018	W-o-W change (basis points)
India	6.23	6.23	0
Rural	5.95	5.95	0
Urban	6.75	6.76	1

**Markets:**10 Year Government Bond Yield:

in %	March 16, 2018	March 23, 2018	W-o-W change (basis points)
Japan	0.038	0.024	-1
US	2.845	2.814	-3
UK	1.429	1.445	2
Germany	0.571	0.527	-4
India	7.563	7.557	-1

LIBOR Rates:

1 month rate (in %)	March 16, 2018	March 23, 2018	W-o-W change (basis points)
USD-LIBOR	1.82	1.88	5
EURO-LIBOR	-0.41	-0.41	0
POUND-LIBOR	0.50	0.50	0
YEN-LIBOR	-0.07	-0.07	-1

Currency Pairs:

	March 16, 2018	March 23, 2018	%W-o-W change
British Pound per US\$	0.71645	0.70742	-1.26%
Euro per US\$	0.80997	0.81083	0.11%
Yen per US\$	106.07	105.56	-0.48%

	March 16, 2018	March 23, 2018	%W-o-W change
INR per US\$	64.87	65.13	0.40%
INR per British Pound	90.49	91.96	1.62%
INR per Euro	79.91	80.34	0.53%
INR per 100 Yen	61.27	62.13	1.40%

Appreciate

Depreciate

**Macroeconomic Releases Week Ahead:**

Date	Event	Expected	Prior
28-03-2018	US GDP (QoQ) (Q4)	2.70%	2.50%
29-03-2018	Germany Unemployment Rate (Mar)	5.3%	5.3%
	UK GDP (QoQ) (Q4)	0.4%	0.4%
	Japan Unemployment Rate (Feb)	2.6%	2.4%
01-04-2018	Japan Manufacturing PMI (Mar)		53.2
	China Caixin Manufacturing PMI (Mar)		51.6

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