



Monday, November 15, 2021

Global investment returned to pre-pandemic level in Sept

Global foreign direct investment (FDI) announcements reached their highest level for more than a year in Sept. as companies serving growing demand for connectivity and technology outlined major expansion plans. The FDI Index stood at 939 points in Sept., up by 27.9% from a year earlier, the latest figures from FDI Markets show. (www.norvanreport.com 14/11/21)

Georgieva nominates new IMF Deputy MD

The Managing Director (MD) of the IMF has nominated Kenji Okamura as the fund's next Deputy Managing Director. The IMF said Kristalina Georgieva had made her nomination known to the fund's board of directors, in a statement on Nov. 10. "Okumara has a distinguished background and brings his wealth of experience in international economics," Georgieva said. (www.centralbanking.com 12/11/21)

Eurozone industrial production fell in Sept

Eurozone industrial output dropped less than expected in Sept. Industrial production dropped 0.2% month-on-month, slower than the 1.7% decline seen in Aug. Among main industrial grouping, non-durable consumer goods posted the biggest growth of 1%, followed by 0.5% rise in durable consumer goods output. (www.rtnnews.com 12/11/21)

Fed and ECB officials point to different policy directions

The US Fed and the ECB seem likely to take different policy directions in 2022. Inflation is rising well above the 2% target both in the US and in the eurozone. In Sept., the core Personal Consumption Expenditures price index, the Fed's preferred measure of inflation, rose year on year by 3.6%. (www.centralbanking.com 12/11/21)

PBoC lists \$2.2bn sustainable bonds in London

Bank of China has held a listing ceremony for \$2.2bn worth of sustainable bonds at the London Stock Exchange. Choosing London to issue a highly innovative bond with a "Sustainability Re-linked" structure, the Chinese bank aims to offer investors exposure to a portfolio of underlying corporate loans linked to sustainability performance targets. (www.xinhuanet.com 12/11/21)

China, UK extend currency swap deal

China's central bank has said it has re-extended a bilateral currency swap scheme agreement with Bank of England. The deal has a scale of ¥350bn (about \$54.63bn), or £40bn. It will be valid for five years and can be further extended with mutual consent, the bank said. It said the extension would help deepen their monetary and financial cooperation and safeguard financial stability. (www.xinhuanet.com 12/11/21)

UK economic growth slows as supply problems hit the recovery

UK economic growth slowed between July and Sept. as supply chain problems hindered the recovery. The Office for National Statistics said consumer spending increased as Britain continued to emerge from lockdown. That was however offset by falls in other areas of the economy, leaving growth for the three months at 1.3%. (www.bbc.com 12/11/21)

BoE to be first major bank to hike rates, probably in Dec – Economists

The Bank of England will be the first major central bank to raise interest rates but whether that initial increase comes as soon as next month or if it waits until early next year has divided economists. Britain's central bank surprised markets by leaving the Bank Rate unchanged at a record low of 0.10% last week. (www.reuters.com 13/11/21)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3413	(1.3390)	1.3414	(1.3391)
+USD/EUR	1.1452	(1.1463)	1.1452	(1.1463)
*GHS/USD	5.9001	(5.8995)	5.9061	(5.9055)
*GHS/GBP	7.9139	(7.8995)	7.9224	(7.9080)
*GHS/EUR	6.7565	(6.7621)	6.7632	(6.7688)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 15/11/21 (Rates for 12/11/21 in brackets)

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India inflation accelerated in Oct

India's consumer price inflation accelerated in Oct. after slowing in Sept., preliminary statistics showed on Friday. The consumer price index rose 4.48% year-on-year following a 4.35% increase in Sept. Economists had forecast inflation to slow further to 4.32%. In Aug., the CPI inflation was 5.30%. (www.rttnews.com 12/11/21)

HK economy to expand 6.4% in 2021

The Hong Kong economy is projected to expand at the top-end of the previous forecast range this year. The real economy is forecast to grow 6.4% this year, close to the upper bound of the 5.5-6.5% estimated in mid-Aug., the Statistics Department has said. Yet, the latest forecast suggests that real GDP for 2021 as a whole will still be about 2% below the level in 2018. (www.rttnews.com 12/11/21)

Spain inflation rose slightly less than estimated in Oct

Spain's consumer price inflation rose slightly less than estimated in Oct. but was the fastest since 1992, the statistical office INE has said. CPI rose to 5.4% in Oct. from 4% in Sept. The rate was marginally below the 5.5% estimated on Oct. 28. Nonetheless, inflation was the strongest since Sept. (www.rttnews.com 12/11/21)

Finland current account surplus up in Sept

Finland's current account surplus increased in Sept., Statistics Finland has said. The current account surplus rose to €1.146bn in Sept. from €389m in Aug. The balance of goods trade showed a surplus of €678m versus a deficit of €60m in the previous month. The services trade logged a deficit of €216m in Sept. (www.rttnews.com 12/11/21)

Slovakia inflation surged in Oct

Slovakia's consumer price inflation surged in Oct., the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic has said. The CPI rose 5.1% year-on-year in Oct., following a 4.6% rise in Sept. Economists had expected a 5.0% rise. Transport cost increased 14.0% yearly in Oct. and alcoholic beverages and tobacco prices rose by 8.0%. (www.rttnews.com 12/11/21)

Oil prices retreat on higher dollar

Oil prices fell more than 1% on Friday as the dollar continued to gain on expectations of a more hawkish Fed. Brent crude futures for Jan. delivery fell over 1% to \$82.01 a barrel while WTI crude futures for Dec. settlement were down 1.3% at \$80.50. Both benchmark crude contracts were poised to end the week lower, hurt by a dollar. (www.rttnews.com 12/11/21)

Intra-African Trade Fair 2021 poised to boost commerce across Africa

The Intra-African Trade Fair will host key figures from the world of trade, including entrepreneurs, financiers, governments and regulators, to deliberate on trade acceleration and investment throughout the African continent. The fair is expected to attract about US\$40bn of trade and investment deals. (www.gna.org.gh 13/11/21)

SA: Higher revenue expected for 2021/22

National Treasury has said tax revenue generation would be higher on the strength of the global commodity price surge. According to the 2021 Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement, the tax revenue for 2021/22 has been revised higher by R120.3bn to R1.5tr from R1.4tr projected in the 2021 Budget. (www.iol.ca.za 12/11/21)

Togo forecasts GDP growth of 6.1% in 2022

Togo's economy is expected to grow 6.1% in 2022, compared to 5.3% in 2021, government has said. The projection is based on the continued resumption of economic activities since the coronavirus pandemic caused growth to fall to 1.8% last year, the statement said. (www.reuters.com 12/11/21)

Ghana: Banks increase profit to GH¢3.17bn in 2021

Profit before tax for the first eight months of the year noted a growth rate of 27.4%, higher than the 19.2% noted a year ago, a Bank of Ghana report has stated. According to the Sept. 2021 Banking Sector Development report, banks registered GH¢3.17bn in profits in Aug. 2021, compared with GH¢2.72bn during 2020 period. (www.norvanreport.com 13/11/21)

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