

Fed's Yellen: an orthodox economist for unorthodox times

REUTERS, Washington

Janet Yellen is guiding the Federal Reserve towards its first rate rise in a decade armed with traditional economic models that some economists worry could fail her in a world of massive money printing and near zero rates.

The 69-year-old economist argues the time is coming for a rate-lift-off even though inflation has yet to accelerate, trusting decades of studies that suggest a tight labor market eventually creates inflationary pressures.

It is a risky wager considering that global inflation is at historic lows and many central banks remain in an easing mode as their economies struggle to get any traction.

If she is right, Yellen, who has already presided over the end of the Fed's bond-buying stimulus programme, will cement her reputation and that of her "dashboard" that relies on long-established relationships between jobs, wages and prices.

If she is wrong, the Fed could join the European Central Bank and the central banks of Sweden, Israel and Canada, which have all tried, but failed, to escape the drag of zero rates in the wake of the 2007-09 financial crisis.

There are reasons to doubt conventional economic theory. Many economists predicted a spiral of falling prices when the US jobless rate soared during the crisis and then thought inflation would rise when unemployment plunged. Neither happened, though Yellen has maintained this year that the Fed was on course for rate increases, which would be "data dependent," likely gradual, and with no pre-set path.

This shows Yellen "is grounded in



United States Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen, right, is welcomed by Senator Daniel Coats in Washington on December 3.

traditional modeling but she is well aware that there is uncertainty," said Randall Kroszner, who served with Yellen as a Fed governor between 2006 and 2009.

"It is possible, though unlikely, the traditional models are just all wrong (and) we're in a whole new world. But she's not going to fly by the seat of her pants," Kroszner said.

Yellen has made clear that models only serve as guideposts in a complicated decision-making process.

Interviews with the Fed chief's former colleagues paint a picture of Yellen as a pragmatic economist who is ready to adjust course when necessary, but one who relies on data and economic theory rather than guesswork or hunches.

That could mean sometimes missing signals that are either too new or too hard to measure for traditional models

and yet possibly relevant for policy.

Fed transcripts show that at a Fed policy meeting in September 1996, Yellen, then a Fed board member, said she was "quite willing" to support an increase in rates because her analysis suggested inflation was poised to rise.

However, Alan Greenspan, the Fed's chairman at the time, convinced policymakers to hold fire at that meeting arguing that he saw changes in the economy that were holding back prices and it later turned out that inflation indeed stayed low.

"It was intuition more than anything else," said Alice Rivlin, fellow board member at the time, referring to Greenspan's hunch that US productivity was rising.

A wrong call on inflation now could stunt job growth and possibly keep rates stuck near zero or even force the Fed to reverse course and cut rates.

Oil prices fall again

AFP, Hong Kong

Oil prices resumed their retreat in Asia Tuesday after enjoying rare gains overnight, as investors train their sights on the US Federal Reserve's most hotly anticipated policy meeting in years.

After plunging around 12 percent last week crude closed slightly up Monday. But with global demand still weak and a continuing supply glut, the commodity was unable to build up any price momentum in Asia.

Energy firms, which have been hammered for months by the sinking oil price -- down more than 60 percent since June 2014 -- enjoyed early gains but late selling saw most end the day further in the red.

The decision by the OPEC oil exporters' group earlier this month not to cap production levels continues to depress prices. BMI research said in a report that more downside pressure is expected in the coming months.

"Oil prices will remain anchored by oversupply," it said, predicting that the global surplus "will only narrow significantly post-2018". Woodside Petroleum in Sydney edged down 0.8 percent and Santos shed 1.8 percent, while Inpex in Tokyo was more than one percent off.



Ahsan Khan Chowdhury, deputy managing director of Pran-RFL Group, speaks at the company's four-day dealer conference at RFL Industrial Park in Gazipur.



Mohammad Obaidul Karim, chairman of Orion Infusion, and Salman Obaidul Karim, managing director, attend the company's 32th annual general meeting at Officers' Club in Dhaka yesterday. The company declared 13 percent cash dividends for the year to June 30, 2015.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Agriculture
Integrated Agricultural Productivity Project (IAPP)
Project Management Unit (PMU)
Sech Bhaban (Level-6), 22, Manik Mia Avenue
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
Phone: + 88029103924, 9104668, Fax: + 88029104668
E-mail: iappbadc@yahoo.com

Memo No: IAPP/BADC/2015-16/466

Date: 10/12/2015

e-Tender Notice (Re-Invitation)

This is to notify all concerned that the following tenders have been published through e-GP portal.

Sl No.	Tender ID	Package No.	Name of work	Closing deadline
1	40530	WD-14: Lot-01	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Lalmonirhat/Kurigram District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
2	40532	WD-14: Lot-02	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Lalmonirhat/Kurigram District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
3	40533	WD-14: Lot-03	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Lalmonirhat/ Kurigram District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
4	40538	WD-14: Lot-04	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Lalmonirhat/Kurigram District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
5	40539	WD-14: Lot-05	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Lalmonirhat/Kurigram District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
6	40540	WD-14: Lot-06	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Lalmonirhat/Kurigram District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
7	40541	WD-14: Lot-07	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Jhalokathi District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
8	40542	WD-14: Lot-08	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Jhalokathi District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
9	40548	WD-14: Lot-09	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Jhalokathi District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
10	40549	WD-14: Lot-10	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Barisal District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
11	40551	WD-14: Lot-11	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Jhalokathi or Patuakhali District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
12	40552	WD-14: Lot-12	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Patuakhali District	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
13	40554	WD-14: Lot-13	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Patuakhali District	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
14	40555	WD-14: Lot-14	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Patuakhali District	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
15	40557	WD-14: Lot-15	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Barguna District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
16	40558	WD-14: Lot-16	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Barguna District	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
17	40556	WD-14: Lot-17	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Barguna District	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
18	40553	WD-14: Lot-18	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Patuakhali or Barguna District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm
19	40550	WD-14: Lot-19	Re-excavation of existing Natural Canal/Khal in Patuakhali or Barguna District.	28.12.2015; 2:00pm

The interested persons/firms/contractor may visit the website www.eprocure.gov.bd to get the details of the tenders. These are online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md Abdul Kader
Project Director (Joint Secretary)
Integrated Agricultural Productivity Project (IAPP)

GD-3871

Sanofi aims for top spot via asset swap

AFP, Paris

Sanofi said on Tuesday it hopes to take over the consumer health care unit of German peer Boehringer Ingelheim via an asset swap, making the French pharmaceutical giant the sector's world leader.

Sanofi is offering its animal health unit Merial in exchange for Boehringer's consumer health business plus 4.7 billion euros (\$5.2 billion) in cash in exclusive negotiations between both companies.

If concluded, the deal would give Sanofi close to 4.6 percent of the world's consumer health care market, making it the global leader in the segment. The German company's Chinese operations are, however, not part of the talks.


British Airways boss threatens to shift business abroad

AFP, London

The boss of British Airways' parent group on Monday threatened to develop the business abroad rather than in Britain after the government further delayed a decision on expanding airport capacity.

British Prime Minister David Cameron had promised a decision on where to expand airport capacity in south-east England by the end of the year, but last week said no decision would be taken until at least the middle of next year.

The government said it needed to assess environmental impact, but business leaders who have lobbied hard for a third runway, condemned the delay as "gutless".



Jahangirnagar University
Savar, Dhaka

Invitation for Tender (OTM)

01.	Ministry/Division	:	Ministry of Education.
02.	Agency	:	University Grants Commission of Bangladesh.
03.	Procuring entity name	:	Vice-Chancellor, Jahangirnagar University represented by University Engineer, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka.
04.	Procuring entity code	:	Not used at present.
05.	Procuring entity district	:	Dhaka.
06.	Invitation for	:	Supplying and installation of 250 KVA transformer and other accessories for connection air coolers Institute of Business Administration Building (IBA) at JU.
07.	Invitation No.	:	12/2015-2016
08.	Date	:	12-12-2015
KEY INFORMATION			
09.	Procuring method	:	Open Tendering Method (OTM).
FUNDING INFORMATION			
10.	Budget & source of funds	:	GOB
PARTICULAR INFORMATION			
11.	Tender last selling date	:	30-12-2015 (within office hour at JU).
12.	Tender receiving date & time	:	31-12-2015 up to 12.00 noon.
13.	Tender opening date & time	:	31-12-2015 up to 12.15pm.
14.	Name & address of the office(s):		
	Selling tender document	:	Agrani Bank Ltd., Jahangirnagar University Branch, Savar, Dhaka.
	Receiving tender document	:	1. Office of the Treasurer, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka. 2. Office of the Director (P&D), Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka. 3. Office of the University Engineer (In-charge), Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka.
	Opening tender document	:	Office of the Treasurer, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka.
15.	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	:	Not to be held.
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER			
16.	Eligibility of tenderer	:	Any bonafide contractors/firms who have experience in successful completion of similar nature of works in a single order amounting equal to 75% of quoted amount in any govt./semi govt./autonomous organization during last 05 (five) years and to be supported by the following documents from the employer (certificate in this regard issued from an officer not below the rank of Executive Engineer). 1. Work order accompanied with attested copies. 2. Completion certificate of said work with attested copies. 3. Enlistment (electrical) of govt./semi govt./autonomous organization. 4. ABC licence from Electrical Licensing Board. 5. Tender must have minimum required liquid assets (free fund)/credit facilities of Tk. 5 (five) lac. 6. Other required eligibility and conditions of the tender are shown in TDS of tender document.
17.	Price of tender document	:	Tk. 500.00 (five hundred) only.
18.	Lot No.	Description of work	Location
		Supplying and installation of 250 KVA transformer and other accessories for connection of air coolers at the Institute of Business Administration Building (IBA) at JU.	Jahangirnagar University
			Tender security (Tk.)
			50,000/-
			Time for completion of work
			30 (thirty) days
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS			
19.	Name of the official inviting tender	:	Engr. Abdus Salam Md. Sharif.
20.	Designation of the official inviting tender	:	University Engineer (In-charge).
21.	Address of the official inviting tender	:	Engineering Office, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka.
22.	Contact detail of the official inviting tender	:	PABX: 7791001-30, 7791045-51, Extn. 1218 universityengrju@yahoo.com
23.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.		
24.	Special instruction: If it is not possible to receive/open the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances the same will be received/opened on the next working date in the same time & same venue.		

GD-3861