Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka yesterday.



MA Mannan, state minister for finance, and Mohammad Ali Khokon, vice president of Bangladesh Textile Mills Association, open the four-day 15th Dhaka International Textile and Garments Machinery Exhibition-2018 at

Fed likely to continue raising rates

REUTERS, Frankfurt

tinue removing policy accommodation gradually and could hike rates three times this year, Dallas Fed President Robert S Kaplan told a business conference in Frankfurt on Thursday.

Kaplan said recent market volatility in itself was not enough to change his base scenario, although he was "highly vigilant" about the turbulence and would study whether it has any effect on the real economy.

"At this point, I don't see this mar-

watching carefully," Kaplan, a non- any particular rate path. The US Federal Reserve is likely to convoting member of the Fed's policy committee, told reporters in Frankfurt. "My base case is the same."

> The Fed increased rates three times last year, with the last, 0.25 point move coming in December.

> US stocks have sold off sharply this month on worries that rising wage inflation could force the Fed to tighten policy more quickly. But markets have calmed down and recovered some ground in the last two days.

Kaplan said that any removal of ket adjustment spilling over into stimulus would be done gradually and

financial conditions - but I'll be patiently, without pre-commitment to

Rapid growth and low unemployment are the key arguments for policy tightening and Kaplan predicted that the jobless rate could dip below 4 percent this year, beyond what is considered full employment.

Overall growth is likely to peak this year and may slow somewhat next year and in 2020, he added. "2018 will be a strong year in the United States," Kaplan said. "We think we're at or near full employment in the US. We'd expect headline unemployment to dip below 4 percent during this year."

French central bank forecasts 0.4pc growth in first quarter

AFP, Paris

France's central bank on Thursday forecast growth of 0.4 percent for the first quarter of 2018, underlining the tentative rebound of the eurozone's secondbiggest economy under President Emmanuel Macron.

The estimate from the Banque de France is the latest healthy indicator for an economy that has long been a laggard in Europe.

On Tuesday, European Union data showed France hitting its fastest growth rate in six years in 2017, expanding by 1.9 percent, driven largely by investment.

That helped feed a surge in the wider eurozone last year to 2.5 percent growth, on par with levels last seen before the financial crisis a decade ago. Macron, a 40year-old former investment banker, has made shaking up the French economy a priority since he was elected in May.

In his first budget, the business-friendly centrist has balanced tax cuts for businesses and wealthy investors with spending cuts aimed at bringing down a high deficit.

Wall Street's swoon doesn't worry economists... yet

AFP, Washington

............. Wall Street's nosedive last week and a spike in market volatility, surprising as they were, do not threaten US economic momentum, according to economists, some of whom even welcome the falling prices.

But if there were a prolonged retreat in equities markets, that could spill over into the real economy under some circumstances, they say.

"This was not that big of a bump in the equity market," William Dudley, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, said Wednesday during a conference.

The rocky few days of trading would have "virtually no consequence" for the larger economy, he said. The flag-ship Dow Jones Industrial Average shed 4.6 percent on Monday, posting its biggest single day point drop ever and sparking a global selloff, but it recovered some of the losses in a wildly volatile session Tuesday.

While Dudley noted that stocks remained well above their levels from a year ago, a sharp correction on Wall Street could still be something to worry about.

According to Oxford Economics, an average dip of 10 percent on world equities Fed appears to react to negative market shocks markets would shave 0.3 percentage points off of GDP growth for the Group of 7 major economies over two years.

The fallout could be worrisome for consumer and business confidence. The rising market over the past year as Wall Street hit repeated records, gave a boost to American retirement accounts that has helped sustain consumer spending, a key driver of the US economy.

Even after this week's losses, the Dow is still up 37 percent since President Donald Trump's election in November 2016. He has repeatedly taken credit for Wall Street's

heady run but was quiet Monday.

But in a tweet Wednesday he seemed to criticize the market moves.

"In the 'old days,' when good news was reported, the Stock Market would go up," the president said on Twitter. "Today, when good news is reported, the Stock Market goes down. Big mistake, and we have so much good (great) news about the economy!"

Now in the ninth year of recovery, the world's largest economy grew at an annual rate of 2.6 percent in the final quarter of 2017.

Trump insists growth could top three percent this year while the Fed predicts growth of 2.5 percent. But one question on economists' minds is

whether Wall Street's volatility could alter the Fed's intentions. The central bank expects to raise rates three times this year to get ahead of an anticipated rise in inflation but this could change if the economy begins to overheat. Anna Cieslak, professor of economics at Duke University, told AFP her research shows the Fed does react to market movements.

"While the reading of Fed texts suggests that the Fed is not outright willing to admit that they care about the stock market, they certainly care about financial conditions," she said. The by delivering "unexpectedly positive news" to reassure the market, she added.

Dudley appeared to echo this view, saying that so far, at least, the week's wide ride for stocks was a "big story" for the press and for market players "but I don't think it's a big story at all for central bankers."

But a prolonged market downturn would be another story.

"If the stock market would have gone down precipitously and stayed down then that would feed into the economic outlook and that would affect my view in term of what the implication for monetary policy," he said.



Agency

GD-374

(helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

GD-370

University of Dhaka

Office of the Librarian Dhaka University Library, Dhaka-1000

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German trade surplus narrows in 2017

AFP, Frankfurt Am Main

......

Germany's oft-criticised massive trade surplus narrowed in 2017, official data showed Thursday, as imports outpaced exports in Europe's booming top economy.

The trade surplus fell to 245 billion euros (\$300 billion) last year from a record 249 billion in 2016, provisional figures from the federal statistics authority Destatis showed.

Imports climbed by 8.3 percent to an alltime high of 1.03 trillion euros, while exports rose at a slightly slower clip of 6.3 percent to 1.3 trillion -also a fresh record.

The soaring demand for goods from abroad may go some way to appeasing critics who have long urged Germany to do more to share the proceeds of its wealth.

German demand was strongest for goods made inside the European Union, with imports from noneurozone countries shooting up 9.5 percent.



From left, Uzma Chowdhury, director for corporate finance at Pran-RFL Group; Ahsan Khan Chowdhury, chairman and CEO; Richard Palmer, head of corporate debt at CDC, the UK's development finance institution, and Srini Nagarajan, head of CDC for South Asia, attend a deal signing ceremony at a hotel in Dhaka on Wednesday. (Story on B1)

PRAN-RFL GROUP



GD-373

Centre for Advanced Research in Sciences (CARS)

University of Dhaka Dhaka-1000

25-10-1424 বঙ্গান্দ

Invitation for Tender (National)

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| 01 | Ref No: CARS/ST/P- 247/OTM/FARL/RB/18 Supply and Testing of Chemicals, Consumables and Glassware's for the Food Analysis and Research Laboratory (FARL) at the CARS, DU. | 25-02-2018 up to office hour | 26-02-2018 up to 12.00 noon | 26-02-2018 12.30pm | www.cars.du.ac.bd or Notice Board at the CARS, University of Dhaka | |
| | Laboratory (FARL) at the CARS, DU. | | | | Dire | |

Centre for Advanced Research in Sciences (CARS) University of Dhaka

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

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Date: 07/02/2018

Memo No. 46.02.2216.000.09.001.18-140

e-Tender Notice-06/2017-18

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| 2 | e-Tender/PEDP- III/CXB/CHA/2017- 18/W17.409 | Construction of Boundary wall including gate of a) Sahabill b) Uttar Baraitoli GPS under Chakoria Upazila Cox's Bazar. | 159861 | 28-Feb-2018 16:00 | 01-Mar-2018 15:00 |
| 3 | e-Tender/PEDP- III/CXB/CHA/2017- 18/W17.410 | Construction of Boundary wall including gate of Uttar Harbang GPS under Chakoria Upazila Cox's Bazar. | 161229 | 28-Feb-2018 16:00 | 01-Mar-2018 15:00 |

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk **Rony Saha**

Upazila Engineer LGED, Chakoria, Cox's Bazar ue.chakoria@lged.gov.bd

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Land Reforms Board, Section-4 (Budget) 141-143, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 E-mail: alrc4@lrb.gov.bd

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|-----------|--|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 31.02.0000.014.01.20.17.68 Date: 05-02-2018 | Supply of Brand Laptop (105) Nos. | 25-Feb-2018 16:00 | 26-Feb-2018 12:00 | 26-Feb-2018 12:00 | 161140 |
| 2 | 31.02.0000.014.01.20.17.69 Date: 05-02-2018 | Supply of Brand Printer (105) Nos. | 25-Feb-2018 17:00 | 26-Feb-2018 13:00 | 26-Feb-2018 13:00 | 161161 |
| 3 | 31.02.0000.014.01.20.17.70 Date: 05-02-2018 | Supply of Brand Scanner (105) Nos. | 25-Feb-2018 16:00 | 26-Feb-2018 14:00 | 26-Feb-2018 14:00 | 163952 |

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> Assistant Land Reforms Commissioner-4 Land Reforms Board Tele: 029561019

> > E-mail: alrc4@lrb.gov.bd

GD-378

(helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).