The end of Gulf crisis is seen to support the hospitality sector in Qatar

By Santhosh V Perumal

The approval of a Covid-19 vaccine for use in the fourth quarter of 2020 was welcomed news to the hospitality sector. Despite the positive developments, hotel market performance are unable to improve significantly for several months. Qatari government guidelines and restrictions have been widely followed, the report said.

The report also said revenues benefited from the WRC in the case of spending associated with spending on hotel and air travel. While social distancing and other safety measures remained in place, some business was able to operate in line with the guidelines, and hotels increased their occupancy rates for the next couple of years.

Qatar's hotel occupancy rate stood 50% in February 2020, declining the improvement performance in the tourism sector, the report said. The report said the hospitality sector was likely to result in a sharp increase in Q4, following six months of reduced revenue.

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Rate cuts are not expected until the third quarter, with inflation expected to remain around 7% for the rest of the year and authorities aiming for price stability by the end of 2021.

The bank repeated its call for non-essential policy rate cuts to signal a “strong commitment to price stability” after the latest Policy Meeting. The bank’s view is that the inflation target of 5% for 2021 is achievable.

Despite the unchanged policy rate, the Turkish central bank has lowered its inflation forecasts for the current year and the next.

In the first half of 2021, the bank raised its inflation forecast to 17%, the highest point of inflation since 2008. The bank’s new forecasts are higher than those of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, and the European Commission, which had projected inflation rates of 14%, 15%, and 16% respectively for 2021.

The central bank’s decision to keep interest rates unchanged comes amid rising concerns about inflationary pressures, which have accelerated in recent months. The Turkish lira has depreciated significantly against the US dollar, reaching record lows in recent weeks. The lira’s collapse has fueled concerns about the government’s ability to manage the country’s debt burden.

The central bank’s decision to hold interest rates steady is likely to be seen as a sign of confidence in the economy’s ability to withstand higher inflation. However, critics argue that the central bank is not doing enough to address the country’s growing debt burden and the risks posed by high inflation.

The central bank’s decision also reflects its cautious approach to monetary policy, which has been criticized by some economists and policymakers. Critics argue that the central bank’s approach is too accommodative, leading to higher inflation and debt levels.

In conclusion, the Turkish central bank’s decision to keep interest rates unchanged is likely to be seen as a sign of confidence in the economy’s ability to withstand higher inflation. However, the decision is also criticized for being too accommodative, leading to higher inflation and debt levels. The central bank’s approach is likely to be closely watched by policymakers and economists in the coming months.
A leading group of Indian retailers on Wednesday urged the government to ban on Amazon’s marketplace largely benefits a few big manufacturers such as Apple Inc. and give them discounts on fees, and helped manufacturers like them.

The group called on Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal to take immediate action for comment on the trader group’s statement. Reuters story are “sufficient enough to said “the shocking revelations” in the regulations.

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Bloomberg

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Inflation fears top recovery hopes as stock prices slide

APF, Reuters

Stocks mostly fell yesterday as market-taking and growing inflation fears overwhelmed optimism about an expected strong economic recovery, fixing coronavirus crisis and US stimulus hopes. Oil however benefited as it added to the United States’ announcement that it is planning to hike interest rates, and the US dollar was especially weak.

At the same time, other stocks fared less well with some US indices taking losses of 2.1%.

Oil prices have been rising significantly since 2021, "wrote Commonwealth Bank, pushing for further US stimulus have bolstered the oil market.

"With that certain markets were in danger of provocation. "

Meanwhile, the US dollar index rose as the Federal Reserve's Janet Yellen signalled policy tightening.

"One of the main drivers of the dollar's rise has been the Yen's slide against the US dollar, as the yen continues to weaken.

Global equities have enjoyed bumper gains on mounting confidence that the world economy will rebound from last year's collapse as Covid-19 vaccination programmes allow people to slowly get back to a semblance of normality.

Underpinning that has been vast amounts of government spending as well as massive quantitative easing and stimulus programmes.

The FTSE 100 has risen by 115.31 points, as the pound appreciated by 0.46.

Meanwhile, the FTSE 100 that has been the strength of the pound, which appreciated by 0.46, "said a commenter. "The pound was up as the index level's lack of enthusiasm was palpable today, " Axi commented.

"The pound's rise was supported by talks of a potential UK-EU trade deal, which was seen as positive for UK equities. "

Asian markets struggled. Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong all dropped, with Hong Kong more than 10% off after a week-long drop.

Stocks opened lower, with the Dow sliding 0.2% on data that showed US initial unemployment benefit applications are on the rise.

Wall Street opened lower, with the Dow sliding 0.2% on data that showed US initial unemployment benefit applications are on the rise.

The S&P 500 closed 0.5% down at 3,651.51 points, as the pound appreciated by 0.46.

Meanwhile, the S&P 500 dropped 0.5% at 2,818.53 points and Japan closed 0.2% lower at 10,866.66 points.

The STOXX 600, down 0.5% at 1,601.52 points, Asian markets struggled. Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong all dropped, with Hong Kong more than 10% off after a week-long drop.

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WTO needs to show results on economic crisis, vaccines: Okonjo-Iweala

Okonjo-Iweala's immediate goals as WTO chief are to ensure vaccines are produced and distributed worldwide, not just for rich nations, and to resist the push towards protectionism that worsened during the pandemic, so that free trade can help the economic and health crises facing the world. She also intends to push to schedule the pandemic-related WTO ministerial, which will allow her to spark movement on her 25-year career at the World Bank.

Okonjo-Iweala promised to breathe fresh life into the trade body which she says has lost focus on helping improve living conditions for poor countries, “The WTO can contribute more to solving the economic and health crisis by helping to improve access to vaccines and the affordability of vaccines to poor countries,” she said.

“Geneva is full of negotiating experts, so it’s all about winning or not losing and so on,” called an “Achilles heel” of the WTO. The WTO needs “something entirely different” to turn things around, she said, adding: “I need people to support me woman in the role. It’s about creating employment, decent work for people. It’s about... improving poor countries.”

In its new vision, the EU Executive Commission proposed that the WTO needs to show results on economic crisis, vaccines: Okonjo-Iweala will once again be the first African to head the WTO. She also intends to push to schedule the pandemic-related WTO ministerial meeting by the end of the year, she said, which will allow the WTO to spark movement on critical issues.

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Asian equity markets slip as inflation fears trump recovery hopes

Asian markets mostly fell yesterday amid the risks of new virus variants and as concerns about supply chain disruptions continue to weigh on investor sentiment, while central banks have also increased their warnings about inflation.

Emerging markets stocks end 9-day winning streak

Emerging-markets stocks broke their longest winning streak in more than a year yesterday as concerns about supply chain disruptions, coronavirus vaccine gains and rising commodity prices increased investor anxiety.

For 9 days, emerging-markets stocks had gained and had set new records, but on Wednesday they ended a run of gains with a 0.6% drop, dragged down by big losses in Brazil and South Africa.

The MSCI Emerging Markets Index fell 0.6%, to 1,272.77, its largest drop since March. The index had rallied 13% in the previous five sessions, including the best week since 2013. Brazil’s Bovespa index fell 1.5%, its biggest drop since mid-January. South Africa’s JSE All Share dropped 2.3%.

Among the big losers were stocks of companies that are most vulnerable to rising commodity prices, including miners and oil producers, as well as sectors that have been buoyed by loose monetary policies.

But many countries are seeing rising spreads of the Covid-19 virus, which has left many countries in lockdown, and rising commodity prices are putting pressure on central banks to reduce stimulus.

The MSCI gauge of emerging-markets stocks fell 0.6% after gaining 4% over the last nine sessions, with about 50 of the 23 emerging assets dropping yesterday.

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Weekly jobless claims jumped by 2,375,000 to 900,000 for the week ended February 13, the Department of Labor said yesterday in the most timely data on the economy's health, could add impe-

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