

MACRO DAILY

14 May 2019

Macro developments

- CPI inflation in India rose to a 6-month high of 2.9% in Apr'19 led by higher food inflation at 1.1% (0.3% in Mar'19). Within food, vegetable and meat prices rose the most. However, core inflation moderated to 4.5%, an 18-month low, and the decline was quite broad-based. While worsening global growth favours a rate cut, sticky oil prices, a depreciating currency and uncertainty over monsoon imply RBI is likely to remain on hold in Jun'19.
- SIAM's data shows that domestic auto sales declined by (-) 15.9% in Apr'19 vs (-) 14.2% in Mar'19. This is sharpest decline since Dec'16. Both passenger vehicle and two wheeler sales fell the most by (-) 17.1% and (-) 16.4% respectively, in a sign of slowing domestic consumption. Indicating that services growth is also down, commercial vehicle sales fell by (-) 6% vs 0.3% in Mar'19.
- Following US tariffs on US\$ 200bn of Chinese imports, China has retaliated by imposing tariffs on US\$ 60bn worth of imports from the US from 1 Jun 2019. This will take effect by imposing duties in the range of 5-25% and also increasing the previously imposed duty of 10% to 20-25%. Goods affected will include batteries, household appliances, coffee, rubber, spinach and construction material.

Markets

- Bonds: Barring Japan, global yields closed lower. This has been on the back of intensifying trade war. Crude prices also fell by (-) 0.6% (US\$ 70/bbl). US 10Y yield tanked down by 7bps (2.4%). India's 7.26GS2029 declined by 2bps (7.39%) ahead of Rs 50bn auction of new security. It was trading lower at 7.37% supported by moderation in core CPI data print.
- Currency: Except JPY, other global currencies closed lower as US-China trade war heated up further. CNY and AUD depreciated by (-) 0.8%. INR fell to a 2-month low on the back of FII outflows. It however opened slightly higher while Asian currencies were trading lower.
- Equity: Global equity indices closed lower on the back of escalated trade war tensions with China's retaliation. Dow declined the most by (-) 2.4% followed by Dax (-) 1.5% and Shanghai Comp (-) 1.2%. Sensex also fell by (-) 1% taking global cues. Both Sensex and Asian markets were trading lower in today's session.

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FIG 1 - MOVEMENT IN KEY GLOBAL ASSET CLASSES

) (60)) (37)
) (37)
(10)
) (68)
) (35)
) (43)
) (36)
) (9)
1 (2)
) (7)
) (88)
3 (34)
) (5.9)
3 (4.4)
1 0.3
) (7.7)
(4.5)
) (8.5)
1.7
5 (7.1)
3 (8.5)
5 (7.3)
1 (8.5)
9 4.3
2 (10.2)
) (1)
) (7.9)
) (17)
) 20
3 (12)
D FYTD
(1,905.8)

Source: Bloomberg, Bank of Baroda \mid *Indicates change in bps, # 7.17 GS 2028 security, ** 1Y yield

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