₹ surges nearly 100 p in 2 days to below 82/\$

ΜΔΙΩΡ CURRENCIES ΔGΔINST S



	Jan 3, 2023	Jan 10, 2023	% change
BRAZILREAL	5.46	5.25	4.0
THAI BAHT	34.39	33.56	2.5
SOUTH KOREAN WON	1,271.00	1,244.44	2.1
CHINA RENMINBI	6.92	6.78	1.9
MEXICAN PESO	19.41	19.15	1.4
INDIAN RUPEE	82.89	81.79	1.3
MALAYSIAN RINGGIT	4.41	4.37	0.8
INDONESIAN RUPIAH	15,601.00	15,576.00	0.2
TURKISH LIRA	18.72	18.78	-0.3
SOUTH AFRICAN RAND	17.01	17.13	-0.7

BHASKAR DUTTA

Mumbai, 10 January

Compiled by BS Research Bureau

The rupee strengthened significantly against the US dollar on Tuesday, marking its biggest single-day gain since November 11, amid overseas investment flows and a sharp decline in the greenback's demand from state-owned banks on behalf of oil importers, dealers said.

The domestic currency settled at 81.79 per dollar, against 82.36 per dollar at the close of the previous day's trade. Tuesday's level marks the best closing level for the rupee since December 2, *Bloomberg* data showed. In the past two sessions, the rupee has strengthened by 94 paise. Traders said that the flows that impacted the currency market on Tuesday could have been related to Adani Enterprises' ₹20,000 crore follow-on public offer this month, as well as Carlyle's purchase of a majority stake in VLCC for \$300 million.

They said that lack of significant dollar purchases by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) at lower dollar/rupee levels amplified the gains for the domestic currency. "The RBI possibly stepped away (from buying dollars) or itwas not there as forcefully as it was expected to be — that's what led to a cut in (dollar) positions. My suspicion is that given the move between offshore and onshore points, it looks like there were some offshore flows as well," Nitin Agarwal, head of trading at ANZ Bank, said .

After falling by around \$100 billion from late February to the end of September, the forex reserves have climbed by \$30 billion to \$562.85 billion at the end of December.