

The world this week - Business

Janet Yellen, America's treasury secretary, gave her strongest warning yet on the potential consequences of not raising the federal debt limit, saying it would be "catastrophic".

The Treasury estimates that it will run out of money by October 18th unless the ceiling is increased to allow the government to continue borrowing.

Even with a stopgap resolution to avoid a government shutdown, the issue of lifting the debt limit still remains.

Ms Yellen said the uncertainty was eroding investor confidence.

Stockmarkets had their worst day in months on September 28th.

The S&P 500 dropped by 2% and the Nasdaq by 2.8%, its biggest decline in half a year.

European and Asian bourses also fell.

The prospect of a government shutdown was just one factor unsettling investors.

Markets are also digesting moves by central banks to taper their stimulus programmes, which has led to a sell-off in bonds.

Natural-gas prices remained volatile, but were still rising sharply in Asia and Europe, and to a lesser degree in America.

That fed into oil markets, as some industries switch to the commodity to keep the lights on.

The price of Brent crude crept up to \$80 a barrel for the first time in three years.

Battle lines were drawn in the American Senate over a possible second term for Jerome Powell as chairman of the Federal Reserve.

Elizabeth Warren, a left-wing Democrat, became the first senator publicly to oppose Mr Powell remaining in office because of his past support for financial deregulation.

She called him "a dangerous man".

Joe Biden is expected to announce his decision on who should lead the central bank within the next few months.

Ford announced an \$11bn plan to build three factories that will produce batteries for electric vehicles and another plant to make its F-series of electric pickup trucks.

The investment is in partnership with SK Innovation, a South Korean company; the carmaker is providing \$7bn.

Along with its Detroit rivals, General Motors and Stellantis, Ford has made a commitment to switch to greener motoring and wants 40% of its global sales to be electric by 2030.

本周国际要闻——商业

美国财政部长珍妮特·耶伦就不提高联邦债务上限的潜在后果发出了迄今为止最强烈的警告，称这将是“灾难性的”。

财政部估计，除非提高上限以允许政府继续借款，否则政府将在 10 月 18 日耗尽资金。

即使有了避免政府停摆的临时解决方案，提高债务上限的问题仍然存在。

耶伦表示，不确定性正在侵蚀投资者信心。

9 月 28 日，股市经历了几个月来最糟糕的一天。

标准普尔 500 指数下跌了 2%，纳斯达克指数下跌了 2.8%，这是半年来的最大跌幅。

欧洲和亚洲股市也纷纷下跌。

政府停摆的预期只是令投资者不安的因素之一。

市场也在消化各国央行缩减刺激计划的举措，这些举措已致使债券遭到抛售。

天然气价格仍不稳定，但在亚洲和欧洲仍急剧上涨，美国的涨幅较小。

随着一些行业转而使用石油（译者注：**commodity** 直译为大宗货物，在这里指石油）以维持能源供应，石油市场也受到了影响。

布伦特原油价格三年来首次攀升至每桶 **80** 美元。

美国参议院就杰罗姆·鲍威尔可能连任美联储主席一事展开了争论。

左翼民主党人伊丽莎白·沃伦成为首位公开反对鲍威尔留任的参议员，原因是他过去曾支持放松金融监管。

她称鲍威尔是“一个危险的人”。

乔·拜登预计将在未来几个月内宣布决定央行行长的人选。

福特宣布了一项 **110** 亿美元的计划，计划建设三家生产电动汽车电池的工厂，以及另一家生产 **F** 系列电动皮卡工厂。

这项投资是与韩国公司 **SK Innovation** 合作进行的：该汽车制造商将提供 **70** 亿美元资金。

与位于底特律的竞争对手通用汽车和斯特兰提斯一样，福特已经承诺转向生产更环保汽车，并希望到 **2030** 年其全球销售的 **40%**来自电动汽车。