## News, Views \& Statistics

## Oil Prices Pressured Lower amid Record U.S. Output Surge

Oil prices were weighed down on Thursday after data showing that U.S. output rose to a record, leading to a surge in inventory levels only matched once in the last two years. U.S. crude prices were down $1.4 \%$ to trade at $\$ 62.7$ by 08:04 AM ET (12:04 GMT), off 87 cents from their previous settlement. London traded Brent crude futures shed $1.3 \%$ to $\$ 71.22$, down 96 cents from their last close. Crude stockpiles rose by 9.9 million barrels last week, hitting the highest level since Sept. 2017, the U.S. Energy Information Administration said in its weekly report on Wednesday. The increase came as production hit a record high of 12.3 million barrels per day. "It was quite a surprise to have a nine times bigger build in crude than expected, along with a build in gasoline where a draw was expected," said Tariq Zahir, managing member at the oil-focused New York fund Tyche Capital Advisors. "These numbers should continue to put pressure on crude prices in the short term." John Kilduff, founding partner at New York energy hedge fund Again Capital, agreed. "The small rise in gasoline inventories was also a bearish factor, as the increase came in the face of continued strong, summer-like demand and a slight decline in refinery utilization rates," Kilduff said. Oil prices continued to be underpinned by the political crisis in Venezuela, tighter U.S. sanctions against Iran that allow no more exemptions from May and as the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries continued with supply cuts. Oman's energy minister Mohammed bin Hamad al-Rumhy said on Wednesday it was OPEC's goal to extend the production cuts, which started in January, when the group and its allies next meet in June. Despite the desire of many OPEC members to continue supply cuts, the group may eventually be forced into action to meet demand in a market that has seen prices rise more than $30 \%$ this year.

## India's Cotton imports may rise 80\% this year: CAI

India's cotton imports are likely to rise by $80 \%$ this crop year (October 2018 to September 2019) to 2.7 million bales (one bale equals 170 kg ) as compared to 1.5 million the previous year, according to latest data compiled by apex industry body, Cotton Association of India (CAI). "The major reason is unavailability of the fibre with farmers and stockiest. Drought in the major growing states of Maharashtra, Telangana, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh last year has resulted in lower output this year. Over and above, the quality of late picked crop is poor due to the paucity of moisture in the field. This poor quality cotton cannot be used for spinning mills," the association said in a statement. CAI has reduced the cotton crop production estimate for 2018-19 to 32.1 million bales, which is lower by 0.7 million bales than its previous estimate of 32.8 million bales made during last month.

| COMMODITY | CLOSE | S2 | S1 | PIVOT | R1 | R2 | TREND |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SILVER | 36695 | 36322 | 36508 | 36807 | 36993 | 37292 | Down |
| GOLD | 31337 | 30992 | 31164 | 31423 | 31595 | 31854 | Down |
| CRUDE OIL | 4276 | 4131 | 4203 | 4315 | 4387 | 4499 | Up |
| COPPER | 430.70 | 424.30 | 427.50 | 431.50 | 434.70 | 438.70 | Down |
| NATURAL GAS | 180.30 | 176.40 | 178.30 | 180.80 | 182.70 | 185.20 | Up |
| JEERA | 16890 | 16750 | 16820 | 16905 | 16975 | 17060 | Up |
| TURMERIC | 6458 | 6302 | 6380 | 6440 | 6518 | 6578 | Up |
| SOYBEAN | 3621 | 3574 | 3597 | 3636 | 3659 | 3698 | Up |
| RM SEED | 3718 | 3697 | 3707 | 3727 | 3737 | 3757 | Down |
| GUAR SEED | 4388 | 4309 | 4349 | 4374 | 4414 | 4439 | Down |

## International Markets

| COMMODITY | CLOSE | $\%$ <br> CHANGE |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| LONDON SPOT GOLD | $\$ 1270.04$ | -0.33 |
| LONDON SPOT SILVER | $\$ 14.59$ | -0.68 |
| NYMEX CRUDE OIL | $\$ 61.46$ | -3.12 |
| NYMEX NATURAL GAS | $\$ 2.602$ | -1.03 |

## Economic Data

| Data | Previous | Forecast | Time |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Non-Farm payroll | 196 K | 181 K | $6: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ |
| Jobless Rate | $3.8 \%$ | $3.8 \%$ | - |
| ISM Non-Mfg PMI | 56.1 | 57.2 | $7: 30 \mathrm{pm}$ |

## RECOMMENDATIONS

## CRUDE OIL

CRUDE OIL MAY: SELL AT 4312-4315 TP-4257 SL ABOVE 4355.


Crude oil broke below the bearish insider candlestick pattern yesterday and completed the bearish structure's breakdown stage. Sell on intraday rise.

## CASTOR

CASTOR JUNE: BUY AT 5630-5626 TP-5750 SL BELOW 5550.


Castor built up on crucial weekly support yesterday as bulls successfully dominated bears after a few days of correction. Buy on small dips.

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