## News, Views \& Statistics

## Copper, other metals, set for modest rebound in 2019: Reuters poll

Copper and other base metals prices will recover only modestly this year as an economic slowdown in top metals consumer China subdues demand, a Reuters poll showed. The London Metal Exchange index of industrial metals slumped 17 percent in 2018, weighed down by macro-economic concerns such as the U.S.-China trade war. The LME cash copper price is expected to average $\$ 6,307$ a ton this year, a median forecast of 30 analyst's shows. That is about 5 percent higher than Monday's close, but is 6 percent lower than the previous Reuters poll in October. "We believe the fundamental backdrop is insufficient to push (industrial metals) prices either way," analyst Carsten Menke at Julius Baer in Zurich said. "Demand is too soft to cause shortages but still strong enough to avoid abundance, while supply should grow solidly across most markets, including copper." Analysts expect a copper market deficit of 64,000 tons in 2019, increasing the consensus forecast from 44,000 tons in the previous poll. Aluminum has been pressured in recent months by the lifting of U.S. sanctions on Russia's Rusal, the world's biggest producer outside of China, which is expected to result in additional supply coming on the market. A key factor in 2019 is expected to be Chinese exports, which jumped 21 percent last year to a record high of 5.8 million tons of unwrought aluminum and aluminum products.
"In these market conditions, (Chinese) exports need to be reduced significantly to support the aluminum price upwards," said independent analyst and consultant Goran Djukanovic. LME cash aluminum is pegged to average $\$ 1,978$ a ton this year, a downgrade of 9 percent from the October poll estimate. The global aluminum deficit for 2019 has been trimmed to 490,000 tons from 527,500 tons in the previous poll. Worries about a wave of production from Indonesia have weighed on prices while there are also jitters about the stainless steel market, which accounts for the bulk of demand for nickel.

## Cardamom price increases as production declines

Cardamom crops registered a 10 per cent drop in production in the last one month due to frost in many of the high range area where Cardamom is grown in plenty. Cardamom production was already lower by 40-50 per cent due to the floods last August. The unpleasantly cold weather in December-January has made things worse, and is certain to affect productivity next season. Cardamom prices have started moving northwards, touching? 1,500/kg, rising 10 per cent due to short supply and lower production. The rise in the price in the last 2-3 weeks was almost? 200/kg. Even the price of the Cardamom 8 mm variety, one of the best varieties available in the country, has gone up to? $1,700 / \mathrm{kg}$ as the availability of this particular variety is scarce.

| COMMODITY | CLOSE | S2 | S1 | PIVOT | R1 | R2 | TREND |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SILVER | 40245 | 39728 | 39986 | 40164 | 40422 | 40600 | Down |
| GOLD | 32855 | 32415 | 32635 | 32765 | 32985 | 33115 | Down |
| CRUDE OIL | 3828 | 3642 | 3735 | 3793 | 3886 | 3944 | Up |
| COPPER | 430.90 | 420.80 | 425.90 | 428.50 | 433.60 | 436.20 | Down |
| NATURAL GAS | 206.90 | 198.00 | 202.50 | 205.10 | 209.60 | 212.20 | Down |
| JEERA | 15900 | 15640 | 15770 | 15870 | 16000 | 16100 | Down |
| TURMERIC | 6380 | 6276 | 6328 | 6424 | 6476 | 6572 | Down |
| SOYBEAN | 3825 | 3769 | 3797 | 3847 | 3875 | 3925 | Up |
| RM SEED | 3950 | 3925 | 3938 | 3962 | 3975 | 3999 | Up |
| GUAR SEED | 4335 | 4285 | 4310 | 4330 | 4355 | 4375 | Up |

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| COMMODITY | CLOSE | $\%$ <br> CHANGE |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| LONDON SPOT GOLD | $\$ 1309.05$ | +0.46 |
| LONDON SPOT SILVER | $\$ 15.82$ | +0.57 |
| NYMEX CRUDE OIL | $\$ 53.55$ | +2.82 |
| NYMEX NATURAL GAS | $\$ 2.907$ | -0.45 |

## Economic Data

| Data | Previous | Forecast | Time |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| ADP Non-Farm. | 271 K | 170 K | $6: 45 \mathrm{pm}$ |
| Pending Home Sa. | $-0.7 \%$ | $1.1 \%$ | $8: 30 \mathrm{pm}$ |
| Crude Oil Inv. | 8.0 M | - | $9: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ |

## RECOMMENDATIONS

## NICKEL

NICKEL JAN: TRADING RANGE 853.50 - 875.50.


Wait for our intraday trading strategy.

## KAPAS

KAPAS APR: TRADING RANGE 1140-1165.


Wait for our intraday trading strategy.

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## Contact

## Website

www.arihantcapital.com

## ARIHANT Capital Markets Ltd

Commodity/Currency Research Desk: 6, Lad Colony, Y.N. Road Indore-3 T: 0731-4217191. Fax: 0731-4217103

Corporate Office: 1011, Solitaire Corporate Park, Building No.10, 1st Floor, Andheri Ghatkopar Link Road, Chakala, Andheri (East), Mumbai-400093 D. +91.22.42254800 and 67114800
www.arihantcapital.com

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