# DAILY ANALYSIS REPORT Friday, December 4, 2020



Change in weather forecast is keeping Natural gas prices under pressure

Silver prices are likely to trade firm

Nickel likely to trade firm



## CHANGE IN WEATHER FORECAST IS KEEPING NG PRICES UNDER PRESSURE

- Forecasts for warmer-than-normal U.S. temperatures are keeping Natural gas prices lower. The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is forecasting above-normal temperatures for the Midwest, Northeast, and West of USA from Dec 8-12. Meanwhile forecasting agency Maxar on Wednesday said that much warmer temperatures are expected for the Northeast and northern Midwest from Dec 12-16.
- Meanwhile, Natural Gas inventory report from EIA indicated that inventories fell -1 bcf to 3.939 bcf, a smaller decline than expectations of -16 bcf. Inventories are up +9.7% y/y and are +7.9% above the 5-year average.
- ▲ As per Bloomberg report, Natural gas consumption in the US on Wednesday was down -8.2% y/y at 90.5 bcf. While, Edison Electric reported that U.S. electricity output for the week ending November 28 was down -4.0% y/y at 68,010 GWh (gigawatt-hours) and that electricity output for the 52-week period ending November 28 was down -3.1% y/y at 3.921 million GWh.
- US natural gas production continues to be weak, which is supportive of Natural gas prices. According to Bloomberg data, U.S. lower-48 state dry gas production today is down -5.0% y/y at 90.732 bcf/d.

#### Outlook

■ Natural Gas January expiry contract is likely to find support near \$2.35 and \$2.27 meanwhile We expect natural gas to find resistance near 10 days EMA at \$2.78.

### SILVER PRICES ARE LIKELY TO TRADE FIRM

- Silver prices are trading firm near \$24.21 per ounce before monthly US nonfarm payroll data. Optimism over US stimulus and weakness in dollar index is likely to keep supporting precious metals in near term.
- Dollar index which registered high of 94.33 in November is currently trading at 90.70 which is nearly 3.8% lower in four weeks. Weakness in dollar index is likely to support silver prices. Dollar index is still trading near 2.5 years low
- On economic data front, US weekly initial unemployment claims fell -75,000 to an 8-1/2 month low of 712,000, showing a stronger labor market than expectations for a decline to 775,000. Also, the China Nov Caixin services PMI unexpectedly rose +1.0 to a 5-month high of 57.8, stronger than expectations of -0.4 to 56.4. In addition, Eurozone Oct retail sales rose +1.5% m/m, stronger than expectations of +0.7% m/m.

#### Outlook

■ Silver prices are likely to find support near 200 days EMA at \$22.63 meanwhile key resistance is seen near \$25.17 and \$26.60. Silver likely to trade firm after bouncing from support levels.





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## NICKEL LIKELY TO TRADE FIRM

- Nickel prices are trading near \$15922 after minor profit booking from recent high. An increased optimism over coronavirus vaccine and positive manufacturing data are likely to keep supporting base metals prices.
- Positive economic data from china are likely to continue supporting metals prices. The Caixin/Markit China General Services Purchasing Managers' Index rose to 57.8, the second highest reading since April 2010, from October's 56.8. It represented a 1 percentage point growth on a monthly basis. Also, the Caixin China Manufacturing PMI for November, which was released on Tuesday, saw a month-on-month growth of 2.4 percent to 54.9, the highest reading since November 2010. Also The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development said in its latest Economic Outlook report released on Monday that China is the only major economy that will see positive GDP growth this year.
- Fresh discussion about US economic stimulus from congress is also supporting metals. A top
  Senate Republican Mitch McConnell said on Tuesday that US Congress should include a
  fresh wave of coronavirus stimulus in a \$1.4 trillion spending bill.
- ▲ Meanwhile LME warehouse Nickel inventory now stands at 241812mt as of December 02, which have increased by 172830 in last one year which is nearly 71% of total current inventory.

#### Outlook

▲ Nickel prices are likely to find support near 20 days EMA of \$15983 and 50 days EMA at \$15608, while critical resistance is seen near \$16430-\$16600. We expect positive trend to continue further on the improved economic condition in China and stimulus hope from US.

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