Friday, March 15, 2019



Indian rupee regained strength after weakness in dollar and consistent FII's flow
Gold corrected further after dollar strengthened on the back of Brexit delay
Oil prices remain firm near \$67 per barrel, inventory report and OPEC+ production cut in focus
Copper is in the range between 6375-6485 from last one week
China steel rebar's prices drop mills allowed to resume sintering operations

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INDIAN RUPEE REGAINED STRENGTH AFTER WEAKNESS IN DOLLAR AND CONSISTENT FII'S FLOW

- The Indian rupee strength against the US dollar following FII's flow and rally into equities
- Brent Oil prices remain firms near \$67 per barrel following US crude inventory report and update on OPEC+ production cut measures. Rising oil prices are a risk to strength into domestic currency

FII and DII Data

- Foreign funds (FII's) bought shares worth Rs. 1482.99 crore, while Domestic Institutional Investors (DII's) sold shares to the tune of Rs 817.77 crore on 14th March
- In March 2019 FIIs net bought shares worth Rs 14807.58 crore, while DII's were net sellers to the tune of Rs.6848.64 crore

Outlook

■ The current weakness in the dollar may continue further and rupee might strengthen as FII inflow continues in Mar'19 as well. USD-INR pair may find support around 68.80, in case USD-INR pair breaks support level of 68.80 we may witness a fresh decline towards 68.30. Meanwhile, the key resistance level is placed at 69.90; else it may remain in the 69.90-68.30 range. FII inflow could continue to support Indian rupee however any increase in crude prices from current levels may limit Rupee strength.

GOLD CORRECTED FURTHER AFTER DOLLAR STRENGTHENED AND EQUITY MARKETS RALLIED ON THE BACK OF BREXIT DELAY, FOCUS SHIFTS TOWARDS FED MEETING SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK

- Gold corrects further from recent highs as UK voted to delay Britain's departure from the EU, currently scheduled for March 29. The dollar gained strength against GBP following a delayed exit of Britain from the EU
- Brexit- UK lawmakers have voted in favor of delaying the Brexit process and also rejected the second referendum. Prime Minister Theresa May will now ask European leaders to grant an extension to Article 50. EU is likely to agree to an extension as long as there is a prospect of a deal being reached or a referendum or general election which could change the political landscape
- Fed meeting on March 19-20th- Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell has made it clear that the
 U.S. central bank is in no rush to adjust borrowing costs. Federal Reserve is expected to sound a dovish
 tone in its meeting next week
- The combination of a dovish U.S. Fed and Britain's failure to pass Brexit deal and how they will exit the EU continue to be highly supportive for gold prices in the short term

Outlook

Comex gold may face critical resistance near 1305, further up move could be seen only on a sustained break above this level. The counter is receiving support after poor US jobs data and ongoing Brexit talks along with geopolitical tensions such as Venezuela and South East Asian countries of India and Pakistan, the focus is shifting towards fed meeting next week. Immediate support level can be seen around 1275-1266 while important resistance is seen near 1305-1335.

OIL PRICES REMAIN FIRM NEAR \$67 PER BARREL, INVENTORY REPORT AND OPEC+ PRODUCTION CUT IN FOCUS

- Crude oil continues to gain support from ongoing production cuts from the OPEC+ group of producers as well as another production slump from a blacked-out Venezuela although rally has been capped by concerns that an economic slowdown will soon start denting growth in fuel demand
- China oil demand In February, China imported 10.23 million bpd, up 21.6 percent on the year. In January, imports stood at 10.03 million bpd, up 4.8 percent on the year
- Brent oil firm following EIA & API inventory report and OPEC+ production cut measures



Friday, March 15, 2019



- Venezuela- Power failure in Venezuela may cost nearly 700000 barrels per day of oil production; Venezuela's worst blackout on record has left most of the country without power for six days
- ▲ EIA and API reported a decline in crude oil inventory in last week
- Saudi oil minister Khalid al-Falih said on Sunday it would be too early to change OPEC+ output policy at the group's meeting in April, China and the U.S. would lead healthy global demand for oil this year

Outlook

■ Brent oil is likely to continue its bullish trend as OPEC+ production cut and US-China trade deal could further support oil prices in the short term. Immediate recovery can be seen towards the next level of resistance around \$67.80 per barrel and \$70.80. Meanwhile increasing US production levels and crude oil inventories may keep rally limited. Important support is seen around \$64.10 per barrel and \$62.80

COPPER IS IN THE RANGE BETWEEN 6375-6485 FROM LAST ONE WEEK, FOCUS ON BREXIT, US-CHINA TRADE TALK AND CHINA VAT

- US-China trade deal- U.S. President Trump said that he is in no rush to complete a trade pact with China, intellectual property, a major sticking point between the two sides
- Brexit UK lawmakers voted in favor of delaying the Brexit process and also rejected the second referendum. Prime Minister Theresa May will now ask European leaders to grant an extension
- China industrial output- China's industrial output grew 5.3% against market expectations of 5.5% in the first two months of this year, the slowest pace of expansion in 17 years
- China VAT- China will cut value-added tax (VAT) for manufacturing and other sectors on April 1st and social security fees from May 1st. VAT for the manufacturing sector will be cut by 3 percentage points to 13 %. On transport and construction will also be cut from 10% to 9%. Reduction in VAT may revive the economy and is projected to increase industrial metals demand

Outlook

■ Decreasing mine production and drying up inventories are keeping copper prices higher. Optimism over US-China trade talks could support copper prices further. Copper may find minor support around 6285; short-term trend remains positive above this level, meanwhile, immediate resistance is seen near 6544-6702

CHINA STEEL REBAR'S PRICES DROP MILLS ALLOWED TO RESUME SINTERING OPERATIONS

- Iron ore prices in China rose on after some steel mills were reportedly allowed to resume sintering operations. This may increase demand for iron ore and will increase steel production, turn out to be positive for iron prices and negative for steel prices
- Steel demand may pick up once China reduces VAT from 16% to 13% on manufacturing from April 1. According to local media, China's steel and iron industry will embrace a bullish outlook from urbanization and downstream demand after Vat cut. In a retrospective effect, the logistics expenditure will fall that will also strengthen the competitiveness of China's steel exports
- China will invest more in infrastructure construction as it pursues a new type of urbanization and the renovation of shanty towns which may lead to robust demand for construction steel Rebar

Outlook

■ China steel future recovered marginally from recent lows and found strong support near 3720; minor recovery can be seen towards the next level of resistance around 3877-3897 while immediate support is seen around 3782-3753. China's poor economic data may weigh on prices; markets await economic stimulus and any reduction in VAT for construction-related activity which may boost demand, US-China trade talks could provide further direction

Friday, March 15, 2019



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Prepared by:

Mr. Kamlesh Jogi | Market Research Analyst

email: kamlesh.jogi@abans.co.in
Phone: +91 22 68354176 (Direct)

Abans Broking Services (P) Limited

36, 37, 38A, 3rd Floor, 227 Nariman Bhavan, Backbay Reclamation, Nariman Point, Mumbai-400 021

Phone +91 22 61790000 | Fax +91 22 61790000

Email: info@abans.co.in | Website: www.abans.co.in

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