DAILY ANALYSIS REPORT * ABANS Monday, January 3, 2022

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- Crude oil prices are marginally up from Fridays closing and hovering around \$76 on mixed sentiments. Concerns over rapidly spreading COVID-19 pandemic are likely to keep oil prices under pressure. US health experts warned Americans to prepare for severe disruptions in coming weeks, with infection rates likely to worsen amid increased holiday travel, New Year celebrations and school reopening following winter breaks.
- Reduced jet fuel demand is weighing on crude prices after U.S. airlines cancelled more than 1,200 flights on Friday, adding to the thousands of flights cancelled the previous weekend due to winter weather and high Covid rates. Cathay Pacific Airways has virtually decreased the number of flights into Hong Kong from outside China beginning next month, while British Airways has announced that it would cancel flights into the UK until March. According to Bloomberg data, airlines throughout the world have cancelled 8.4% of flights scheduled for January in the last four weeks.
- Supply situation could in future as demand is slowing and production is expanding. As per Reuters survey, Brent crude would average \$73.57 a barrel in 2022, about 2% lower than \$75.33 consensus in November.
- Oil prices to get fresh direction from OPEC+ meeting which is scheduled for January 4th. OPEC+ will probably stick to their plan to add 400,000 barrels per day of supply in February.
- PDVSA, Venezuela's state-owned oil corporation, has surprised analysts by announcing a large increase in crude oil output for November 2021. In November 2021, Venezuela pumped an average of 824,000 barrels per day. This is a significant 9 percent rise over a month ago, and nearly double the 434,000 barrels per day produced in the same period a year ago.
- Libya's oil production is expected to plummet by 200,000 barrels per day over the next week as workers attempt to repair a broken pipeline. The new disruption comes less than two weeks after militiamen shut down the OPEC member's largest field, Sharara, resulting in a 350,000 barrel per day reduction in output. Libyan production will be reduced to around 700,000 barrels per day as a result of the shutdown, the lowest in more than a year.
- On economic data front, The China Dec manufacturing PMI unexpectedly rose +0.2 to 50.3, stronger than expectations of a decline to 50.0 and the fastest pace of expansion in 5 months. Also, the China Dec non-manufacturing PMI unexpectedly rose +0.4 to 52.7, stronger than expectations of a decline to 52.0.
- ▲ According to the weekly EIA data released last Wednesday, U.S. crude oil stockpiles were -7.7% lower than the seasonal 5-year average on December 24, gasoline inventories were -5.6% lower than the 5-year average, and distillate inventories were -13.3 percent lower than the 5-year normal.

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- Baker Hughes stated on Friday that active U.S. oil rigs remained constant at a 1-3/4-year high of 480 rigs in the week ending December 31.
- Total Long of crude oil futures fell -6 882 contracts to 340 255, according to the CFTC Commitments of Traders report for the week ended December 21. Longs were down -4 957 contracts, while shorts were up +1 925 contracts.

Outlook

■ WTI Crude oil prices are likely to get fresh direction from OPEC+ meeting tomorrow meanwhile immediate support level could be seen around \$75.4-\$72.70 and immediate resistance is seen around \$77.6-79.9

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