DAILY ANALYSIS REPORT Thursday, February 4, 2021



Silver is likely to find support from weaker dollar expectation Natural Gas prices are likely to trade frim while above \$2.58 Nickel prices are likely find support around \$17273



SILVER IS LIKELY TO FIND SUPPORT FROM WEAKER DOLLAR EXPECTATION

- Dollar moved highest levels in two months against other currencies and pushed precious metals prices down. Silver prices are currently trading near \$26.52, sharply lower from recent high of \$30.35 after CME increased margin on Silver. Also US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen has called a meeting of top officials that could clamp tougher markets regulation for hedge funds, small investors and stockbrokers.
- However silver is likely to find support from weaker dollar expectation and economic recovery post Covid era.
- Precious metals are likely to find support from progress on passing a \$1.9 trillion stimulus package. The Senate began debating a budget resolution for the 2021 fiscal year on Tuesday which is the first step towards passing the package propose by President Joe Biden in January.
- Dovish policy statement is likely to provide support to precious metals. The Bank of England is expected to keep both interest rates and quantitative easing steady. BOE is scheduled to announce these measures later today. Meanwhile, Minneapolis Fed President Kashkari said the economic recovery will be slow until the Covid pandemic is over. Also, St. Louis Fed President Bullard said downside economic risks remain due to virus mutations and that it's "too early" to discuss adjusting the Fed's bond buying. Australia's central banker pledged to keep interest rates near zero until there were enough jobs in the economy to push wages growth.
- On economic data front, The U.S. Jan ADP employment report rose +174,200 against expectations of +70,000. Also, the Jan ISM services index unexpectedly rose +1.0 to a 23-month high of 58.7, stronger than expectations of a decline to 56.7. The Eurozone Jan Markit composite PMI was revised upward to 47.8 from the previously reported 47.5. Eurozone Jan core CPI rose +1.4% y/y, stronger than expectations of +0.9% y/y and the biggest increase in 5-1/4 years. The Japan Jan Jibun Bank services PMI was revised upward to 46.1 from the previously reported 45.7.

Outlook

■ Silver prices are likely to trade firm while above key support levels of 50 day EMA of \$25.87 meanwhile it may face resistance near \$27.96-\$30.50

NATURAL GAS PRICES ARE LIKELY TO TRADE FRIM WHILE ABOVE \$2.58

- A Change in weather forecast pushed NG prices marginally lower after Maxar on Wednesday said that the coldest temperatures are not expected to invade as much of the Midwest and South next week as previously expected. Also, On Tuesday, the Global Forecast System said the central US will now be warmer than previously expected from Feb 12-16.
- However US domestic demand, export, production and inventory data is likely to provide support to prices, additionally as per Bloomberg data, US gas production on Wednesday was down -3.1%



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y/y to 90.893 bcf/d. and US NG flow to export terminal on Wednesday rose +18% y/y to 10.9 bcf. NG US domestic demand also rose on Wednesday by +13% y/y to 97.2 bcf.

■ Market consensus is for Thursday's weekly EIA inventories to fall -194 bcf, against the 5-year average for this time of year of -146 bcf. Last Thursday's weekly EIA report showed that nat-gas inventories the week of January 22 fell -128 bcf to a 7-1/2 month low of 2,881 bcf, against market expectations of -137 bcf. However NG Inventories are up +4.9% y/y and are +9.3% above the 5-year average.

Outlook

■ Natural Gas March expiry contract are likely to trade firm while above key support levels of 100 day EMA at \$2.58 while immediate resistance is seen around \$2.87-\$3.01

NICKEL PRICES ARE LIKELY FIND SUPPORT AROUND \$17273

- ▲ Nickel prices are trading near \$17,700, it may find strong support around \$17,273 on the backdrop of rising stainless steel future in China due to overhauls at steel mills. However we expect Nickel prices to trade negative on demand concern in China ahead of Holiday and rising number of Covid cases. China will celebrate its Lunar New Year holiday during Feb. 11-17.
- Nickel inventory on LME warehouse have increased nearly by 52224 mt in last one year now stand at 249078 mt as on 3rd Feb 2021 however inventory at SHFE warehouse have dropped nearly 27142 mt in last one year and now stand at 9563mt as on 3rd Feb 2021 which is indicative of strong physical demand in leading consumer China.
- According to research from Goldman Sachs China's growth is likely to moderate in the next few months. The policymakers are quite comfortable with the recovery so far and they might start pulling back on policy stimulus to some degree also China's recovery is uncertain after a resurgence of local outbreaks of Covid. It is likely to weigh on base metals demand in China.

Outlook

▲ Nickel prices are likely to find support around 50 days EMA at \$17,273 and 100 days EMA at \$16,429 while key resistance is seen around \$17,952-\$18,082.





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