
Dovish Central Bank policy stance has pushed gold prices higher
Weakness in the Dollar has provided support to oil prices
Stimulus from central banks is likely to support copper prices

DOVISH CENTRAL BANK POLICY STANCE HAS PUSHED GOLD PRICES HIGHER

- ▲ Gold prices have rallied to a 6-week high on Thursday, following dovish policy stance from the BOE, and an expansion of its QE programme.
- ▲ The BOE kept its main lending rate at 0.1% and voted to expand its target stock of U.K. government bond purchases to £895 billion (\$1.2 trillion). Last month, the BOE asked British banks about their preparedness for negative interest rates, having revealed in September that it was exploring the possibility of taking rates below zero if necessary. Since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic in March, the Bank has cut rates twice from 0.75% to 0.1%. Meanwhile UK Prime Minister, Boris Johnson's government has announced a new lockdown, running from Thursday upto December 2.
- ▲ Meanwhile, the US Federal Reserve has held interest rates steady in a range between 0%-0.25%, and the economy is still well below pre-pandemic levels. Fed officials have been vocal about the need for a more fiscal and possibly additional monetary support, but this week's meeting yielded no new policy initiatives from the Fed. Chairman Jerome Powell noted that he thinks the Fed still has plenty it can do to help the recovery.
- ▲ Dovish ECB comments from Vice President, Guindos, also provided support to gold. He has said that the Eurozone economic recovery is going to be "more sluggish" in 2021 than the ECB has previously projected.
- ▲ Meanwhile, the European Commission raised its Eurozone 2020 GDP estimate to -7.8% from a -8.7% estimate in July.
- ▲ On the economic data front, U.S. weekly initial unemployment claims fell -7,000 to 751,000, showing a weaker labour market than expectations for a decline to 735,000. Also, Eurozone September retail sales fell -2.0% m/m, weaker than expectations of -1.5% m/m, and the biggest decline in 5 months. In addition, German September factory orders rose +0.5% m/m, weaker than expectations of +2.0% m/m, and the smallest increase in 6 months.

Outlook

- ▲ Gold prices are likely to find support near the 20-days EMA at \$1,908 per ounce, and the 100-days EMA at \$1,886 per ounce. Meanwhile, key resistance is seen around \$1,966-\$1,986 per ounce.

WEAKNESS IN THE DOLLAR HAS PROVIDED SUPPORT TO OIL PRICES

- ▲ Crude oil prices on Thursday found support from weakness in the US Dollar and a rally in equities. The Dollar Index on Thursday fell to a 2-week low, and U.S. stock indices rallied sharply for the third day.
- ▲ However, the rally was capped due to global oil demand concerns, due to the pandemic. Saudi Arabia's Aramco cut its December official selling price (OSP) for its Arab Light crude to Asia by \$0.10 a barrel, setting it at a minus \$0.50 per barrel versus the Oman/Dubai average.
- ▲ The resurgence of Covid throughout the world has prompted countries to impose lockdowns in an attempt to slow the spread of the virus, which is leading to a loss of energy demand.
- ▲ A return of Iranian crude oil to global markets in 2021 is likely to be negative for the oil prices

in case Joe Biden wins the U.S. presidential election. Mr. Joe Biden is likely to re-enter the 2015 Iranian nuclear deal and provides sanctions relief to Iran.

- ▲ Crude oil prices are likely to find support from OPEC Secretary-General, Mohammad Barkindo's comments, when he said that OPEC and its allies would "accelerate" the recovery in oil markets at their next meeting scheduled for November 30 - December 1. His comments suggest that OPEC+ may maintain current crude production cuts, which stand at almost 8 million bpd.
- ▲ Meanwhile, Wednesday's weekly EIA data showed that U.S. crude oil inventories as of October 30, were +6.7% above the seasonal 5-year average, gasoline inventories were +4.1% above the 5-year average, and distillate inventories were +17.4% above the 5-year average. U.S. crude oil production in the week ended October 30 dropped -5.4% w/w, to 10.5 million bpd, and is down by -2.6 million bpd (-19.8%) from February's record-high of 13.1 million bpd.

Outlook

- ▲ WTI crude oil prices are likely to find stiff resistance near \$41.76-43.69 per barrel, while key support levels are found near \$36.85 and \$35.7 per barrel.

STIMULUS FROM CENTRAL BANKS IS LIKELY TO SUPPORT COPPER PRICES

- ▲ Copper prices are trading higher near \$6,850 per mt, following a weakness in the Dollar Index, and fresh stimulus from the Bank of England. However, political uncertainty in the US is likely to keep a lid on the prices.
- ▲ Meanwhile, Chile's copper mining industry saw a 17% drop in its production costs in the first half of 2020. Cash costs fell from \$1.45 per pound in the first six months of 2019 to \$1.21 per pound of copper produced during the same period in 2020. A strengthening dollar against the peso, as well as falling prices of key ingredients in the processing of copper, including sulfuric acid and diesel, contributed to the drop in costs.
- ▲ A union of workers at Chile's Candelaria copper mine, owned by Canada's Lundin Mining Corp, said late on Tuesday that it had rejected yet another contract offer from the company, and will push forward with a nearly month-long strike, which has shut down the mine. Candelaria produced 111,400 tons of copper in 2019.
- ▲ Copper inventory at LME monitored warehouses have dropped by -2600 mt, as on November 5. LME inventory now stands at 174,050 mt, which has dropped by -73,950 mt in the last one year, but has increased nearly 51,600 mt in the last three months as on November 5.

Outlook

- ▲ LME 3 month contract is likely to find support around the 50-days EMA at \$6,694, and the 100-days EMA at \$6,469 per mt. Meanwhile, an immediate resistance level could be seen around \$6,937-\$7,002 per mt.

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