

# Monday, November 20, 2023

# **Perspective**

Copper on the LME traded frim last week to their highest in nearly eight weeks on a softer dollar and hopes of improving demand after Chinese officials promised support to the country's property sector. The dollar slid to a two-month low as traders reaffirmed their belief that U.S. rates have peaked and turned their attention to when the Fed could begin cutting rates.

Meanwhile, China's central bank and financial regulators pledged to ensure financing support for the property sector and to work together to resolve local government debt risks. The real estate sector accounts for a large portion of consumption for copper and other base metals. A boost to the property sector is likely to support metals demand. The outlook for copper brightened as Beijing pledged to target CNY 1 trillion in manufacturing and infrastructure development, boosting demand.

Notably, China's refined copper production surged by 13.3% to 11.3 million metric tons YoY in October. Copper inventories at SHFE-monitored warehouses declined by 11.0% from the previous Friday. ICSG reported a 33,000 metric tons deficit in the global refined copper market in August, compared to a 30,000 metric tons deficit in July.

First Quantum Minerals last week reduced ore processing at Cobre Panama, one of the world's biggest copper mines, as protests against the project blocked port access. The world

Commodity	Copper	Aluminum	Zinc
Open	710.65	204.4	228.15
Close	711.5	203.40	227.15
Change	13.75	-1.40	-0.05
% Change	1.97%	-0.68%	-0.02%
Open Int.	4411	2818	3004
Change	-2928	-73	-1652
Pivot	709.7	203.7	227.5
Resistance	714.2	204.4	228.5
Support	707.0	202.7	226.1

LME Inventory Weekly Market Data							
Commodity	Copper	Nickel	Aluminum	Zinc			
Open	179925	43374	479650	69225			
Close	181275	44316	481775	133050			
Change	1350	942	2125	63825			
% Change	0.75%	2.17%	0.44%	92.20%			

will wait to see what happens in Panama. There's no doubt that on the mining side of things, it's pretty tight.

Aluminium has another story to say - China's aluminium imports rose for the fifth straight month in October, as buying appetite improved amid solid demand and expectations of reduced supply in the domestic market. China imported 351,065 metric tons of unwrought aluminium and products including primary metal and unwrought, alloyed aluminium last month. October imports climbed 5.8% from 331,716 tons imported in September and were up 78.7% YoY.

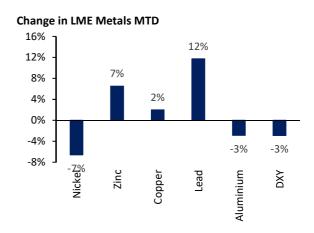
Aluminium smelters in south-western Yunnan province started cutting a total of 1.15 million tons of capacity in early November to comply with power curbs expected to last until April. Yunnan, with around 5.7 million tons of capacity, is the fourth-biggest aluminium producing region in China and accounts for around 12% of the country's total capacity. Imports of the light metal for the first 10 months were at 2.39 million tons, up 27.5% from the same period in 2022. China's imports of primary aluminium from Russia have surged 191% to 806,253 tons in the first nine months this year.

Imports of bauxite, rose 24.7% YoY to 11.1 million tons last month, underpinned by strong demand. Domestic output of primary aluminium hit a record monthly high, thanks to higher profits for smelters. Bauxite imports over the January-October period totalled 117.7 million metric tons, up 13.7% from a year earlier.

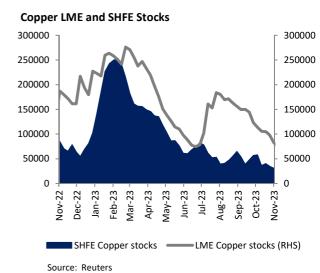
### **Outlook:**

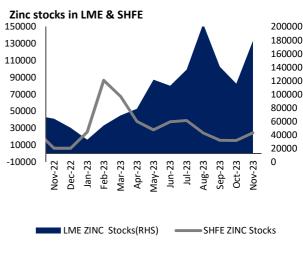
The dollar was on track for one of its steepest weekly falls against major currencies this year as concerns grow about the worsening global economic outlook. A weaker U.S. currency makes dollar-priced commodities less expensive for holders of other currencies. Although the global economic outlook is challenging, an expected improvement in manufacturing activity, the ongoing energy transition and the development of new semis production capacity in various countries should support higher growth over the next few months.





Source: - Reuters





Source: Reuters

# **Technical Outlook: -**



# Copper

In the last week, copper gave a positive close, with a gain of over 13 rupees or nearly +2.00%. This marked the positive close for the week. The 14- period RSI currently stands at 56, positioned above the midpoint, signalling market strength. Immediate support can be identified in the Rs.704 to 702 range, however it is poised to continue its upward march possibly reaching around Rs. 722 to 724. We have observed base formation at support region followed by a consolidation range breakout. The expected target range for a potential upward movement would be between Rs. 730 and 735.



## Zinc

In last week, zinc witnessed a negative closure, with a loss of more than 1.00 rupee or - 0.53%. The 14- period Relative Strength Index (RSI) currently stands at 57, positioned above the midpoint, signalling market strength. It is placed in an upward sloping channel where immediate support can be identified in the Rs. 223 to 222 range. Nevertheless, we anticipate a corrective rally, possibly reaching around Rs. 235 to 237. The expected target range for a potential upward movement would be between Rs. 240 and 241.

# **Aluminium**

In Last week, aluminium prices saw a negative close of over 1.50 rupees, equivalent to a loss of 0.76%. The 14- period Relative Strength Index (RSI) currently stands at 51, positioned above the midpoint, signalling market strength. We anticipate a retracement on the upside, however prices could encounter significant resistance around the Rs. 209- 210 level. If there is a successful breakthrough and closure above this resistance level, it has the ability to push prices towards the range of Rs. 214 to 215. For now, the immediate support level stands at Rs. 200. Below that, a crucial support region is placed at Rs. 195.







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