

Friday, March 22, 2024

# **Overview**

- Gold and silver feel the brunt of renewed strength in dollar
- Oil prices pressured on possible Gaza ceasefire talks
- Japan inflation rate rose to 3-month high

## **Precious Metals**

Gold eased slightly, hitting pause after a blistering rally amidst Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell hinted that the central bank was on course for three interest rate cuts in 2024. Despite recent high inflation readings, Governor Powell said the central bank is still likely to reduce interest rates by three-quarters of a percentage point by end-2024. US central bank raised inflation and growth forecast, mentioning that inflation is still sticky the Fed will continue to be data dependent. Traders are now pricing in a 72% chance that the Fed will begin cutting rates in June, up from 55% before the rate decision. The sentiment of at least 75bps rate cut this year, gave a boost to safe haven assets, along with that Fed also hinted on slowing the balance sheet runoff soon. After a good run up, both Gold and Silver witnessed some profit booking Dollar Index also inched higher from the recent low of ~102.90. On data front, preliminary Manufacturing and Services PMI were reported better than expectations. It will now be important to see how the Fed officials prepare the market from here on. Focus today will be on Governor Powell's speech. Gold, on domestic front, is expected to trade in a range of Rs. 65,600- 66,500.

| Precious metals | Close (\$)        | %Chg.      |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------|
| Gold            | 2203.1            | 0.8%       |
| Silver          | 25.64             | 0.1%       |
| CFTC data       | Speculative Longs | Change WoW |
| Gold            | 159560            | 28500      |
| Silver          | 26661             | 11131      |
| ETF             | Close             | %Chg.      |
| GOLD ETF        | 1938.3            | 3.53       |
| Silver ETF      | 24733             | -110.94    |
| Others          | Close             | %Chg.      |
| DXY             | 103.84            | -0.6%      |
| US 10Y Yields   | 4.26              | -0.6%      |

## **Base Metals**

Base metals rose strongly in early trading amid a risk-on tone across markets. US existing homes sales surged 9.5% last month, while US manufacturing activity expanded the most since June 2022. In China, electric vehicle sales almost double month-onmonth in March on price cuts, according to China's Passenger Car Association. Zinc led the gains after Glencore announced it would temporarily cease operations at its McArthur River mine in Australia due to a cyclone. China's Yunnan province which is a major producer of aluminium suing hydropower to fuel its smelters is facing drought conditions. Rebound in Dollar index from their recent lows weighed on metal prices. Market participants continue to believe that there could be some tweaks in the Reserve Requirement Ratio (RRR) keeping the sentiments on the higher side.

## Energy

Oil prices remained pressured amidst Gaza ceasefire talks and renewed strength in the dollar. A Reuters report showed that the U.S. is set to table a U.N. draft resolution on Friday demanding an immediate ceasefire in Gaza lasting about six weeks which could ease geopolitical concerns. Also, EIA data showed that gasoline product supplies in the US, a key factor for demand, fell below 9 million barrels for the first time in three weeks, suggesting weaker consumption. Natural gas prices slumped almost 2% amid low demand and abundant domestic supply. In the week ending March 15th, US utilities expanded their natural gas storage by 7 bcf to 2,325 billion cubic feet, exceeding market estimates of a 4 bcf build; indicating the likely end to the seasonal draw trend.

| Base Metals (MCX) |          | Close (Rs.) | %0       | %Chg. |  |  |
|-------------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------|--|--|
| Copper            |          | 754         | -1.      | 2%    |  |  |
| Aluminium         |          | 204P        | -0.      | 4%    |  |  |
| Nickel            |          | 1486        | -1.      | 5%    |  |  |
| Lead              |          | 178         | -0.      | 5%    |  |  |
| Zinc              | Zinc     |             | -1.      | 4%    |  |  |
| Inventory         |          | Current     | W/W Chg. | Units |  |  |
| Copper            | LME      | 112325      | 5625     | MT    |  |  |
|                   | Shanghai | 286395      | 47150    | MT    |  |  |
| Aluminum          | LME      | 566325      | -100     | MT    |  |  |
|                   | Shanghai | 206417      | 22153    | MT    |  |  |
| Nickel            | LME      | 77754       | 102      | MT    |  |  |
|                   | Shanghai | 15330       | 0        | MT    |  |  |
| Lead              | LME      | 267075      | 67300    | MT    |  |  |
|                   | Shanghai | 67135       | 4325     | MT    |  |  |
| Zinc              | LME      | 270525      | 3325     | MT    |  |  |
| 21110             | Shanghai | 119584      | 10913    | MT    |  |  |

| Energy        | Close (\$) | %Chg. |
|---------------|------------|-------|
| WTI Crude oil | 81.71      | 0.2%  |
| Natural gas   | 1.71       | -2.6% |

| Inventory ( EIA) | Current | W/W<br>Chg. | Units |
|------------------|---------|-------------|-------|
| Crude oil        | 445.04  | -1.95       | Mnbl  |
| Gasoline         | 230.77  | -3.31       | Mnbl  |
| Distillate       | 118.52  | 0.62        | Mnbl  |
| Natural Gas      | 3.13    | -0.21       | bcf   |

| CFTC data   | Speculative<br>Longs | Change WoW |
|-------------|----------------------|------------|
| Crude oil   | 169893               | -14067     |
| Natural Gas | -98042               | 8666       |

MT- Metric Ton, MNBL – Million Barrel, BCF –Billion Cubic Feet.

# **Options Monitor**

## MCX Gold Mini

|             | Call |        |         | Particulars |         | Р      | ut   |             |
|-------------|------|--------|---------|-------------|---------|--------|------|-------------|
| % Chg in Ol | OI   | Volume | Premium | Strike      | Premium | Volume | OI   | % Chg in OI |
| 0.0%        | 26   | 2      | 1930.5  | 63500       | 14      | 55     | 139  | 0.0%        |
| -1.5%       | 333  | 20     | 1467    | 64000       | 39.5    | 821    | 1523 | -10.5%      |
| 0.0%        | 15   | 3      | 1024.5  | 64500       | 84.5    | 137    | 158  | 7.5%        |
| -8.5%       | 443  | 633    | 672     | 65000       | 207     | 1516   | 1241 | 0.4%        |
| 11.3%       | 148  | 712    | 404.5   | 65500       | 424.5   | 437    | 151  | 79.8%       |
| -11.0%      | 1115 | 3277   | 222.5   | 66000       | 720     | 192    | 177  | 25.5%       |
| 26.7%       | 57   | 127    | 91.5    | 66500       | 979.5   | 0      | 0    | 0.0%        |
| 6.3%        | 1127 | 727    | 34.5    | 67000       | 1450    | 0      | 0    | 0.0%        |
| 0.0%        | 7    | 0      | 34      | 67500       | 1943    | 0      | 0    | 0.0%        |

## MCX Crude Oil

|             | Call |        | Particulars |        |         | P      | Put  |             |  |
|-------------|------|--------|-------------|--------|---------|--------|------|-------------|--|
| % Chg in OI | OI   | Volume | Premium     | Strike | Premium | Volume | OI   | % Chg in OI |  |
| 22.3%       | 1463 | 5471   | 399.9       | 6600   | 149.6   | 35090  | 4469 | -29.8%      |  |
| 70.6%       | 29   | 173    | 362         | 6650   | 167     | 5695   | 556  | -5.0%       |  |
| 3.5%        | 4313 | 30118  | 327.3       | 6700   | 189.2   | 70110  | 5934 | -35.2%      |  |
| 8.3%        | 727  | 8365   | 295         | 6750   | 211.2   | 18055  | 992  | -17.3%      |  |
| 124.3%      | 6436 | 103644 | 270.2       | 6800   | 239.4   | 93120  | 2724 | -62.3%      |  |
| 220.4%      | 1275 | 15697  | 239.7       | 6850   | 266.3   | 5464   | 145  | -66.0%      |  |
| 119.5%      | 4595 | 74084  | 216.3       | 6900   | 294.8   | 29594  | 639  | -73.0%      |  |
| 5.6%        | 266  | 3364   | 192         | 6950   | 321.9   | 268    | 35   | 20.7%       |  |
| 66.0%       | 4334 | 46321  | 170.3       | 7000   | 361     | 6105   | 328  | -68.0%      |  |

### **MCX Natural Gas**

|             | Call  |        |         | Particulars |         | Pu     | t     |             |
|-------------|-------|--------|---------|-------------|---------|--------|-------|-------------|
| % Chg in OI | OI    | Volume | Premium | Strike      | Premium | Volume | OI    | % Chg in OI |
| 0.0%        | 2     | 0      | 34.6    | 110         | 0.05    | 57     | 2405  | 0.8%        |
| -3.0%       | 350   | 166    | 23.85   | 120         | 0.05    | 2355   | 5946  | 2.2%        |
| 2.1%        | 960   | 6982   | 14.8    | 130         | 0.1     | 11871  | 6295  | -11.2%      |
| -13.3%      | 1037  | 26863  | 10.05   | 135         | 0.35    | 38862  | 6664  | 21.9%       |
| 18.5%       | 8185  | 124655 | 5.95    | 140         | 255     | 167404 | 10350 | -13.7%      |
| 37.7%       | 17194 | 142720 | 2.95    | 145         | 4.15    | 141805 | 4250  | -21.4%      |
| 16.0%       | 21366 | 105409 | 1.35    | 150         | 8.4     | 56443  | 4667  | -16.9%      |
| -2.4%       | 19888 | 15468  | 0.25    | 160         | 18.2    | 3845   | 2350  | -20.4%      |
| -6.1%       | 10770 | 5190   | 0.1     | 170         | 28.3    | 211    | 533   | -17.7%      |

# Level Playing Sheet

| Commodity   | Exch. | Expiry | Close  | S2     | S1     | Pivot  | R1     | R2     | Trend   | Conviction | Intraday Range |
|-------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|------------|----------------|
| Castor Seed | NCDEX | Apr    | 5,991  | 5,788  | 5,889  | 5,944  | 6,045  | 6,100  | Bearish | Moderate   | 5917 - 6073    |
| Cocudakl    | NCDEX | Apr    | 2,612  | 2,604  | 2,608  | 2,612  | 2,616  | 2,620  | Bearish | Moderate   | 2610 - 2618    |
| Cotton      | NCDEX | Mar    | 62,540 | 62,220 | 62,380 | 62,640 | 62,800 | 63,060 | Bearish | Moderate   | 62300 - 62720  |
| Dhaniya     | NCDEX | Apr    | 7,740  | 7,545  | 7,643  | 7,715  | 7,813  | 7,885  | Bearish | Moderate   | 7679 - 7849    |
| Jeera       | NCDEX | Mar    | 25,910 | 25,303 | 25,607 | 25,903 | 26,207 | 26,503 | Bearish | Moderate   | 25755 - 26355  |
| Guar Seed   | NCDEX | Apr    | 5,180  | 5,116  | 5,148  | 5,168  | 5,200  | 5,220  | Bearish | Moderate   | 5158 - 5210    |
| Guar Gum    | NCDEX | Apr    | 10,027 | 9,849  | 9,938  | 9,994  | 10,083 | 10,139 | Bearish | Moderate   | 9966 - 10111   |
| Mentha Oil  | MCX   | Mar    | 934    | 924    | 929    | 936    | 941    | 947    | Bearish | Moderate   | 926 - 938      |
| Turmeric    | NCDEX | Apr    | 17,736 | 17,155 | 17,445 | 17,713 | 18,003 | 18,271 | Bearish | Moderate   | 17579 - 18137  |

| Commodity    | Exch. | Expiry | Close  | S2    | <b>S1</b> | Pivot | R1    | R2    | Trend   | Conviction | Intraday<br>Range |
|--------------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|---------|------------|-------------------|
| Gold         | MCX   | Apr    | 65750  | 65399 | 65575     | 65715 | 65891 | 66031 | Bullish | Moderate   | 65645 - 65961     |
| Gold Comex   | Comex | Mar    | 2158   | 2130  | 2144      | 2165  | 2179  | 2200  | Bearish | Moderate   | 2154 - 2189       |
| Silver       | MCX   | May    | 75313  | 74642 | 74977     | 75240 | 75575 | 75838 | Bearish | Moderate   | 74810 - 75408     |
| Silver Comex | Comex | Apr    | 24.98  | 24.30 | 24.64     | 25.16 | 25.49 | 26.01 | Bearish | Moderate   | 25 - 26           |
| Crude        | MCX   | Mar    | 6748   | 6643  | 6695      | 6784  | 6836  | 6925  | Bearish | Moderate   | 6669 - 6810       |
| Crude Nymex  | Nymex | Apr    | 81.68  | 80.34 | 81.01     | 82.11 | 82.78 | 83.88 | Bearish | Moderate   | 81 - 82           |
| Nat Gas      | MCX   | Mar    | 142    | 138   | 140       | 143   | 145   | 148   | Bearish | Moderate   | 139 - 144         |
| BullDex      | MCX   | Mar    | 16779  | 16702 | 16740     | 16781 | 16819 | 16860 | Bullish | Moderate   | 16721 - 16800     |
| Copper       | MCX   | Mar    | 753.60 | 747   | 750       | 754   | 757   | 761   | Bearish | Moderate   | 749 - 756         |
| Zinc         | MCX   | Mar    | 218.70 | 217   | 218       | 219   | 220   | 220   | Bearish | Moderate   | 218 - 220         |
| Lead         | MCX   | Mar    | 178    | 176   | 177       | 178   | 178   | 179   | Bearish | Moderate   | 177 - 178         |
| Aluminum     | MCX   | Mar    | 204.05 | 203   | 204       | 204   | 205   | 205   | Bearish | Moderate   | 203 - 204         |

#### Navneet Damani

#### Head Research- Currencies and Commodities

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