



Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Trade & Economic Data

Oil prices saw a sharp sell-off last week, marking a 5% weekly decline as markets await upcoming talks between U.S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin on the Ukraine conflict. Hopes for a potential peace deal are raising expectations that sanctions on Russian oil could be eased, which would boost global supply and put further downward pressure on prices. So far this year, oil prices are down more than 10% as OPEC+ members have increased production faster than anticipated, ending supply cuts implemented in 2023. Market sentiment is being shaped by optimism over a possible Ukraine ceasefire, pressure on nations importing Russian oil, and broader concerns about the global economy, including U.S. inflation figures and new tariffs. Traders are closely watching the Trump–Putin meeting, as peace agreement could exacerbate the oversupply expected later in the year.

President Trump has imposed an additional 25% tariff on all Indian imports in response to India's continued purchases of Russian crude oil, raising the total tariff rate to 50%—one of the highest applied by the U.S. to any trade partner. Wall Street analysts warn that this move could endanger up to 3.5 Mbpd of global oil supply, as it disrupts a major channel for Russian crude. The possibility of a Trump–Putin meeting has added further volatility to oil markets, as outcomes from such talks could influence the scope of tariffs and secondary sanctions on Indian oil dealings. With the U.S. deadline for a Russia–Ukraine peace deal expiring today, the risk remains high that Washington may impose even harsher measures against Moscow if no agreement is reached.

In response to these escalating tariffs and geopolitical uncertainty, Indian refiners have begun seeking alternative sources of oil. Two major state-controlled refiners recently secured deals for about 22 Mbs of non-

Crude Oil			
Exchange	MCX	NYMEX-WTI	ICE-Brent
Open	5600	63.85	66.42
Close	5610	63.88	66.59
1 Week Chg.	10	0.03	0.17
%change	-4.71%	-5.12%	-4.42%
OI	11635	277087	0
OI change	4004	-61695	0
Pivot	5595	63.74	66.45
Resistance	5678	64.72	67.36
Support	5526	62.91	65.67

Natural Gas		
Exchange	MCX	NYMEX-NG
Open	270	3.086
Close	260.8	2.99
1 Week Chg.	-9.2	-0.10
%change	-3.41%	-3.11%
OI	37713	221966
OI change	4.23%	-20.93%
Pivot	264.5	3.02
Resistance	269.0	3.08
Support	256.4	2.93

Front Month Calendar Spread		
Exchange	MCX	NYMEX(\$)
1st month	-61	-1.49
2nd month	-42	-0.39

WTI-Brent spread\$	
1st month	-0.67
2nd month	-0.43

Russian crude to be delivered over next few months in effort to reduce reliance on Russian supplies and mitigate impact of U.S. penalties.

On the EIA inventory front, U.S. commercial crude oil inventories fell by 3 Mbs to 423.7 Mbs. Crude oil held in the SPR totaled 403.0 Mbs, up slightly from 402.7 Mbs a week earlier, and significantly higher than the 375.8 Mbs recorded. For product stocks, total U.S. petroleum inventories reached 1.662 Mbs. This represents a 2.3 Mbs increase from the previous week but a 3.3 Mbs decline compared to same week last year. The EIA noted that commercial crude stocks are approximately 6% below 5yr seasonal average. Motor gasoline inventories fell by 1.3 Mbs and are around 1% below 5yr average, with both finished gasoline and blending component stocks declining. Distillate fuel inventories dropped by 0.6 Mbs and remain 16% below seasonal average.

On a positive note, China's crude oil imports rose sharply in July, climbing 11.5% YoY to an average of 11.2 Mbpd. However, this was still 5.4% lower than in June, when imports spiked to 12.14 million bpd — the highest in nearly two years. The June surge was driven by restocking after refinery maintenance and opportunistic purchases by independent refiners taking advantage of steep discounts on sanctioned crude.

Globally, the oil market has proved tighter than many expected, even with the rollback of OPEC+ production cuts. This is partly because the group has not been restoring output at the full pace it pledged. Nevertheless, these supply-side factors have not been enough to offset the dampening effect of tariffs on overall market sentiment.

Crude oil prices are expected to remain in a narrow range as markets await clarity on potential new sanctions and trade negotiations. This week, market participants will focus on monthly reports from IEA, EIA, and OPEC to assess demand-supply dynamics. Additionally, more news on tariffs and sanctions could inject further volatility into crude market

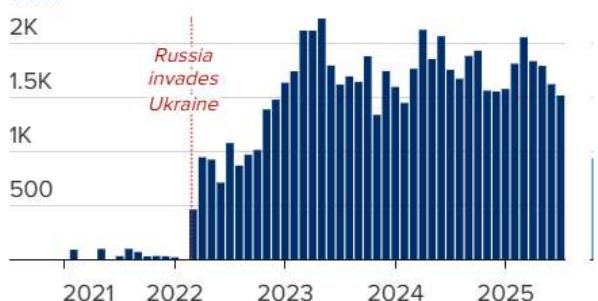
Natural gas prices experienced a choppy week, driven by mixed fundamentals and shifting weather forecasts, resulting in a pattern where rallies were sold and dips were bought. Demand remained subdued, with most of the reduction in projected consumption coming in the 10–15 day range due to cooler conditions along the East Coast. On the bullish side, LNG feedgas nominations remain strong at above 17 Bcf (subject to revisions), and intense heat pattern is expected over the next 8–9 days. This week's production data will be closely watched to see if U.S. output stays near 107 Bcf. The latest Baker Hughes rig count ended a three-week streak of gas rig additions, showing a decline of one unit.

Traders are monitoring whether power burns can reach 50 Bcf/day. For the 10–15 day period, forecasts have shifted cooler as high pressure moves from the eastern two-thirds of the country to the western two-thirds. Wind power generation is expected to ease in the short term before picking up again later in the week.

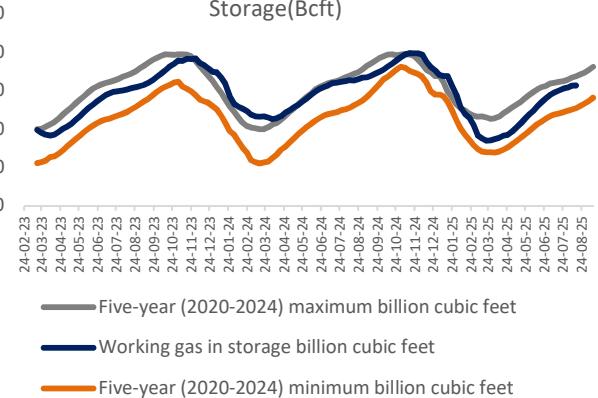
Russian oil exports since 2021

Thousands of barrels | January 2021–July 2025

India



Working Natural Gas in Underground Storage(Bcft)



U.S. natural gas supplies are robust at 3,100 Bcf, and the upcoming EIA report is expected to show an injection moderately above the five-year average, pushing surpluses toward +200 Bcf. The next two storage builds should be smaller than average due to the current heat, but the fourth week out could see a larger build. On the hurricane front, while the Gulf of Mexico threat has eased, an approaching low-pressure system in the Atlantic is expected to reduce natural gas demand in the eastern U.S. from August 19–22. Overall, end-of-season storage is still projected to be ample, likely near or above 3,900 Bcf. Weather model updates will be crucial in confirming whether the current cooler trends persist.

Crude Oil:

In the previous week, Crude oil prices experienced significant volatility and closed on a negative note with a loss of 268 rupees, representing a 4.56% loss. The prices on the daily chart are exhibiting a breakdown from a symmetrical triangle pattern after failing to sustain above the resistance at 5,850. The price has slipped below the 21-day EMA, indicating a shift in short-term momentum toward bearish territory. The immediate support is placed at S1- 5,500, followed by a deeper downside potential toward S2- 5,200 if selling pressure persists. On the upside, any recovery will face resistance at 5,850 (R1) and 6,100 (R2). The RSI is trending below 50 level with bearish crossover, reflecting weakening buying momentum and suggesting possibility of further downside in the near term unless a strong reversal signal emerges.



Natural Gas:

In the previous week, Natural gas prices closed on a negative note, registering a drop of Rs 8.80 or 3.26%. The prices on the daily chart have extended their decline after breaching the ascending trend line support near 280, confirming a bearish breakout. The contract is trading well below the 21-day EMA, indicating sustained downside momentum. Immediate support is aligned at S1 244, and a breakdown below this level could accelerate weakness toward S2 230. The RSI remains below the 50 mark and is showing a downward bias, suggesting prevailing bearish sentiment and the likelihood of continued selling pressure in the near term. The overall trend remains bearish, with a sell on rise strategy recommended, targeting levels between 244 and 230. Key resistance levels are identified at 270 and 280 levels, respectively.



Navneet Damani	Research-Head	navneetdamani@motilaloswal.com
Shweta Shah	Analyst- Energy	shweta.vshah@motilaloswal.com

For any details contact:

Commodities Advisory Desk - +91 22 3958 3600

commoditiesresearch@motilaloswal.com**Commodity Disclosure & Disclaimer:**

The following Disclosures are being made in compliance with the SEBI Research Analyst Regulations 2014 (herein after referred to as the Regulations).

Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd. (MOFSL) is a SEBI Registered Research Analyst having registration no. INH000000412. MOFSL, the Research Entity (RE) as defined in the Regulations, is engaged in the business of providing Stock broking services, Depository participant services & distribution of various financial products. MOFSL is a listed public company, the details in respect of which are available on www.motilaloswal.com. MOFSL is registered with the Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and is a registered Trading Member with National Stock Exchange of India Ltd. (NSE) and Bombay Stock Exchange Limited (BSE), Multi Commodity Exchange of India Limited (MCX) and National Commodity & Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX) for its stock broking activities & is Depository participant with Central Depository Services Limited (CDSL) National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL), NERL, COMRIS and CCRL and is member of Association of Mutual Funds of India (AMFI) for distribution of financial products and Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority of India (IRDA) as Corporate Agent for insurance products. Details of associate entities of Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd. are available on the website at <http://online.reports.motilaloswal.com/Dormant/documents/Associate%20Details.pdf>

Details of pending Enquiry Proceedings of Motilal Oswal Financial Services Limited are available on the website at <https://galaxy.motilaloswal.com/ResearchAnalyst/PublishViewLitigation.aspx>

Terms & Conditions:

- This document is not for public distribution and has been furnished to you solely for your information and must not be reproduced or redistributed to any other person. Persons into whose possession this document may come are required to observe these restrictions.
- This material is for the personal information of the authorized recipient and we are not soliciting any action based upon it.
- This report is not to be construed as an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy any commodity or commodity derivative to any person in any jurisdiction where such an offer or solicitation would be illegal.
- It is for the general information of clients of MOFSL. It doesn't constitute a personal recommendation or take into account the particular investment objectives, financial situations, or needs of individual clients.
- The report and information contained herein is strictly confidential and may not be altered in any way, transmitted to, copied or distributed, in part or in whole, to any other person or to the media or reproduced in any form, without prior written consent of MOFSL.
- The report is based on the facts, figures and information that are considered true, correct, reliable and accurate.
- All such information and opinions are subject to change without notice.
- Though disseminated to all the customers simultaneously, not all customers may receive this report at the same time. MOFSL will not treat recipients as customers by virtue of their receiving this report.
- We have reviewed the report, and in so far as it includes current or historical information, it is believed to be reliable though its accuracy or completeness cannot be guaranteed.
- Neither MOFSL nor any person connected with it, accepts any liability arising from the use of this document.
- The recipients of this material should rely on their own investigations and take their own professional advice. Price and value of the commodity referred to in this material may go up or down. Past performance is not a guide for future performance.
- Certain transactions including those involving commodity derivatives involve substantial risk and are not suitable for all investors.
- Reports based on technical analysis centers on studying charts of a commodity's price movement and trading volume as opposed to focusing on a commodity's fundamentals and as such may not match with a report on a commodity's fundamentals.
- Proprietary trading desk of MOFSL or its associates maintains arm's length distance with Research Team as all the activities are segregated from MOFSL research activity and therefore it can have an independent view with regards to subject commodity for which Research Team have expressed their views.
- MOFSL or its associates or Research Analyst or his relatives may have Open Position in subject commodity.
- A graph of daily closing prices of commodities is available at <http://www.moneyline.co.in/>
- Opinions expressed are our current opinions as of the date appearing on this material only. Prospective investors and others are cautioned that any forward-looking statements are not predictions and may be subject to change without notice.
- The commodities discussed and opinions expressed in this report may not be suitable for all investors, who must make their own investment decisions, based on their own investment objectives, financial positions and needs of specific recipient.
- This may not be taken in substitution for the exercise of independent judgment by any recipient. Each recipient of this document should make such investigations as it deems necessary to arrive at an independent evaluation of an investment in the securities of companies referred to in this document (including the merits and risks involved), and should consult its own advisors to determine the merits and risks of such an investment.
- The Company reserves the right to make modifications and alterations to this statement as may be required from time to time without any prior approval. MOFSL, its associates, their directors and the employees may from time to time, effect or have effected an own account transaction in, or deal as principal or agent in or for the commodities mentioned in this document.
- The views expressed are those of the analyst, and the Company may or may not subscribe to all the views expressed therein.
- The commodities described herein may or may not be eligible for trade in all jurisdictions or to certain category of investors. Persons in whose possession this document may come are required to inform themselves of and to observe such restriction. Neither the Firm, nor its directors, employees, agents or representatives shall be liable for any damages whether direct or indirect, incidental, special or consequential including lost revenue or lost profits that may arise from or in connection with the use of the information. The person accessing this information specifically agrees to exempt MOFSL or any of its affiliates or employees from, any and all responsibility/liability arising from such misuse and agrees not to hold MOFSL or any of its affiliates or employees responsible for any such misuse and further agrees to hold MOFSL or any of its affiliates or employees free and harmless from all losses, costs, damages, expenses that may be suffered by the person accessing this information due to any errors and delays.
- Certain transactions -including those involving futures, options, another derivative products as well as non-investment grade securities - involve substantial risk and are not suitable for all investors.
- MOFSL and its associate company(ies), their directors and Research Analyst and their relatives may (a) from time to time, have long or short positions in, and buy or sell the commodities mentioned herein or (b) be engaged in any other transaction involving such commodities and earn brokerage or other compensation or act as a market maker in the commodity/ (ies) discussed herein or have other potential conflict of interest with respect to any recommendation and related information and opinions. However the same shall have no bearing whatsoever on the specific recommendations made by the analyst(s), as the recommendations made by the analyst(s) are completely independent of the views of the associates of MOFSL even though there might exist an inherent conflict of interest in some of the commodities mentioned in the research report.
- MOFSL and its associates and Research Analyst have not received any compensation or other benefits in connection with the research report. Compensation of Research Analysts is not based on any brokerage transactions generated by broking activities under Motilal Oswal group.

This report is meant for the clients of Motilal Oswal only.

Investment in securities market are subject to market risks. Read all the related documents carefully before investing.

Registration granted by SEBI and certification from NISM in no way guarantee performance of the intermediary or provide any assurance of returns to investors

Registered Office Address: Motilal Oswal Tower, Rahimtullah Sayani Road, Opposite Patel ST Depot, Prabhadevi, Mumbai-400025; Tel No.: 022 - 71934200 / 71934263; www.motilaloswal.com. Correspondence Address: Palm Spring Centre, 2nd Floor, Palm Court Complex, New Link Road, Malad (West), Mumbai- 400 064. Tel No: 022 71881000. Details of Compliance Officer: Neera Agarwal, Email Id: na@motilaloswal.com, Contact No.: 022-40548085.

Grievance Redressal Cell:

Contact Person	Contact No.	Email ID
Ms. Hemangi Date	022 40548000 / 022 67490600	query@motilaloswal.com
Ms. Kumud Upadhyay	022 40548082	servicehead@motilaloswal.com
Mr. Ajay Menon	022 40548083	am@motilaloswal.com

Registration details of group entities.: Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd. (MOFSL): IN2000158836 (BSE/NSE/MCX/NCDEX); CDSL and NSDL: IN-DP-16-2015; Research Analyst: INH000000412 . AMFI: ARN.: 146822. IRDA Corporate Agent – CA0579. Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd. is a distributor of Mutual Funds, PMS, Fixed Deposit, Insurance, Bond, NCDs and IPO products.

Customer having any query/feedback/ clarification may write to query@motilaloswal.com. In case of grievances for any of the services rendered by Motilal Oswal Financial Services Limited (MOFSL) write to grievances@motilaloswal.com, for DP to dp_grievances@motilaloswal.com.