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KHANIJ SAMACHAR

Vol. 7, No-12

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खनिज समाचार

KHANIJ SAMACHAR



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VOL. 7, NO -12 , 16th - 30th JUNE 2023

COMMODITY CALL.

Buy copper futures now



Akhil Nallamuthu
bl. Research Bureau

Copper futures on the MCX has been on a recovery ever since it took support at ₹700 in the final week of May. The rally extended in the following weeks and the contract broke out of a key resistance at ₹730 on Wednesday. Thus, the short-term outlook has turned positive. Currently, June futures of copper are trading at ₹728 after they rose to a five-week high of ₹732.45 on Wednesday. There is a chance for it to soften to ₹725. However, we expect copper futures to eventually resume the upswing and move up to ₹750.

On the other hand, if the contract falls below ₹725, it is expected to find a rising trendline support at ₹723. A drop below this trendline can attract fresh sellers, leading to a sharp fall in price, possibly to ₹710 or even ₹700. Nevertheless, copper futures are trading with a bullish bias as it has invalidated the resistance at ₹730.

One can buy copper futures at the current level of ₹728. Add more longs in case the price dips to ₹725. Place initial stop-loss at ₹718. When the contract rallies past ₹738, modify the stop-loss to ₹730. When the contract touches ₹745, tighten stop-loss further to ₹738. Book profits at ₹750.

UK removes countervailing tariff on steel bar, rod imports from India

Press Trust of India
London

The UK government has announced the removal of up to 4 per cent countervailing tariff on stainless steel bars and rods imported from India due to a perceived low impact on local suppliers.

The UK's Trade Remedies Authority (TRA) said on Thursday that its recommendation that the countervailing measure on imports of stainless steel bars and rods from India be revoked has been agreed by the government.

TO OFFSET IMPORTS

Countervailing measures are put in place to offset imports being sold at unfair prices due to government subsidies in their country of origin.

They are one of three types of trade remedies that are allowed under World Trade Organization (WTO) rules.



BIG PLAYER. In 2022, India was UK's third biggest source of stainless steel bars and rods in terms of tonnage

The TRA concluded that although subsidised imports would continue from India if the countervailing measure were no longer applied, it is unlikely that the UK industry would be injured if the measure was no longer in place.

'LOW RISK'

Trade association UK Steel said there is "minimal supply

to the UK market of stainless steel bars and rods by UK producers and therefore very low risk of injury resulting from the removal of the measure".

According to official statistics, in 2022 India accounted for the UK's third biggest source of stainless steel bars and rods in tonnage.

The measure meant that importers were required to

pay a tariff of 0 to 4 per cent. However, the TRA's investigation found that neither domestic and international market conditions or historic injury data suggested that injury to UK producers would occur if the measure were revoked.

"Therefore, while the TRA concluded UK producers would not be harmed by revoking the measure, doing so would help to ensure competitively-priced imports from India continue," the TRA said.

Stainless Steel bars and rods are used across various industries, including the automotive, aerospace and food processing industries.

The bars and rods can either be used as a specific component in a larger product, for example as a propeller shaft, or they can be further worked into other stainless-steel products, for example, precision components.

नराकास की बैठक, पुरस्कार वितरित

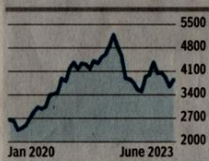
नागपुर, बिजनेस कनेक्ट. नगर राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति (नराकास) की छमाही समीक्षा बैठक एवं पुरस्कार वितरण का कार्यक्रम सम्पन्न हुआ. बैठक की अध्यक्षता मनोज

कुमार अध्यक्ष, नराकास (का.-2) एवं सीएमडी, वेस्टर्न कोलफील्ड्स लिमिटेड ने की. बैठक में विशिष्ट अतिथि के रूप में डॉ. संजय कुमार निदेशक (कार्मिक), डॉ. महेश सुरेश खुमकर, आईडीएस, वायु सेना तथा डॉ. वाई. जी. काले, खान नियंत्रक एवं राजभाषा अधिकारी, भारतीय खान ब्यूरो उपस्थित रहे. सुष्मिता भट्टाचार्य वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंस से जुड़ीं. कुमार ने कहा कि हिंदी देश की अखंडता में अपनी सार्थक भूमिका निभाती है. हिंदी भाषा के प्रचार-प्रसार को आवश्यक बताते हुए सभी सदस्य कार्यालयों को अधिक से अधिक कार्य राजभाषा हिन्दी में करने और गृह मंत्रालय, राजभाषा विभाग के दिशानिर्देशों का अनुपालन करने का निर्देश दिया. इस अवसर पर मनोज कुमार को सर्टिफिकेट एवं 25,000 रुपये की पुरस्कार राशि के साथ सम्मानित किया.



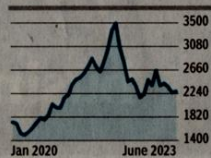
Base metals: Not out of the woods yet

MELTDOWN AND AFTER. Will metal prices rally over 2023 after being hammered down? Here's our take, based on fundamental as well as technical analysis



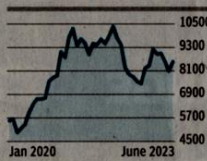
LME Aluminium (\$2,271 per tonne)

The broader trend is down. But the recent price movement on the charts leaves the structure less weak. But at the same time, there is no strong positive sign for a trend reversal as well. Important resistances are at \$2,450-2500 and \$2,600. Supports are at \$2,200, \$2,150 and \$2,000. So, overall, \$2,000-2,600 will be the broad range of trade. Within this, the price can fall to \$2,150-2,000 first from current levels. Thereafter a reversal is possible.



LMEX (3,837)

The outlook is bearish. The index has strong resistance in the 3,900-4,000 region which can be tested in the near term. However, a rise past 4,000 is unlikely. As such, the LMEX can reverse lower again from the 3,900-4,000 region and resume the downtrend targeting 3,400 and even 3,300 on the downside. Thereafter the price action will need a very close watch — because 3,300-3,400 is a very good support zone that can halt the downtrend, and trigger a fresh rally.

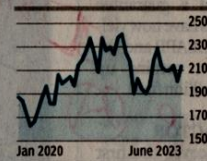
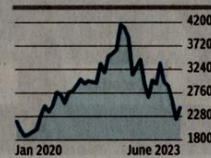


LME Copper (\$8,566 per tonne)

The level of \$8,000 is giving good support now. A rise to \$8,900-9,000 is possible in the near term. But thereafter, the price can reverse lower again towards \$8,000. A break below \$8,000 can drag the price lower to \$7,200. Thereafter the chances are high for the price to reverse higher. To negate the above-mentioned fall to \$7,200, copper has to rise past \$9,000 decisively first and then breach \$10,000 subsequently.

LME Zinc (\$2,478 per tonne)

The overall trend is down and this downtrend looks strong. The recent bounce from the low of \$2,215 is just a corrective bounce. Strong resistance at \$2,700 can be tested now. But it can cap the upside. A fresh leg of fall from around \$2,700 can drag the price down to \$2,000-1,900. From a long-term perspective, the \$2,000-1,900 is a strong support zone. The current downtrend can halt there, and trend reversal is possible thereafter.

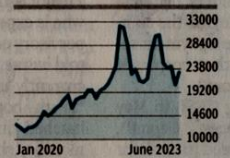


LME Lead (\$2,141 per tonne)

\$1,500-\$2,900 has been the prolonged sideways range since 2010. Within this, the price is poised around the midpoint. So, this leaves equal chance for it to move either way. Immediate resistance is at \$2,200. Support is at \$2,000. Failure to breach \$2,200 now can drag the price below \$2,000 targeting \$1,700-1,600. On the other hand, a break above \$2,200 can be bullish. It can trigger a rise to \$2,400-2,500. Overall, it is a wait and watch situation.

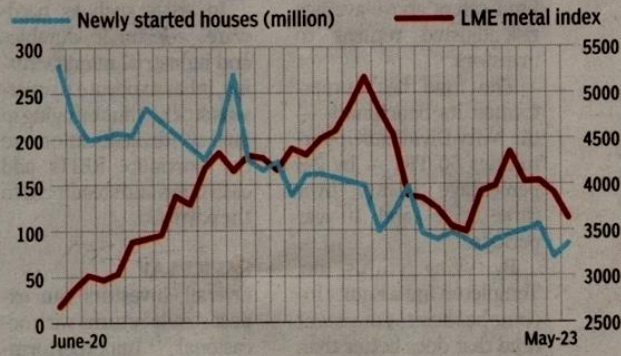
LME Nickel (\$23,034 per tonne)

A strong bounce happened last week. But key resistance is at \$23,500-\$24,000 which can be tested now. However, a break above \$24,000 might not be very easy. So, the chances are high for nickel price to reverse lower again from \$24,000. That reversal can take the price down to \$20,000 and even \$19,400. Thereafter the price action will need a close watch. The \$20,000-19,400 region is a good long-term support zone. So, a fresh rally is possible from there.

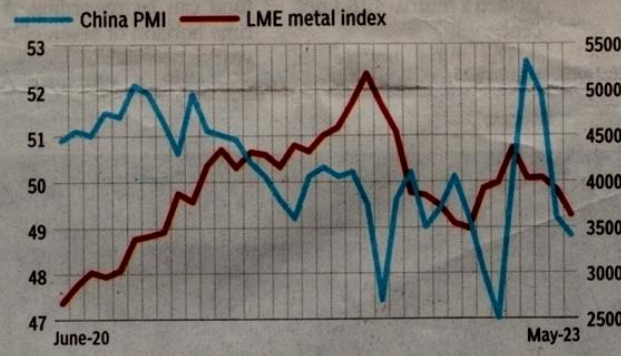


The dragging factors

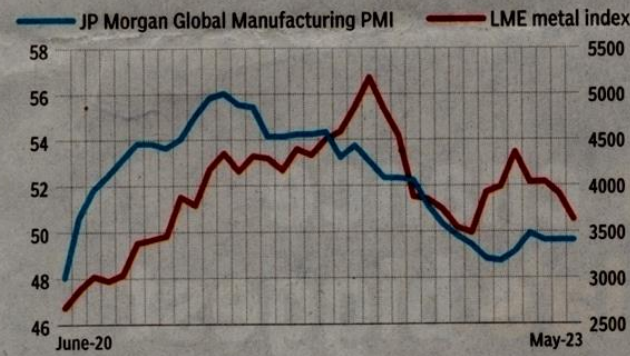
Chinese property market: In a struggle



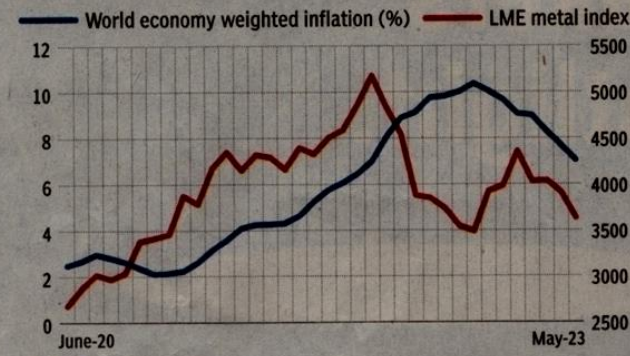
China's manufacturing sector: Enters contraction phase...



... and so does the global manufacturing sector



Inflation: To take more time to cool-off



Gurumurthy K
bl. research bureau

A stellar rally in 2021, followed by the Russia-Ukraine war, saw metal prices peaking in the first quarter of 2022. However, prices tumbled thereafter. Aggressive rate hikes from the US Federal Reserve, strong dollar and weak demand dragged the prices lower. But things started to turn around in the last quarter of the calendar year 2022 as China prepared to open up, post its zero-Covid policy. High hopes for a quick economic recovery and a robust demand revival from China, the world's largest metal consumer, triggered the price reversal.

The London Metal Exchange Index (LMEX), a weighted index calculated from the closing price of the six base metals — Aluminium, Zinc, Copper, Lead, Nickel, and Tin — rose from a low of around 3,453 in September 2022 to a high of 4,403 in January this year. But with growth and demand from China not picking up as expected, prices have moved down sharply again. So far, the LMEX has tumbled about 13 per cent from its January high of around 4,403.

Among the individual metals, barring copper, which is marginally up for the year by a little over 2 per cent, other base metals are down for the year. Nickel has been beaten down badly, falling about 23 per cent. This is followed by Zinc, which sports a 16 per cent slip. The good news from this is the easing of raw material cost pressures for India Inc, even as commodity producers may face weak realisations. But, how much of a tailwind does the cooling off actually have? What's in store, for the rest of the year, for base metals? Here's our take, based on fundamental as well as technical analysis.

WHAT LIES AHEAD

The picture is not looking very rosy for the rest of 2023. Base metal prices are likely to see one more leg of fall before a strong revival happens. Weakness in the Chinese economy, high inflation and interest rates are

some of the major factors that can continue to keep base metals subdued.

CHINA: NO SIGNS OF RECOVERY

While the western world continued to increase interest rates, China has been on the other side. Even as recently as last week, the People's Bank of China (PBOC) cut its short- and medium-term policy rates by 10 basis points (bps). While these measures are likely to take some time to have a rub-off effect on the economic recovery, for now, the economic condition in China is still anaemic.

China's property and industrial sectors — the major consumers of base metals — continue to remain weak. China's housing market has been in trouble since mid-2021. The data on newly started houses shows that it has come down — from a high of 269 million units in June 2021 to 85 million in May this year. Similarly, China's manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) has come back into the contraction phase after briefly entering the expansion phase. The PMI is currently at 48.8. So, unless both the sectors recover, metal prices are not likely to rise this year.

Even globally, the manufacturing activity is slowing down. JP Morgan Global Manufacturing PMI is currently at 49.6. Though it has risen from the low of 48.7 in December last year, it is still struggling to rise above 50 — the expansion phase.

HIGH INFLATION, INTEREST RATES

Aggressive rate hike from the US Fed was one of the major reasons for metal prices to crash in 2022. After ten consecutive rate hikes, the Fed opted for a pause in its June meeting last week. However, the central bank has left the door open for another 50-basis points rate hike for the rest of the year. That is, in the next four meetings, the Fed could raise rates by 25-bps in two of them.

On the inflation front, there is more room left to reach the target of each major central bank across the globe, especially that of the Fed. Global Consumer

Price Index (CPI) data from Bloomberg shows that inflation has cooled to 6.6 per cent after peaking at 10.4 per cent in November 2022. However, the average global inflation rate during the pre-Covid period from 2015 to 2020 has been 3.5 per cent. So, for the global CPI to come down into its average zone, it will take time. Until then, interest rates are likely to remain higher.

So, both the high inflation and high interest rate scenario will not allow metal prices to rally.

DEMAND-SUPPLY IMBALANCE

Base metal complex is forecast to be in deficit — that is, demand is likely to exceed supply in 2023. However, this is not going to create a positive impact on the prices. Because the rate of increase in supply is going to be higher than that of the demand. For instance, the International Copper Study Group (ICSG), in its forecast released in April, expects a deficit of 1,14,000 tonnes in refined copper for 2023. However, this is much lower than a deficit of 4,31,000 tonnes witnessed in 2022. This is because the demand is likely to increase by just 1.4 per cent as compared to a 2.6 per cent increase in production.

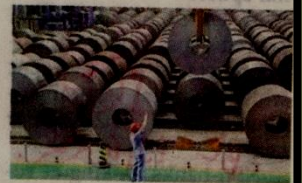
Similarly, in Zinc, the demand is likely to grow by 2.1 per cent while the supply will increase by 3.1 per cent.

So, slower pace of rise in demand as against a faster increase in supply can keep the upside capped in metal prices. Unless the demand picks up robustly, overshadowing the increase in supply, metal prices are not expected to increase.

VERDICT

As seen from the charts alongside, the factors discussed above have strong directional correlation with the metal prices. So, unless they recover, metal prices are not likely to rise. Overall, base metal prices are not likely to move higher. On the contrary, weak demand, sluggish Chinese economy, high interest rates and inflation scenario, all together, can drag base metal prices further lower in the second half of this year.

Govt likely to invite bids for privatising NMDC Steel



New Delhi: The government is likely to invite financial bids for privatising NMDC Steel only after the commissioning of the blast furnace at the company's steel plant in Chhattisgarh, according to officials. Officials expect the value of the company to go up once the blast furnace of the steel plant becomes operational. PTI

600 फीट ऊंची पहाड़ी काट ले गए माफिया

राजस्थान: राजसमंद के केलवा मार्बल क्षेत्र में 90% अवैध ब्लास्टिंग...

नरपतनाथ चौहान | राजसमंद

राजस्थान के राजसमंद के केलवागढ़ में विराजित मां चामुंडा। अब यहां जाने के लिए सिर्फ पगडंडी जैसा रास्ता बचा है। दाहिने-बाएं झांके तो जान हलक में आ जाती है। केलवा मार्बल का गढ़ है, इसलिए यहां आसपास की सभी पहाड़ियां खोद दी गई हैं। 30 साल पहले तक केवलागढ़ और मंदिर 600 फीट ऊंची पहाड़ी पर स्थित था। लेकिन अब ये खान टापू बन गया है। आसपास 800-900 फीट गहरी खाइयां दिखती हैं। केलवागढ़ के गोखड़ों से नीचे देखे लें तो चक्कर आने लगते हैं। ब्लास्टिंग



के खतरे के डर से यहां श्रद्धालुओं ने भी आना-जाना कम कर दिया है। दरअसल, केलवा में करीब 100 मार्बल खदानें हैं। केलवागढ़ वाली पहाड़ी के आस-पास 30 खदानें हैं। इनसे हर माह करीब 27 हजार टन

से अधिक मार्बल डिस्पैच हो रहा है। मार्बल खदानों की गहराई 900 फीट से अधिक हो चुकी है। क्षेत्र में 10% खदान मालिकों के पास ही ब्लास्टिंग का लाइसेंस है। बाकी अवैध रूप से ब्लास्ट करते हैं।

Tata Steel plans ₹16,000 crore consolidated capex in FY24

PRESSTRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 18

INDUSTRY GIANT Tata Steel is planning a consolidated capital expenditure (capex) of Rs 16,000 crore for its domestic and global operations during the current financial year, according to its top management.

Of the planned amount, Tata Steel has earmarked Rs 10,000 crore towards standalone operations and Rs 2,000 crore for its subsidiaries in India, the company's CEO & MD T V Narendran and Executive Director & CFO Koushik Chatterjee said.

"The projected capital expenditure (capex) for FY2023-24 is set at Rs 16,000 crore on a consolidated basis which is intended to be financed through internal accruals over the full year," the executives said in the company's an-

PLANNING EXPENDITURE

■ Tata Steel has earmarked Rs 10,000 crore towards standalone operations and Rs 2,000 crore for its subsidiaries in India

■ In Europe, Tata Steel Nederland will incur capex of Rs 1,100 crore on the relining of its blast furnace, which is underway

nual report for 2022-23.

Of this, Rs 10,000 crore has been earmarked towards Tata Steel Standalone operations of which the Kalinganagar project will account for approximately 70 per cent, they said. The company is in process of expanding capacity of its plant at Kalinganagar, in Odisha to 8 MT from 3 MT.

"Our other Indian subsidiaries, currently in an expansion phase with value accretive projects, especially in downstream operations which are important to service customer needs and improve

our value-added product mix, will have a capex of about Rs 2,000 crore," the company officials said.

In Europe, Tata Steel Nederland will incur capex of Rs 1,100 crore on the relining of its blast furnace, which is underway. The remainder of the capex is largely allocated towards and will be spent on sustenance, environmental initiatives, and improvement projects, the leaders said.

Tata Steel has planned capex of Rs 12,000 crore on its India and Europe operations during the 2022-23 financial year.

FIRST TRANCHE for FY24 tad higher than last year, but outlook for the metal is bright given safe haven appeal due to geopolitical uncertainties; allocate 5-10% of portfolio, say advisers

Gold Price Fall Offers Good Entry into SGB

Prashant.Mahesh@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Investors can use the 5% correction in domestic gold prices from the high of May to allocate to the yellow metal using the first tranche of sovereign gold bonds (SGB) scheme, announced by the Reserve Bank of India for the first half of the financial year. However, given the recent sharp rally in gold, wealth managers believe it is time to be equal weight on gold and maintain a 5-10% allocation in portfolios.

This first tranche of SGB, announced by the Reserve Bank of India for the first half of the financial year, will open from June 19 to 23, while the second will open from September 11 to 15. Investors will have to pay ₹5,876 per gram of gold after the ₹50 per gram discount for digital payments. This is ₹315 per gram higher than the ₹5,561 per gram that they paid for in the previous tranche in March 2023.

Gold has had a sharp rally in the last four years with domestic prices ri-

sing by 79%. In dollar terms, the rise was 46%. In the last one year, prices increased by 17.5% in rupee terms and 7.3% in dollar terms.

"While the historic return is high, the outlook for gold is positive since we are at the fag end of the interest rate hike cycle, particularly in the US,

Sovereign gold bonds are the most tax efficient among all options to invest in the yellow metal

and hence it is time to be equal weight," said Sachin Jain, analyst at ICICI Securities.

Analysts say that in a fast-changing global environment where there is slower growth and geopolitical tensions,

investors should remain invested in the yellow metal.

"Slower global growth and change in interest rate hike cycle, geopolitical uncertainties and stress in US banking sector that led to the default of some regional banks have led to an increase in the price of safe haven assets. In the last couple of years, cen-



tral banks have also been actively building up their gold reserves, which has contributed to gold's rally," said Navneet Damani, senior vice president-commodities & currencies research at Motilal Oswal Financial Services. He advised investors to accumulate gold at every dip.

So far, investment in SGB has worked well for investors. The first-ever tranche of SGB in November 2015, which will be redeemed after the completion of eight years later in

2023, was allotted at ₹2,684 per gram. At the current price, investors have earned an annualised return of 10.93% and an absolute return of 121% on the price of gold.

Analysts believe that holding gold as part of long-term portfolios through SGBs is the best bet.

"SGBs provide an additional annual interest income of 2.5% until maturity, which does not come with physical gold," said Abhijit Roy, founder of GoldenPi. "The purity and safety of SGBs backed by 99.9% gold held by RBI eliminate concerns about impurities and making charges associated with physical gold."

Also, the Union Budget for FY2023-24 has made investment in gold through ETFs and mutual funds less attractive. These funds will no longer have benefits of long-term capital gains (LTCG) tax and any gains will be taxed at the marginal tax rate from April 1. On the other hand, capital gains in SGB are tax-free if held till maturity, making it the most tax-efficient vehicle to allocate to gold.

NMDC Steel Fin Bids After Blast Furnace Kicks Off

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: The government is likely to invite financial bids for privatising NMDC Steel only after the commissioning of the blast furnace at the company's steel plant in Chhattisgarh, according to officials. Officials expect the value of the company to go up once the blast furnace of the steel plant becomes operational. NSL is expected to have a production capacity of 3 mtpa.

The government holds a 60.79% stake in NMDC Steel Ltd (NSL) after it got demerged from NMDC, India's largest iron ore producer.

The facility is located in Nagarnar, Chhattisgarh. The remaining 39.21% stake is with the public.



NSL is up for privatisation with the government looking to sell 50.79% of its shareholding, along with management control. The government had received multiple preliminary bids or expressions of interest for the company.

Officials said the government will get to know the fair value of NSL once the blast furnace is commissioned and production starts.

Financial bids would be invited only after investors gain confidence about the real capacity of the company.

NMDC Steel, which was listed on the stock exchanges in February this year at Rs 30.25, is currently trading at around Rs 44 a share. Based on the current market price, the sale of a 50.79 per cent stake would fetch the government around Rs 6,500 crore.

In October 2020, the CCEA gave 'in-principle' approval to the demerger of the Nagarnar steel manufacturing unit from NMDC and strategic disinvestment of the resulting entity by selling the entire stake of the Government of India.

EXPANSION MODE

Tata Steel Plans ₹16,000 crore Consolidated Capex in FY24

Co has earmarked ₹10,000 crore towards standalone ops and ₹2,000 crore for arms

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: Industry giant Tata Steel is planning a consolidated capital expenditure (capex) of ₹16,000 crore for its domestic and global operations during the current financial year, according to its top management. Of the planned amount, Tata Steel has earmarked ₹10,000 crore towards standalone operations and ₹2,000 crore for its subsidiaries in India, the company's CEO & MD TV Narendran and executive director & CFO Koushik Chatterjee said.

"The projected capital expenditure (capex) for FY2023-24 is set at ₹16,000



crore on a consolidated basis which is intended to be financed through internal accruals over the full year," the executives said in the company's annual report for 2022-23.

Of this, ₹10,000 crore has been earmarked towards Tata Steel standalone operations of which the Kalinganagar project will account for approximately 70%, they said.

The company is in process of expanding capacity of its plant at Kalinganagar, in Odisha to 8 MT from 3 MT. "Our other Indian subsidiaries, currently in an expansion phase with value accretive projects, especially in downstream operations which are important to service customer needs and improve our value-added product mix, will have a capex of about ₹2,000 crore," the company officials said.

In Europe, Tata Steel Nederland will incur capex of ₹1,100 crore on the relining of its blast furnace, which is underway. The remainder of the capex is largely allocated towards and will be spent on sustenance, environmental initiatives, and improvement projects, the leaders said.

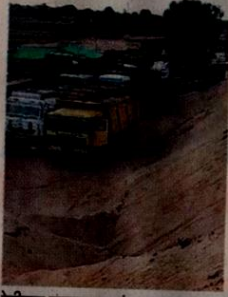
Tata Steel has planned capital expenditure (capex) of ₹12,000 crore on its India and Europe operations during the 2022-23 financial year. While ₹8,500 crore is for India and ₹3,500 crore for operations in Europe, Narendran had said in July 2022.

भंडाऱ्यात रेतीचोरीचा कहर; हजारो ट्रकचा ताफा

तस्करांनी पोखरले घाट : रस्ते खराब, चौक्या बंद, पोलिस आणि प्रशासनही शांत, महसुलाची लूट

ऑन द स्पॉट

लोकमत न्यूज नेटवर्क
नागपूर : भंडारा जिल्ह्याला वैनगंगेच्या रूपात वरदान भेटले आहे. याचा फायदा रेती तस्कर घेत आहेत. त्यात पोलिसांसह महसूल विभागाचे हात ओले होत आहे. लोकमतने भंडारा जिल्ह्यातून होत असलेल्या रेतीचोरीचा आढावा घेतला असता, घाट मालकांची मनमानी दिसून आली. त्यांनी पोलिस व प्रशासनाला हाताशी धरून करोडो रुपयांच्या महसुलाची लूट सुरू केली आहे.



रेतीच्या घाटावर ट्रकांचा ताफा.

भंडारा प्रशासनाने घाटांचा लिलाव केल्यानंतर काही चोरीचे घाटही तयार झाले आहेत. ज्या घाटांना कुठलीही परवानगी नसतानाही तेथून रेतीचा उपसा करून, चोरीच्या रेतीची वाहतूक केली जात आहे. मोहाडी पोलिस स्टेशनच्या हद्दीत येणाऱ्या कोथुरना या चोरीच्या घाटातून हा सर्व प्रकार सुरू आहे. येथे नदीतून रेतीचा उपसा करून स्टॉक ठेवला जात आहे. ५ ते ६

हजारांत ८ ब्रास रेती मिळत आहे. येथे रॉयल्टीचा काहीही संबंध नाही. बेटाडा घाट नईम नावाचा व्यक्ती ऑपरेट करीत आहे. हा घाटही मोहाडी पोलिस ठाण्याच्या हद्दीतच येत असल्याचे सूत्रांचे म्हणणे आहे. या घाटातून

रॉयल्टीची रेती कमी, डब्ल्यूआर ट्रक भरून

सरकार रॉयल्टीने रेती ६७० रुपयामध्ये देत आहे, पण नांदेड व शिवनाडा घाटावर रॉयल्टीच्या रेतीचे प्रती ब्रास १,३०० रुपये आकारले जात आहे. सेतू केंद्रावरून रॉयल्टी काढल्यानंतर घाट मालक कमी रेती देत असल्याच्या तक्रारी वाढल्या आहेत. या तक्रारी ऐकून घ्यायला प्रशासन तयार नाही. मात्र, डब्ल्यूआर रेती १० हजारांत ७ ते ८ ब्रास म्हणजे ट्रक भरून मिळत आहे. डब्ल्यूआर रेतीची वाहतूक ही राजीलाच होत आहे.

रॉयल्टीने कमी व विदाउट रॉयल्टीने रेतीची वाहतूक मोठ्या प्रमाणात होत आहे. या घाटावरून ज्या मार्गाने वाहतूक होते, त्या मार्गावर पोलिसांनी नदीच्या काठावर चौकी लावली आहे, पण ही चौकी केवळ नावाचीच आहे. ती

संपूर्ण जिल्हा एन्ट्रीच्या जाळ्यात

गोबारवाड घाटातून देवलापार रामटेक मार्गे रेती येत आहे. शिवनाडा घाटातून पवनी, भिवापूर, उमरेड मार्गाने नागपुरात रेती येत आहे. कोथुरना, बेटाडा, रोहा मार्गाने येणारी रेती भंडारा शहरातून येत आहे. घाट मालकांनी पोलिस व प्रशासनाच्या एन्ट्री सुरू केल्या आहेत. सवचे हात ओले होत असल्याने, कुणीही कारवाईसाठी पुढे येत नाही. रेतीच्या तस्करांत घाट मालकांची माफियागिरी सुरू आहे.



वैनगंगा नदीच्या काठावरची पोलिस चौकी बंद आहे.

बंद असल्याचे दिसून आले. रोहा घाटावरूनही रेतीची वाहतूक भंडारा शहरातून नागपूरकडे येत आहे. रेतीच्या वाहतुकीमुळे भंडारा जिल्ह्यातील रस्त्यांची पुरती वाट लागली आहे.

पवनी आणि लाखांदूर तालुक्यातील शिवनाडा, नांदेड घाटातून रेतीची वाहतूक सुरू झाल्यामुळे हजारो ट्रकांचा ताफा घाटावर दररोज पोहोचत आहेत. या घाटातून दररोज दोन ते तीन हजार ब्रास रेतीची वाहतूक अनधिकृतपणे होत असल्याचे वाहतूकदारांचे म्हणणे आहे.



शिवनाडा घाटावर रेतीसाठी ट्रक ड्रायव्हरची गर्दी.

ब्रह्मपुरीच्या सोंदरी घाटाने वाढविले दर

निसर्गाच्या रूपाने रेतीचे वरदान चंद्रपूर जिल्ह्यातील ब्रह्मपुरीलाही मिळाले आहे. या ब्रह्मपुरीतील सोंदरी घाट मालकाने अगोदरच कराराचे उल्लंघन केले आहे. मुदत संपल्यानंतरही उपसा करण्यात येत असून, आता चोरीची रेतीही ८ हजार रुपयांवरून १४ हजार रुपये केली असल्याचे वाहतूकदारांनी सांगितले.

रेती चोरी रोखण्यासाठी भंडारा प्रशासन अलर्ट मोडवर दहा ठिकाणी पोलिस चौक्या कार्यान्वित



लोकमत न्यूज नेटवर्क

नागपूर : शासनाने रेती घाटाचे लिलाव केल्यानंतर भंडारा जिल्ह्यातून रेतीची वाहतूक सुरु झाली आहे. शासनाच्या नवीन वाळू धोरणानुसार भंडारा जिल्ह्यातील २२ वाळू डेपोपैकी १२ डेपो ई-लिलावात गेलेले असून, नऊ डेपो कार्यान्वित झाले आहेत. त्यामुळे नागपूर व आसपासच्या जिल्ह्यातील ट्रान्सपोर्टने भंडार्यातील घाटांना पसंती दर्शविली आहे. रेतीचे डेपो सुरु



झाल्यामुळे चोरीच्या रेतीची वाहतूक होवू नये म्हणून भंडारा जिल्हा प्रशासन व पोलिस प्रशासन अलर्ट झाले आहे. चोरीच्या रेती वाहतुकीवर आळा घालण्यासाठी दहा ठिकाणी पोलिस चौक्या कार्यान्वित केल्या आहे, तर भरारी पथकाचीही नियुक्ती केली आहे.

सहा महिन्यांत १४१ गुन्हे दाखल

- रेती चोरी प्रकरणात भंडारा पोलिस प्रशासनाने जानेवारी महिन्यापासून १८ जूनपर्यंत १४१ गुन्हे दाखल केले असून, ३२२ आरोपींवर कारवाई सुरु आहे.
- २१ लाख १७ हजार ८०० रुपये किमतीच्या ३९९.५ ब्रास रेतीच्या चोरीपैकी ३९७.५ ब्रास रेती जप्त केली आहे. ५९ ट्रक व १७६ ट्रक्टर जप्त केले आहे.
- एप्रिल व मे महिन्यात ३८ अवैध प्रकरणात कारवाई केली असून, ६७ लाख ७० हजार २१० रुपये दंड स्वरूपात वसूल करण्यात आल्याची माहिती जिल्हा प्रशासनाने दिली.

४१,४८२ ब्रास रेतीसाठी उपलब्ध

- जिल्ह्यात सुरु असलेल्या नऊ वाळू डेपोमध्ये ६९,३१३ ब्रास वाळू जमा करण्यात आली होती.
- यातून ३८,२१३ ब्रास वाळू नागरिकांना उपलब्ध करून देण्यात आल्याची माहिती जिल्हा प्रशासनाने दिली आहे. संघःस्थितीत ४१,४८२ ब्रास रेतीसाठी विक्रीस उपलब्ध आहे.

Zinc futures: Book profits now

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl. research bureau

Zinc futures on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) appreciated last week and posted a second consecutive weekly gain. But on Friday, after marking a three-week high of ₹224.7, they moderated. The contract is now trading around ₹221.

ance above ₹250 is at ₹262.

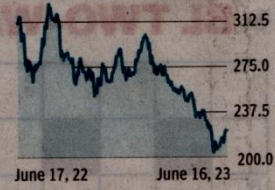
TRADE STRATEGY

We had suggested going long on zinc futures a few weeks back when they were trading at ₹212. Target and stop-loss are at ₹232 and ₹200, respectively. Risk-averse traders can book profits at the current level of ₹221.

Others can hold the longs but revise the target down to ₹230. Also, revise the stop-

Return -28.7%

₹ per kg
350.0



loss from ₹200 to ₹217 so that some amount of profit is protected.

COMMODITY CALL.

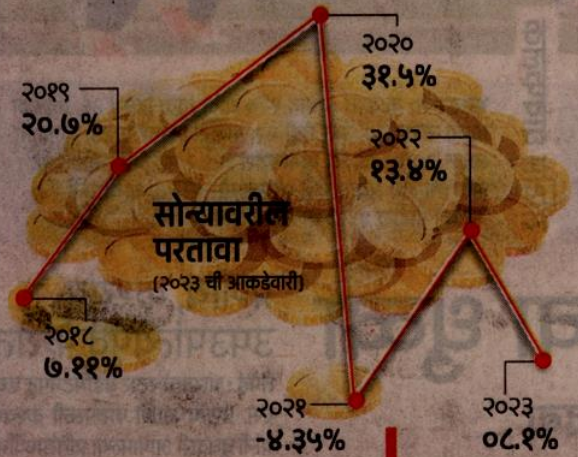
The overall trend is bearish. Also, ₹225 is a hurdle for the bulls. Notably, the price band of ₹225-230 is a resistance region.

On the back of the barrier, if the contract falls from the current level, it can find support at ₹215. Immediately below these levels, the supports are at ₹215 and ₹210. Alternatively, if zinc futures regain traction and rally past ₹230, they can probably extend the rally to ₹250. Resist-



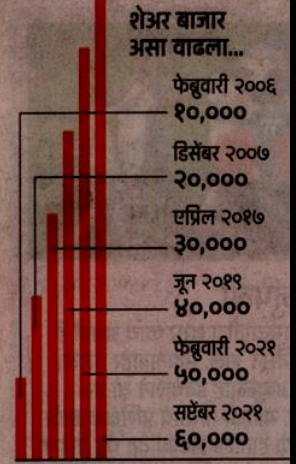
सोने, शेअर बाजाराने दिले ६००% रिटर्न्स!

लोकमत न्यूज नेटवर्क । नवी दिल्ली : मागील १७ वर्षात सोने आणि सेन्सेक्स यांनी समान ६०० टक्के परतावा दिला आहे. २००६ साली २४ कॅरेट सोन्याचा भाव १० हजार रुपये प्रति १० ग्रॅम होता, तसेच सेन्सेक्स १३,००० अंकांच्या वर होता. आता सोने ६० हजार ते ६२ हजार रुपये आहे. सेन्सेक्सही ६३ हजार अंकांच्या वर आहे. प्रत्यक्ष सोन्याबरोबरच गोल्ड बॉड व ईटीएफमध्ये १०-१५ टक्के गुंतवणूक करावी, असा सल्ला जाणकार देतात.



गोल्ड ईटीएफ काय?

- गोल्ड ईटीएफची किंमत संपूर्ण देशात एकच असते. सोन्याची किंमत वेगवेगळ्या शहरांत वेगवेगळी असते.
- दागिन्यांवर ३० टक्क्यांपर्यंत घडणावळ लागते. गोल्ड ईटीएफमध्ये एक्सपेन्स रेशो केवळ १ टक्का असतो.
- गोल्ड ईटीएफ शेअर बाजारात खरेदी करता येते.
- खरेदी शुल्क कमी. देखभालीची कटकट नाही.
- १०० टक्के शुद्धतेची हमी.



अशी वाढली... सोन्याची किंमत

कोयला, लिग्नाइट खदानों के लिए स्टार रेटिंग पंजीकरण प्रक्रिया शुरू

एजेंसी | नई दिल्ली



कोयला मंत्रालय ने वित्तीय वर्ष 2022 के लिए कोयला और लिग्नाइट खानों की स्टार रेटिंग पंजीकरण प्रक्रिया शुरू करने की घोषणा की बुधवार को घोषणा की। पंजीकरण के लिए पोर्टल 30 जून 2023 तक खुला रहेगा। खनन उद्योग में पर्यावरण और पारिस्थितिकी संरक्षण पर ध्यान और नियमों के अनुपालन में खानों के बीच प्रतिस्पर्धा को बढ़ावा देने के उद्देश्य से स्टार रेटिंग की नीति लागू की गयी है। मंत्रालय ने बुधवार को एक विज्ञप्ति में कहा, इस नीति का उद्देश्य खानों का मूल्यांकन सात प्रमुख मापदंडों जैसे खनन संचालन, पर्यावरण संबंधी पैरामीटर, तकनीकों को अपनाना, सर्वोत्तम खनन अभ्यास, आर्थिक प्रदर्शन, पुनर्वास और पुनर्स्थापन, श्रमिकों से संबंधित अनुपालन और सुरक्षा और सुरक्षा के विभिन्न कारकों के आधार पर करना है। इस वर्ष स्टार रेटिंग

कार्यक्रम के लिए सभी कोयला और लिग्नाइट खानों के पंजीकरण की अधिसूचना 30 मई जारी की गई थी और पंजीकरण के लिए स्टार रेटिंग पोर्टल पहली जून को खोला गया था। 19 जून तक की एक छोटी अवधि में, 376 खानों ने पहले ही भागीदारी के लिए आवेदन कर दिया है। यह 2018-19 में इस कार्यक्रम की शुरुआत के बाद सबसे बड़ी संख्या है। मंत्रालय ने कहा है कि पंजीकरण के लिए पोर्टल 30 जून 2023 तक खुला रहेगा। भाग लेने वाली खानों को एक व्यापक आत्म-मूल्यांकन प्रक्रिया शुरू करने के लिए भी प्रोत्साहित किया जाता है, जिसे 31 जुलाई तक पूरा किया जाना चाहिए।

गुड न्यूज ; वीज केंद्रांमध्ये कोळशाचा पुरेसा साठा

एप्रिलमध्येही अत्यंत संवेदनशील परिस्थिती, सतर्क राहण्याची गरज आहे

कमल शर्मा

लोकमत न्यूज नेटवर्क

नागपूर : राज्यातील महाजेनकोच्या वीज निर्मिती केंद्रात कोळशाचा तुटवडा ही सामान्य बाब आहे. पावसाळ्यापूर्वी बहुतांश केंद्रांमधील कोळशाच्या साठ्याची स्थिती अत्यंत संवेदनशील बनते. वीज टंचाईच्या संकटाचे सावट निर्माण झाल्याने पुरवठ्यासाठी महागाडी वीज खरेदी करावी लागते. त्याचा फटका सर्वसोमान्यांना सहन करावा लागतो. पण यावर्षी एक गुड न्यूज आहे. परिस्थिती बदलली आहे. राज्यातील वीज केंद्रांमध्ये कोळशाचा पुरेसा साठा उपलब्ध आहे.

एप्रिल महिन्यात राज्यातील चार औष्णिक वीज केंद्रांमधील कोळशाचा साठा गंभीर स्थितीत पोहोचला होता.



पारसमध्ये दोन दिवस पुरेल इतका तर भुसावळमध्ये केवळ एक दिवसाचा साठा शिल्लक होता. महाजेनकोने यासाठी रेल्वेला जबाबदार धरले होते. ब्लॉकमुळे गाड्यांचा वेग मंदावला होता. परिणामी कोळसा वेळेत पोहोचत नव्हता. असा त्यांचा युक्तिवाद होता. भारनियमन टाळण्यासाठी महावितरणला महाप्राड्या दराने वीज खरेदी करावी लागली. मुंबई ते दिल्ली

बदल कसा झाला

- महाजेनको, कोळसा कंपनी आणि रेल्वे यांच्यात उत्तम समन्वय.
- राज्य सरकार, कोळसा मंत्रालय आणि रेल्वे मंत्रालयाचा हस्तक्षेप
- महाजेनको अधिकाऱ्यांच्या कोळसा खाणींमध्ये नियमित फेऱ्या.

अशा बैठकांचे सत्र सुरू होते. गेल्या वर्षी कोळशाच्या टंचाईमुळे राज्यातील अनेक भागांना भारनियमनाला सामोरे जावे लागले होते. पण यावेळी परिस्थिती वेगळी आहे. खापरखेडा औष्णिक वीज केंद्रात २२ दिवस पुरेल इतका कोळसा उपलब्ध आहे. इतर केंद्रांमध्येही अशीच परिस्थिती आहे. मात्र, पावसाळ्यात ओला कोळसा आणि वाहतुकीची समस्या निर्माण

कठे किती साठा

वीज निर्मिती केंद्र	उपलब्ध साठा
खापरखेडा	२२ दिवस
कोराडी	१९ दिवस
चंद्रपूर	९ दिवस
पारस	१३ दिवस
नाशिक	१३ दिवस
परळी	७ दिवस

टीप: एकूण १५.८० लाख मेट्रिक टन कोळसा उपलब्ध आहे.

होण्याची शक्यता लक्षात घेता साठा आणखी वाढवण्याची गरज आहे. या आंशिक यशाने महाजेनकोने खूश होऊ नये, असे ऊर्जा क्षेत्रातील तज्ज्ञांचे म्हणणे आहे. भविष्यातील आव्हानांना सामोरे जाण्यासाठी आतापासूनच नियोजन करण्याची गरज आहे.

Steel prices may drop on weak offtake by China

Subramani Ra Mancombu
Chennai

Global steel demand will likely decline on weaker offtake by the Chinese construction sector, while excess supply from the Communist nation will keep the prices on a leash.

However, US research firm BMI, a unit of Fitch Solutions, said India will remain a bright spot for continued steel demand in Asia.

According to Goldman Sachs, the risk of excess steel supply in China is becoming more and more obvious and a slower recovery in property sales will likely lead to a 5 per cent drop in steel demand. As a result, Beijing might lower its production target.

PRICE FORECAST CUT

Data from the World Steel Association show that steel production in China dropped 1.5 per cent in April, while it was



RAY OF HOPE. India will remain a bright spot for continued demand in 2023, says BMI

up 4.1 per cent during January-June this year. "Mainland China's construction sector remains in decline, although we expect a pick-up in H2 2023. At the global level, demand is likely to be subdued throughout the year as major economies experience an economic slowdown," said BMI, a research unit of Fitch Solutions, in a downgrade of its price forecast. The research unit said it has cut its average price forecast for steel to \$730 a tonne

from \$825 earlier due to lacklustre demand dynamics.

The global average price for longs and flats has averaged \$751 in the year-to-date as of June 6, while the current average stands at \$713/tonne. Steel prices are down 15-20 per cent year-on-year.

INDIA'S ADVANTAGE

BMI said the Indian Budget for the current fiscal has "multiple infrastructure plans: from rails, roads to airports to

spur economic growth".

"In the near term, the government plans to begin 100 airport projects by the end of 2024. The Airports Authority of India has a targeted capital outlay of \$13 billion for construction of greenfield airports and terminals, runways and other activities. These infrastructure plans will require a substantial amount of steel, with most of it expected to come from domestic production plants," it said.

BMI said despite a modest recovery in Mainland Chinese steel prices in H2 2023, prices are likely to remain depressed in other major markets, placing a lid on the global average.

On the supply side, the research unit said it expects limited production growth in 2023 as major steel-making firms continue to face high input costs. "Over the long term, we maintain our view for global steel prices to remain on a downward trend..." it said.

छापेमारी : अवैध रेत माफियाओं पर कसा शिकंजा

ग्रामीण अपराध शाखा पुलिस ने की कार्रवाई

निज प्रतिनिधि | नागपुर/संवाददाता, खापा

ग्रामीण अपराध शाखा पुलिस के दस्ते ने खापा में विविध ठिकानों पर छापेमारी कर अवैध रेत माफियाओं पर शिकंजा कसना शुरू कर दिया है। पुलिस दस्ते ने 130 ब्रास अवैध रेत सहित करीब 3 लाख 38 हजार रुपए का माल जब्त किया है। खापा में विविध स्थानों पर रेत माफियाओं ने रेत के ढेर लगा रखे थे। गुप्त जानकारी मिलने पर बुधवार को पुलिस दस्ते ने कार्रवाई की।



बड़ी मात्रा में रखी थी रेत : पुलिस के अनुसार ग्रामीण पुलिस अधीक्षक विशाल आनंद के निर्देश पर अवैध रेत माफियाओं के रिकलाफ कार्रवाई करते हुए पुलिस दस्ते ने बड़ी मात्रा में अवैध रेत जब्त की। ग्रामीण अपराध शाखा पुलिस विभाग के निरीक्षक ओमप्रकाश कोण्डे के नेतृत्व में दस्ते ने कार्रवाई की। खापा क्षेत्र के खेरी नाले के करीब, रामडोंगरी परिसर में खुली जगह पर अवैध तरीके से बिना लाइसेंस के रेत का बड़ी मात्रा में भंडारण कर रखा गया था। पुलिस ने दंडात्मक कार्रवाई करते हुए उसके बारे में तहसीलदार सावनेर को पत्र ब्यवहार किया। पुलिस अधीक्षक विशाल आनंद, अपर पुलिस अधीक्षक डॉ. संदीप पखाले के मार्गदर्शन में कार्रवाई की गई।

Copper futures: Retain the longs



Akhil Nallamuthu
bl. Research Bureau

Copper futures on the MCX, which have been on a recovery ever since it took support at ₹700 in the final week of May, broke out of a key resistance at ₹725 a couple of weeks ago. This opened the room for more upside.

COMMODITY

CALL.

As per the charts, the nearest notable barrier that the copper futures could face is at ₹750 and therefore, a rally to this level is more likely.

If the contract falls from here, it can find support at ₹725. Since the contract fell last week to retest ₹725 level, the probability of a decline from the current level of ₹734 is low. But in case the bears gain traction and drag the contract below ₹725, expect the downswing to extend to ₹710 or even to ₹700. Last week, we recommended going long at ₹728 and we also said to add longs in case the price dips to ₹725. Since that minor dip in price occurred, traders would now be holding longs at an average price at ₹726.50. One can hold these longs. But move the stop-loss from ₹718 to ₹723. Further, when the contract rallies past ₹738, modify the stop-loss to ₹730. When the contract touches ₹745, tighten the stop-loss further to ₹738. Book profits at ₹750.

Steel exports slow down in May on weak offtake

Abhishek Law
New Delhi

India's key steel export markets, such as Vietnam, Italy, Spain, Belgium, UAE, and some others, have either reduced orders or kept them flat in May, over April, in view of global economic uncertainties and competitive price offers from China, among other factors, data from the Steel Ministry accessed by *businessline* show.

Exports of finished steel were at 1.6 million tonnes (mt), flat as compared to April-May period of last year while on a month-on-month basis exports had dropped by 19 per cent to 0.7 mt (while in April it was around 0.9 mt), the provisional numbers show.

MARKET BREAK UP

The hot rolled coil / strips (0.584 mt) was most exported



DIP IN NUMBERS. There was a distinct drop in orders across European nations on account of recession and quotas P71

ted in volume terms, accounting for 38 per cent share total finished steel.

As per the Ministry report, top buyers of Indian steel in April-May included Italy, Belgium, Spain, Nepal and the UK. But there was a distinct slowdown in orders across European nations on account of recession and quotas, while in Asian markets, lower priced Chinese offerings have hit buying from Indian mills, trade

sources said. As per reports available with the Steel Ministry, Vietnam – one of the prime buyers for Indian steel did not place orders from mills here on account of weak demand and Chinese offers impacting price there. Finished steel exports continued to be at 0.061 mt for April and May. It does not feature among the top five markets too.

In case of Europe, Italy and Belgium saw increased

buying – up 5 per cent MoM and 63 per cent, respectively, to 0.22 mt and 0.08 mt. Belgium, the second largest market in the region, saw a 53 per cent drop MoM to 0.05 mt.

The UAE, a key market that mills tapped recently, saw orders fall by 37 per cent to 0.036 mt in May, as compared to April. Orders to Nepal dropped 15 per cent drop MoM to 0.05 mt.

The Ministry report noted that elevated inflation across geographies, tighter monetary policies and financial uncertainty are expected to keep the steel prices on the edge.

It pointed out, global steel prices “continued to remain volatile in May” due to a combination of local and global factors. Prices slid in Europe amid slow consumption and worsening market conditions. But, in the US price was relatively stable.

Curbing underreporting of iron-ore grades

Satnam Singh

Tackling rampant misrepresentation of the grade of iron ore has become an urgent imperative as complaints proliferate. The motivation for misrepresentation comes from the huge price differential between different grades of ore.

For instance, in fiscal 2022, the average sale price (ASP) as published by the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) for lumps with ferrous content of 55-58 per cent, 60-62 per cent, 62-65 per cent, and more than 65 per cent in Odisha was ₹5,279, ₹7,366, ₹8,612, and ₹9,838 per tonne, respectively.

Even in the case of iron ore fines, although the absolute price is lower compared to lumps, the trend of price increase from a lower grade band to a higher one was similar.

In such a scenario, under-reporting the grade allows a miner to reduce auction premium and minimise ASP-related taxes such as royalty, district mineral fund (DMF), and National Mineral Exploration Trust

(NMET) levies. Auction premium is levied by the State as a percentage of the iron ore price per tonne on the monthly dispatch of ore.

Put simply, if a miner quotes a 100 per cent auction premium and reports its annual production of 5 million tonne (mt) of 62-65 per cent lumps as 60-62 per cent lumps, it could save about ₹700 crore annually, including the royalty, DMF and NMET levies. If it reports 50 per cent of ore as fines of the same grade, it could save ₹640 crore.

On top of this, different State governments have been auctioning mineral blocks for both captive and merchant miners since 2015. Bidders now need to bid in terms of a percentage of the price of the mineral they are willing to pay as auction premium to acquire the mineral block. The highest bidder gets the mineral block and needs to pay the auction premium to the State government for each tonne of excavated ore.

The auctions, in particular for iron ore mines, have witnessed aggressive bidding with auction premium in the range of 25-450 per cent of the ASP. The



AUCTION. Premium calculation issues

high auction premiums are being driven primarily by steel-makers' resource security needs.

To be sure, miners are required to submit monthly and annual reports on their production quantity, grade, and royalty within a specific timeframe. However, there is a pressing need to employ the latest technologies to minimise manual intervention and facilitate digitalisation of the sampling and analysis process. The State departments of mines and geology must also enhance their capacities to effectively regulate mining activities in their respective States.

As regards the methodology

followed by the IBM for calculating the ASP, with which auction premium and royalty and other levies are linked, the major challenge is the diminishing share of merchant sales and the rise of captive mines.

The application of levies is the same for captive mines as it is for merchant mines. Even if the captive mines are not selling in the open market and are dispatching the mined ore to their own plants, the tonnages dispatched will be valued based on the ASP published by IBM for that month and the ad-valorem levies like royalty, DMF, NMET and auction premium are applied on that value. If the IBM considers only merchant sales as input for calculating the ASP, the number of data points may not be exhaustive enough.

State governments have made attempts to prevent underreporting or misrepresentation of iron ore grades. The Central Government has also established a committee whose suggestions are under discussion.

The writer is Director-Consulting, CRISIL Market Intelligence and Analytics

खनिज निधि के दुरुपयोग से नाराजगी

नियमबाह्य खर्च की शिकायत, बावनकुले, गडकरी के पत्र पर भी सुनवाई नहीं

■ नागपुर, निज संवाददाता. केन्द्रीय खान मंत्रालय व राज्य सरकार ने 7-8 वर्ष पूर्व यह आदेश जारी किया था कि खनिज निधि का उपयोग खदान पीड़ित परिसर के गांववासियों की स्वास्थ्य सेवा के लिए खर्च की जानी चाहिए. इसके लिए खनिज निधि में विशेष प्रावधान किये गए हैं लेकिन नागपुर जिले में जिला खनिज संस्थान (डीएमएफ) द्वारा खनिज निधि का दुरुपयोग करते हुए 13 करोड़ रुपये जिलेभर में 200 ग्रीन जिम लगाने को मंजूरी दी गई और उसका



वर्कऑर्डर भी जारी कर दिया जाएगा. कांग्रेस पदाधिकारी उदय सिंह गज्जू यादव ने इसकी शिकायत केन्द्रीय मंत्री नितिन गडकरी और

मिलना चाहिए स्वास्थ्य बीमा कवर

मांग की गई है कि खनिज निधि का उपयोग खनन प्रभावित गांवों के नागरिकों को सामूहिक स्वास्थ्य बीमा उपलब्ध कराने के लिए किया जाए ताकि महंगे इलाज से उन्हें राहत मिल सके. 13 करोड़ रुपये ग्रीन जिम के लिए खर्च करने का निर्णय लिया गया है जो जिला परिषद के माध्यम से खर्च किया जाएगा लेकिन स्वास्थ्य बीमा के

लिए निधि मंजूर ही नहीं की गई. यादव ने इसमें अधिकारियों व कुछ नेताओं की मिलीभगत का आरोप लगाते हुए कहा कि यह सब कमीशनखोरी के लिए किया गया है. डीसीएम देवेन्द्र फडणवीस व जिलाधिकारी विपिन इटनकर से भी निवेदन किया गया है कि वे ग्रीन जिम का कार्य रद्द कर खनिकर्म बाधितों के लिए स्वास्थ्य सुविधा पर खर्च करने की व्यवस्था करें.

भाजपा प्रदेशाध्यक्ष चंद्रशेखर बावनकुले से किया है कि खनिज निधि का उपयोग खनन प्रभावित गांवों में एलजी, अस्थमा, सिलिकोसिस, चर्मरोग, पेट आदि से संबंधी

गंभीर बीमारियों से पीड़ित नागरिकों को इलाज हेतु स्वास्थ्य सुविधा मुहैया कराने के लिए करें. लेकिन अब तक कोई सुनवाई नहीं हुई है.

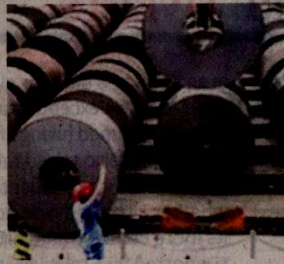
At 0.23 million tonnes, India's steel imports from China hit a new high in April-May

Abhishek Law
New Delhi

India's steel purchase from China touched a new high in April-May at 0.23 million tonnes (mt). This is up 62 per cent YoY, per provisional data accessed by *businessline* from the Steel Ministry.

Finished steel shipments from China in April-May of 2022 was 0.14 mt; and 0.12 mt in the same period of 2021. Finished steel includes hot and cold rolled coils and strips, non-alloyed offerings, stainless steel and alloyed-offerings.

China's increased production capacity and the downward trend in global steel prices have led to a surge in lower-price shipments into India. For instance, shipments of both alloyed and stainless and non alloyed steel increased for



April-May, the YoY rise for non-alloyed offerings (such as electrical sheets, galvanised plain sheets, coils, strips, etc) was a sharp 205 per cent at 0.12 mt (0.04 mt). Stainless steel shipments rose just 14 per cent.

MONTH-WISE BREAK-UP

According to data available from the Steel Ministry, China emerged as the No 2 exporter in April with around 0.11 mt of shipments coming in — up 79

China's higher production capacity and the downward trend in global steel prices have led to a surge in the influx of lower-priced shipments

per cent YoY. In May, steel shipments rose 50 per cent to 0.12 mt. Month-on-month (May over April), shipments increased 9 per cent.

A comparison of similar months over the last two years show imports were 0.06 mt and 0.08 mt in April and May of 2022; and 0.06 mt and 0.06 mt in April and May of 2021, respectively. Per the Ministry report, for April-May 2023, do-

mestic finished steel production was 21.8 mt (up by 11 per cent) and consumption was 20.3 mt (up 8 per cent).

IMPORT TRENDS

The report said Korea is the largest steel exporter to India, though shipments from that country remained flat for the period under review. Other major exporters were Japan (up 34 per cent), Vietnam (up 681 per cent) and Taiwan (up 176 per cent).

India was a net exporter, as exports (1.55 mt, flat YoY) outpaced imports (0.9 mt, up 27 per cent YoY).

"Import of finished steel was worth ₹9,002 crore whereas exports were ₹13,139 crore," it said.

Volume-wise, cold rolled coils (0.273 mt) was the most imported item, accounting for a 30 per cent share.

दवलामेटी गांववासियों की जान खतरे में गोंडखैरी कोयला खदान का विरोध

जि.प. सदस्य धोपटे ने महाराष्ट्र प्रदूषण
नियंत्रण मंडल को लिखा पत्र

संवाददाता | वाड़ी मौजा गोंडखैरी में अदानी के प्रस्तावित खदान के संबंध में पर्यावरणीय जनसुनवाई की सूचना ग्राम पंचायत कार्यालय



एवं जिला परिषद नागपुर को प्राप्त हुई। जी.पी. सर्कल के अंतर्गत गांव मौजा - दवलामेटी तहसील जिला-नागपुर गांवों की सूची में शामिल हैं, लेकिन पत्र में इस बात का कोई स्पष्टीकरण नहीं है कि इस गांव को प्रत्यक्ष और अप्रत्यक्ष खनन से प्रभावित गांव में बांटा गया है। दवलामेटी की जनसंख्या करीब 30

से 35 हजार है। यहां लोगों के पक्के मकान हैं। गांव में पानी की आपूर्ति गोंडखैरी क्षेत्र के वेणा जलाशय से होती है। पिछले कुछ वर्षों से दवलामेटी क्षेत्र में डोलोमाइट और अन्य माध्यमिक खनिजों का खनन किया जा रहा है। गोंडखैरी में प्रस्तावित खदान से वेणा जलाशय प्रदूषित होने और दवलामेटी के निवासियों के स्वास्थ्य को खतरे में डालने की संभावना है। साथ ही गोंडखैरी में भूमिगत कोयला खदान मौजा दवलामेटी के भूमिगत क्षेत्र को खोखला कर देगी। इस क्षेत्र में डोलोमाइट और अन्य गौण खनिजों का खनन किया जाता है। हालांकि इस बात की बहुत अधिक संभावना है कि उक्त खदान से इतनी बड़ी आबादी प्रत्यक्ष और अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से प्रभावित होगी और उनके जीवन को खतरा होगा। दवलामेटी गांव की नागरिक और जि.प. सदस्य ममता धोपटे, पंचायत समिति सदस्य सुलोचना ढोके, प्रशांत केवटे, बालुभाऊ ढोके, रक्षा सुखदेवे दवलामेटी कांग्रेस के जनप्रतिनिधि ने इस खदान के खिलाफ आपत्ति जताई है। जि.प.सदस्य धोपटे ने महाराष्ट्र प्रदूषण नियंत्रण मंडल नागपुर को पत्र लिखकर अनुरोध किया है कि मेसर्स अदानी पावर महाराष्ट्र लिमिटेड नागपुर की गोंडखैरी भूमि कोयला खदान, (कामठी कोयला क्षेत्र) ग्राम गोंडखैरी तहसील कलमेश्वर जिला नागपुर के संबंध में आपत्ति जताई और उक्त खदान को स्वीकृत न किया जाए।

Vulcan Steel in Talks to Raise \$2.5 billion for Oman Project

STEELING IT UP Co to invest over \$3 b in project, funds to be raised from non-bank sources

**Nehal Chaliawala
& Deborshi Chaki**

Mumbai: Vulcan Steel, a privately held company of industrialist Naveen Jindal, is in talks with export credit agencies (ECAs) of multiple countries to close \$2.5 billion in funding for its upcoming green steel plant in Oman, two people aware of the discussions told ET.

The plant will be built using funds exclusively from non-bank sources, said the people cited above. In all, the company plans to invest more than \$3 billion in the Duqm-based project, a senior executive from the group said in an interview earlier.

The ECAs will help finance the purchase of the capital goods for the plant, which will largely be imported from overseas in Oman. Typically, ECAs fund the purchases of foreign buyers from their home country, thus promoting export.

Expected to be commissioned by 2027, the plant will have a manufac-



turing capacity of 5 million tonnes per annum. It will be a part of Jindal Shadeed Iron and Steel LLC, which Vulcan Steel acquired in 2020.

The project has been undertaken with a focus on the European steel markets as the continent favours lower emission raw materials to meet its decarbonisation goals. Vulcan Steel is betting on the de-

mand potential for green steel as it is seen as one of the leading solutions for manufacturing companies to cut their carbon footprint.

Queries sent to Jindal Steel and Power (JSPL) remained unanswered as of press time on Monday.

Green steel has the same properties as regular steel but is produced without the use of fossil fuels and,

thus, has a minimal carbon footprint. It is not currently available at an industrial scale.

Companies across the world, especially in developed countries, are racing to develop the technology and manufacture green steel at scale. H2 Green Steel, a Swedish firm, is on the path to become the first large scale green steel maker once its under-construction plant becomes operational by 2025.

Vulcan Steel had acquired Jindal Shadeed Iron and Steel LLC from JSPL for an enterprise value of \$1 billion. JSPL decided to divest from the asset in 2020 as part of its plan to deleverage its balance sheet and focus on the core steel business in India. JSPL held a 99.9% stake in the Oman asset which it had acquired for \$464 million in 2010.

Today, Jindal Shadeed runs the first and the only integrated steelworks in Oman. Upon completion, the proposed 5 mtpa green steel plant will be the second integrated steelworks in the gulf country.



एनएमडीसी और CSIR-IMMT में समझौता

■ हैदराबाद, नवभारत कनेक्ट. भारत की प्रमुख खनन कंपनी एनएमडीसी ने सीएसआईआर-इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ मिनरल्स एंड मटेरियल्स टेक्नोलॉजी (आईएमएमटी) के साथ एक सहयोगी अनुसंधान समझौता किया. एनएमडीसी के मुख्यालय हैदराबाद में दिलीपकुमार मोहंती, निदेशक और विश्वनाथ सुरेश, निदेशक एवं वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों की उपस्थिति में समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए. सहयोग समझौता 'न्यूमेटिक कंवेयिंग प्रणाली में लौह अयस्क की विशेषताओं और लक्षणों

का अध्ययन करने के लिए है. इसका उद्देश्य मेटिक अर्थात वायु की सहायता से परिवहन पाइपलाइन प्रणाली में लौह अयस्क फाइन्स/कंसट्रेट के व्यवहार को समझना है. मोहंती ने उद्योग के मूल्यवर्धन हेतु परिचालन मुद्दों का समाधान करने के लिए उद्योग और अनुसंधान संगठनों के बीच सहयोग के महत्व पर जोर दिया.

Coal Ministry receives 35 bids for 18 mines under 7th round

Our Bureau
New Delhi

The Coal Ministry on Tuesday said that it has received 35 offline bids for 18 coal blocks under the 7th round of commercial coal mines auction. The bids will be opened on Wednesday.

The seventh round of commercial coal mine auctions was launched by the Ministry on March 29 this year for 106 coal mines. The last date for submission of bids was Tuesday, it said.

"A total of 35 offline bids have been received for 18 coal mines, where two or more bids have been received for seven mines. The online bids received as part of the auction process will be opened on Wednesday," it added.

Of the total mines offered in the current round, 32 are new mines while 69 blocks are being rolled over from earlier tranches.

Additionally, five coal mines under the second attempt of 16th/ 6th Tranche under CMSP/ MMDR Act



The bids will be opened on Wednesday AFP

are also being launched where single bids were received in the first attempt.

The blocks are spread across Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Bihar.

FACTS FOR 29 MINES

As per the Ministry action plan for FY24, it expects 25 coal blocks to be auctioned under the commercial mine

auctions in the fiscal year.

The Ministry has also signed agreements for 29 coal mines which were auctioned under the 6th round of commercial coal mines auction.

The cumulative peak rate capacity of 29 coal mines is 74 mtpa. These mines upon operationalisation will generate annual revenue of ₹14,497 crore calculated at PRC of these coal mines and will provide employment to about one lakh people.

Govt to release critical minerals list today

■ The list will serve as a guiding framework for policy formulation, strategic planning and investment decisions in the mining sector

■ Delhi Bureau

NEW DELHI, June 27

MARKING a milestone in India's pursuit of self-reliance and security in the domain of mineral resources and to ensure reduced import dependencies, enhance supply chain resilience & support the country's net zero objectives, the Union Government is all set to unveil for the first time "the list of critical minerals for India."

Informing this, a release issued by the Union Ministry of Mines on Tuesday, said the critical mineral list will be released by Union Minister of Coal, Mines & Parliamentary Affairs Pralhad Joshi in the presence of Minister of State for Mines, Coal & Railways Raosaheb Patil Danve and oth-

er dignitaries at India International Centre in New Delhi on June 28, 2023.

The event showcasing the highlights of the critical minerals list through a short documentary video, will be graced by prominent dignitaries including foreign dignitaries, industry representatives, subject matter experts and senior Government officials, said Ministry adding that some of major critical minerals will be displayed during ceremony.

According to the Ministry, this meticulously compiled list is designed to identify and prioritize minerals that are essential for various industrial sectors such as high-tech electronics, telecommunications, transport and defence.

The list will serve as a guiding framework for policy formulation, strategic planning and investment decisions in the mining sector.

Incidentally, this initiative aligns with the larger vision of achieving 'Net Zero' target for India through Government's commitment to creating a robust and resilient mineral sector.

CIL cancels 6th tranche of coking coal linkage auction for steel sector

IN SYNC WITH THE NEED. Coal behemoth plans to tweak the auction process to make it 'more friendly'

Abhishek Law
New Delhi

State-run miner Coal India has cancelled the coal linkage auctions to the steel sector.

This was the sixth tranche of linkage auctions for coking coal, a key feedstock for steel making, which was scheduled between June 23 and June 27.

Sources told *businessline* that the miner has planned tweaks in the auction process and norms which led to the cancellation. Tweaks are likely to make the auction "more friendly".

Officials said the auctions have been "postponed" and will "take place" at a later date with new norms. For Tranche VI,



SUPPLY PLAN. The now-cancelled Tranche VI linkage auction had proposed an offering of 1.77 mt of coking coal from Bharat Coking Coal Ltd and Central Coalfields Ltd

Coal India commenced sales with the sponge iron sector in February. This was followed by auctions for the cement sector in May.

The auctions which were held for the captive power plant sec-

tor — earlier in May and June — also stand cancelled as per a notice by Coal India.

In a notice dated June 27, Coal India said, "It is hereby announced that due to unavoidable circumstances the steel (coking

coal) auction under Tranche VI linkage auction scheduled between June 23 and June 27 stands cancelled. The revised schedule for the auction shall be notified in the due course."

LONG-TERM SUPPLY PACT

A linkage auction scheme is a long-term supply agreement, mostly for five years, allotted against competitive bidding. Under this, a separate one-time auction is conducted for various non-power sectors that include cement, sponge iron, captive power plants and steel.

The now-cancelled Tranche VI linkage auction had proposed an offering of 1.77 million tonnes (mt) of coking coal from the mines of Coal India's subsi-

diaries, primarily Bharat Coking Coal Ltd and Central Coalfields Ltd.

For instance, the floor price for washed coking coal (pulverised coking coal) from Moonidih Washery was ₹14,000 per tonne, the highest in the lot, while the floor price for washed medium coking coal from Paterdih Washery was around ₹11,400 per tonne, the second highest floor price in the lot.

Some of the steel mills who had bid in Tranche V said that around 5 mt of coal was put on offer; and around 1.3 mt was booked, mostly at a base price; and in some cases at a premium ₹50-100 per tonne. The bookings were mostly for washery grade coking coal, they claimed.

THE HINDU

DATE:29/6/2023 P.NO14

Jindal Steel, Hindalco, others bid for coal mines

Reuters
NEW DELHI

India has received bids from 22 companies, including Jindal Steel and Power and Hindalco Industries, for the commercial extraction of coal from 18 thermal and coking coal mines, the Ministry of Coal said on Wednesday.

Most of the mines have reserves of thermal coal used in power generation, while one has the variety used in the process of making steel.

The total capacity of the fully explored mines is 47.8 million tonnes per year.

The government wants private players to boost coal production as power demand surges. State-run Coal India dominates coal mining in the country.

BUSINESS LINE DATE:29/6/2023 P.NO2

22 companies place 35 bids for 18 coal blocks



NEW DELHI June 28 (PTI)

AROUND 22 companies, including state-owned NTPC and NLC India and private player JSPL, have placed bids in the seventh round of coal auctions under which 103 blocks were put on offer, an official statement said on Wednesday.

A total of 35 bids (both online and offline) were received for 18 coal mines under the latest round, the Ministry of Coal said in a statement on Wednesday.

Of these 18 coal mines, nine are partially explored whereas the remaining mines are fully explored. The cumulative peak rated capacity (PRC) of the fully explored coal mines is 51.80 mil-

lion tonne per annum (MTPA). 17 coal mines are non-coking coal mines whereas one mine is a coking coal mine. According to the Ministry, Jindal Steel and Power Ltd (JSPL), NLC India, Bajrang Power and Ispat Limited, Gujarat Mineral and Development Corporation (GMDC) and Bull Mining Pvt Ltd have bid for three blocks each. Hindalco Industries Limited, NTPC Mining and Sunflag Iron and Steel Ltd have bid for two coal mines each in the seventh round.

While the remaining 14 companies which include players like Nalwa Steel and Power Limited, Nuvoco Vistas Corp Ltd and Odisha Coal and Power Limited have bid for one mine each. "As part of the auction process, Technical Bids consisting of online and offline bid documents were opened here on June 28, 2023. The online bids were decrypted and opened electronically in the presence of the bidders. Subsequently, sealed envelopes containing offline bid documents were also opened," it said.

NTPC, Hindalco, JSPL bid in 7th round of coal mines auction

Our Bureau
New Delhi

A total of 22 companies including the mining arm of power behemoth NTPC, Jindal Steel and Power, Hindalco Industries and Tamil Nadu Distribution & Generation Corporation (Tangedco) have placed 35 bids for 18 blocks under the latest commercial coal mines auction.

Besides NTPC, four other PSUs including NLC India and Gujarat Mineral and Development Corporation (GMDC) have also submitted bids in the current round of auctions.

Under the seventh round of commercial coal mines auction, the Coal Ministry has offered 106 coal and lignite

blocks. The last date for submission of technical bids was Tuesday.

As part of the auction process, technical bids consisting of online and offline bid documents were opened on Wednesday, the Ministry said.

35 BIDS

"A total of 35 bids (both online and offline) were received under two tranches (7th tranche and 2nd attempt of 6th tranche) of commercial coal mine auctions," it added.

Lignite miner NLC India, JSPL and GMDC have placed bids for 3 mines each, while NTPC Mining and Hindalco Industries have put in bids for two blocks each. Tangedco and Odisha Coal and Power have placed bids for one block each.

Lithium hunt continues in J&K, 30 critical minerals identified

Abhishek Law
New Delhi

India is hopeful of finding more lithium reserves in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

According to officials, exploration for additional lithium sources is already going on in the Salal Hamima region of the Resai district of Jammu.

India's first and only lithium reserves to the tune of 5.9 million tonnes have already been discovered in J&K. The Ministry is in the process of working out the ASP or the reserve price of these reserves.

"We have given them the report and asked them to conduct auctions at the earliest," Pralhad Joshi, Union Minister for Mines



NEW WHITE GOLD. Lithium is one of the key components in rechargeable batteries used in mobiles, laptops and EVs PTI

and Coal, said. Auctions of these reserves in J&K are likely in December. The J&K administration is also in the process of appointing a transaction advisor.

"Exploration continues in the region (Resai), and we are hopeful of positive results (more lithium finds) this year itself. This could add to our lithium resource

base," Vivek Bharadwaj, Secretary, Mines Ministry, said.

IMPORT NUMBERS

India currently imports all major components that go into lithium-ion cell manufacturing. The country's lithium-ion import bill for FY23 was ₹23,171 crore. It covers electric accumulators, in-

cluding separators. "We are focussed on securing critical minerals. Exploration of lithium and cobalt, along with other critical minerals are on," Joshi said, adding that the Geographical Society of India is already carrying out 151-odd exploration projects in the country.

The Ministry released the first-ever report on identification of critical minerals for India. Around 30 minerals have been identified. It includes titanium, tungsten, vanadium, zircon, niobium, germanium, nickel, graphite, silicon, antimony, beryllium, bismuth, among others.

The identification of these minerals takes India in the league of large economies and developed nations such as the US, Japan, China, among others.

According to Joshi, Argentina is one of the countries with which sourcing discussions are on. An MoU has also been signed on the possibility of exploration of lithium there. Other countries like Chile and Australia are also on the radar, he said. Argentina is ranked among the main mineral reserves worldwide. Together with Chile and Bolivia, the north-west of the country forms the so-called "Lithium Triangle" and is currently the fourth largest producer and has the third largest world reserve of lithium.

"KABIL is exploring commercial agreements with foreign governments and countries for sourcing lithium and critical minerals. These would be long-term agreements," Joshi said.

India in advanced talks to secure lithium blocks in Argentina

Abhishek Law
New Delhi

India's KABIL (Khanij Bidesh India Ltd) is in advanced talks for acquiring multiple lithium blocks in Argentina. An MoU in this regard is expected "shortly", Mines Ministry officials, aware of the discussions, told *businessline*.

Apart from Argentina, KABIL is exploring tie-ups and acquisition opportunities for lithium across other LatAm nations such as Chile and Brazil.

It is also open to alternative structures like partnerships, long-term leasing of mines or lithium blocks or investment in the mines.

"KABIL is close to acquisitions in Argentina and will shortly sign an agreement to secure a few lithium blocks. It is scouting for opportunities in Chile and Brazil, too," the official said.

KABIL is joint venture between National Aluminium Company (NALCO), Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd (MECL) and Hindustan Copper Ltd (HCL). It was formed for



identifying, acquisition, development and processing of strategic minerals overseas for use in India.

CURRENT FOCUS

"Current focus is on the Latin American region when it comes to lithium," the official said.

Argentina, together with Chile and Bolivia, forms the so-called "Lithium Triangle" and is currently the fourth largest producer and has the third largest world reserve of lithium.

India, currently, imports all major components that go into lithium-ion cell manufacturing. The country's lithium-ion import bill for FY23 was ₹23,171 crore. It covers electric accumulators, including separators. In FY22, imports for lithium-ion were ₹13,673.15 crore.

"Right now, we are concentrating on securing copper, cobalt and lithium and in some cases nickel supplies among the critical minerals identified," the official said.

Ministry officials said, KABIL will continue to be the front for such overseas pacts that include getting into agreements with governments overseas.

OTHER EXPLORATION

In September, Indian officials are expected to visit Mongolia to look into the possibility of exploring tie-ups for securing copper resources. While it will also tap for copper resources in African nations. Congo is one such nation which India's Mines Ministry is keen to tap.

Copper mining in Congo mainly takes place in the copper belt of the southern Katanga province of the country. Nearly all cobalt in the country is sourced from copper deposits.

Indian imports from Congo of copper was \$4.58 million in 2022, according to the United Nations COMTRADE database on international trade.

Zinc futures: Add shorts

Gurumurthy K

bl. Research Bureau

Zinc prices have been decreasing since mid-June, indicating that the bounce observed from the last week of May was nothing more than a corrective rise. In fact, the current down move indicates the resumption of the broader downtrend.

COMMODITY

CALL.

The Zinc Futures contract (July) on the MCX made a high of ₹224.95 per kg in the second week of June. It is currently at ₹213.55 per kg.

The short-term outlook is bearish. Immediate resistance is in the ₹215-

215.50 region. The 21-Day Moving Average (DMA) resistance is poised to be in this region. Above that ₹218 and ₹22 are the next strong resistances that can cap the upside. The chances are high for the contract to sustain below ₹218. We expect the Zinc Futures (July) contract to fall to ₹205-200 again.

A break below ₹200 will increase the selling pressure. Such a break can drag the contract down to ₹195-193 in few weeks.

Traders can take fresh short positions now. Accumulate shorts at ₹215 and ₹217. Keep the stop-loss at ₹221. Trail the stop-loss down to ₹211 as soon as the contract falls to ₹208. Move the stop-loss further lower to ₹206 when Zinc Futures contract falls to ₹204. Exit the short positions at ₹202.

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