

#### **GOLD**

#### **Market Outlook and Fundamental Analysis:**

Bullion Index register 8th consecutive monthly gain in Aug with index hit fresh all time high in domestic exchange, thanks to FED rate cut bet, continue to safe haven buying towards Gold as well Silver, with gold made fourth monthly attempt to break all time high above \$ 3500, but fail to do so, while Silver rally towards multiyear high due to broad weakness in dollar index, Deficit expectations, increase industrial as well ETF demand, Trade uncertainty, geopolitical as well Trade war situation and FED rate cut bet makes bullion safe landing during month of Aug. Other side continues central bank buying and positive ETF flow into Bullion since last year also makes bullion attractive on year to date basis. However, expected rally in dollar index as well in US Bond yield, any ceasefire news on geopolitical front and unexpected outcome of trade war will likely to limit bullion rally at higher level. Bullion generally remains positive during geopolitical as well financial crisis and gold is known as a safe investment during economic and geo-political crisis, but a high-interest rate environment makes the non-yielding asset less attractive to investors in last year and still this will play a vital role to decide prices in months to come. For the month of July Gold future in domestic exchange register 8<sup>th</sup> monthly gain in last 9-months to end higher by almost 5% while Silver register 4<sup>th</sup> straight monthly gain by almost 7%.

On Geopolitical side, U.S. President said on 7-Sep he is ready to move to a second phase of sanctioning Russia, the closest he has come to suggesting he is on the verge of ramping up sanctions against Moscow or its oil buyers over the war in Ukraine. Trump has repeatedly threatened Moscow with further sanctions but withheld them as he pursued peace talks. The Kremlin said on 8-Sep that no sanctions would ever force Russia to change course in the Ukraine war, hours after the United States and the European Union indicated they were considering additional economic restrictions. The West has imposed tens of thousands of sanctions on Russia over its 3-1/2-year-old war in Ukraine and its 2014 annexation of Crimea in a bid to hobble Russia's \$2.2 trillion economy and undermine support for Russia President.

Chinese President Xi Jinping on 1-Sep pressed his vision for a new global security and economic order that prioritises the "Global South", in a direct challenge to the United States, during a summit that included the leaders of Russia and India. "We must continue to take a clear stand against hegemonism and power politics, and practise true



multilateralism," Xi said, in a thinly veiled swipe at the United States and President Donald Trump's tariff policies.

On Tariffs Update, A divided U.S. appeals court ruled on 30-Aug that most of Donald Trump's tariffs are illegal, undercutting the Republican president's use of the levies as a key international economic policy tool. The court allowed the tariffs to remain in place through October 14 to give the Trump administration a chance to file an appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court. The decision comes as a legal fight over the independence of the Federal Reserve also seems bound for the Supreme Court, setting up an unprecedented legal showdown this year over Trump's entire economic policy. The 7-4 decision from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in Washington, D.C., addressed the legality of what Trump calls "reciprocal" tariffs imposed as part of his trade war in April, as well as a separate set of tariffs imposed in February against China, Canada and Mexico.

The U.S. tariff exemption for package shipments valued under \$800 ended on Friday, raising costs and disrupting supply chain models for e-commerce companies, small businesses using online marketplaces and consumers alike. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency began collecting normal duty rates on all global parcel imports, regardless of value, country of origin, or mode of transportation at 12:01 a.m. EDT (0401 GMT) on 29-Aug. It offered a flat-rate duty option of \$80 to \$200 per package shipped from foreign postal agencies for six months.

US Nonfarm payrolls, a gaunge to interest rates decision shows, U.S. job growth weakened sharply in August while the unemployment rate increased to nearly a four-year high of 4.3%, confirming that labor market conditions were softening and sealing the case for an interest rate cut from the Federal Reserve this month. The Labor Department's employment report also showed the economy lost jobs in June for the first time in 4-1/2 years. Nonfarm payrolls increased by only 22,000 jobs last month after rising by an upwardly revised 79,000 in July, against Reuters had forecast payrolls would rise by 75,000 positions after a previously reported gain of 73,000 in July. Estimates ranged from no jobs added to 144,000 positions created. Revisions also showed payrolls declined by 13,000 jobs in June, the first drop since December 2020, rather than rising by 14,000, as had been reported last month.

U.S. private payrolls increased less than expected in August amid easing labor market conditions. Private employment rose by 54,000 jobs last month after a slightly upwardly revised 106,000 increase in July, the ADP National Employment Report showed against Reuters had forecast private employment increasing 65,000 following a previously reported 104,000 gain in July.

The U.S. economy likely created 911,000 fewer jobs in the 12 months through March than previously estimated, the government said on 9-Sep, suggesting that job growth was already stalling before Presidents aggressive tariffs on imports and against estimated that



the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics could revise the level of employment from April 2024 through March 2025 down by between 400,000 and 1 million jobs. The level of employment for the 12 months through March 2024 was downgraded by 598,000 jobs. The reading is a preliminary estimate of the BLS' annual "benchmark" revision to closely watched payrolls data. Once a year, the BLS compares its non-farm payrolls data, based on monthly surveys of a sample of employers, with a much more complete database of unemployment insurance tax records, the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) data. A final benchmark revision will be released in February along with the BLS' employment report for January. Government statisticians will use the final benchmark count to revise payroll data for the months prior to and after March.

U.S. producer prices unexpectedly fell in August amid a compression in trade services margins and mild increase in the cost of goods, suggesting that domestic businesses were probably absorbing some of the tariffs on imports. The Producer Price Index for final demand dipped 0.1% last month after a downwardly revised 0.7% jump in July, against Reuters had forecast the PPI would advance 0.3% after a previously reported 0.9% surge in July. Excluding the volatile food and energy components, producer goods prices rose 0.3% after climbing 0.4% in July, indicating some pass through from tariffs. In the 12 months through August, the PPI increased 2.6% after climbing 3.1% in July.

The number of Americans filing new applications for jobless benefits increased more than expected last week, while hiring by private employers slowed in August, offering further evidence that labor market conditions were softening. Initial claims for state unemployment benefits rose 8,000 to a seasonally adjusted 237,000 for the week ended August 30, the Labor Department said against Reuters had forecast 230,000 claims for the latest week. There were significant increases in unadjusted claims in Connecticut and Tennessee. The number of people receiving benefits after an initial week of aid slipped 4,000 to 1.940 million during the week ending August 23, the claims report showed.

U.S. services sector activity picked up in August, but employment remained subdued as labor market conditions ease. The Institute for Supply Management (ISM) said its nonmanufacturing PMI increased to 52.0 last month from 50.1 in July against Reuters had forecast the services PMI rising to 51.0. A PMI reading above 50 indicates growth in the services sector, which accounts for more than two-thirds of the economy.

U.S. job openings fell more than expected in July and hiring was moderate, consistent with easing labor market conditions. Job openings, a measure of labor demand, dropped 176,000 to 7.181 million by the last day of July, the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics said in its Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey, or JOLTS report, against Reuters had forecast 7.378 million unfilled jobs. Hiring increased 41,000 to 5.308 million in July. Layoffs rose 12,000 to 1.808 million.



U.S. manufacturing contracted for a 6<sup>th</sup> - straight month in August as factories continued to grapple with the impact of import tariffs, but an artificial intelligence spending boom is lending support to some segments of the industry. The Institute for Supply Management (ISM) manufacturing PMI edged up to 48.7 last month from 48.0 in July. A PMI reading below 50 indicates contraction in manufacturing, which accounts for 10.2% of the economy. The ISM survey's forward-looking new orders sub-index increased to 51.4 after contracting for six consecutive months.

U.S. consumer spending increased by the most in four months in July while services inflation picked up, but economists did not believe the signs of strong domestic demand would prevent the Federal Reserve from cutting interest rates next month against a backdrop of softening labor market conditions. Consumer spending, which accounts for more than two-thirds of economic activity, rose 0.5% last month after an upwardly revised 0.4% gain in June.

U.S Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) Price Index increased 0.2% in July month after an unrevised 0.3% rise in June, the BEA said. Goods prices fell 0.1%, pulled down by a 1.7% drop in the costs of gasoline and other energy goods. Recreational goods and vehicles declined 0.9%. In the 12 months through July, the PCE Price Index rose 2.6%, matching the gain in June. Excluding the volatile food and energy components, the PCE Price Index increased 0.3% last month, matching the rise in June. Services prices increased 0.3%, the most since February, after rising 0.2% for four straight months. It was fueled by a 1.2% jump in the costs of financial services and insurance. In the 12 months through July, the so-called core inflation figure advanced 2.9%. That was the largest rise in core PCE inflation since February and followed a 2.8% increase in June. The Fed tracks the PCE price measures for its 2% inflation target.

U.S Commerce Department's Census Bureau showed the goods trade deficit soared 22.1% to \$103.6 billion last month as imports jumped \$18.6 billion to \$281.5 billion. Goods exports dipped \$0.1 billion to \$178.0 billion. An ebb in import flows led to a sharp contraction in the trade deficit in the second quarter, which added a record 4.95 percentage points to GDP growth that period.

U.S GDP increased at a 3.3% annualized rate last quarter, the BEA said in its second estimate. The economy was initially reported to have grown at a 3.0% pace in the second quarter. It contracted at a 0.5% pace in the January-March quarter, which was the first GDP decline in three years and against Reuters had expected GDP growth would be raised to a 3.1% rate. The revision reflected upgrades to consumer spending, the economy's main engine, as well as business investment in equipment. Both first- and second-quarter GDP readings are not a true reflection of the economy's health because of the wild swings in imports.



New orders for key U.S.-manufactured capital goods increased more than expected in July, suggesting business spending on equipment got off to a strong start in the third quarter. The report from the Commerce Department also showed shipments of non-defense capital goods excluding aircraft, a closely watched proxy for business spending, surged by the most in more than two years last month. The strength in both orders and shipments of these so-called core capital goods was despite independent surveys indicating that businesses were hunkering down amid rising costs from tariffs on imports. Core capital goods orders surged 1.1% last month after a revised 0.6% decline in June, against Reuters had forecast core capital goods orders rebounding 0.2% after a previously reported 0.8% drop in June.

The Philippine central bank cut its key policy rate for a third straight meeting on 28-Aug and signalled that another reduction was still possible this year before it concludes its easing cycle. The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas lowered its Target Reverse Repurchase Rate by 25 basis points to 5.0%, in line with expectations. The projected inflation rate over the next year or so is where we want it to be," BSP Governor Eli Remolona said at a media briefing. "Output is moving to where we think our capacity is." Remolona added that another rate cut was possible before year-end, though the easing cycle is nearing its close.

South Korea's central bank left its policy interest rate unchanged as expected on 28-Aug to slow a rapid buildup of mortgage debt while monitoring the impact of government stimulus policies. The Bank of Korea's 7-member monetary policy board voted to keep its benchmark interest rate unchanged at 2.50%.

U.S. Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on 22-Aug pointed to a possible rate cut at the central bank's September meeting but stopped short of committing to cutting interest rates in remarks that walked a narrow line acknowledging growing risks to the job market while also saying risks of higher inflation remain. "While the labor market appears to be in balance, it is a curious kind of balance that results from a marked slowing in both the supply of and demand for workers. This unusual situation suggests that downside risks to employment are rising. And if those risks materialize, they can do so quickly," Powell told an audience of international economists and policymakers at the Fed's annual conference in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. "It is also possible, however, that the upward pressure on prices from tariffs could spur a more lasting inflation dynamic, and that is a risk to be assessed and managed." "The stability of the unemployment rate and other labor market measures allows us to proceed carefully as we consider changes to our policy stance. Nonetheless, with policy in restrictive territory, the baseline outlook and the shifting balance of risks may warrant adjusting our policy stance," Powell said, noting that while tariffs are expected to drive prices higher the baseline case is for that impact on inflation to fade. Powell's comments open the door to a rate cut at the Fed's September 16-17 meeting, but also put heavy weight on jobs and inflation reports that will be received before then.



The two Federal Reserve policymakers who dissented against the U.S. central bank decision's to leave interest rates unchanged last month appear not to have been joined by other policymakers in voicing support for lowering rates at that meeting, a readout of the gathering released on Wednesday showed. "Almost all participants viewed it as appropriate to maintain the target range for the federal funds rate at 4.25% to 4.50% at this meeting," the minutes of the July 29-30 meeting said. Fed Vice Chair for Supervision Michelle Bowman and Governor Christopher Waller both voted against the decision to leave the benchmark interest rate unchanged, favoring instead a quarter-percentage-point reduction to guard against further weakening of the job market. It was the first time since 1993 that more than one Fed governor dissented against a rate decision. The minutes showed officials continued an active debate on the effects of tariffs on inflation and the degree of restrictiveness in their policy stance. Several policymakers commented that the current level of the federal funds rate may not be far above its neutral level, where economic activity is neither stimulated nor constrained.

U.S. business activity picked up pace in August, led by a resurgent manufacturing sector that saw the strongest growth in orders in 18 months, a purchasing managers survey showed. S&P Global's flash U.S. Composite PMI Output Index, which tracks the manufacturing and services sectors, increased to 55.4 this month, the highest level since December, from 55.1 in July. A reading above 50 indicates expansion in the private sector. The improvement came largely from the manufacturing sector, where the flash PMI surged to 53.3 - the highest since May 2022 - from 49.8 in July and defying economists' expectations for a second month of contraction. The services sector, meanwhile, eased back to 55.4 from 55.7 in July. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast the services PMI slipping to 54.2. The survey's measure of prices charged by businesses for goods and services rose to a three-year high of 59.3 in an indication that companies are increasingly passing along the costs from higher tariffs to consumers.

S&P Global on 18-Aug affirmed its 'AA+' U.S. sovereign credit rating and assigned it a stable outlook, saying the revenue from Trump's tariffs will offset the deficit hit from his recent fiscal bill and the budget gap would average 6% of GDP during the 2025-2028 period - down from 7.5% in 2024 and from an average 9.8% of GDP in 2020-2023. The U.S. reported a \$21 billion jump in customs duty collections from Trump's tariffs in July but the government budget deficit still grew nearly 20% in the same month to \$291 billion.

Separately, A federal judge on 9-Sep temporarily blocked President Donald Trump from removing Federal Reserve Governor Lisa Cook, an early setback for the White House in an unprecedented legal battle that could upend the central bank's long-held independence. The preliminary ruling by U.S. District Judge Jia Cobb in Washington, D.C. found that the Trump administration's claims that Cook committed mortgage fraud prior to taking office were likely not sufficient grounds for her removal.



U.S. President on 26Aug has taken his feud with the Federal Reserve to an unprecedented extreme with his effort to fire Governor Lisa Cook, kicking off what could be a protracted legal battle that risks resetting long-established norms for the central bank's independence and a president's involvement in monetary policy. Trump said in a letter to Cook, the first African-American woman to serve on the Federal Reserve's governing body, that he had "sufficient cause to remove you from your position" because in 2021 she had indicated on documents for separate mortgage loans on properties in Michigan and Georgia that both were a primary residence where she intended to live. Since taking office in January, Trump has fired several Black women who held senior government positions, including the head of the Library of Congress and the chair of the National Labor Relations Board.

U.S. President on 20-Aug called on Federal Reserve Governor Lisa Cook to resign, citing a call by the head of the U.S. Federal Housing Finance Agency urging the Department of Justice to probe Cook over alleged mortgage fraud. Earlier in Aug month he named Council of Economic Advisers Chairman Stephen Miran to serve out the rest of the term that opened from Governor Adriana Kugler's unexpected exit.

According to WGC, Global gold demand rose 3% y/y in Q2 2025 to 1,249 tonnes, with value surging 45% to US\$132 billion. Investor flows remained the key growth driver, spurred by safe-haven demand and record-high gold prices. Gold-backed ETFs saw continued inflows amid persistent geopolitical risks and economic uncertainty. Bar and coin demand posted strong y/y growth, witnessing the most robust H1 since 2013, while central bank purchases totaled 166 tonnes—below recent highs but still reflecting solid interest in gold as a reserve asset. High prices dampened jewellery volumes, although their overall value rose sharply. On the supply side, total availability increased 3% with modest gains in mine output and recycling, the latter showing limited response to elevated prices. Looking ahead, investment demand is likely to remain strong but may ease slightly in H2, while central bank buying and constrained jewellery consumption will continue to shape the gold market.

Global gold demand including over-the-counter (OTC) trading rose by 3% y-o-y to 1,248.8 metric tons in the second quarter of 2025 as investment jumped 78%, the World Gold Council said at end of July month. Demand for gold bars rose 21% in the second quarter, offsetting a continuing slump in demand for coins, said the WGC, an industry body whose members are global gold miners. Global gold jewellery consumption, the main category of physical demand, fell 14% to 341.0 tons, the lowest level since the pandemic-swept third quarter of 2020, as the high prices deterred buyers. Central banks, another major source of gold demand, reduced purchases by 21% to 166.5 tons in the second quarter, the WGC calculated, based on reported purchases and an estimate of unreported buying. On the supply front, recycling added 4% to 347.2 tons in the second quarter, but remained relatively subdued despite record prices, as Indian consumers opted to exchange old jewellery for new, or to pledge it as collateral against loans.



Central banks worldwide are on track to buy 1,000 metric tons of gold in 2025, which would be their fourth year of massive purchases as they diversify reserves from dollar-denominated assets into bullion, consultancy Metals Focus said. The price rally has so far kept purchases by central banks, a crucial category of demand, unaffected with the first-quarter buying in line with the 2022-24 quarterly average, Metals Focus said in its annual report. Accounting for almost one fourth of total demand, central banks are the third largest category of gold consumption after the jewellery sector and physical investment. In 2025, purchases from central banks are expected to fall by 8% from last year's record high of 1,086 tons.

The World Gold Council in collaboration with law firm Linklaters and consultancy firm Hilltop Walk Consulting has announced a new framework to modernize the global gold market. The proposal introduces a new structure called Pooled Gold Interests which allows investors to own a share of physical gold stored in vaults, including in small, fractional amounts. The system is designed to make gold easier to trade and use, including as collateral in financial markets and allow easy and secure transfer of gold interests between parties.

SPDR Gold Trust, the world's largest gold-backed exchange-traded fund, said its holdings rose 1.01% to 977.68 tons on 29-Aug - its highest level since August 2022.

On data side, U.S. corporate profits rebounded in the second quarter, but tariffs on imports are raising costs for businesses, which could limit further gains and hamper economic growth. Profits from current production with inventory valuation and capital consumption adjustments increased \$65.5 billion last quarter, the Commerce Department's Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) said. Profits decreased \$90.6 billion in the January-March period.

A 30-year government borrowing rates in Japan, Europe and the United States all spiking. The U.S. long bond touched 5% for the first time since mid-July. A mix a concerns about rising public debt piles, the European budget season, Federal Reserve independence, the week's U.S. jobs numbers and even another potential round of U.S. debt ceiling battles all appear to have conspired to jar the back end of the bond market. Japan's 30-year government bond yield hit a record high, Germany's 30-year hit a 14-year high, French 30-year debt hovered near 17-year highs and Britain's 30-year gilt clocked its highest since 1998. Societe Generale said it expects more than 100 billion euros in European bond issuance this month and next.

China, world's leading consumer of gold, China's net gold imports via Hong Kong rose 126.81% in July from June, Hong Kong Census and Statistics Department data showed on 26-Aug. Net imports via Hong Kong to China for July stood at 43.923 metric tons, compared to 19.366 tons of net imports in June. China's total gold imports via Hong Kong



reached 58.296 tons in July, down 67.91% from 34.719 tons in June. The Hong Kong data may not provide a complete picture of Chinese purchases, as gold is also imported via Shanghai and Beijing.

Central bank gold buying and global trade tensions are likely to push bullion prices to near \$5,000 an ounce by 2028, billionaire investor John Paulson said earlier in an interview during which he reinforced his commitment to U.S. mining projects.

China is considering allowing the usage of yuan-backed stablecoins for the first time to boost wider adoption of its currency globally, sources familiar with the matter said, in a major reversal of its stance towards digital assets. The State Council - China's cabinet – will review and possibly approve a roadmap later this month for the greater usage of the currency globally, including catching up with a U.S. push on stablecoins. The plan is expected to include targets for usage of the Chinese currency in the global markets and outline the responsibilities of domestic regulators, they said, adding that the roadmap will also include guidelines for risk prevention.

Peru's gold exports to China surged in the first half of 2025 to surpass shipments from all of last year, according to government data released in August. Peru's gold exports to China reached \$947 million in the first half of 2025, up nearly four times from the same period last year. That figure has been steadily rising. Peru exported \$885 million in gold to China in 2024, a 410% increase from the \$173 million in exports registered in 2023. Peru's global gold exports surged 46% year-on-year in the six months through June, to total \$8.57 billion. China ranks fourth as the biggest gold buyer from Peru, after Canada, India and Switzerland.

ANZ Group raised its year-end gold price forecast to \$3,800 per ounce and said prices could peak near \$4,000 by June next year, citing robust investment demand for bullion.

UBS on 18-Aug raised its gold price target for end-March 2026 by \$100 to \$3,600 on persistent U.S. macroeconomic risks, a decline in dollar use, and strong investment demand.

HSBC has lifted its silver price forecasts for 2025, 2026, and 2027, citing strong support from high gold prices and safe-haven demand in the face of geopolitical and economic uncertainty. The bank now expects average silver prices of \$35.14 per ounce in 2025, up from \$30.28 previously, \$33.96 in 2026, against an earlier forecast of \$26.95, and \$31.79 in 2027, versus \$28.30 formerly. HSBC said that after four years of record-high growth, industrial demand for silver may edge lower this year, although any declines are likely to be limited. It said demand would likely recover in 2026, driven by key sectors such as the photovoltaic industry and electronics. However, jewellery and silverware demand is likely to weaken further due to high prices, while coin and bar demand has been undercut by previous robust purchases and high prices, the bank added. On the supply side, silver mine



output continues to rise at a modest pace. The bank's supply-demand model projects a silver deficit of 206 million ounces in 2025, widening from a 167 million ounce deficit in 2024. That is expected to narrow to 126 million ounces in 2026. HSBC also said a weaker U.S. dollar this year, as forecast by HSBC research, is silver positive, while ongoing debates over Federal Reserve rate cuts and central bank policies could impact prices going forward.

Citi raised its gold price forecast over next three months to \$3,500 per ounce from \$3,300, and the expected trading range to \$3,300–\$3,600 from \$3,100–\$3,500, on the belief that near-term U.S. growth and inflation outlook has deteriorated. Citi also highlights weaker U.S. labor data in second quarter of 2025, institutional credibility concerns have increased regarding the Federal Reserve and US statistics, and elevated geopolitical risks related to the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Citi estimates gross gold demand has risen over one-third since mid-2022, nearly doubling prices by second quarter of 2025.

JP Morgan sees gold prices crossing the \$4,000 per ounce milestone next year, following increased recession probabilities amid boosted U.S. tariffs and an ongoing U.S.-China trade war, the bank said in a note on 23-April. The bank now expects gold prices to reach an average of \$3,675/oz by 4Q25, on the way towards above \$4,000/oz by 2Q26, with risks skewed towards an earlier overshoot of these forecasts if demand surpasses its expectations. Earlier in April month, Goldman Sachs raised its end-2025 gold price forecast to \$3,700/oz from \$3,300, noting that in "extreme tail scenarios," gold could plausibly trade near \$4,500/oz by end-2025. JP Morgan also predicts greater headwinds for silver in the near-term given industrial demand uncertainty, while a "catch-up window" will open over the second half of 2025 with prices set to rise towards \$39/oz by 2025-end.

Goldman Sachs has increased its year-end gold forecast to \$3,700 per troy ounce (toz), citing stronger-than-expected central bank demand and heightened recession risks impacting ETF inflows. The investment bank, whose previous year-end forecast was \$3,300, said it expected central bank demand to average 80 tonnes per month, up from its previous assumption of 70 tonnes and well above the pre-2022 baseline of 17 tonnes per month. However, if economic growth outperforms expectations due to reduced policy uncertainty, ETF flows would likely revert back to their rates-based prediction, with year-end prices closer to \$3,550/toz, Goldman said.

HSBC raised its 2025 average gold price forecast to \$3,215 an ounce from \$3,015 and its 2026 forecast to \$3,125 from \$2,915, citing elevated risks and government debt. Gold tends to perform well during periods of economic uncertainty and geopolitical tension, which lifted spot gold to a record high of \$3,500.05 an ounce in late April.

Bitcoin hit a record high on 14-Aug as increasing expectations for easier monetary policy from the Federal Reserve added to tailwinds from recently announced financial reforms. The world's largest crypto-asset by market capitalisation climbed to \$124,002.49 in early



Asia trading, surpassing its previous peak hit in July. On the day, the second largest crypto-token ether hit \$4,780.04, the highest level since late 2021. Bitcoin's rally is being powered by increasing certainty of Fed rate cuts, sustained institutional buying and moves by the Trump administration to ease investment in crypto assets. Bitcoin has risen nearly 32% so far in 2025. Crypto has scored multiple regulatory wins in the U.S. over 2025, including the passage of stablecoin regulations and the U.S. securities regulator's move to overhaul regulations in order to accommodate the asset class. According to data from CoinMarketCap, the crypto sector's overall market capitalisation has ballooned to over \$4.18 trillion, up from about \$2.5 trillion in November 2024, when Trump won the U.S. presidential election.

The euro zone economy kept expanding at a snail's pace in August as weaker services growth offset improved manufacturing output, despite the first rise in overall new orders since May last year, a survey showed. The HCOB Eurozone Composite PMI, compiled by S&P Global, inched up to 51.0 in August from 50.9 in July, marking a 12-month high but still indicating only modest growth. The 50.0 threshold separates growth from contraction. The services sector, which dominates the bloc's economy, saw growth slow to a marginal pace with its PMI falling to 50.5 in August from July's four-month high of 51.0. Manufacturing showed its strongest production increase in nearly 3-1/2 years, providing a bright spot in an otherwise subdued economic landscape.

Euro zone factory activity expanded for the first time since mid-2022 as domestic demand offset the impact from U.S. tariffs while the Asian manufacturing sector saw shrinkage, private surveys showed. There were mixed signals over the Chinese economy, however, as one such survey unexpectedly indicated modest expansion, contradicting an official readout the day before which showed activity continuing to shrink. Export powerhouses Japan, South Korea and Taiwan all saw manufacturing activity shrink in August, while In Europe, Greece and Spain led factory growth while manufacturing in Germany, the bloc's largest economy, shrank albeit at a slower pace. The HCOB Euro zone Manufacturing PMI rose to an over-three-year high of 50.7 in August from 49.8 in July, surpassing the 50.0 threshold that separates growth from contraction.

Euro zone businesses saw new orders increase in August for the first time since May 2024, helping overall activity expand at the fastest pace in 15 months despite persistent weakness in exports, a survey said. The HCOB Flash Eurozone Composite PMI, compiled by S&P Global, rose to 51.1 in August from 50.9 in July, marking the third consecutive monthly improvement and the highest reading since May 2024 and against Reuters had predicted a dip to 50.7. PMI readings above 50.0 indicate growth in activity while those below point to a contraction. The manufacturing sector showed notable improvement with its headline PMI rising to 50.5 from 49.8 in July, moving into expansion territory for the first time in more than three years. Manufacturing output grew at the quickest rate in nearly three-and-a-half years, with the subindex climbing to 52.3 from 50.6. Services



activity continued to expand but at a reduced pace, with the bloc's dominant sector's PMI slipping to 50.7 from 51.0 in July.

The number of unemployed people in Germany has topped three million for the first time in a decade, labour office figures showed, raising the stakes for the government's huge investment plans to deliver quick results. A total of 3.02 million people were unemployed in August in seasonally unadjusted terms, with an increase of 46,000 in the number of people out of work from the previous month. The seasonally adjusted jobless rate remained stable at 6.3%, in line with forecast in a Reuters. But labour demand is slowing. There were 631,000 job openings in August, 68,000 fewer than a year ago.

France's 30-year government bond yields hitting their highest in over 16 years as Prime Minister François Bayrou began talks with political parties in a bid to prevent a government collapse over his budget. U.S. 30-year yields stalked 5% yet again and hit their highest in over a month - sending the 2-to-30-year yield curve to its highest in almost four years.

Britain's 30-year borrowing costs rose to their highest levels since 1998 and sterling slid over 1.5% on 2-Sep, highlighting growing investor anxiety about the UK's ability to keep its finances under control. Thirty-year gilt yields rose to 5.723%, their highest since May 1998. On same day France's 30-year government bond yields surged to their highest levels in over 16 years, driven by fiscal concerns and political instability. Japan's bonds have sold off heavily this year on concern about rising debt.

UK Consumer prices climbed by 3.8% in July, the fastest annual rise for a Group of Seven economy and approaching the BoE's forecast of a 4% peak in September. British inflation looks set to hit 4% next month, double the Bank of England's target and a level likely to add to nervousness at the central bank about the risk of price growth getting stuck at a stubbornly high rate. British inflation has been above the BoE's 2% target almost constantly since May 2021

Britain's economy slowed less than expected between April and June after a strong start to the year, despite the shock of U.S. trade tariffs and a weaker jobs market, offering help to finance minister in meeting her budget goals. Official figures published on 14-Aug showed that after an unusually strong 0.7% expansion in the first three months of 2025, gross domestic product grew 0.3% in the second quarter and against above the 0.1% expected. The Office for National Statistics said, GDP fell 0.1% in April - a smaller decline than first thought - and dropped again in May before rising 0.4% in June with growth across services, industry and construction. earlier, the BoE forecast Britain's economy would grow 0.3% in the third quarter and 1.25% in 2025 as a whole.

Britain's jobs market has weakened again, official data showed on 12-Aug, with payrolls falling for a sixth month and vacancies dropping further, but wage growth stayed strong, underscoring why the Bank of England is so cautious about cutting interest rates. The number of employees on company payrolls, as measured by tax office data, fell by a



provisional 8,000 in July from June, extending a run of declines that began in February but the smallest decline in that run. The reduction in June was revised down to 26,000, fewer than the originally reported fall of 41,000. Basic wage growth in the private sector - watched closely by the BoE - edged down to 4.8% in the three months to June. But overall average weekly earnings, excluding bonuses, grew by 5.0%, unchanged from the three months to May and above the 3% level seen as consistent with the BoE's 2% inflation target. In one positive sign for the BoE and the government, the inactivity rate - which measures people out of work and not looking for a job - fell to its lowest since the start of the coronavirus pandemic at 21%.

Germany's economy shrank by 0.3% in the second quarter compared with the first three months of the year, as demand from its top trading partner the United States slowed following months of buying ahead in anticipation of U.S. tariffs. The statistics office revised its preliminary reading of a 0.1% contraction, further dimming expectations of a sustained recovery by Europe's biggest economy this year. Germany was the only member of the G7 advanced economies that failed to grow for the last two years and trade tensions could put it on track for a third year of recession for the first time in post-war German history.

A measure of Australian business conditions picked up in August as firms reported better profits and employment, while input costs grew at the slowest pace since 2021 in a promising sign for inflation and margins. The survey from National Australia Bank showed its index of business conditions rose two points to +7 in August, taking it back to the long run average. A more volatile index of business confidence eased 4 points to +4, but again was around the long run trend.

A measure of Australian consumer sentiment eased back from 3-1/2-year highs in September as concerns about the economic outlook overshadowed a continued improvement in family finances, a survey showed. A Westpac-Melbourne Institute survey showed its main index of consumer sentiment fell 3.1% to 95.4, having jumped 5.7% in August to its highest since early 2022. The reading under 100 means pessimists still outnumber optimists.

Australia's surplus on goods trade widened to its highest since early 2024 in July, data showed on Thursday, as exports of energy commodities, rural goods and gold all climbed. The Australian Bureau of Statistics reported the surplus on goods rose to A\$7.3 billion (\$4.74 billion) in July, from a revised A\$5.4 billion in June. That was well above market forecasts for a A\$5.0 billion surplus. Exports climbed 3.3%, led by iron ore, liquefied natural gas, meat products and non-monetary gold. Imports fell 1.3% on a pullback in gold shipments and consumer goods.

Australia's economy grew at the fastest annual pace in almost two years in the second quarter as consumers finally started spending after multiple rate cuts, taking over from the government as the main driver of growth. The Australian Bureau of Statistics reported real



gross domestic product (GDP) rose 0.6% in the second quarter, topping market forecasts of a 0.5% gain. That compared with a 0.3% gain in the first quarter. Annual growth accelerated to 1.8%, from 1.4%, the fastest pace in almost two years and slightly stronger than the RBA's forecast of 1.7% by year-end. The household savings ratio eased back to 4.2%, from 5.2%, as consumers chose to spend rather than save.

Australian job advertisements were steady in August, highlighting a still resilient labour market amid lower interest rates, while a bounce in retail hiring was expected to persist into coming months. Data from Australia and New Zealand Banking Group and employment website Indeed showed the number of job ads inched up 0.1% in August from July, when they dropped by a upwardly revised 0.6%. Job ads in August were 1.9% higher than a year earlier, and remained 15.1% higher than pre-pandemic levels.

Australia's central bank cut interest rates on 12-Aug for a third time this year and signaled further policy easing might be needed to meet its inflation and employment goals as the economy lost some momentum. Wrapping up a two-day policy meeting, the Reserve Bank of Australia board cut the main cash rate by a quarter point to 3.6%, saying that data suggested core inflation would moderate to around the middle of its 2% to 3% target band, assuming a gradual easing in policy. The RBA also slashed the outlook for economic growth as productivity stayed persistently weak. It, however, still forecast a slowdown in core inflation and maintained a steady labour market.

South Korea's factory activity weakened for the seventh consecutive month in August, as overseas demand dropped on U.S. President Donald Trump's higher tariffs, a business survey showed. The PMI for manufacturers in Asia's fourth-largest economy, released by S&P Global, stood at 48.3 in August, up from 48.0 in July. The index has stayed below the 50-mark, which separates expansion from contraction, since February.

South Korea's export growth in August slowed more than markets had anticipated, as tariffs sent U.S.-bound shipments tumbling to their sharpest decline since the COVID-19 pandemic, trade data showed. Exports from Asia's fourth-largest economy, an early bellwether for global trade, rose 1.3% from the same month last year to \$58.40 billion, weaker than a 3.0% increase expected.

Japan's manufacturing activity contracted for the second month in August as U.S. tariffs weighed on overseas demand, a private-sector survey showed. The S&P Global flash Japan Manufacturing PMI increased to 49.9 in August from July's final 48.9, but it remained below the 50.0 threshold that separates growth from contraction for two straight months. Foreign orders for Japanese goods fell at the fastest pace in 17 months, underscoring the fragility of the export-reliant manufacturing sector. In the services sector, activity continued to expand but at a slower pace, with the flash services PMI falling to 52.7 in August from July's final 53.6. The composite PMI output index, which aggregates



manufacturing and services, rose to 51.9 in August from 51.6 in July to mark the fastest expansion in six months.

Japan's exports posted the biggest monthly drop in about four years in July, government data showed on Wednesday, as the impact of U.S. tariffs intensified, raising concerns about the outlook for the export-reliant economy. Total exports from the world's fourth-largest economy dropped 2.6% year-on-year in July in value terms, the biggest monthly drop since February 2021, when exports fell 4.5%. It was larger than a market forecast for a 2.1% decrease and marks a third straight month of decline after a 0.5% drop in June. Exports to the United States in July fell 10.1% from a year earlier, with automobiles slumping 28.4% and automotive components down 17.4%.

Japanese core consumer prices slowed for a second straight month in July but stayed above the central bank's 2% target, keeping alive expectations for a rate hike in the coming months.

Japan's annual wholesale inflation slowed for the 4<sup>th</sup> straight month in July, underscoring the central bank's view that upward price pressure from raw material costs will dissipate. The corporate goods price index (CGPI), which measures the price companies charge each other for their goods and services, rose 2.6% in July from a year earlier, slowing from the previous month's 2.9% increase and against expected for a 2.5% rise.

Thailand's central bank lowered its policy rate to a near 3-year low to boost a slowing economy grappling with U.S. tariffs, falling prices and weak foreign tourist arrivals, with further policy easing seen later this year. As expected, the monetary committee unanimously cut the one-day repurchase rate by 25 basis points to 1.50%, the lowest since late 2022. It was the fourth reduction in 10 months.

Indonesia's central bank cut interest rates again in a surprise move on 20-Aug and flagged it could cut some more, as it stepped up support for Southeast Asia's largest economy against the backdrop of global uncertainties. Bank Indonesia (BI) trimmed the benchmark 7-day reverse repurchase rate by 25 basis points to 5.00%, its fifth rate cut since September, taking it to its lowest level since late 2022. GDP growth is expected to accelerate to around 5.1% or higher in 2025, above the midpoint of BI's official outlook range of 4.6% to 5.4%, Warjiyo said, and compared with 5.03% in 2024.

New Zealand's central bank cut its policy rate by 25 basis points to a 3-year low of 3.00% on 20-Aug, and flagged further reductions in coming months as policymakers warned of domestic and global headwinds to growth. The Reserve Bank of New Zealand said the economy had stalled in the second quarter, and lowered its projected floor for the cash rate to 2.55%, from 2.85% forecast in May. Two members of the six-strong policy committee even voted to cut by 50 basis points. The central bank has slashed rates by 250 basis points since August 2024 to underpin a fragile recovery, though it said "consumption and investment demand appear to have weakened in the second quarter of 2025, partly in



response to heightened trade policy uncertainty" after a shakeup in U.S. tariff policy in April this year. Markets quickly moved to narrow the odds on two more cuts, implying a 50% chance of a move in October and over 100% for November. The bottom is now implied around 2.57%, compared to 2.76% before the RBNZ announcement.

India the world's fifth-biggest economy, Indian Finance Minister on 3-Sep announced tax cuts on hundreds of consumer items ranging from soaps to small cars to spur domestic demand in the face of economic headwinds from punishing U.S. tariffs. The goods and services tax panel approved lowering taxes on everyday items and simplifying their structure, Sitharaman, who heads the panel that includes ministers from all states, told a late-night press conference. The GST was criticised for its complicated structure and numerous tax categories. To simplify this, the panel approved the two-rate structure of 5% and 18%, instead of four rates currently. the panel approved cuts in consumer items such as toothpaste and shampoo to 5% from 18%, and on small cars, air conditioners, and televisions to 18% from 28%. the GST will be removed from all individual life insurance policies and health insurance. Federal and state governments are estimated to lose 480 billion Indian rupees (\$5.49 billion) due to the cuts that will be implemented from September 22, the first day of the Hindu festival of Navratri.

India collected 1.86 trillion rupees (\$21.26 billion) as goods and services tax in August, 6.5% higher than the same period last year, the government data showed.

India's current account logged a deficit in the April-June quarter on the back of a higher merchandise trade shortfall, the Reserve Bank of India said. The current account deficit stood at \$2.4 billion, or 0.2% of GDP, in the first quarter of the fiscal year 2025-26, compared with a deficit of \$8.6 billion, or 0.9% of GDP, in the same quarter a year ago. In the preceding quarter, the current account had recorded a surplus of \$13.5 billion, or 1.3% of GDP. The merchandise trade deficit widened to \$68.5 billion from \$63.8 billion a year earlier, the RBI said.

India is likely to get above-average monsoon rainfall in September after receiving 5% above-normal rains in August, the state-run weather department said. All regions, except northeastern states and the southern states of Tamil Nadu and Kerala, are likely to receive rainfall equating to 109% of the 50-year average in September, the IMD said.

India's manufacturing activity expanded at its fastest pace in more than 17 years in August as production accelerated amid strong demand, which added to inflationary pressures, a survey showed. Manufacturing output rose 7.7% year-on-year, compared with 4.8% in the previous quarter. The HSBC India Manufacturing PMI, compiled by S&P Global, rose to 59.3 in August - the highest since February 2008 - from 59.1 in July. Although, the reading was slightly lower than expected of 59.8. PMI readings above 50.0 indicate growth in activity while those below point to a contraction.



India's economy unexpectedly gathered steam in the April-June quarter, defying expectations of slower growth even as a sharp rise in U.S tariffs on Indian imports threatens to weigh on business activity in coming quarters. Gross domestic product expanded 7.8% in the latest quarter in Asia's third-largest economy, the fastest in 5-quarters, from 7.4% in the previous 3-month period, government data showed and well above expectations to rise 6.7%. Gross value added (GVA), seen as a more accurate measure of underlying economic activity, grew 7.6% in the three months to June, from 6.8% in the previous quarter. GVA excludes indirect taxes and government subsidy payouts, which tend to be volatile. Private consumer spending, which makes up about 57% of GDP, rose 7.0% year-on-year in April-June, compared with 6% in the previous quarter, as rural spending increased, and demand for durables and farm equipment such as tractors remained firm.

India's fiscal deficit in April-July was 4.68 trillion rupees (\$53.48 billion) or 29.9% of the estimate for the financial year ending March 31, government data showed.

Credit-rating firm Fitch maintained India's sovereign rating at 'BBB-' on 25-Aug, citing levels of fiscal deficits and debt that are still high, crushing the government's hopes for a lift in ratings by all three major providers. This month, S&P upgraded India to 'BBB', its first such upgrade in 18 years, prompting the government to respond that it expected other rating houses to follow suit. Fitch has rated India at 'BBB-' since 2006, while Moody's has retained its 'Baa3' rating since June 2020. The agency expects India's economy to grow at 6.5% in real terms in financial year 2026, unchanged from fiscal year 2025. U.S. tariffs pose "a moderate downside risk" to this forecast, it said.

India private sector activity expanded at the fastest pace on record in August, fuelled by a robust surge in demand led by the dominant services sector, which allowed firms to hike prices at the fastest clip in over 12 years, a survey showed. HSBC's flash India Composite PMI, compiled by S&P Global, rose to 65.2 in August from 61.1, confounding expectations for a decline to 60.5. It was the highest reading since the survey began in December 2005 and remained above the 50-mark that separates growth from contraction for the 49th month. Record expansion was underpinned by the sharpest uptick in total new orders - a key gauge of demand - in nearly 18 years.

India's monetary policy committee members flagged evolving risks from global trade tensions and tariffs as a key drag on growth but said the economy remains resilient with the inflation outlook benign, minutes of the August meeting showed. The Reserve Bank of India held its key repo rate steady at 5.50% earlier this month, after cutting rates by 100 basis points so far in 2025. The six-member Monetary Policy Committee voted unanimously to retain a "neutral" stance, citing the need for flexibility amid domestic and global uncertainties.



India's unemployment rate fell to 5.2% in July from 5.6% in the previous month, the statistics ministry said, as rural hiring picked up ahead of the festival season and on agricultural activity. The jobless rate among those aged 15 years and above in rural areas fell to 4.4% from 4.9% in June, while it rose in urban areas to 7.2% from 7.1% in June, the data showed. Among urban youth aged 15 to 29 years, unemployment increased to 19.0% in July from 18.8% in June. In rural areas, the youth jobless rate declined to 13% from 13.8% in the previous month. It was 13.7% in May. The unemployment rate for the April-June period, the first quarter of current fiscal year, was estimated at 5.4% among those aged 15 years and above, the ministry said.

India's merchandise trade deficit hit an 8-month high of over \$27 billion in July as imports surged faster than exports ahead of U.S. President's announcements of new tariffs on trading partners, including India. In April-July, shipments to the U.S. rose 21.6% to \$33.53 billion from \$27.57 billion a year earlier, while imports from the U.S. climbed to \$17.41 billion from \$15.50 billion a year ago, the government data showed. Goods exports rose to \$37.24 billion in July from \$35.14 billion in June, while imports jumped to \$64.59 billion from \$53.92 billion, partly on pre-festival demand, the data showed. The trade deficit hit a record \$37.8 billion in November 2024.

S&P Global Ratings on 14-Aug upgraded India's long-term sovereign credit rating to 'BBB' from 'BBB-', the first upgrade in 18 years, citing strong economic growth, improved monetary policy credibility, and sustained fiscal consolidation. Fitch has rated India at 'BBB-' since 2006 while Moody's has had a 'Baa3' rating in place since June 2020. The upgrade follows S&P's decision in May 2024 to revise India's outlook to positive from stable, driven by robust growth and better quality of government spending. S&P also raised its transfer and convertibility assessment to 'A-' from 'BBB+', reflecting improved external resilience. S&P expects India's debt-to-GDP ratio to decline to 78% by fiscal year 2029, from 83% in fiscal 2025. The country's fiscal year runs April-March.

On domestic Data update, India's services sector growth accelerated to a 15-year high in August on robust demand, which also pushed prices higher at the fastest rate in over a decade, a business survey showed. HSBC's India Services PMI, compiled by S&P Global, jumped to 62.9 last month from 60.5 in July, but was much lower than expectations of 65.6. Readings above 50.0 indicate growth on a monthly basis, while those below that level point to a contraction. India's industrial output grew at its fastest pace in four months in July, aided by a rise in manufacturing activity, government data showed. Industrial output grew 3.5% y-o-y last month, higher than 2.1% expected and Industrial output grew 1.5% y-o-y in June. India's infrastructure output grew 2% year-on-year in July, government data showed. The index, which tracks activity across eight sectors and makes up 40% of the country's industrial production, grew at a revised 2.2% in June, compared to the initial estimate of 1.7%. India's wholesale prices in July fell 0.58% y-o-y, from a 0.13% decline in the previous month, dragged down by a drop in food prices, and against Reuters had projected the wholesale price index to fall 0.3% y-o-y in July.



Going ahead, rate cut path by U.S FED, political and economic risks, non-dollar and yield-sensitive demand from de-dollarising central banks and investors seeking a hedge against fiscal instability, as well as sticky inflation, will support another year of gains for gold. Gold likely to continue its northward journey with record high prices on sight in 2024, when the fundamentals of a dovish pivot in U.S. interest rates, continued geopolitical risk, and central bank buying are expected to support the market. To makes bullion attractive assets class, we need to see stronger demand from investors, such as a pickup in ETF inflows, continue central banks buying and for all that weaker U.S. economic data and lower inflation is needed, so that the Fed sounds more dovish.

#### **Technical Outlook:**

#### On the Daily Chart MCX:



Sources - Ticker Plant and Bonanza Research

In COMEX GOLD is trading at \$3740

#### **Expected support and Resistance level for the month**

| Gold             | <b>S1</b> | S2     | R1     | R2     |
|------------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|
| COMEX/DG CX (\$) | 3610      | 3500   | 3780   | 3850   |
| MCX (Rs.)        | 108500    | 106500 | 112200 | 113500 |

Mcx Trend seen Bullish as long S1 hold, while Sustain close below 108500-106500 seen Dn Rally again



### **SILVER**

#### **Technical Outlook:**

#### On the Daily Chart MCX:



#### Expected support and Resistance level for the month

| Silver           | <b>S1</b> | <b>S2</b> | R1     | R2     |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------|
| COMEX/DG CX (\$) | 41.0      | 39.0      | 44.0   | 46.0   |
| MCX (Rs.)        | 130200    | 127200    | 134000 | 136000 |

MCX trend seen Bullish as long hold S1 – 130000, While Only Sustain below 125200 seen Dn Trend again.



#### **CRUDE OIL**

#### **Market Outlook and Fundamental Analysis**

Energy complex register a monthly fall by almost 7% after 3-months of gain due to OPEC+ decision to increase production added by demand concern after Trade war as well geopolitical turmoil at the time when supply from top producing countries seen record high, pressure energy complex in Aug month. However, down side seen cap by fall in dollar index, expected supply disturbance after ongoing geopolitical tension and demand recovery expectations especially from China after Stimulus offered earlier. Benchmark Brent crude and WTI end almost 6-7% lower for the month Aug.

Benchmark WTI Future on a monthly chart seen continue lower top lower bottom pattern since multiyear high hit around \$ 130/barrel in Q1-2022 and since then it made 5 higher side attempt but fail to break even previous months swing high, indicates price likely to remain subdued towards negative bias.

OPEC+ has agreed to further raise oil production from October as its leader Saudi Arabia pushes to regain market share, while slowing the pace of increases compared with previous months due to an anticipated weakening of global demand. The eight members of OPEC+ will lift production from October by 137,000 barrels per day. That, however, is much lower than increases of about 555,000 bpd for September and August and 411,000 bpd in July and June. The Sunday deal also means OPEC+ has begun to unwind a second tranche of cuts of about 1.65 million bpd by eight members more than a year ahead of schedule. The group has already fully unwound the first tranche of 2.5 million bpd since April, equivalent to about 2.4 percent of global demand. The impact of the latest increase is expected to be relatively low, because some members have been overproducing. So the higher output level would likely include barrels that are already in the market. OPEC+ has been increasing production since April after years of cuts aimed at supporting the oil market. The latest decision comes despite a likely looming oil glut in the Northern Hemisphere winter months.

OPEC released a compensation schedule from six of its members covering the period from last month and until June next year to make up for producing above their targets. The



schedule indicates that in total the members need to deliver monthly cuts ranging from 190,000 barrels per day to 829,000 bpd to comply with output targets. The data shows that Saudi Arabia and Algeria were the only two countries not required to deliver compensation cuts. The group of eight producers agreed to raise production targets by 137,000 bpd for October, thus beginning to unwind a layer of 1.65 million bpd in cuts ahead of schedule. This comes after the group raised output targets by 2.5 million bpd between April and September.

OPEC's oil output rose further in August after an OPEC+ agreement to raise production, a Reuters survey found, mainly reflecting higher production by the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. The OPEC pumped 27.84 million barrels per day last month, up 360,000 bpd from July's revised total, the survey showed, with the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia making the largest increases.

U.S. crude oil production hit a record high in June, the Energy Information Administration said, rising 133,000 barrels per day to 13.58 million bpd. Product supplied of crude and petroleum products in the U.S., a proxy for demand, rose 684,000 bpd in June to its highest since October 2024, at 21 million bpd. Gasoline demand rose 205,000 bpd in June to 9.23 million bpd, its highest since July 2024, while jet fuel demand hit its highest since August 2018 over the same period, gaining 84,000 bpd to 1.85 million bpd.

Britain, France and Germany launched a 30-day process to reimpose U.N. sanctions on Iran over its nuclear programme on 28-Aug, a step likely to stoke tensions two months after Israel and the United States bombed Iran, according to a letter sent by E3 to the U.N. Security Council seen by Reuters. The trio, known as the E3, said in a statement they had decided to trigger the so-called snapback mechanism before they lose the ability in mid-October to restore sanctions on Tehran that were lifted under a 2015 nuclear accord with world powers. The E3 have pressed ahead now over accusations that Iran has violated the 2015 deal that aimed to prevent Tehran from developing a nuclear weapon. The United States, which was party to that deal, pulled out under President Donald Trump in 2018, and held failed indirect negotiations earlier this year with Tehran.

The IEA, which advises industrialised countries said in a monthly Report, World oil supply will rise more rapidly than expected this year and next as OPEC+ members further increase output and supply from outside the group grows. Supply will rise by 2.5 million barrels per day (bpd) in 2025, up from 2.1 million bpd previously forecast, and by a further 1.9 million bpd next year. Supply is rising far faster than demand in the IEA's view. It expects world oil demand to rise by 680,000 bpd this year and 700,000 bpd next year,



both down 20,000 bpd from the previous forecast. The report implies that supply may exceed demand by almost 3 million bpd next year, driven by growth from outside the wider OPEC+ group and a limited expansion in demand. Despite lowering its demand forecast, the IEA expects global crude oil refining rates to approach a fresh all-time high of 85.6 million bpd in August, after reaching 84.9 million bpd in July. Global refinery runs will rise by 670,000 bpd to 83.6 million bpd in 2025 and by a further 470,000 bpd to 84 million bpd in 2026, driven by better than expected data for market economies grouped in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and China, the agency said.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) on 12-Aug in its August Short Term Energy Outlook (STEO), forecast Brent crude oil spot prices will average less than \$60 per barrel in the fourth quarter, which would be the first quarter with average prices that low since 2020. It also expects Brent to average near \$50 per barrel through 2026. "There's a lot of uncertainty in the petroleum market. In the past, we have seen significant drops in oil prices when inventories grow as quickly as we are expecting in the coming months," said EIA Acting Administrator Steve Nalley.

the Energy Information Administration forecasted in a monthly report, U.S. crude production will hit a record 13.41 million barrels per day in 2025 due to increases in well productivity, though lower oil prices will prompt a fall in output in 2026. The decline in 2026 production to 13.28 million bpd would be the first drop in output since 2021 for the world's largest producer. Prices for the international benchmark Brent will average \$51 per barrel next year, down from the EIA's previous forecast of \$58 per barrel, after the OPEC+ decided to accelerate the pace of production increases. "Low oil prices in early 2026 will lead to a reduction in supply by both OPEC+ and some non-OPEC producers, which we expect will help moderate inventory builds later in 2026," the EIA said. In last month's report, the EIA had projected U.S. crude output at 13.37 million bpd in both 2025 and 2026. U.S. distillate fuel inventories will end 2025 at the lowest end-of-year level since 2000, after decreasing 14% over the course of the year due to increased exports and demand, the EIA said. Lower U.S. refinery capacity and continued strong export demand will keep inventory levels lower, with distillate inventories remaining relatively flat in 2026, the agency added. U.S. oil demand will increase to 20.4 million bpd in 2025, in line with previous forecasts, the EIA said. In 2026, oil demand will rise to 20.5 million bpd, versus a previous estimate of 20.4 million bpd.

U.S. crude stocks, gasoline, and distillate inventories fell last week as demand rose, the Energy Information Administration data showed on 27-Aug. Crude inventories fell by 2.4 million barrels to 418.3 million barrels in the week ended August 22, compared with expectations in a Reuters for a 1.9-million-barrel draw. Refinery crude runs fell by 328,000 barrels per day in the week, while utilization rates fell by 2 percentage points to 94.6%, but were sharply up compared to prior year levels of 91.9%. U.S. gasoline stocks dropped by 1.2 million barrels in the week to 222.3 million barrels, against



expectations for a 2.2-million-barrel draw. Gasoline supplied, a proxy for demand rose to 9.24 million bpd last week, up from 8.84 million, the EIA said. Distillate stockpiles, which include diesel and heating oil, fell by 1.8 million barrels in the week to 114.2 million barrels, versus expectations for an 885,000-barrel rise, the EIA data showed. Distillate fuel oil demand meanwhile rose to 4.14 million bpd, up from 3.97 million bpd. Net U.S. crude imports rose last week by 299,000 barrels per day, the EIA said, while exports were down 562,000 bpd to 3.81 million bpd.

U.S. President Donald Trump's administration unveiled a comprehensive schedule to hold more than 30 offshore oil and gas lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska's Cook Inlet over the next 15 years. The plan fulfills a directive in Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which passed last month, and is aligned with his administration's energy dominance agenda to boost domestic fossil fuel production. The first Gulf sale is set for Dec. 10 of this year. Starting next year, there will be two sales in the Gulf annually through 2039 and one in 2040. Six lease sales are planned for Alaska's Cook Inlet through 2032. The first will be held in March of 2026.

China, the world's biggest crude importer & consumer, China's total oil demand including all products is set to peak in 2027, with a rise of about 100,000 barrels per day this year driven by increased volumes from the petrochemicals sector, a state oil researcher said. Surging usage of electric vehicles in China, the world's biggest oil importer, is eroding fuel demand, with use of EVs poised to replace at least 25 million metric tons of gasoline (582,000 barrels per day) this year, the researcher said. The country's independent "teapot" refiners are operating at 45% of capacity this year, down from 60% last year and 70% in 2023, the researcher said at the APPEC energy and petrochemicals conference in Singapore. China's petrochemicals demand will not peak before 2050, the researcher said, with ethylene demand growing 8% this year and propylene demand rising 7%.

China's stockpiling of oil, which has helped soak up excess global crude production this year, is likely to continue at a similar rate in 2026, the chief strategist for commodity trading house Gunvor (GGL.UL) said. China, the world's biggest crude importer, has been building up crude oil inventories at a rate of 530,000 barrels per day (bpd) so far this year, Jim Burkhard, global head of crude oil market research at S&P Global Commodity Insights, told in the event.

Asia's imports of crude oil rebounded in August as heavyweight buyers China and India bought more crude from top exporters in the Middle East. The world's top importing region saw arrivals of 27.18 million barrels per day (bpd) in August, up from 24.91 million bpd in July and also above the 26.39 million bpd from the same month in 2024, according to data compiled by LSEG Oil Research. While the 2.27 million bpd increase from July looks strong, it's worth noting that July was the weakest month for Asia's imports for a year, and August's arrivals were slightly weaker than the 27.98 million bpd LSEG tracked in June. For



the January to August period imports were 27.02 million bpd, which is 510,000 bpd higher than the 26.51 million bpd for 2024 as a whole.

China's fuel oil imports rose further in July, hitting their highest in seven months, customs data showed. Fuel oil imports totalled 1.96 million metric tons, or about 400,855 barrels per day (bpd), last month, up 40% from June and 42% higher than the year-earlier period. Meanwhile, exports of low-sulphur marine fuels totalled 1.45 million tons, down 37% from June and easing 13% from the same month last year.

India is the world's third-largest consumer and importer of oil, India's Russian oil imports declined in July after jumping the previous month as some refiners slowed purchases due to smaller discounts, while Indian fuel demand also typically dips during the monsoon season, according to trade sources and data. India imported 1.5 million barrels per day of Russian crude in July, down 24.5% from the previous month, the data showed. Private refiners - Reliance Industries, Russia-backed Nayara Energy and HPCL-Mittal Energy Ltd - took around 60% of India's Russian oil imports in July while the remainder went to state refiners, according to the data. In July, Russia accounted for 34% of India's overall imports of 4.44 million bpd. India's oil imports in July were the lowest since September 2023, the data showed. Russia remained India's top oil supplier, followed by Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Meanwhile, the share of OPEC nations, mainly Middle Eastern producers, in India's overall imports rose to a five-month high in July, the data showed. In January-July, India's Russian oil imports fell about 3.6% to 1.73 million bpd, while purchases from the U.S. rose 58%, the data showed. Also, India skipped imports of oil from Latin America in July, for the first time at least since 2011 when Reuters started compiling the monthly data.

India's power generation in August rose at its fastest pace since March, data from the federal grid operator showed, as manufacturing activity accelerated due to strong demand. The 4% increase in electricity output last month helped boost coal-fired power generation for the first time in five months on an annualised basis, daily analysis of Grid India data showed.

Russia, the world's second biggest oil exporter and the second largest natural gas producer, Saudi Arabia and India were the top destinations for Russian seaborne fuel oil and vacuum gasoil (VGO) exports in July, LSEG data shows. Direct fuel oil and VGO shipments from Russian ports to Saudi Arabia totalled about 1.1 million metric tons in July, little changed from June, shipping data showed. Russian dark oil products loadings to India rose last month by 65% from June to about 0.6 million tons, LSEG data shows.

Saudi Arabia's crude oil exports slipped in June to their lowest level in three months, according to data from the Joint Organizations Data Initiative (JODI) released. Crude exports from the world's largest oil exporter fell to 6.141 million barrels per day, from 6.191 million bpd in May. Saudi Arabia's crude output for June was 9.752 million bpd, up from 9.184 million bpd in May. Saudi refineries' crude throughput was 2.703 million bpd,



down 18,000 bpd from May's 2.721 million bpd, the data showed, while direct crude burning increased by 185,000 bpd to 674,000 bpd.

Goldman Sachs expects the price of Brent crude futures contracts to decline to the low \$50s a barrel by late 2026 due to an increase in the surplus of oil next year. It estimated that stored oil in member countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development will account for a third of total global stock or 270 million barrels in 2026. Coupled with reduced demand in OECD countries, it said this will lower Brent's fair value from the current mid-\$70s. Goldman said Brent prices are likely to remain near those of forward contracts during the rest of 2025 but fall below those contracts next year as the increase in OECD stock accelerates. However, it said potential acceleration in the growth of Chinese stock to 0.8 million barrels a day from 0.4 million barrels a day in the year to date would raise the 2026 Brent average by \$6 a barrel versus the bank's baseline to \$62.

Tesla's U.S. market share dropped to a near 8-year low in August as buyers chose electric vehicles from a growing stable of rivals over the aging lineup offered by CEO's company, according to data from research firm Cox Automotive shared exclusively with Reuters. The decline highlights the threat from automakers ramping up EV incentives at a difficult time for the industry and expect an EV sales bump to continue through September in the United States, then drop when federal tax credits expire at the end of the month, raising financial pressure on Tesla and other automakers. Tesla, which once held more than 80% of the U.S. EV market, accounted for 38% of the total EV sales in the United States in August, the first time it has fallen below the 40% mark since October 2017, when it was ramping up production of the Model 3, its first mass market car, according to early data from Cox.

Going ahead, Prices likely to be trade between weak global growth to cap demand against ongoing geopolitical tensions could provide support to prices. Other side, OPEC+, will be able to commit to the supply cuts they have pledged to prop up prices.

#### **Technical Outlook:-**

#### On the Daily Chart MCX:



Sources - Ticker Plant and Bonanza Research



### **Expected Support and Resistance level for the month**

| Crude            | <b>S1</b> | <b>S2</b> | R1   | R2    |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|------|-------|
| NYMEX/DG CX (\$) | 61.0      | 59.0      | 66.0 | 70.50 |
| MCX (Rs.)        | 5375      | 5050      | 5700 | 5850  |

MCX trend seen Bearish as long hold R1-5700 While Sustain below 5375 seen towards 5100-5050.

### **Natural Gas**

#### **Technical Outlook:**

#### On the Daily Chart MCX:



Sources - Ticker Plant and Bonanza Research

| Natural Gas | S1  | S2  | R1  | R2  |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| MCX (Rs.)   | 240 | 230 | 282 | 290 |

MCX trend seen Bearish as long hold R1, While Sustain Close below 240 seen towards 225-220.



#### **Base Metals**

#### **Market Outlook and Fundamental Analysis**

#### **COPPER:**

Base metal complex seen a seesaw throughout the Aug month to end near monthly high thanks to fall in Dollar index, lower warehouse stocks for few of the base metals and expected FED rate cut which might turn into balance economy as well demand for base metals support prices at every dip. However, weaker than expected economic data from top consumer countries, demand concern after tariff jitters keep prices under check at every rally Other side China stimulus hope & supply disturbance for few of the metals also support prices at lower levels. Benchmark Copper future in domestic future exchange end higher by 2.5% followed by Zinc & Aluminum register 4<sup>th</sup> monthly gain by 2% each while Lead end in green by almost 1% in MCX for the month of Aug.

China world's second-biggest economy, China's export growth slowed to a 6-month low in August as a brief boost from a tariff truce with the U.S. faded, but demand elsewhere provided officials some relief as they try to underpin an economy facing low domestic consumption and external risks. Outbound shipments from China rose 4.4% y-o-y in August, customs data showed, missing a forecast 5% increase and marking the slowest growth in six months. They compared with July's better-than-expected 7.2% increase. Imports grew 1.3%, following 4.1% growth a month earlier, against expected a 3.0% rise. China's exports to the U.S. fell 33.12% y-o-y in August, the customs data showed, while its shipments to Southeast Asian nations rose 22.5% in the same period. China's August trade surplus came in at \$102.3 billion, from \$98.24 billion in July, but still well below June's \$114.8 billion.

China's net imports of refined copper dropped to a one-year low in July as the world's largest buyer found itself in competition with the U.S. for metal. China "exported" 121,000 metric tons of copper to the U.S. in the first seven months of 2025. The shipments started after President Donald Trump announced a national security investigation into U.S. copper import dependency in February. However, since U.S. customs counted in only 15 tons of refined Chinese copper over the first half of 2025, it's clear that China's "exports" were actually re-exports of previously imported non-Chinese metal. China's outbound shipments



of refined copper totaled 426,000 tons in the January-July period, already higher than any previous calendar year with the exception of last year's 458,000 tons.

China kept benchmark lending rates unchanged for the third consecutive month, meeting market expectations, as authorities signalled they are in no rush to deliver monetary stimulus despite a string of recent disappointing economic data. The steady LPR fixings highlighted the central bank's preference for targeted structural policies to support specific sectors of the economy, rather than resorting to broad-based monetary easing. The one-year loan prime rate (LPR) was kept at 3.0%, while the five-year LPR was unchanged at 3.5%.

China's imports of unwrought aluminium and products in July surged 38.2% from the prior year, customs data showed. The world's top consumer of the light metal imported 360,000 metric tons of unwrought aluminium and products last month. The data includes primary metal and unwrought, alloyed aluminium. In the first seven months of 2025, China imported a total of 2.33 million tons of unwrought aluminium and products, a rise of 1.5% from the corresponding period in 2024. The July import has brought the total in the first seven months of the year to 123.26 million tons, up 33.7% year-on-year.

The London Metal Exchange's (LME) global warehousing capacity shrank by 4.25% over the first half of 2025 despite the opening of new delivery locations in Hong Kong and the Saudi Arabian port of Jeddah. Total registered storage space of 3.2 million square meters is now at its lowest level since the exchange started publishing its quarterly updates in 2016. The shrinkage is down to sliding exchange inventory. Total stocks, including offwarrant stocks, fell by 541,000 metric tons over the first half of 2025 and closed June at a 20-month low of 1.62 million tons.

Chilean copper miner Codelco (COBRE.UL) will lower its 2025 production guidance after an accident at its flagship El Teniente mine knocked 33,000 metric tons off the facility's output, executives said. El Teniente is now forecast to produce 316,000 tons this year, CEO Ruben Alvarado told a congressional hearing about the accident. The accident on July 31 killed six people near a new section of El Teniente's vast network of underground tunnels, Andesita, and forced Codelco to halt mining operations for several days. Codelco in March said it aimed for production between 1.37 million and 1.4 million metric tons for 2025, slightly above output from the year before.

Going ahead, weak economic numbers, demand concern from top consuming countries weigh on process for short term while FED rate cut expectation which might revive demand for base metals and any fall in dollar index will support base metals at every dip.

## **Base Metals**

### **TECHNICAL OUTLOOK:**

### **COPPER:**



Sources - Ticker Plant and Bonanza Research

Expected Support & Resistance level for the month

| Copper | <b>S1</b> | <b>S2</b> | R1  | R2  |
|--------|-----------|-----------|-----|-----|
| MCX    | 900       | 890       | 920 | 940 |

MCX trend seen Bullish as long hold 900-895, While Sustain above 920 seen towards 935-940 belt.



### **LEAD**:

#### **Technical Outlook:**



Sources - Ticker Plant and Bonanza Research

### Expected support and Resistance level for the month

| Lead | <b>S1</b> | <b>S2</b> | R1  | R2  |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----|-----|
| MCX  | 180.50    | 178       | 185 | 188 |

MCX trend seen Bullish as long hold S1 while Sustain Close above 185 seen 188-190 belt.



### **ZINC**

### **TECHNICAL OUTLOOK:**



Sources - Ticker Plant and Bonanza Research

Expected Support & Resistance level

| Zinc | <b>S1</b> | <b>S1</b> | R1  | R2  |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----|-----|
| MCX  | 274       | 265       | 285 | 295 |

MCX trend seen Bullish as long hold S1, While Sustain above 285 seen towards R2-300.

### **NICKEL**

#### **TECHNICAL OUTLOOK:**

No View due to Low Volumes



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**DATE-**Sep 19th, 2025

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BSE CM: INB 011110237 | BSE F&O: INF 011110237 | MSEI: INE 260637836



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