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Gold and silver slide ahead of Commodity Index Rebalancing; WTI Crude oil rises amid Venezuelan supply uncertainty

Spot gold and silver extended losses for a second consecutive session as markets brace for the annual rebalancing of major commodity indexes, a process expected to trigger billions of dollars in futures selling over the coming days. Passive index-tracking funds are reducing precious metals exposure from Thursday to align with revised weightings, magnifying pressure after last year's sharp rallies. Silver remains particularly exposed amid elevated volatility, with Citigroup estimating potential sales of around \$6.8 billion in Comex silver futures—nearly 12% of open interest. Despite near-term headwinds, gold continues to find structural support from robust central bank demand, with net purchases of 45 tons in November and China extending its buying streak to 14 months. Geopolitical tensions and expectations around US rate cuts could limit downside, keeping the medium-term outlook constructive despite short-term volatility.

WTI crude oil edged about 1 % higher to trade near \$56.50/bbl as markets digested new U.S. measures to tighten control over Venezuelan crude flows, including plans to indefinitely manage future sales and the seizure of additional sanctioned tankers. Energy Secretary Chris Wright said the U.S. will initially offer stored Venezuelan barrels for sale and then market ongoing production under government supervision, with proceeds held in U.S.-controlled accounts. PDVSA confirmed negotiations with Washington on crude sales using structures similar to existing arrangements with Chevron, the only U.S. major currently operating there. EIA data showed a larger-than-expected draw in U.S. crude stocks, though gasoline and distillate inventories rose sharply, and stocks at Cushing increased. Softer U.S. labor data buoyed expectations for Fed rate cuts, supporting demand prospects.

Base metals traded lower today, with LME copper retreating below the \$12,850/ton as traders booked profits after a sharp rally easing from record highs reached earlier this week amid concerns over tightening supply and potential U.S. tariff measures. Meanwhile, LME Aluminium and Zinc futures slipped about 0.30% to trade near \$3,075 and \$3,154 per ton respectively. While copper's long-term fundamentals remain positive, last year's more than 40% surge—the strongest since 2009—has increased the risk of near-term corrections, particularly amid a firmer U.S. dollar and ahead of key U.S. economic data that could influence Federal Reserve policy. On the supportive side, China's plans to cut reserve requirements and policy rates signal an accommodative stance, supporting demand. Fundamentally, copper's medium-to-long-term outlook remains bullish, driven by energy transition demand, grid upgrades, and data-center expansion, though near-term volatility is likely.

US natural gas futures rose over 1.5% to \$3.60/MMBtu, extending gains for a second session as lower output and cooler mid-January weather forecasts improved near-term demand expectations. A cold spell across the Midwest and East Coast (Jan 17–21) is likely to lift heating demand and support storage withdrawals. While Lower-48 production remains strong at 112.6 bcf/day, rising exports to Mexico offer incremental support. However, subdued domestic demand and softer LNG feedgas flows cap upside. It remains cautiously supportive in the near term, driven by weather-led consumption.

Date	IST	Currency	Data	Forecast	Previous
08-Jan-2026	18:30	USD	FOMC Member Miran Speaks		
	19:00	USD	Unemployment Claims	213K	199K
	20:30	USD	FOMC Member Miran Speaks		
	21:00	USD	Natural Gas Storage	-109B	-38B

Source: Forexfactory

Evening Track

	Commodity	Support 3	Support 2	Support 1	LTP	Resistance 1	Resistance 2	Resistance 3
Commodities	Spot Gold	4311.2	4376.3	4396.4	4428.9	4461.4	4481.5	4546.6
	MCX Gold Feb	134632	136041	136476	137181	137886	138321	139730
	Spot Silver	69.36	73.06	74.21	76.06	77.91	79.05	82.75
	MCX Silver Mar	225966	235877	238938	243893	248848	251909	261820
	MCX Copper Jan	1210.3	1247.9	1259.5	1278.4	1297.2	1308.8	1346.4
	MCX Zinc Jan	298.7	303.1	304.5	306.7	308.8	310.2	314.6
	MCX Lead Jan	182.8	186.8	188.1	190.2	192.2	193.5	197.5
	MCX Aluminium Jan	296.2	301.9	303.7	306.5	309.3	311.1	316.8
	MCX Crude Oil Jan	4953	5035	5060	5101	5142	5167	5249
	MCX Natural Gas Jan	298.55	311.52	315.52	322.00	328.48	332.48	345.45

Source: Bloomberg, KS Commodity Research

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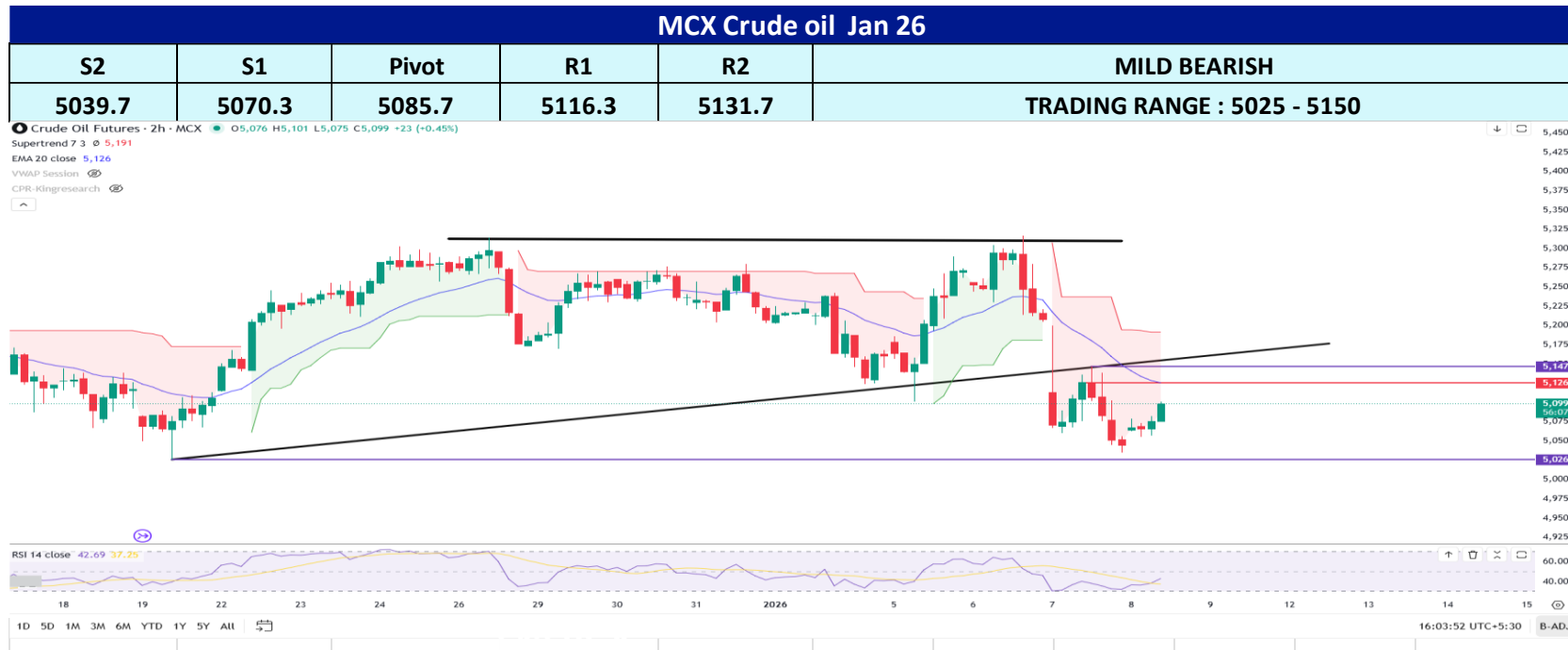


Chart Source: Trading view

RATING SCALE FOR DAILY REPORT

BUY	We expect the commodity to deliver 1% or more returns
SELL	We expect the commodity to deliver (-1%) or more returns
SIDEWAYS	We expect the commodity to trade in the range of (+/-)1%
NOTE - The recommendations are valid for one day from the date of issue of the report, subject to mentioned stop loss, if any	

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