

Gains on the cards

CRUDE CHECK. Retain the futures buy position

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Crude oil prices skyrocketed last week. The Brent crude oil futures on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) surged 9.2 per cent and ended the week at \$78.1 per barrel. Similarly, the crude oil futures on the MCX soared 11.3 per cent and it closed the week at ₹6,339 a barrel.

BRENT FUTURES (\$78.1)

Brent Crude futures witnessed a strong rally last week. It went past the hurdle at \$75 and marked an intraweek high of \$79.3 on Friday before closing the session at \$78.1.

The price action shows good positive momentum and so, the probability of a rally is high. The nearest resistance is the price band of \$80-82. A breakout of \$82 can intensify the rally, possibly lifting the contract to \$87 or \$90.

If there is a decline, Brent Crude futures can find support at \$75 and \$72.

MCX-CRUDE OIL (₹6,339)

The October crude oil futures broke out of the key resistance at ₹6,000 last week. It marked an in-



traweek high of ₹6,360 on Friday before ending the day at ₹6,339. A close near the high indicates good momentum.

Notably, the contract moved above a trendline resistance, and the price is now above both 20- and 50-day moving averages (DMAs).

The nearest resistance is at ₹6,500. A breach of this can lead to another leg of rally, which can lift the contract to ₹6,800 and potentially to ₹7,000.

If the contract sees a fall, it can be arrested by the support at ₹6,000 or ₹5,840.

Trade strategy: We suggested going long on crude futures at ₹5,694 last week. Retain this trade but move the stop-loss up from ₹5,420 to ₹6,080. Book profits at ₹6,500.



S Arabia hikes Asia oil price as volatility grips market

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SAUDI ARABIA RAISED its main oil prices for buyers in Asia amid heightened volatility in the crude market as traders watch developments in the West Asian conflict.

State producer Saudi Aramco increased the official selling price of its main Arab Light crude grade by 90 cents to a premium of \$2.20 a barrel against the regional benchmark for buyers in Asia, according to a price list seen by Bloomberg.

The company was expected to boost the premium by 65 cents a barrel, according to a survey of traders and refiners.

At the same time, Aramco cut the price of all grades to the US and Europe.

Oil has jumped since the start of October as Iran launched missile strikes on Israel in retaliation for devastating attacks in Lebanon that almost wiped out the leadership of Hezbollah. Benchmark Brent crude gained about more than 8% this week amid the strikes and in anticipation of a potential Israeli reprisal, to trade around \$78 a barrel.

Until now, the markets have shrugged off most of the regional risks so far this year as conflict didn't curtail supplies and traders focused instead on deepening worries about soft demand. Amid concerns that sluggish oil use in China will leave extra crude in the market, the OPEC+ alliance — led by Saudi Arabia and Russia — last month paused a planned output hike for two months, until the start of December.

Group members that made voluntary output cuts won't go ahead with a previous plan to begin rolling back those reductions in October and November. —BLOOMBERG

गैस पाइपलाइन फटने ने महिला की मौत

जबलपुर । मध्यप्रदेश के जबलपुर शहर के बाहरी इलाके में शनिवार को एक निर्माणाधीन होटल में रसोई गैस पाइपलाइन फटने के कारण एक महिला की मौत हो गई और आठ अन्य घायल हो गए। दुर्घटना तिलवारा थानांतर्गत स्थित है। जबलपुर के पुलिस अधीक्षक आदित्य प्रताप सिंह ने बताया, पाइपलाइन के परीक्षण के दौरान विस्फोट हुआ। विस्फोट में एक महिला की मौत हो गई, जबकि आठ अन्य घायल हो गए। घायलों को सरकारी अस्पताल में भर्ती कराया गया है। फॉरेंसिक टीम को घटनास्थल पर भेजा गया है।