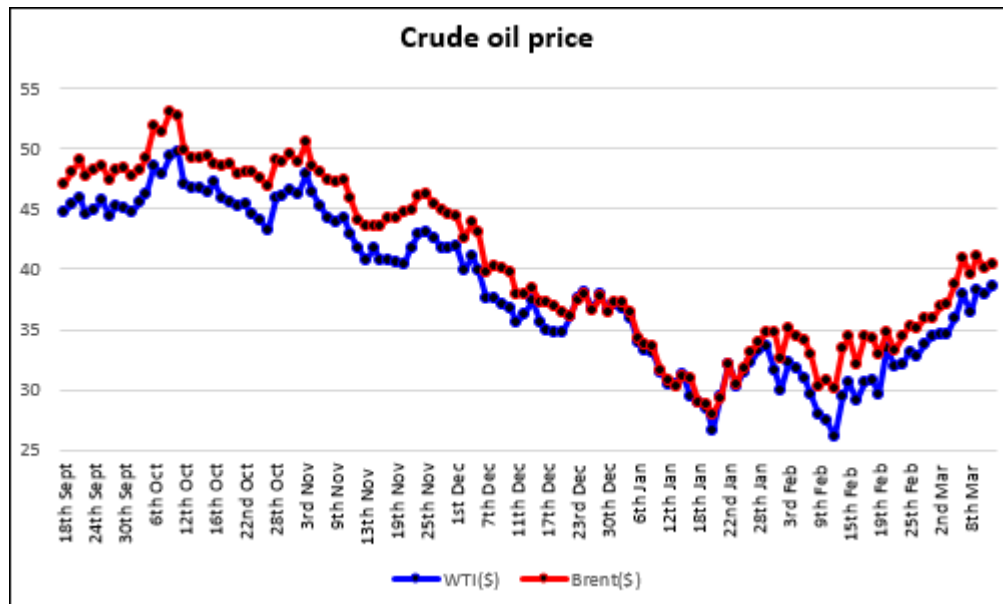


www.chopraseismic.com

Calgary, Canada

Some of the news items for this week are as follows:



Crude oil prices this week have fluctuated in the \$36 and \$39 range.

1. Crude oil prices showed an upward trend this week on speculation that the falling US shale oil production and stronger demand will probably ease the oil glut in the market. Many shale drillers have cut their spending for 2016 which will result in reduced production. Also, during 2016, if not enough wells are drilled in shales, the normal decline in production will not be replaced, so that the overall production will be lower. It is expected that the US oil output will fall further next month as the production in the Bakken, Eagle Ford and the Permian are all expected to drop.
2. As per the EIA, the US crude oil production fell to 9.08 mb/d till last week, the lowest since Nov 2014. The US stockpiles stand at 518 mb, which is the highest since 1930.
3. The oil suppliers are watching keenly how the US production declines going forward, as it will have a direct impact on the oil prices. Since Goldman Sachs had made the prediction of \$20 for the barrel, many shale drillers have scaled back their plans for oil production in 2016. This is making some analysts believe that perhaps the worst scenario is behind us.

For the lighter side this week

What is the colour of your car?

I am certain that if I collect data on this question, the answer will be somewhat as follows:

White 30%, Silver 20%, Black 18%, Grey 15% Others 17%.

How did I arrive at these approximate numbers?

These are the choices reported by many paint manufacturers on the basis of surveys they have conducted annually over the last many years. So, how do the choices for car colour vary amongst people? Some of the reasons can be listed as follows:

1. Many people prefer plain or neutral colours for their personal colours. The colours I have listed above are called neutral. They are found to be timeless, dignified and tasteful by a majority of people. As personal or family cars are generally not changed like shirts, and are meant for long-term use, the choice of colour can help at the time of reselling or trade-in.
2. Though it may be a secondary consideration, but some people also make the choice of colour based on how the car would look standing against their house or against other cars.
3. The choice of colour is also dependent on gender preferences. Surveys have found that slightly more women than men may prefer silver, more men than women may prefer white, and outside of the neutral colours they may prefer red.
4. The colour also varies with the type of car, i.e. personal car, family van, taxi, sports car, patrol car, etc.. Sports cars are usually found to be bright (red, yellow, and green), or simply put, colours that stand out.
5. White and silver colours reflect more light and so may keep cooler in summers. Black or dark blue or green may be found to be warmer. Hot places or countries thus are seen to have lighter colour cars. Similarly, white and silver coloured cars hide dust/dirt, but black or darker colours show it more.
6. Car colour choice also varies from country to country or from one continent to another. Surveys have shown that in North America white is the most popular colour and in Europe silver is the most popular, but this is changing.
7. According to a survey conducted some 8 years ago, white coloured car is also preferred by some as black cars have a somewhat higher crash risk compared with white, followed by grey. At dawn and dusk, this risk was much higher.
8. Human nature has its role too. We may not get sick of looking at a white car compared with a red or an orange car. As well, some people are superstitious about certain colours.

So, what is the colour of your car? Is it as per the information cited above? If yes, you go with the crowd. If not, then you tend to go as per your individuality. No worries; either way is fine.

Did you know that the most active volcano on earth is the Stromboli volcano which has been erupting continuously for the past 2000 years?

It is situated on a small island in the Tyrrhenian Sea, off the north coast of Sicily. Sicily is an autonomous region of Italy, and is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea. The volcano has been erupting in the form of explosions that occur at summit craters typically in the form of energetic bursts up to a few hundred metres in height. Sometimes lava flows also occur.



So much for this week! Till the next post, stay safe and happy!