

**THREE-MONTH COPPER ON THE LME
GAINED 2.1% TO \$8,548 A TONNE**

Copper Marches Higher as Dollar Dips on US Inflation Data

Reuters

London: Copper prices rose on Tuesday on a weaker dollar after data showed a further decline in US inflation, raising prospects that the pace of interest rate hikes will ease. Three-month copper on the London Metal Exchange had gained 2.1% to \$8,548 a tonne by 1340 GMT, 10 minutes after US data was released.

US consumer prices barely rose in November following declines in the cost of gasoline and used cars, leading to the smallest annual

increase in inflation in nearly a year.

The dollar index tumbled after the data, making commodities priced in the US currency cheaper for buyers using other currencies.

Copper's reaction to the news may have been stronger if it was not the end of year, said Ole Hansen, head of commodity strategy at Saxo Bank in Copenhagen.

"This is a time of year when it's more a question of adjusting positions to the right levels rather than adding risk ahead of year-end."