

Copper rallies to 22-month high as inventories tighten

Reuters
London

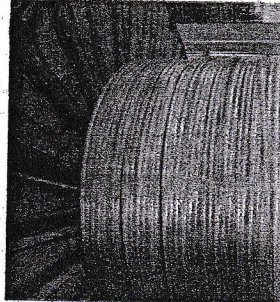
Copper prices climbed to the highest levels in 22 months as funds extended their buying spree, while the dollar weakened and inventories tightened.

The rally that has fuelled gains of 13 per cent in copper so far this year contrasted, however, with lacklustre physical demand for copper in the biggest consumer China, analysts said.

Three-month copper on the London Metal Exchange gained 1.3 per cent to \$9,705.50 a tonne.

The most-traded June copper contract on the Shanghai Futures Exchange closed up 2.8 per cent at 78,780 yuan (\$10,882.42) a tonne.

Available inventories on the LME fell by 15,200 tonnes to a one-month low



of 90,400 tonnes after investors gave notice to the exchange they wanted to remove inventories, data showed on Thursday.

LME tin climbed to \$33,945, its highest since June 2022, before paring gains to \$33,690, a rise of 2.8 per cent.

Aluminium edged up 0.2 per cent to \$2,591.50 a tonne; nickel advanced 0.9 per cent to \$18,410; lead gained 1.4 per cent to \$2,186, while zinc slipped 0.9 per cent to \$2,813.