GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1641
ANSWERED ON 03/08/2026

BENEFITS OF COAL EXCHANGE RULES, 2026 TO INDUSTRIES

1641 #SMT. DARSHANA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether progress has been made in making coal available at competitive rates to the MSMEs, cement, steel and power sectors after the implementation of the Coal Exchange Rules, 2026;

(b) if so, the number of buyers and sellers registered on the electronic coal exchange so far, along with the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has assessed that, this has led to improvement in the availability of coal, price transparency and the supply system; and

(d) steps taken by Government to ensure that small and medium enterprises derive the benefits thereof, along with the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL AND MINES

(SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY)

(a) The Coal Exchange Rules, 2026, have been notified under Section 18B of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 by the Ministry of Coal on 04.06.2026 inter-alia appointing the Coal Controller Organisation (CCO) as the Authority to register and regulate Coal Exchange(s). The Authority has started a dedicated online application platform on 15.07.2026 for submission of application for registration of Coal exchanges. As of 29.07.2026, no application has been received for registration.

(b) & (c) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

(d) Any entity, including small and medium consumers can transact, trade and enter into delivery-based contracts on the Coal Exchange(s). The following shall be the benefits available for all consumers including small and medium consumers:-

i. Through Coal Exchange, coal would be sold through a transparent way of allocation and resultantly, this will help market participants manage risk better, as exchange acts as a central counterparty.

ii. The price discovery of the coal traded or transacted on the Coal Exchange shall be undertaken by the Coal Exchange through a mechanism that ensures fair, neutral, competitive and efficient prices.

iii. The bidding and price discovery mechanisms shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure approved by the Authority.

iv. The final price of the traded coal shall be adjusted in accordance with the quality of the coal traded, based on the price-adjustment mechanism of the contract executed and the quality certification issued by the coal sampling agency.

v. The market oversight mechanism and market surveillance as envisioned in the 'Coal Exchange Rules, 2026' will prevent any market manipulation/abuse to bring transparency in the Coal Exchange ecosystem.

vi. Coal can be procured from various domestic producers as per the required grade and quantity with reduced dependence on a single supplier.

vii. Uniform trading rules, digital payments, reduced cost of search and negotiation, optimized coal movements shall lower the transaction cost.

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