UPSC & STATE PCS CURRENT AFFAIRS · UJIYARI.COM

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Government to Launch Regulated Electronic Exchange for Major Minerals

16 August 2026 · ECONOMY · GS3

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

Bharat Choudhary

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

linkedin.com/in/epicbharat

Government to Launch Regulated Electronic Exchange for Major Minerals

16 August 2026 · 2 min read ·

Every fact web-verified against primary sources

> *Following Parliament's passage of the* **MMDR Amendment Bill, 2026** *on* **August 13, 2026***, the government confirmed plans for a regulated* **electronic exchange for trading major minerals***, covering* **iron ore, limestone, manganese and bauxite** *in its first phase, to launch in the next financial year.*

What the Exchange Will Do

The platform is designed to bring transparent, market-based price discovery to bulk mineral trading, on the model of established commodity exchanges such as the London Metal Exchange. The **Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM)** will supervise platform registration and conduct audits under the **Mineral Exchange Rules, 2026**. For background, the Ministry of Mines notified these governing rules on **June 30, 2026**.

Why This Matters

Bulk minerals in India have historically been traded through negotiated contracts rather than a transparent public market, making price discovery opaque and complicating downstream planning for steel, cement and aluminium producers who depend on these inputs. A regulated exchange is intended to standardise pricing, reduce information asymmetry between large and small buyers, and support India's broader critical-minerals and import-substitution strategy.

UPSC Relevance

The reform sits within the ongoing legislative push on mining-sector federalism and revenue, following the Supreme Court's 2024 ruling in *Mineral Area Development Authority v. Steel Authority of India* on state taxation powers over mineral rights. A useful Mains angle is comparing exchange-based commodity price discovery mechanisms across sectors (agriculture's e-NAM, minerals' new exchange) and assessing whether market mechanisms alone can address mineral-sector transparency gaps without stronger regulatory audit capacity.

FACTS CORNER, KNOWLEDGEPEDIA

MINERAL EXCHANGE FOR MAJOR MINERALS:

Enabling law: MMDR Amendment Bill, 2026, passed by Parliament August 13, 2026

Governing rules: Mineral Exchange Rules, 2026 (background: notified by Ministry of Mines, June 30, 2026)

Regulator/supervisor: Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM)

First-phase minerals: iron ore, limestone, manganese, bauxite

Launch target: next financial year (FY 2027-28)

OTHER RELEVANT FACTS:

Comparable global model: London Metal Exchange (LME)

Sources: GKToday, Ministry of Mines, PIB

Source: Government to Launch Regulated Electronic Exchange for Major Minerals — Ujiyari.com | Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs

RELATED EDITORIALS

THE HINDU

Financial Democracy: The Jan Dhan Transformation, and Its Unfinished Half

15 Aug

BUSINESS STANDARD

The Case for Keeping UPI Free Outweighs the Costs of Its Infrastructure

14 Aug

THE HINDU

Europe's AI Rules May Become India's Opportunity

14 Aug

BUSINESS STANDARD

Mining an Opportunity: The MMDR Bill and States' Rights

13 Aug

RELATED KEY TERMS

KEY TERM

16th Finance Commission

The constitutional body chaired by Arvind Panagariya that recommends...

KEY TERM

ACNAS

Advisory Committee on National Accounts Statistics, the expert body...

KEY TERM

Act East Policy

India's strategic foreign policy framework prioritising active...

KEY TERM

Ad Valorem Tax

A tax levied as a percentage of the value of a good, service, or...

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

Bharat Choudhary

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

linkedin.com/in/epicbharat

📖 Read Full Article on Ujiyari →

https://ujiyari.com/daily/2026/08/16/mineral-exchange-electronic-trading-2026/