

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 132
ANSWERED ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026**

CASES OF PRICE COORDINATION IN THE STEEL SECTOR

QUESTION

132. Shri Sasikanth Sentil:

**Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether cases relating to alleged price coordination in the steel sector were examined/investigated by the Government during the period 2015 to 2023;**
- (b) if so, the details of such cases, including findings recorded and directions issued under the Competition Act, 2002, in this regard;**
- (c) whether any penalties or remedial measures were imposed by the Government pursuant to such findings, if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of anti-competitive practices in the steel sector; and**
- (e) whether any safeguards/mechanism have been put in place by the Government to protect consumers and downstream industries from the impact of such practices and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)
AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS**

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 132 FOR 09.02.2026 REGARDING CASES OF PRICE COORDINATION IN THE STEEL SECTOR.

(a) to (c): The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has registered a case pertaining to the alleged cartelisation by steel manufacturers pursuant to the directions of the Hon'ble Madras High Court in Criminal Original Petition No. 6153 of 2021. The Director General, CCI was directed to conduct investigation in accordance with law. After investigation, the Director General submitted the Investigation Report, which was shared with the parties with directions to file their objections/suggestions in accordance with the provisions of the Competition Act, 2002. The matter is presently under inquiry before the Commission as per the provisions of the Act.

(d) & (e): The Competition Commission of India (CCI) *inter alia* is mandated to prevent practices having adverse effect on competition. Towards this, the CCI examines the Information(s)/ References received alleging anti-competitive practices or initiates *suo moto* inquiries in appropriate cases.

Upon completion of the inquiry, the CCI issues orders, including cease and desist directions, imposition of monetary penalties, and such other remedies as may be warranted, in accordance with the provisions of the Competition Act, where contravention of its provisions is established.

Further, the Ministry of Steel has informed that Steel is a deregulated sector and steel prices are determined by demand supply dynamics of market forces, input cost of steel companies and prevailing taxes/duties. The Government acts as a facilitator, by creating a conducive policy environment for the development of the steel sector including small and medium producers in the country.
