

**NSE LEAD**  
**DERIVATIVES**  
**Performance Review**  
**2025-26**

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## **Performance Review of Commodity Derivatives - FY 2025-26**

### Lead Futures & Lead Mini Futures

#### **1. Background**

##### **a. Brief about the commodity such as sample picture, lifecycle and various varieties/grade of the commodity found in India**

Lead is a heavy metal that is denser than most common materials. Lead is soft and malleable, and also has a relatively low melting point. When freshly cut, lead is silvery with a hint of blue; it tarnishes to a dull grey colour when exposed to air. Production of lead is increasing worldwide due to its use in lead-acid batteries. There are two major categories of production: primary from mined ores, and secondary from scrap.

Most lead ores contain a low percentage of lead (rich ores have a typical content of 3–8%) which must be concentrated for extraction. During initial processing, ores typically undergo crushing, dense-medium separation, grinding, froth flotation, and drying. The resulting concentrate, which has a lead content of 30–80% by mass (regularly 50–60%), is then turned into (impure) lead metal

Lead is principally used for manufacturing batteries, especially the ones used in automobiles, motorcycles, electric cars, and bicycles. Its incredible density provides unrivaled protection from radiation and is used in hospitals, dental surgeries, laboratories and nuclear installations. Lead-acid batteries are a vital back-up emergency power supply during power failure in computer installations, banks, telephone exchanges, and aircraft control towers, among others.

##### **b. Commodity fundamentals and balance sheet as per the following format (to be prepared based on publicly available information on best effort basis):**

**Table – Fundamentals & Balance Sheet (Thousand tonnes)**

<b>Global Scenario</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
Opening Stocks	-	-
Production	4,654	4,751
Consumption	-	-
Closing Stocks	-	-

**Source:** World Bureau of Metal Statistics, LSEG Datastream

**Table - Indian Balance Sheet (In Tonnes)**

<b>Indian Scenario</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>
Lead Concentrate Production	3,92,551	3,56,044
Lead Concentrate Export	8	24,385
Lead Concentrate Import	6,549	6,296

**Source:** Ministry of Mines, Government of India (mines.gov.in), Ministry of Commerce and Industry

**Top 10 major producing countries (in Thousand Tonnes)**

<b>Countries</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
CHINA	2,022	2,047
AUSTRALIA	501	414
U.S.A.	305	326
PERU	290	312
RUSSIA	218	270
MEXICO	200	230
INDIA	221	203
BOLIVIA	111	105
TURKEY	76	84
SWEDEN	49	77

**Source:** World Bureau of Metal Statistics, LSEG Datastream

**Top 10 major consuming countries (Thousand metric tons)**

Country wise consumption data is not available in public domain.

**Top 10 major exporting countries (in US \$ Million)**

<b>Name of Country</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
CHINA	113	NA
INDIA	903	1,226
AUSTRALIA	776	794
REP. OF KOREA	730	690
GERMANY	558	527
UNITED KINGDOM	583	499
CANADA	366	484
MALAYSIA	423	387
BELGIUM	339	291
USA	282	233

**Source:** UN Comtrade Database, HS Code: 78

**Top 10 major importing countries (in US \$ Million)**

<b>Countries</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
SINGAPORE	555	NA

USA	976	1,268
INDIA	1,281	1,226
GERMANY	627	602
REP. OF KOREA	379	389
UNITED KINGDOM	450	375
CZECHIA	371	344
TURKEY	306	308
ITALY	275	277
SPAIN	271	239

**Source:** UN Comtrade Database, HS Code: 78

### Top Major Lead Producing Mines in India (in Thousand Tonnes)

Name	Location	2023
Sindesar Khurd Mine	Rajasthan	102.06
Zawar Mine	Rajasthan	62.56
Rampura Agucha Mine	Rajasthan	47.88
Rajpura Dariba Mine	Rajasthan	7.31
Kayad Mine	Rajasthan	3.81

**Source:** Mining Technology.com

### c. Major changes in the policies governing trade in the spot markets of the commodity

The lead spot market during FY26 was influenced by policy measures aimed at strengthening recycling ecosystems, critical mineral security, and domestic supply resilience. Continued emphasis on battery recycling, circular economy initiatives, and recovery of critical minerals supported the availability of secondary lead and enhanced supply-chain efficiency.

For India, the growing availability of recycled lead and stable global supply conditions supported domestic consumption from automotive, industrial battery, and energy storage sectors, while reinforcing the importance of recycling in ensuring long-term supply security.

The Ministry of Mines introduced Quality Control Orders (QCOs) in August 2023 and April 2025 to mandate compulsory certification under the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for several non-ferrous metals, including aluminium, copper, nickel, zinc, lead and tin. The objective was to ensure product quality, curb imports of sub-standard materials, promote fair trade practices and align domestic products with Indian Standards.

Subsequently, in November 2025, the Ministry of Mines withdrew these QCOs after consultation with the Bureau of Indian Standards, thereby removing the mandatory BIS certification requirement for the affected metals. The withdrawal was undertaken in the public interest and provided regulatory relief to manufacturers, importers and downstream industries, while preserving the validity of actions already taken under the earlier orders.

#### **d. Geopolitical issues in the commodity and its impact on Indian scenario**

The geopolitical landscape of the lead market during FY26 continued to be influenced by the concentration of production, refining, and battery manufacturing activities in a limited number of countries, particularly China. China remained the world's largest producer and consumer of refined lead and continued to play a significant role in global battery supply chains. According to the International Lead and Zinc Study Group (ILZSG), global refined lead production increased during 2025, driven largely by higher output in China Peru, Mexico, and the United States, resulting in a global market surplus. At the same time, rising inventories on international exchanges, including the London Metal Exchange (LME), reflected improving supply availability and changing trade dynamics. Increasing emphasis on critical mineral security, battery recycling, and sustainable supply chains across major economies further influenced global lead flows and market sentiment.

For India, these developments highlighted the importance of strengthening domestic recycling capacity, enhancing secondary lead production, and reducing exposure to external supply disruptions. Given the country's growing demand from automotive, industrial battery, and energy storage sectors, policy focus on supply-chain resilience and resource security assumed greater significance during the year.

#### **2. Trading related parameter**

NSE had the following Lead derivatives available for trading on its Commodity Derivatives Segment in FY 2025-26.

- Lead Futures
- Lead Mini Futures

##### **a. Monthly and Annual traded volume (quantity in appropriate units)**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

##### **b. Annual traded volume as proportion of total deliverable supply (quantity in appropriate units)**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

##### **c. Annual traded volume as proportion of total annual production (quantity in appropriate units)**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

##### **d. Annual average Open interest as proportion of total production**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

##### **e. Annual average Open interest as proportion of total deliverable supply**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

##### **f. Monthly and Annual value of trade (in Rs. Crores)**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

##### **g. Monthly and Annual quantity of delivery (in appropriate units)**

The deliveries for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 were NIL.

**h. Monthly and Annual value of delivery (in Rs. Crores)**

The deliveries for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 were NIL.

**i. Monthly and Annual Average Open Interest (OI) (in appropriate units)**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in 25-26 was NIL.

**j. Annual average volume to open interest ratio**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in 25-26 was NIL.

**k. Total number of unique members and clients who have traded during the financial year**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

**l. Ratio of open interest by FPOs/farmers/Hedge/VCP positions to total open interest (Annual average as well as maximum daily value)**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

**m. Number of unique FPOs / farmers and VCPs/hedgers who traded in the financial year**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

**n. Algorithmic trading as percentage of total trading**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

**o. Delivery defaults**

**i. Number of instances**

**ii. Quantity involved**

**iii. Value involved**

The deliveries for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 were NIL.

**3. Price movements**

**a. Comparison, correlation and ratio of standard deviation of Exchange futures price vis-à-vis international futures price (wherever relevant comparable are available)**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

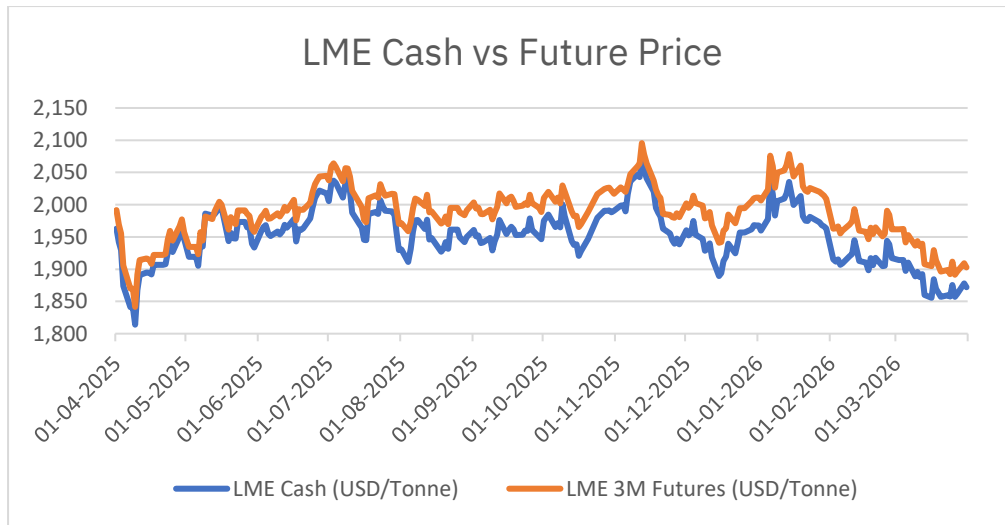
**b. Comparison, correlation and ratio of standard deviation of Exchange futures price vis-à-vis international spot price (wherever relevant comparable are available) and domestic spot price (exchange polled price).**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

**c. Correlation between exchange futures & domestic spot prices along with ratio of standard deviation.**

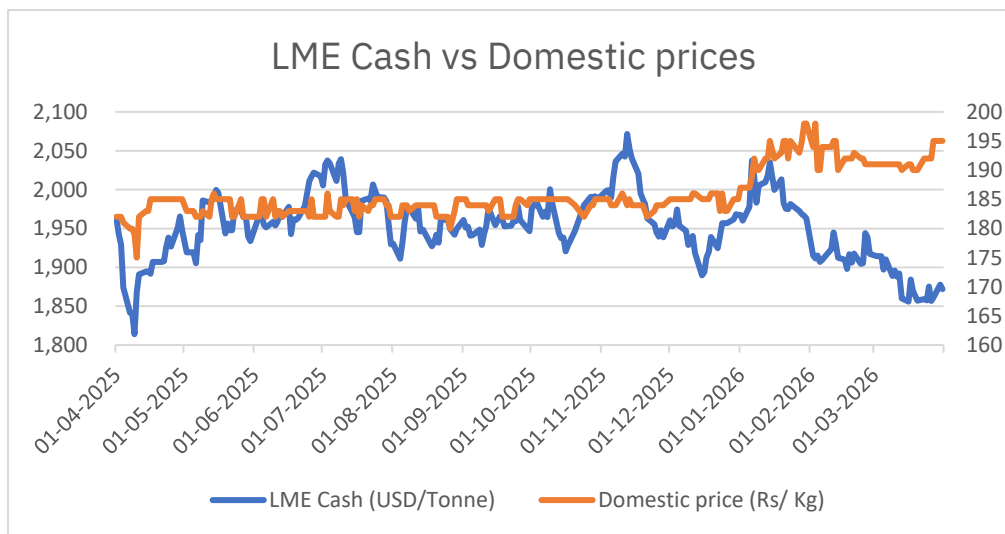
The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

**d. Correlation between international futures & international spot prices along with ratio of standard deviation (wherever relevant comparable are available).**



Correlation: 96.17% | Ratio of Std Deviation: 1.05

**e. Comparison of Exchange polled price and mandi price (in case of agricultural commodities) / other relevant price (in case non-agricultural commodities) at basis centre.**



Correlation: 96.17% | Ratio of Std Deviation: 10.8

**f. Maximum & Minimum value of daily futures price volatility and spot price volatility along with disclosure of methodology adopted for computing the volatility.**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL

Commodity	Max Volatility in Futures Prices (%)	Min Volatility in Futures Prices (%)	Max Volatility in Spot Prices (%)	Min Volatility in Spot Prices (%)
Lead	NA	NA	4.04%	0.00%

Volatility calculation: (Day – Previous day's price)/Previous day's price

- g. Number of times the futures contract was in backwardation/contango by more than 4% for the near month contract in the period under review.**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

**4. Other parameters**

- a. Qualitative and quantitative measure for Hedge effectiveness ratio and basis Risk (Volatility of Basis) along with disclosure of methodology adopted for such calculations.**

The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL.

- b. Details about major physical markets of the commodity vis-à-vis market reach in terms of availability of delivery centers (information to be provided state-wise and UT-wise).**

The largest single use of lead worldwide today is in the manufacture of lead-acid storage batteries which is about 74%, while the single largest use for zinc is in the Galvanising Industry which is about 50%. Entire production of lead concentrate was reported from Rajasthan. However, the commodity is consumed throughout the country with major centres being in Chennai, Kolkata, Panvel, Jalandhar, Rourkela, Vadodara, etc. Chennai is the primary delivery center for NSE Lead derivatives contracts.

- c. Details about major physical markets of the commodity and average Open Interest for each month generated from those regions.**

Major physical markets data provided in the point 4b. The traded volume for Lead derivatives in FY 25-26 was NIL

- d. Details, such as number and target audience, of stakeholders' awareness programs carried out by the exchange.**

A total of 62 Commodity IAPs were conducted reaching out to 1987 participants. These participants included General public, faculties of educational institutes corporate employees, FPOs, Police officers and Women.

- e. Steps taken / to be undertaken to improve hedging effectiveness of the contracts as well as to improve the performance of illiquid contracts**

NSE is constantly striving to encourage hedgers to participate in the Lead contracts. We have value chain participants and associations such as Bombay Metal Exchange, Hindalco Ltd, Vedanta, Rashtriya Metal industries, etc. as part of our Base Metals PAC, who guide us on how to get more participation from physical market participants.

**5. Any other information to be disclosed as deemed important by the exchange or as suggested by the PAC.**