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Comexes turnover crosses $1 tr in 2008

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COMMODITY futures business has clocked a turnover of over Rs 50,00,000 crore ($1.02 trillion) in 2008 within a span of six years after futures trading was allowed by the government.

The total turnover of three national and 19 regional exchanges rose by 28% at Rs 50,33,857 crore in last calendar year, as against Rs 39,32,403 crore in 2007, a release from the Forward Markets Commission, which regulates futures trading in the country, said.

The Multi-Commodity Exchange (MCX), the leading commodity bourse, continued to retain its market leadership contributing by over 84% to the total turnover of the comexes. It showed an impressive growth of over 56% in its turnover at Rs 42,56,601 crore in 2008 with much contribution being scored in precious and base metals trading.

MCX retains the top slot with contributing 84% of total turnover

A similar growth was witnessed by NMCE, whose business rose by 51.3% to Rs 69,767 crore over the previous year notwithstanding the ban on rubber, a largely traded commodity on its platform.

Surprisingly, the business on NCDEX, the leader in the agri-commodity trading, crippled due to the ban on a few commodities imposed by the government last year. The turnover of NCDEX slipped by 28.2% to Rs 29,779 crore as compared to Rs 41,485 crore in 2007, said the release.

The government had banned futures trading in four commodities —chana, potato, soya oil and rubber — for nearly seven months in May last year to contain inflation. The ban, however, was lifted in December. According to experts, NCDEX suffered the most due to suspension as it lost huge business from soya oil, chana and potato.