MCX INVESTOR PROTECTION FUND

PRESS RELEASE

The 8th Edition of MCX COMQUEST 2026 Concludes Successfully

Students from over 1000 academic institutions across India participated

Mumbai, 02 March 2026: The 8th edition of MCX COMQUEST 2026, a premier national-level educational quiz on the commodity markets for students, concluded successfully with a grand finale on 27th February 2026. Organized by the MCX Investor Protection Fund (MCX-IPF), the competition witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 12000 students, with registrations from more than 1000 academic institutions across 30 states and Union Territories, covering 300 cities across India.

This year's edition saw participation from a diverse mix of management institutes, universities, and colleges, reflecting the growing interest among students in understanding commodity derivatives markets and their role in India's financial ecosystem.

Participants were rigorously evaluated on their knowledge and analytical understanding of commodity markets through a multi-stage competition spread over three months. The selection process included screening rounds, case-based assessments, and interactive evaluation formats designed to test conceptual clarity, market awareness, and application skills.

The zonal rounds were conducted across key academic hubs, culminating in a grand finale held at Green Technology Auditorium - Mumbai University, Mumbai. The finale brought together the top-performing teams from across the country, showcasing exceptional depth of knowledge and competitive excellence.

Launched in 2019, MCX COMQUEST is a flagship financial literacy initiative of the MCX Investor Protection Fund (MCX-IPF). The competition forms an integral part of MCX-IPF's ongoing investor awareness and education efforts aimed at enhancing understanding of commodity derivatives markets among the youth. Over the years, COMQUEST has evolved into a credible national platform fostering meaningful engagement between academia and the commodity market ecosystem, including exchanges, clearing corporations, and market intermediaries.

Ms. Praveena Rai, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, MCX said: *"Commodity markets today sit at the intersection of global supply chains, macroeconomic shifts and sustainability transitions. As India's commodity derivatives exchange, MCX recognizes that the next phase of market development will be driven not only by product innovation and regulatory evolution, but also by informed and analytically skilled market participants. MCX-IPF COMQUEST has, over the years, evolved beyond a quiz into a structured national platform that challenges students to interpret market signals, understand hedging frameworks and appreciate the discipline of risk management. The growing depth and diversity of participation reflect the increasing integration of commodity markets into mainstream financial and economic discourse. As volatility cycles intensify globally and India strengthens its role in global trade and manufacturing, the demand for professionals equipped with derivatives expertise and market intelligence will accelerate. Through initiatives such as COMQUEST, we are committed to nurturing that capability pipeline and deepening the industry–academia interface for a more resilient and sophisticated commodity ecosystem."*

The finalists represented leading institutions including IIM-Trichy, IIM-Udaipur, ICFAI-Hyderabad, NISM-Mumbai, VAMNICOM-Pune, IIFT-Kolkata, XLRI-Jamshedpur, and IMI-New Delhi, reflecting the wide national footprint of the initiative.

The winner of the 8th edition of MCX COMQUEST 2026 was Parth Bansal from IMI - New Delhi followed by 1st runner up - Rushikesh Ugale from NISM – Mumbai and 2nd runner up – Shubham Pasari from XLRI – Jamshedpur. Congratulations to all the winners!

MCX INVESTOR PROTECTION FUND

About MCX-IPF

The MCX Investor Protection Fund (MCX-IPF) has been established with the objective of compensating investors in the event of a member default where defaulters' assets are insufficient to meet admitted investor claims. The IPF also undertakes initiatives focused on investor education and awareness and is administered through a registered trust created for this purpose.

The Trust is managed by five trustees comprising three Public Interest Directors, one representative from a SEBI-recognized investor association, and the Compliance Officer of the Exchange. The IPF Trust functions in accordance with comprehensive guidelines issued by SEBI from time to time on IPF and related matters applicable to national commodity derivatives exchanges.

In the event of default by a member, transactions executed on the exchange platform are eligible for settlement from the IPF, subject to the Rules, Bye-laws, and Business Rules of the Exchange.

For more information, investors may visit:
https://www.mcxindia.com/Investor-Services/defaulters/investors-protection-fund-overview

For further details, contact:
Ms. Rovina Adenwalla
Communications and Investor Relations
Phone: +91 22 6731 8888 Ext: 9216
Email: media@mcxindia.com