

CoalSETU window

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Why in news?

The Union Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the Policy for Auction of Coal Linkage for Seamless, Efficient & Transparent Utilisation (CoalSETU) by creation of "CoalSETU window".

- **CoalSETU window** It is a new policy mechanism that allows the coal linkages to be auctioned for diverse industrial uses and exports, with the aim of ensuring fair access and optimal resource utilization.
- Operated under Ministry of Coal.
- Aim To <u>optimize the utilization</u> of domestic coal resources and reduce dependence on imports.

Key Features

- Auction-based allocation Coal linkages will be auctioned on a <u>long-term basis</u> for any industrial use or export.
- No end-use restrictions Unlike the earlier <u>NRS (Non-Regulated Sector) policy (2016)</u> -
 - Which limited coal to specified sectors (cement, sponge iron, aluminium, etc [excluding Fertilizer (Urea)]), the new window allows broader participation.
- **Alignment** It matches with earlier coal sector liberalization (commercial mining without end-use restrictions).
- Exclusion The coking coal will not be offered under this window.
- Export allowance The coal linkage holders can export <u>up to 50%</u> of their allocated coal.
- **Flexibility** Coal linkage holders may utilize the coal flexibly for their own consumption, export, coal washing, or any other purpose, including distribution among their group companies.
- Restrictions Traders barred from participation, resale within the

country prohibited.

• **Impact** - It simplifies coal procurement for industries, increased availability of washed coal domestically, reduced imports, export potential for washed coal, strengthening India's global presence.

References

- 1. PIB | Cabinet approves CoalSETU window
- 2. DD News | Cabinet approves CoalSETU window

