

NEWSLETTER

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Global Sulfur Prices Hit a Ten-Year High

The global sulfur market is experiencing its most intense bull run in a decade, driving Chinese benchmark prices to record levels. On March 30, the Dalian auction base price hit \$857 per ton, marking a historic peak since 2008. In early June, port granular sulfur prices surged 13% in just two days, climbing to \$1,159–\$1,172 per ton, signaling an unprecedented market acceleration. **(ChemNet)**

Severe Supply Crunch Pushes Chinese Sulfur Prices Near \$1,380

Driven by import bottlenecks and low domestic capacity, China's port sulfur inventories plummeted from 2 million tons last year to just 900,000 tons. This acute shortage pushed Shandong refinery auction floor prices to \$1,352 per ton, up drastically from \$531 in early 2026. Experts predict actual transaction prices will soon breach the \$1,379 per ton threshold due to sustained market pressure. **(ChemNet)**

Juhua Co. Wins Gansu Fluorite Exploration Right for \$12.93 Million

Gansu Juhua Mining, a subsidiary of fluorochemical leader Juhua Co., Ltd., secured the exploration right for a fluorite mine in Yongchang County, Gansu. The transaction closed at \$12.93 million, marking an over 301-fold premium from the initial \$42,800 starting price. This landmark project spans 3.033 square kilometers and holds a legal exploration validity of five years. **(ChemNet)**

China's NMPA approves AI-driven drug for chronic pain treatment

Chinese regulators have greenlighted a novel analgesic powered by artificial intelligence for chronic pain management. The drug originated from a Beijing biotech firm's AI discovery platform, drastically cutting development time. It is seen as a milestone for China's "AI in drug discovery" initiative, aiming to boost R&D efficiency. **(National Medical Products Administration)**

Major Pharma Firms partner for national rare disease drug initiative

Several leading Chinese pharmaceutical companies have launched a joint initiative to develop treatments for rare diseases. The collaboration aims to pool R&D resources and share data to accelerate the creation of affordable orphan drugs. The program is backed by national health authorities to address unmet medical needs. The first projects will focus on therapies for pediatric neurological and genetic metabolic disorders. **(National Health Commission)**