(b) Import of coal is under Open General Licence (OGL) and consumers are free to import coal. During the year 2007-08 and 2008-09, various consumers including consumers from power sector have imported coal from Australia, Indonesia etc. to the tune of 49.79 million tonnes and 59.00 million tonnes respectively.

(c) Information is not available with this Ministry.

Irregularities in coal mines of WCL

1846. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that a large scale of bullying and irregularities take place in the contract to be given in the coal mines of Western Coalfields Limited;

(b) whether such irregularities have been brought to Government's notice by the officers concerned and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the private players who have been given the contract of coal during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As informed by Coal India Limited, no complaint of large scale bullying and irregularities has been received in the Vigilance Department of Western Coalfields Limited.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

CCI's awareness campaign on procurement process

1847. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Competition Commission of India (CCI) has observed that many Government departments and public sector companies are losing thousands of crores of public money while procuring goods due to faulty bidding system;

(b) whether CCI has launched an awareness campaign on the Competition Law among the Government agencies like NHAI, CPWD, AIIMS and BSNL to ensure better transparency in the procurement process; and

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to review and revive the procurement system in consultation with CCI and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Competition Commission of India (CCI) has launched an awareness campaign as part of its advocacy efforts under Section 49(3) of the Competition Act, 2002, to create awareness about the competition issues to all stakeholders including Government Departments and Public Sector Companies.