

(c) whether the revised recruitment rules were published after the selection, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that the same was published on 26th January, 2008 in spite of public holiday; and

(e) if so, the urgency to issue Gazette Notification on public holiday?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An anonymous complaint titled 'Manipulation and Corruption in stage-managed appointment of Ms. Meeta Rajivlochan, I.A.S. (H:90) as Controller, SCL on deputation basis' was forwarded by DoPT to the Department of Space for examination. Accordingly it was looked into and comments of the Department of Space were sent to DoPT.

(c) The draft Recruitment Rule (RR) was sent to DoPT for vetting and in response, DoPT conveyed certain modifications. Accordingly, the Recruitment Rules were finalized and conveyed to Director, SCL on 26.01.2008. Prior to this itself, the Search-cum-Selection Committee meeting was convened on 22.01.2008. However, Smt. Meeta Rajivlochan was appointed as Controller, SCL only on 19.5.2008.

(d) and (e) The Recruitment Rule (RR) for the post of Controller, SCL was not published/notified in the Gazette of India. The comments of DoPT received *vide* Note dated 25.01.2008 were considered in the Department of Space and accordingly RR was finalized. Thereafter it was conveyed to Director, SCL on 26.01.2008. This was done in the interest of filling up the post of Controller, SCL early.

Constitution of High Powered Committee

1368. SHRI R. C. SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has constituted a High Powered Committee to review technical, commercial, financial and other aspects of agreement between ANTRIX and DEVAS Multimedia Pvt. Ltd.;

(b) if so, whether the Committee submitted its Report;

(c) if so, the details of each of the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(d) the details of action the Ministry has taken on each of the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) and (d) Government set up a High Powered Review Committee on February 10, 2011 to review the technical, commercial, procedural and financial aspects of the Agreement between Antrix Corporation Limited and M/s Devas Multimedia Limited, to suggest corrective measures, and to fix responsibility for lapses, if any. The Committee was also asked to review the adequacy of procedures and approval processes followed by Antrix, ISRO and the Department of Space, and to suggest improvements and changes.

The High Powered Review Committee has since submitted its report to Government. Based on the examination of these recommendations, Government has initiated a number of actions. Further action will be taken as may be necessary. The steps taken so far include:

- (i) Department of Revenue and Ministry of Corporate Affairs have been asked to initiate investigations for possible acts of omission and commission.
- (ii) A High Level Team has been constituted for examination of various aspects of the Antrix-Devas agreement and identification of acts of omission and commission involved in signing thereof.
- (iii) Governance and systemic reform measures are being undertaken in the Department of Space, ISRO and ANTRIX. A Departmental Committee headed by Secretary, Space will monitor the pace of their implementation. It has been decided that the Space Commission will regularly review the functioning of the Department of Space, ISRO and Antrix. The Space Commission would also mandate appropriate peer reviews periodically in respect of governance and systemic reforms. Several steps for improvement in the functioning and efficacy of the Space Commission have been put in place.
- (iv) A full time Chairman cum Managing Director of Antrix has been appointed with effect from July 07, 2011. The Antrix Board is being reconstituted. Two officers at the level of Director have been appointed in the Department of Space to look after (i) Projects, Procurement and matters relating to Antrix, and (ii) Legal matters and Contracts. In order to facilitate co-ordination between the Department of Space and Antrix, a Co-ordination Management Committee headed by Secretary, Department of Space has been set up.
- (v) The INSAT Coordination Committee has been re-constituted and the first meeting of the reconstituted Committee has been held.

Capacity for production of Sponge Iron

1369. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state: