

(d) whether CIL had repeatedly written to the Ministry seeking allocation of 130 odd blocks which were essential for meeting existing commitments; and

(e) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) Coal India Limited (CIL) has registered a wholly owned subsidiary in Mozambique namely, Coal India Africana Limited (CIAL) for exploration and development of two coal blocks allotted by the Government of Mozambique through a bidding process. CIL has set up an office in the city of Tete. Presently, four executives of CIL are on deputation to CIAL, The inter-disciplinary team of senior officers of CIL is engaged in drilling and associated activities which are being carried out in these coal blocks.

(c) to (e) In order to reverse the declining trend of production as well as to increase production of CIL, the CIL had requested Ministry of Coal, for allocation of 138 coal blocks for meeting coal demand for future. The Ministry of Coal advised CIL to indicate coal blocks that would be required by the subsidiary companies of CIL to fulfill their commitments of achievement of long-term production target of the company. Based on the requirement of subsidiary companies for meeting production plan/commitment, CIL in September 2011 requested for allocation of 116 coal blocks. After examining the proposal of CIL, Ministry of Coal in May 2012 has tentatively assigned 116 coal blocks to CIL. In addition to the above, three de-allocated coal blocks viz. Brahmini, ChchroPastimal and East of Damogoria from the de-allocated coal blocks have also been assigned to CIL for undertaking mining on priority basis.

Promotion of young entrepreneurs

*233. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken to encourage and promote young entrepreneurs;

(b) if so, the details of such entrepreneurial activities supported by the Ministry and;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises implements various schemes to encourage and promote young entrepreneurs.

(b) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has been encouraging and promoting young entrepreneurs by implementing various schemes, such as, Prime

Minister's Employment Generation Programme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme, Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme, Cluster Development Programme for MSEs, Assistance to Training Institutions Scheme, Entrepreneurship Development Programme, Performance and Credit Rating Scheme, Market Development Assistance Scheme etc.

(c) Does not arise.

Action on reports of NCM

†*234. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken or proposes to take any steps for immediately implementing, after due consideration, the reports of the National Commission for Minorities presented to Parliament from time to time;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The recommendations contained in the Annual Reports of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) concerning the Government are examined and the Action Taken Reports prepared together with the Annual Reports of the Commission till the year 2009-10 have been laid on the Table of both Houses of Parliament.

Obstacles in increasing coal production

*235. SHRI C.M. RAMESH : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is of the view that environment and forest clearances and land acquisition are two major concerns which hamper coal production in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to tackle this issue; and

(c) the details of the outcome of the steps taken by Government, so far?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) It is mandatory to obtain Environment and Forest clearance (wherever forest land is involved) and complete the land acquisition process for taking up coal mining projects. However, the procedural delays in processing of the proposals for Environment

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.