

recommendations. With respect to the allocations made to the Private Companies, the IMG has recommended de-allocation of 13 coal blocks allocated to 29 companies, deduction of Bank Guarantee in the cases of 14 blocks allocated to 19 companies and imposition of BG in case of 1 coal block. No action has been recommended in cases of 3 coal blocks allocated to 2 companies. The recommendations of the IMG have been accepted by the Competent Authority and action is initiated accordingly. Further, the IMG took up the cases of PSUs and after hearing the allocatees, the IMG recommended deallocation of 11 blocks, deduction of BG in 5 cases, imposition of BG in 11 cases and no action in 6 cases including 3 cases on account of Court orders. The recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

Allocation of coal blocks

320. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some rigged up firms, which were not conforming to the rules and regulations at the time of allotment, were given preferential allotment of coal blocks;

(b) if so, names and the details of each of such firms which have been made allocations during the last eight years, year-wise and company-wise;

(c) whether any enquiry has been instituted on such allotments;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (e) The allocations were made on the basis of recommendations of the Screening Committee. The Screening Committee was a broad based body with representation from State Governments, concerned Ministries of the Central Government and the coal companies. The procedure adopted for allocation involved wide consultations with all stakeholders. All applicants were called for making a presentation before the Screening Committee. The comprehensive details about the applicant, the group, performance of the

group, financial strength, readiness of the end-use plant etc. were placed before the committee so as to enable it to make appropriate recommendations.

Since September, 2005, the coal blocks used to be advertised calling for applications from interested parties. The application was to be filed in five sets. One set was to be sent to the concerned State Government, one set to the concerned line Ministry in the Central Government, *viz.*, Power, Steel, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, one set to CIL/CMPDIL for their examination and furnishing comments. Then, the applicants used to be called for presenting their case to the Screening Committee. Thereafter, the Screening Committee used to deliberate and give recommendations regarding allocation of coal blocks to the eligible applicants.

As per the minutes, the Screening Committee assessed the applications having regard to the matters such as techno-economic feasibility of the end use project, status of preparedness to set up the end use project, past track record in execution of projects, financial and technical capabilities of the applicant companies, recommendations of the State Governments and the Administrative Ministry concerned.

As per information given by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), FIRs have been filed in 9 cases for falsification/misrepresentation of facts while making applications for allocation of coal blocks by the companies.

Allocation of coal blocks

†321. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Auditor General of India has reported the loss of rupees one lakh eighty five thousand crore to the public exchequer due to wrong policy of coal allocation;

(b) whether the Ministry is considering upon any scientific policy of coal allocation after comprehensive study of this report;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Ministry has been misused by some parties in coal blocks allocation; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.