

(b) whether Government has already de-allocated coal blocks in 22 cases and bank guarantees have been forfeited in the case of another 36 entities, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government periodically reviews and monitors the progress of development of coal blocks as well associated end use plants through the mechanism of 'Review Committee' earlier and 'Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG)' now which has been constituted on 21.06.2012 in pursuance of the announcement made by the Finance Minister in the budget speech for the year 2012-13.

The progress of development of allocated coal blocks were reviewed from time to time by the then Review Committee and on the basis of review made by the Review Committee, 20 coal blocks were de-allocated due to unsatisfactory progress and 5 coal blocks surrendered by the allocattees were de-allocated. Out of 25 de-allocated coal blocks, 2 coal blocks were again allocated to eligible companies in 1999 and 2005 respectively. In addition, de-allocation order in respect of 3 coal blocks allocated to M/s National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and 2 coal blocks allocated to Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) and Jharkhand State Electricity Board respectively were subsequently withdrawn.

The IMG has held 21 meetings so far and reviewed 149 coal blocks including the cases earlier reviewed by the then 'Review Committee' where Show Cause Notices (SCNs) were issued. Based on the recommendations of the IMG, SCNs have been issued to the allocattees of 30 coal blocks, order for forfeiture of Bank Guarantee (BG), in part or full, have been issued in respect of 29 coal blocks, order for imposition of BG have been issued in respect of 6 coal blocks and 22 coal blocks have been de-allocated by the Government so far. Further, it has also been decided to issue SCNs for 27 more coal blocks.

#### **Restructuring of CIL**

\*82. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is examining a proposal to split the State-owned Coal India Ltd. (CIL) into smaller units; and

(b) if so, whether Government has commissioned a consultant to look into the proposal of restructuring the behemoth CIL to make it more productive and competitive, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) In line with the recommendations of the T.L. Shankar Committee on Road Map for Coal Sector reforms, Ministry of Coal has proposed to institute a study on restructuring of Coal India. Accordingly, Ministry of Coal had floated an Expression of Interest (EOI) for engaging consultants for restructuring Coal India to strengthen coal development in the country. Out of 17 applications received in response to the EOI, 9 companies were shortlisted and the Request For Proposal (RFP) was issued to them. Out of them, 7 companies submitted the technical and financial bids covering *inter-alia* the objectives and scope of work projected in the EOI. The bids of the companies are under evaluation by the Committee constituted for such purposes. Based on the report of the consultancy organization, Government will take a final view on the issue in consultation with all stakeholders.

#### **Allocation of coal blocks**

†\*83. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government, after 2009, has recently allocated new coal blocks;

(b) if so, the number of such blocks and the coal reserves in these blocks along with the quantity of coal which may be produced from these blocks, per day; and

(c) by when production from these coal blocks is expected to commence?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Under the amended provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the rules thereunder, Government of India has recently allocated 14 regionally explored coal blocks to State and Central Government Companies engaged in power generation. The estimated geological reserves in these 14 regionally explored coal blocks are 8311 million tonnes. The production capacity and commencement of production from these 14 coal blocks will be known after detailed exploration of the blocks is completed and mining plans are prepared.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.