

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) No Sir. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has not laid down any new guidelines to control insider trading. However, the SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations 1992 are already in existence.

Evasion of custom duty on coal import

3778.DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether prominent companies in the power and cement sectors allegedly import bituminous coal by labeling it as steam coal to evade custom duty;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Department of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has issued any notice to a few companies in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the names of the companies involved and the total estimated loss accrued;

(f) whether a loophole has been detected by Government in the law to dodge import duty of Rs. 2,500 crore on coal imports; and

(g) if so, the steps taken by Government to prevent such fraudulent practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of import of bituminous coal by the companies in power and cement sectors by mis-declaring it as steam coal to evade Customs duty and the cases booked by Customs field formations including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence for the financial year 2012-13 are as under :

(Rs. in crore)

| No. of cases detected | Value of goods imported by mis-declaring as steam coal | Duty involved |
|-----------------------|--|---------------|
| 550 | 23382.15 | 2505.123 |

(c) to (e) The details of notices issued on cases booked by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) in respect of companies involved and the total estimated loss accrued during the above said period is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(f) No, Sir. There is no loophole in law. The duty short payment was a consequence of misclassification of coal under CTH 27011920 as "Steam Coal" (in the category of "other" than Anthracite Coal and Bituminous Coal) while it was correctly classifiable under CTH 27011200 as Bituminous Coal as per its Technical Specifications.

(g) The Government has taken steps to prevent such fraudulent practice *vide* Notification No.12/2013-Cus dated 01.03.2013. The Basic Customs Duty on Bituminous coal was reduced from 5% to 2% and CVD from 6% to 2% and the Basic Customs Duty on Steam Coal was raised from Nil to 2% and CVD from 1% to 2% so that now both Steam Coal and Bituminous Coal attract a uniform rate of 2% BCD and 2% CVD.

Statement

Details of notices issued by DRI in respect of companies involved and total estimated loss accrued during 2012-13

| Name of the company against whom SCN issued by DRI | Value of goods imported by mis-declaring as steam coal (Rs. in crore) | Duty involved (Rs. in crore) |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Barnari Amman Sugar Pvt. Ltd. | 5.44 | 0.58 |
| Coastal Energy Pvt. Ltd. | 18.00 | 1.91 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--|---------|--------|
| DCW Ltd. | 117.00 | 12.43 |
| Empee Distilleries Ltd. | 8.32 | 0.88 |
| Empee Sugars and Chemicals Ltd. | 85.63 | 9.00 |
| Ind Barath Power Gencom Ltd. & M/s Ind Barath Thermal Power Ltd. | 186.00 | 19.77 |
| J K Cement | 31.03 | 3.29 |
| KG Denim Ltd. | 4.39 | 0.47 |
| M/s Bajaj Energy Pvt. Ltd. | 8.04 | 0.85 |
| Maheshwari Brothers | 4.87 | 0.51 |
| MALCO | 3.30 | 0.35 |
| Nizam Coal Pvt. Ltd. | 23.39 | 2.48 |
| Quantum Coal Energy Pvt. Ltd. | 7.23 | 0.76 |
| Rengaraj Ispat Industries Pvt. Ltd. | 44.00 | 4.68 |
| S M Ram Coal Importers | 9.68 | 1.02 |
| Servalakshmi Paper and Boards Pvt. Ltd. | 17.05 | 1.80 |
| Shesasayee Paper & Boards Pvt. Ltd. | 86.00 | 9.22 |
| Star Coal India Pvt. Ltd. | 19.80 | 2.10 |
| Sun Paper Mill Ltd. | 7.51 | 0.79 |
| UPCL (Power) | 1145.25 | 121.50 |
| Yasin Impex India Pvt. Ltd. | 10.00 | 1.09 |

Online examination for LIC agents

‡3779. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided the facility of online examination for the appointment of agents of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.