

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) An "Inter-Ministerial Task Force" (IMTF) was constituted on 13th June, 2014 to undertake a comprehensive review of existing sources of coal and consider the feasibility for rationalization of these sources with a view to optimize transportation cost and materialization under the given technical constraints.

Flowing out of discussions in the IMTF, a proposal has been mooted to allocate 1.2 million tonne of coal to Gujarat State Electricity Corporation Limited (GSECL) from Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL) by reducing this quantity from South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL). A workshop was held on 02.12.2014 with all the stakeholders to discuss this and other proposals on rationalization.

#### **Import of coal**

2358. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the coal import in the country from Australia and other countries;
- (b) how many Indian companies have taken coal mines on lease in Australia and other countries; and
- (c) the out of total import of coal, how much is from the Indian companies who has taken mines on lease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Coal can be imported by the purchaser as it is under Open General License. The total import of coal by India during 2013-14 was 168.4 MTe. of which 34.8 MTe. of coal was imported from Australia and the balance from other countries which include Indonesia (103.1 MTe.), South Africa (20.6MTe) and others (44.7 MTe.). The data on import is at the level of country of origin. The Ministry of Coal has no specific information on Indian companies that have taken mines on lease in other countries and coal imported from them.

#### **Production by coal blocks**

2359. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M. P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has allowed 42 coal blocks to continue production till March 31, 2015 provided they pay the levy of ₹295 per metric tonne till that date;
- (b) who are the allocatees of these blocks and the power plants for which the coal from these blocks is intended to be used; and