

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4667

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010

ALLOTMENT OF COAL BLOCK THROUGH SCREENING COMMITTEE

Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the allotment of coal blocks is done by Screening Committee;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the composition of this Committee;
- (c) the criteria/basis on which the Screening Committee makes allotment;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any review of allotment made by the Screening Committee; and
- (e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (c): Coal blocks had been allocated based on the recommendations of Screening Committee. Allocation of coal blocks in favour of public as well as private sector companies under Section 3(3)(a)(iii) of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 has been done by the Government on the basis of recommendations of the Screening Committee, which is an inter-ministerial and inter-governmental committee headed by Secretary(Coal). This Committee has representatives from Ministry of Power, Steel, Railways, Environment & Forest, Commerce & Industry and Coal companies. The concerned State Government where the block is located is also represented in the Committee. Under this dispensation, blocks identified for allocation for approved end-use for captive mining are advertised in national/regional newspapers inviting applications from both public and private sector companies. The applications received are circulated to the concerned administrative Ministry/Department, State Government and CMPDIL for scrutiny and recommendation. Based on the comments/recommendations received from the concerned administrative Ministry/Department, State Government and CMPDIL, the same are placed before the Screening Committee for its examination and recommendation. The allocations are recommended by Screening Committee taking into account, inter-alia, techno-economic viability of end-use project, state of project preparedness, compatibility in terms of quality and quantity of coal in a block with the requirement of end user and track record of applicant company, recommendations of the State Government and Administrative Ministry concerned etc. Based on the recommendations of the Screening Committee, the Government allocated the coal block to the companies.

(d) & (e): As stated above the coal/lignite blocks are allocated by the Government on the recommendations of the Screening Committee, which is only a recommending body.