GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CORPORATE AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3753 ANSWERED ON:24.03.2017 Anti-Cartelization Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Building Association of India (BAI) filed a case against cement firms and the Cement Manufacturers Association (CMA) on charges of cartelization;
- (b) if so, whether the Competition Commission of India (CCI) inquired into the charges made by the BAI and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the CCI have found guilty some cement companies and imposed penalty on them;
- (d) if so, the names of the companies found involved in these activities and penalty imposed by the CCI, company-wise;
- (e) whether all the companies have adhered to the decision of the CCI; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

(a) to (d) Yes, Madam. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) inquired into the charges made by Building Association of India (BAI). CCI found that the cement companies used the platform of Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA) and shared details relating to prices, capacity utilization, production and dispatch, acting in concert in fixing prices of cement and thereby restricted production and supplies in the market contravening provisions of Section 3(1) read with Section 3(3)(a) and 3(3)(b) of the Competition Act, 2002.

CCI vide order dated 31st August, 2016 imposed penalties on cement companies and CMA, as indicated below: -

ACC Ltd. Rs.1147.59 crores
Ambuja Cements Ltd. Rs.1163.91 crores
Binani Cements Ltd. Rs.167.32 crores
Century Textiles and Industries Ltd. Rs.274.02 crores
India Cements Ltd. Rs.187.48 crores
J K Cement Ltd. Rs.128.54 crores
Lafarge India Pvt. Ltd. Rs.490.01 crores
Ramco Cements Ltd. Rs.258.63 crores
UltraTech Cement Ltd. Rs.1175.49 crores
Jaiprakash Associates Ltd. Rs.1323.60 crores
Cement Manufacturers' Association Rs.0.73 crores.

(e) & (f) The above cement companies and CMA were directed to deposit the penalty within 60 days from the receipt of the order and they have challenged the order of CCI before the Competition Appellate Tribunal.
