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## IECL inducts four SBG directors on board

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Hyderabad: Over a year after it roped in the Jeddah-based Saudi Bin Ladin group as co-promoter, the decks were finally cleared on Tuesday for the beleaguered Hyderabad-based IL&FS Engineering and Construction Company Ltd (IECL) to induct four SBG directors on the company's board.

On Tuesday, the shareholders of IECL, formerly known as Maytas Infra, approved the appointment of four SBG nominees - Saleh Mohammed Binladin, Mu'taz Sawwaf, Akberali Mohamedali Moawalla and Ahmad Mohamad Dabbous - as directors of the company at its annual general meeting, the company told the bourses.

Incidentally, it was only on September 1 this year that the tenure of the two government-appointed directors - Ved Jain and Anil Agarwal - on the IECL board ended. The two were among four directors brought on board by the government in April 2009 to revive the company after the Satyam scam put a full-stop to its operations. The erstwhile Maytas Infra was promoted by disgraced Satyam founder B Ramalinga Raju's son B Teja Raju but handed over to IL&FS by the Company Law Board (CLB) in September 2009.

CLB had paved the way for induction of SBG directors on the IECL board only on November 2010 after initially rejecting the company's plea in August 2010 citing lack of prior approval to induct SBG as co-promoter. It was in June 2010 that IL&FS had brought on board SBG as co-promoter by giving a 20% stake through the preferential allotment route for Rs 302 crore.

As per shareholding data up to June 2011 available on BSE, IL&FS group holds 34.56% stake in the erstwhile Maytas Infra, while the SBG group's 32.39% stake is reflected in public shareholding as per CLB's orders. Interestingly, the Raju family still holds over 15.5% stake in IECL through various entities.

IL&FS and SBG were able to hike their respective stakes in the company earlier this year after their joint open offer was successful in mopping up 18.82% stake from the market.