

ting to make any change in this policy; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLIUM AND NATURAL GAS
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) The basic rationale for offering facilities to Non-Resident Indians/ persons of Indian Origin to invest in India was to increase the flow of foreign exchange remittances. The reasons for extending these facilities for investment in Indian industry to corporate entities, trusts, etc. owned by Non-Residents of Indian nationality or origin are : firstly, the investible resources of non-resident Indians are, in many cases, held in the form of companies, trusts, co-operative societies, etc. rather than in their individual capacity; and secondly, the tax situation and other regulations obtaining in many countries necessitate resources being held and investments being made through corporate entities.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Plantation of Rudraksha Trees

8478. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK:
SHRI H.B. PATIL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are Rudraksha trees in the country;

(b) if so, State-wise plantation of these trees;

(c) the names of the countries where they are abundantly found; and

(d) the steps proposed to plant more Rudraksha trees in the country during the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) to (c). "Rudraksha" trees occur sporadically in the forests of

Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra and have been planted in gardens in many parts of the country. Outside India its occurrence is reported in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malay Peninsula and Nepal.

(d) There is no proposal currently under consideration of Government of India to plant Rudraksha trees extensively.

[Translation]

Seizure of Gold in October-December, 1986

8479. SHRI SWAMI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of gold seized between October and December, 1986; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to check smuggling of gold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) The quantity and value of gold seized under the Customs Act, 1962 during the period October to December, 1986 is given below:-

Quantity (in Kgs.)	Value (Rs. in crores)
302.5	7.22

(b) The anti-smuggling machinery throughout the country remain alert, particularly in the vulnerable areas, to prevent and detect smuggling of gold into the country through various means. Sophisticated anti-smuggling equipments are utilised in this task. Close co-ordination is maintained with all concerned agencies to the prevention and detection of gold smuggling into the country.

[English]

Malpractices in Stock Exchanges

8480. SHRI D.N. REDDY:
SHRI SRI HARI RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: