

to supplement indigenous production and for blending purposes, as indigenous coking coal has high ash content. Offtake

of indigenous coking coal and quantity imported by Steel sector during the last two years are as under:

(Figs. in million tonnes)

Year	Offtake of indigenous coking coal	Quantity imported
1985-86	24.49	2.45
1986-87	23.39	2.56

In the case of non-coking coal, superior quality of coal has been allowed to be imported on Open General Licence and limited imports are resorted to by industries entitled to them.

(b) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Industries Taken Out of Provisions of MRTP Act and FERA Act

2725. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 52 more groups of industries have been taken out of the purview of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade practices Act/Foreign Exchange Regulation Act;

(b) if so, the groups which are still under the purview of these Acts;

(c) whether exemption has been granted under certain conditions;

(d) if so, what are these conditions;

(e) whether any company has been found to have violated these conditions; and

(f) if so, the details and the action taken, if any, against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOP-

MENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). By a Notification No. S. O. 65(E) dated 21.2.1986, a copy of which was placed on the Table of the House on 28.2.1986, Government have under the provisions of Section 22A of the MRTP Act, 1969, exempted 52 industries for which MRTP companies would not have to seek Government approval under Sections 21 or 22 of the said Act. The conditions under which such exemption is available are spelt out in the said Notification. FERA companies, however, have to obtain clearance under the FERA in respect of these groups of industries.

(e) and (f). No such case has come to the notice of the Government. In any case, exemption is available to MRTP companies only on fulfilment of the conditions specified in this behalf.

#### Use of Gas by States

2726. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the policy of the use of natural gas by the State in which it is found; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b) There is no policy to confine use of natural gas to the State in which gas is found. Utilisation of natural gas is decided on consideration