

(b) if so, since when they have been operating and the criteria adopted for selection of private operators;

(c) whether any conditions particularly in regard to environment have been laid down in the contract; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) No. Sir. North Eastern Coalfields (NEC) has awarded contracts in November, 1983 for hiring of Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM), for operation of the opencast mines of NEC, as per Ministry of Labour's notification No. SO-2063 dated 21st June, 1998 granting exemption to the quarries in the NEC of Sub-section (1) of Section 10 of Contract Labour (Regulation and (Abolition) Act, 1970. The criteria adopted for selection of parties for hiring of HEMM was through open tender and in accordance with the prescribed Coal India Limited norms.

(c) No condition in regard to environment have been laid down in the contract.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) above.

NRI Targetted Schemes

3522. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Non-Resident Indians targetted schemes announced in the Budget has evoked interest among NRIs;

(b) If so, whether the Government is confident of mopping up billions of dollars;

(c) whether SBI has floated new International Bond offering one percent high rate of interest than the existing International rates; and

(d) if so, the latest response 9 to the Government's move?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (d) The schemes/facilities announced in the Budget for NRIs are in the process of implementation. The State Bank of India's international Bond issue primarily targetting NRIs would be launched shortly. The Bonds are proposed to be denominated in US Dollars, Pound Sterling and Deutsche Marks with interest rates of 7.75% for Dollar investments, 8% for Pound Sterling and 6.25% for Deutsche Marks. Assessment of the response to the initiatives announced in the Budget could be made after the schemes have been implemented.

UK Investment

3523. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the British Government has instructed the leading British companies to reduce the pace of investment in India;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any measures to ensure that the pace of foreign investment do not go slow; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) There is no evidence that the British Government has advised the British Companies to reduce the pace of Investments in India.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Export of Fish Products

3524. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have exported fish, dry fish and various fish products during the last three years;

(b) if so, the item-wise details thereof; and

(c) the efforts made or being made by the Government for setting up storage of fishes, factories for fish meal in Southern Gujarat and Saurashtra?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Details of items exported from India during the last 3 years, are as follows :

Q : Quantity in Metric Tons

V : Value in Rupee Crores

Item	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Frozen fish	Q : 100093	173005	188029
	V : 372.26	636.92	726.73
Dry fish/dry fish Product	Q : 7725	9805	5692
	V : 46.48	41.86	33.89
Frozen Shrimp	Q : 95724	105426	101318
	V : 2356.81	2701.76	3140.56
Frozen cuttle-fish and squid	Q : 78870	72102	72353
	V : 580.44	562.82	594.30
Others	Q : 13865	17861	18426
	V : 145.12	178.00	202.00
Total	Q : 296277	378199	385818
	V : 3501.11	4121.36	4697.48