

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (c) No such request appears to have been received from Kerala Government. However, collections under VIDS scheme were shared with the States only. Total amount paid to Kerala as share in the proceeds of VIDS'97 is Rs. 279.76 crore.

#### Automatic Purchase Preference for PSUs

3716. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to withdraw Automatic Purchase Preference for Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) The existing policy of purchase preference for public enterprises, subject to stipulation therein, is valid upto 31.3.2000.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Vacant Post in SSI Service Institutes

3717. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH :

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether 70 per cent posts of the officers are lying vacant in the Small Scale Industry Service Institutes being run under his Ministry in the remote and backward areas of various States, particularly in Himachal Pradesh and as a result of which the establishment and development of Small Scale Industries in the States has come to standstill;

(b) if so, the number of posts of the officers lying vacant in the SSIs in Solan District of Himachal Pradesh and since when;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any latest survey regarding the requirement of officers in the Small Scale Industry Service Institutes at the above said place with a view to develop the Small Scale Industries in Himachal Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) In the Small Scale Industry Service

Institutes, 29 per cent of posts of Gazetted officers are presently vacant. In Small Industries Service Institute, Solan, there are 10 Gazetted posts. Out of ten, four posts are presently filled up. Statement showing the details of the posts lying vacant at SISI, Solan is given in statement.

The SISIs perform a supplementary role in the industrial development of States. The States over the years have created much larger structures for industrial promotion.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Internal Work Study Unit of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has conducted a work study in SISI, Solan. With regard to the Gazetted officers, work study had recommended as surplus one post of Assistant Director (Gr. I) (Mech.) which has been abolished. Work Study Unit has proposed the upgradation of the post of Assistant Director (Gr.I) (EI) to the post of Deputy Director (EI). However, this recommendation of upgradation has not been agreed to. Post of Assistant Director (Gr.I) (EI) has been retained.

#### Statement

##### Vacant post of Gazetted Officers at SISI, Solan

S.No.	Name of the post	No. of post	From which date
1.	Deputy Director (Chem.)	1	2.8.97
2.	Asstt. Dir.(Gr.I) (G/C)	1	8.9.96
3.	Asstt. Dir.(Gr.I) (EI)	1	3.9.98
4.	Asstt. Dir.(Gr.I) (IMT)	1	1.7.93
5.	Asstt. Dir.(Gr.I) (Chem.)	1	31.10.98
6.	Asstt. Dir.(Gr.II) (EI)	1	20.5.97

[English]

#### FDI in Soft Drink

3718. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total inflow of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the soft drink industry from 1998 to February 15, 1999; and

(b) the estimated number of people directly employed in the soft drink industry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) Sir, the total inflow of FDI in Food Processing Industry Sector (including soft drink industry) during the period from January, 1998 to February, 1999 is Rs. 239.68 crore.

(b) Data on employment generation with specific linkage to FDI is not centrally maintained. Employment linkage is with reference to Industrial Approvals i.e. Letter of Intent (for Licensed Sectors) and IEMs (for Delicensed Sectors).