

had also announced the Kar Vivad Samadhan Scheme to reduce litigation and to effect recovery of the dues. These efforts have helped to check the rising trend in arrears.

[English]

Reserved Posts in IDBI

3810. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of total employees in the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) and strength of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees among them;

(b) whether there is any backlog of reserved vacancies for SCs/STs;

(c) if so, the details thereof, post-wise;

(d) whether the IDBI proposes to fill up these posts through special recruitment drive; and

(e) if so, the time by which the vacant posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that the total number of employees of IDBI and strength of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees among them as on 31st December, 1998 is as under :

Total No. of Employees	2975
No. of S.C. Employees	616
No. of S.T. Employees	181

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The backlog of vacancies reserved for SCs and STs as on December 31, 1998 are 18 and 30 respectively.

(d) and (e) IDBI does not propose to initiate any special recruitment drive. However, it proposes to make vigorous efforts to clear the backlog as early as possible at the time of regular recruitments.

[Translation]

Export of Soft Drinks

3811. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of soft drinks being exported at present from the country ;

(b) the names of the cold drinks exported during the last two years, country-wise; and

(c) the foreign exchange earned through exports of soft drinks ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMA-KRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) The Soft drinks being exported from the country are mainly based on mango, orange, lemon, pineapple and litchi. The exports have been mainly to USA, UK, Japan, the Netherlands, Denmark, Canada, Germany, Russia, Jordan, UAE, South Africa, Bangladesh and Bhutan. The countrywise details of exports are available in the Foreign Trade Statistics of India—Monthly/Annual Bulletins published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI and S), Calcutta. copies of which are kept in the Parliament Library.

(c) The foreign exchange earned through the exports of soft drinks based on mango, orange, lemon, pineapple and litchi, etc. during 1996-97 and 1997-98 are as follows :-

Year	Value (Rs. Lakhs)
1996-97	335.11
1997-98	898.06

(Source : APEDA/DGCI&S, Calcutta)

[English]

Export of Tea to Pakistan

3812. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pakistan, which is the third largest consumer of tea in the world, is importing tea from African countries, resulting in annual burden of \$ 100 million on the country;

(b) if so, whether there are good prospects of India for exporting tea to Pakistan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMA-KRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) Pakistan on an average imports around 65 million kgs. of tea annually from African countries valued at US \$ 120 million.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Import of tea by Pakistan is around 110 Million Kgs. per year. India's share in the overall import of tea by Pakistan is nominal. India's export of tea to Pakistan increased from 0.32 Mn. Kgs in 1991 to 1.90 Mn. Kgs in 1997. Keeping in view the overall size of the Pakistan tea market, there appears to be good prospect for increasing our exports to that country.

Revival of Hindustan Photo Films

3813. SHRI V. K. CHINNASAMY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hindustan Photo Films at Ooty in Tamil Nadu is under BIFR for revival;

- (b) if so, the amount required for reviving this unit;
- (c) whether the revival of this unit is likely to save foreign exchange by way of reduction in export of Photo Films; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) BIFR is yet to finalise and circulate a draft rehabilitation scheme.

Export of Shrimps

3814. SHRI ANUP LAL YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the export of shrimps in terms of quantity, value in Rupees and Dollars during the last three years;
- (b) the projection for the next two years;
- (c) the top three Indian exporters of shrimps;
- (d) the top three importing countries of Indian shrimps during the last three years;
- (e) the difficulties currently faced by exporters of shrimps; and
- (f) the names of Indian shrimp exporters with ISO 9000 certification?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMA-KRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) The export of shrimps in terms of quantity, rupee and dollar value terms during the last three years has been as follows:-

Year	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs.Crores)	Value (US \$ Million)
1996-97	105426	2701.78	755.74
1997-98	101318	3140.56	866.37
1998-99 (1st April, 98 to 28th Feb., 99)	94263	3121.64	747.52

(b) The export of shrimps from India will depend upon international production and demand as well as the domestic production from capture and culture sources. As per the past trend of the last three years, the exports of shrimps are likely to undergo only marginal variations.

(c) Based on the export performance during the year 1997-98, the top three exporters of shrimps from India are; (i) M/s. Falcon Marine Exports Ltd., A/22, Cuttack Road, Falcon House, 1st Floor, Bhubaneswar-751006; (ii) M/s. Crown Frozen Foods, 203 Dalamal Chambers, New Marine Lines, Mumbai-400020 and (iii) M/s. Nekkanti Seafoods Ltd. Flat No. 1, Jayaprada Apartments, Maharani-peta, Visakhapatnam.

(d) As per the export statistics for the year 1996-97, 1997-98 and April to February, 1998-99, Japan, USA and UK have been the top three countries in importing shrimps from India.

(e) Following are some of the difficulties being faced by exporters of shrimps in India :-

1. Due to public interest litigation in Supreme Court and due to the viral disease, the financial institutions have not been enthusiastic in extending loans to the shrimp farmers. The Insurance companies have also been hesitant to extend insurance to the aquaculture farms. This has adversely affected the production of shrimps through aquaculture, which has in turn reduced the availability of shrimps for exports.

2. The embargo imposed by USA on the import of Indian shrimps harvested through mechanical means on environmental grounds has created difficulties in the export of shrimps from India to USA. Because of this, the exporters had to export the shrimps along with a certificate from Marine Products Export Development Authority that shrimps were sourced from aquaculture or were harvested through artisanal means. The exporters because of the above reason, have to maintain separate physical stocks of shrimps sourced from different sources. The Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) of the WTO has, however, found the US embargo to be inconsistent with the GATT provisions. The USA have agreed to bring its law into total conformity with the WTO Ruling by 6/12/99.

3. After 18.12.1997, only the exporters having a HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points) based Quality Assurance System can export their fish and fishery products to USA.

4. Only the units as conform to the very stringent standards of food hygiene and safety as prescribed by European Commission (EC) and authorised by EC, can effect exports to European countries.

(f) The Indian shrimp exporters who have got the ISO 9000 certification are; (i) M/s. Accelerated Freeze Drying Company Limited, Taloja, Maharashtra; (ii) M/s. Choice Canning Co., Edacochin, Cochin, Kerala; (iii) M/s. Accelerated Freeze and Drying Company, Ezhupunna, Kerala; (iv) M/s. International Creative Foods, Aroor, Kerala; and (v) M/s. Innovative Marine Foods, Aroor Kerala.

[Translation]

Hill Allowance

3815. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the proportion by which the hill allowance are paid to Central Government employees in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the employees working above five thousand feet are paid equal allowances;