

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) As reported by the State Government of Himachal Pradesh, between 1st January, 2004 to 31st December, 2005, Essentiality Certificates have been issued by the Department of Industries of the State, in favour of 830 Companies for obtaining permission of the Government u/s 118 of the H.P. Tenancy and Land Reforms Act-1972 and the rules made there under, for the purchase of private land for setting up of industrial undertaking by the Entrepreneurs.

The main condition entailing such permission is that the land shall be used for Industrial purpose only within two years from the date of permission granted by the Government for purchase of land failing which the essentiality certificate shall be deemed to have been withdrawn. No case of violation of permission granted has been reported from the Nalagarh area.

FDI in services sector

3052. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Foreign Direct Investment in services sector dropped by 34 per cent in 2009-10;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken up any measures to improve the FDI in services sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) As per the data maintained by this Department, the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in the Services Sector were US \$ 6.116 billion and US \$ 4.392 billion (approximately), during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively, showing a decline of about 28.19% in 2009-10 over 2008-09.

(c) and (d) Government has put in place an investor-friendly policy on FDI, under which FDI, up to 100%, is permitted on the automatic route, in most sectors/activities. It is making sustained efforts to make the FDI policy regime increasingly attractive and investor-friendly, with a view to attracting investments from all major investing countries. Government plays an active role in investment promotion, through dissemination of information on the investment climate and opportunities in India and by advising prospective investors about investment policies and procedures and opportunities. International Cooperation for industrial partnerships is achieved through both bilateral and multilateral arrangements. At bilateral level, this is achieved through a

number of joint commissions and joint working groups, for promoting industrial, technical and scientific cooperation with select countries. The Government has also set up CEOs' Forums/Business Leaders' Forum with some countries for active business-to-business cooperation and for developing a road map for partnership and industrial cooperation. It also coordinates with apex industry associations in their activities relating to promotion of industrial cooperation, both through bilateral and multilateral initiatives intended to stimulate inflow of foreign direct investment into India, besides participating in the Joint Business Councils and other interactive sessions organized by them.

The Government also takes up investment and economic cooperation related issues in Bilateral/Regional Economic Cooperation Agreements and engages in negotiations on Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements with various countries, with the aim of achieving greater investor confidence and thereby attracting increased inflows of FDI.

It has also set up 'Invest India', a joint-venture company between the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion and FICCI, as a not-for-profit, single window facilitator, for prospective overseas investors, to act as a structured mechanism for attracting investment.

Relaxation in SEZ rules for tribal areas

3053. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry pushes for relaxation in SEZ rules in tribal areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the decision arrived at so far in consultation with Board of Appraisals meetings recently held at various levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Mega Industrial Zones for Yavatmal district

3054. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has received a proposal from Yavatmal Chamber of Commerce and Industry for setting up Mega Industrial Zones for upliftment of backward and tribal Yavatmal district in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, whether the proposal has been accepted in principle and it is under consideration of Government; and
- (c) whether factors like continuous farmers' suicides during the last five years in Yavatmal and neighbouring districts of Vidarbha be given due weightage?