

(a) whether a decision has been taken to build four more reactors; and

(b) if so, whether Government will consider setting up one reactor at Koodankulam in Tirunelveli district because of its proximity to Tuticorin Heavy Water Plant and also that this site had earlier been selected by a panel of technical experts for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Koodankulam is one of the sites in the Southern region examined by the Site Selection Committee constituted by the Department of Atomic Energy. The report of the Site Selection Committee for the Southern Electricity Region is under examination of the Government

No. of small scale and artisan units set up from 1978-79 to 1982-83	...	11,95,764
No. of units set up in rural areas	...	8,72,381
Total Additional Employment generated	...	38,86,093
Employment generated in rural areas	...	23,89,694

(b) Question does not arise.

Sick Industries

204. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many big and small industries are sick in the country, State-wise;

(b) the main reasons for their sickness; and

(c) the Government's thinking to reopen these industries?

Contribution of District Industries Centres in Setting up Industries in Rural Areas

203 SHRI K T. KOSALRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the District Industries Centres have not since their inception contributed anything substantial in setting up industries in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to revitalise the District Industries Centres in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) No, Sir. The contribution of the District Industries Centre in setting up industries in rural areas has been quite substantial since their inception in 1978-79 as indicated below :

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Data on sick industrial units assisted by Banks are being collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. Latest available State-wise data on Large and Small Scale Sick industrial units as furnished by the Reserve Bank of India are shown in the enclosed statement.

(b) A number of causes, both internal and external, often operating in combination, have been responsible