

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3874  
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2002  
HEAVY INDUSTRY IN RURAL AREAS  
K.K. KALIAPPAN

**Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government are aware that the entire rural population are migrating to urban areas to get employment in Industrial cities of our country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to set up heavy industries in rural areas with good financial allocation to stop the migration of rural population;
- (c) the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA)

(a) to (d): A centrally sponsored scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT), for towns upto 5 lakh population as per 1991 census, was launched during Sixth Five Year Plan. Since the inception of the programme till March 31,2002 as many 1172 towns have been covered under the scheme from all the States and Union Territories and central assistances amounting to Rs.520.34 has been released. As far as setting up of heavy industry is concerned, following the delicensing of the non-strategic sector, the initiative for location of industries rests with the promoter. In so far as the Department of Heavy Industry is concerned, there is no proposal at present for setting up any new unit in public sector.