

**Setting up of a new Atomic Power Plant in Southern Region**

\*207. SHRI A. K. KOTRASHETTI: Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a new Atomic Power Plant in the Southern region;

(b) whether any Committee has been constituted to select that site; and

(c) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its Report?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) to (c). The Committee appointed by the Department of Atomic Energy for the selection of suitable sites for future nuclear power stations, has examined a number of sites in the Southern Electricity Region. The Committee's report is under consideration.

**Wood-based Industry in Nilambur (Kerala)**

\*210. SHRI C. H. MOHAMED KOYA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government propose to start a wood-based industry in Nilambur (Kerala) with the assistance of the World Bank; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) No such proposal is presently under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

**Savings or investment in Agriculture**

\*214. SHRI R. P. DAS: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state why inspite of rise in agri-

cultural income from 26 per cent to 30 per cent during the last five years, there has been no increase in savings or in investment in agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SANKAR GHOSE): It is not correct to say that there has been no increase in investment in agriculture. Investment in agriculture has increased from Rs. 1124 crores in 1969-70 to Rs. 1642 crores in 1973-74.

Information on savings in agriculture is not separately available.

**Exemption of certain Industries from licensing regulations**

\*215. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: SHRI K. MALLANNA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have exempted more industries from licensing regulations and restrictions, and

(b) if so, the names thereof and what factors have led the Government to take such a decision?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) and (b). With a view to encouraging diversion of as much resources as possible for productive purposes and to expand employment opportunities in the country as also to provide for growth and diffusion of entrepreneurship in the country, Government announced its decision in October, 1975 to grant total exemptions from industrial licensing in respect of 21 selected industries subject to certain conditions, such as, the item being not reserved for exclusive development in the small scale sector, the industrial undertaking not falling within the purview of either MRTP Act or F.E.R.A., and the industrial undertaking not requiring imported capital goods or raw materials or foreign collaboration. Government is also studying the question of identifying further industries for de-licensing.