

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:229
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2003
CLUSTERISATION OF SSI
RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have initiated any steps for the clusters development among SSIs; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the response of entrepreneurs thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION (SHRI SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): Twenty five SSI clusters have so far been taken up for development under the Technology Upgradation and Management Programme (UPTECH) by the Ministry of Small Scale Industries. Out of these, development of clusters in Lock, Toy, Stone, Machine Tools and Hand Tools sector is being done under the National Programme in collaboration with UNIDO. In addition, Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries has launched `National Programme on Rural Industrialisation (NPRI)` with the purpose to set up 100 rural industrial clusters every year, under which seventy five rural industrial clusters have been taken up till date for development.

The entrepreneurs are actively participating in the Cluster Development Programmes as these programmes address their concerns of technology modernization, common facility centers, marketing, exports, capacity building, etc.