

**Industrial Production**

969. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:  
DR. D. VENKATESHWARA  
RAO:  
SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial production has declined during the first eight months of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the sectors in which this decline has been registered;

(d) whether statistics of infrastructural industries also revealed their poor performance; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to raise industrial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) According to the latest Quick Estimates of Index of Industrial Production as compiled by Central Statistical Organisation for August, 1993 the overall rate of growth during April-August, 1993 over April-August, 1992 was 1.8%. The rates of growth in the manufacturing, mining and electricity sectors were 1.0%, (-) 2.5% and 9.3% respectively.

(a) and (e). The Index of Industrial Production of six infrastructure industries namely electricity, coal, saleable steel, petroleum refinery products, crude petroleum and cement together accounting for a weight

of 29%, showed a rate of growth of 6% during April-September 1993 as compared to a growth of 2.9% in the corresponding period last year.

**Manufacturing of 'Snow Scooter' by E.M.E.**

970. SHRI. CHETAN P.S.  
CHAUHAN:  
SHRI RAJENDRA  
AGNIHOTRI:  
SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA  
KAUR (DEEPA):

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether snow mobile vehicles have been procured for use by the Army;

(b) if so, the details and the main features thereof;

(c) whether the parts used therein are being manufactured indigenously; and

(d) if so, the manufacturing cost likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Snow mobiles are used in snow bound, high altitude areas for carriage of men and materials. One vehicle can carry either one person and 40 Kgs of weight, or two persons.

(c) Almost 70% of the parts have now been indigenised by the Corps of Electrical and Mechanical Engineer (EME) of the Army.

(d) As the items are being manufactured within the existing capacities available

within the E.M.E workshops and form a part of a large range of spares produced by them, the detailed manufacturing costs have not been worked out. A sum of Rs. 9 lakhs was sanctioned for the indigenous development exercise.

### **Excess Purchase of Stores**

971. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in its report No.2 of 1993 (Paragraph 8.1) has criticised the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre for the excess purchase of stores worth about Rs. 70 lakhs.

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the follow up action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVANESH CHATURVEDI): (a) to (c) In Chapter VIII (Para 8.1) of the Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for Scientific Department for the year ending March 31, 1992, a para regarding 'Excess Purchase of Stores' by Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) has been included. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India has stated in his report that VSSC, Department of space, procured materials during 1975-82 for the Statellite Launch Vehicle (SLV Project) and though the project was successfully completed by launching of SLV-3 D1 flight in 1980 and D2 flight in 1983, 1200 items worth

Rs. 69.88 lakhs procured for the project remained unused in stock as non/slow moving items.

The Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Trivandrum, of this Department is the prime centre for research and development of launch vehicles and related areas of space technology and is responsible for all the launch vehicle programmes such as ASLV, ASLV-C, PSLV AND GSLV. The Department of Space had originally envisaged two operational flights of SLV, after completion of the development phase. However, these were not pursued since all the technology development objectives were accomplished during the developmental phase itself. The materials, reported to have been procured in excess, were procured both for the developmental phase and operational phase of the SLV programme. The excess stores is also because of research and development in a very sophisticated and strategic area of fast changing technologies and consequent design change, technology/process change, changes in tests and models, substitution by better materials etc., which were unavoidable.

The different launch vehicle Programmes of ISRO-SLV, ASLV, PSLV, GSLV, etc., are not independent of each other. Therefore, the items of stores, assemblies, etc., that were procured for the SLV Programme are capable of being used in the development of subsequent generation of launch vehicles and in fact, are being used. Hence there is no possibility of a major part of the items becoming obsolete or unusable. Whatever materials remaining at the close of the SLV project have been issued for ASLV project and the remaining items are kept in the stores of possible future use in the related launch vehicle programmes. Already items costing Rs. 52.80 lakhs have been utilised and the