

spread out over hilly and mountainous regions. It is impossible sometimes to contact over telephone people in my constituency.

Some time back, I had requested the hon. Minister at least to introduce a microwave system in each of the district headquarters and in some of the important places like Deomali. His reply was that due to constraint on funds, it could not be taken up during the 7th Plan. So, may I request the hon. Minister to reconsider this, and take up telecommunication facilities in Arunachal Pradesh on a priority basis?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: For the North-East, we have taken up a very ambitious scheme. In fact, about 23 earth stations and satellite stations are there in the 7th Plan. About the particular area which the hon. Member has spoken, I will get it re-examined again.

Industrial Growth Rate

*209. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any specific measures are being taken to accelerate the industrial growth rate:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any particular steps are in view to widen the areas of joint participation of Government and private industry; and

(d) if so, which are the areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Government have initiated a number of policy measures to stimulate industrial growth. These include liberalisation measures such as delicensing of 28 groups of

industries, 82 items of bulk drugs, broad banding in 32 groups of industries, re-introduction of the scheme of re-endorsement of capacity with reference to the highest production achieved by the undertaking in any of the preceding five years, introduction of the scheme of Minimum Economic Scale of operation etc. Other measures include provision of tax incentives and concessional finance.

(c) and (d). Detailed guidelines already exist in regard to pattern of shareholding in the Joint Sector projects promoted by State Industrial Development Corporations.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, after going through the reply of the hon. Minister to my question, it seems that he has not made much effort to answer my question. His reply is evasive. Our industrial growth rate has been declining and it was low even last year. In 1985-86, our achievement was 1.7 per cent and the target for 1986-87 has been fixed at 7.5 per cent. This year also a low growth rate has been registered in every quarter. On the one hand, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission says that everyone will come above poverty line by the year 2000 but on the other hand, the figures tell a different story and it seems that it will not be possible to achieve our targets. Hence, what concrete steps are being taken by the Government in this regard? De-licensing and re-endorsement are going on for years. Many of our mills have become sick today because of shortage of raw material. The Government wants to reduce the number of sick mills and also the loss of money invested therein. Therefore, what do the Government propose to meet this situation?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): The Plan target was 8 per cent. In 1984-85, the growth rate was

8.6 per cent; in 1985-86 it was 8.7 per cent; in 1986-87, upto January it is 7.7 per cent.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: The question regarding the mills becoming sick on account of re-endorsement has not been answered. Secondly, I had asked about joint participation. I want to know the names of industries and the sectors in which those are being started with joint participation of private sector? Along with it, I also want to know the projects and industries which are being brought under the joint sector? Are you doing so because of technological reasons or because of shortage of funds? Further, are you going to start any joint sector project in collaboration with those people who have been apprehended for economic offences under FERA or who have accepted their fault and, if so, the reasons therefor?

[*English*]

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: This is about growth rate of the industry. The main hurdles are: (a) power shortage in most of the States; (b) coal shortage; and (c) steel shortage. Even then we are going to achieve the 7th Plan target of 8 per cent.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: My question was different. My question was: "whether any particular steps are in view to widen the areas of joint participation of Government and private industry." That is not replied; only about the growth rate he has replied. What about the guidelines given to the State Governments? I asked a supplementary and he has not replied to that. What is the use of putting a question?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: The Government have issued certain guidelines for permitting fresh investment by private sector in some of the areas included in the Schedules A and B of the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 on a case-to-case basis.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: It is being said that the growth rate in 1986-87 was

about 9 per cent. Is it not a fact that because of the change in the yardstick for measuring the growth rate during 1985-86, that is, changing index items and as a result of that this growth rate is reflected there, but the actual growth rate is low?

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: Sir, I have already mentioned the real facts. The main hurdle is about power shortage and sufficient power is not there throughout the States. We are not in a position to utilise the installed capacity and that is why we are not in a position to achieve the growth target.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Sir, I did not take it, as an answer.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, Mr. Madhav Reddi was not followed by the Minister.

(*Interruptions*)

DR. DATTA SAMANT: Industrial growth should be there all over the country, especially in the backward areas. It is a good proposal of the Government. But because of the expansion of the industries whatever infrastructure and facilities are there, the big houses are taking advantage of them, simultaneously they are closing down some one lakh units; in Maharashtra about 5000 units are closed. And in another 141 units about two lakh workers are retrenched. Hundreds or thousands crores of rupees are misused. Are the Government going to do anything to ensure that industrial growth rate is achieved even where these big houses are concerned? While giving the assistance like infrastructure and licences the Government must stipulate to the large industrial houses that they should not close down the smaller units. If they still close them down they should be told that they would not be given such assistance.

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: You know very well the position in Maharashtra. If Dr. Datta Samant cooperates we will certainly achieve the target.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: This is not a reply. Those units are closed because of their employers not paying the electricity bills or the wages or the salaries. I am not talking regarding agitation of workers.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If they pay, then he takes up.

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: There is a lot of unrest in the industrial sector in Maharashtra. Most of the sick units in the country are located in Maharashtra. In the truck tyre industry the International Modi Unit was closed in Bombay only due to this unrest.

(Interruptions)

DR. DATTA SAMANT: Sir, the hon. Minister is blackmailing me. Those units were not closed down due to any agitation. They retrenched people and they closed them because they did not want to pay the DA, they wanted to reduce the wages and so on. The hon. Minister must pay attention to this. The employer has closed those units because he wanted to reduce the DA.
(Interruptions)

This is not an answer.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chaturvedi.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to say.....

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chaturvedi.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: I am Choubey, both mean the same.

MR. SPEAKER: You have already spoken enough, without permission.

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main question has not been answered fully. However, the reply has revealed that coal and power are in short supply. Everyone knows that

power and coal are under the control of the Central Government. If coal and power are in short supply, why more units are being set up? On the one hand, the existing industries in which crores of rupees have been invested, are not getting power and coal and on the other, you are issuing licenses for setting up new units. I want to know from the hon. Minister the policy being followed and whether there is any consistency between the two?

[English]

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: You know very well, that for the last three years due to lack of rains and due to drought almost all the hydel projects are not in a position to supply power. Except Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh all the States are deficient in power and are not supplying power to their units. Even then we are trying to achieve the target.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: This is a good question but Shri Sathe and you can sit together and discuss it. It is correct that if old units are not getting power, then what is the use of establishing new units.

[English]

Power to Bihar from Central Power Projects

*210. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar is getting full quota of power from the central power projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). During April to July, 1987, Bihar received a total supply of about 129.8 million units from the Farakka