

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: If we go on like this, the other questions we may not reach at all.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is an important question.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: The Prime Minister said that some projects were not taken up during the Janata Government and that scientists were demoralised. If so, what are those projects and what is the decision of the present government? And since it has been found that the supply of materials by the GEC is defective and also in view of our dependence on USA for fuel, may I ask whether India has any plans to build, design and fabricate reactors on its own and manufacture and produce fissionable material, heavy water and all the component parts? If so what are those plans?

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: The question is a very much larger question. I do not think it comes within the purview of this.

He has asked about scientists. It is not a question of particular projects. Somehow an impression was given by some members of the government that they did not regard science as an important activity. For instance, the then Prime Minister himself said that he did not believe in peaceful nuclear explosions. That was not a solitary statement. There were other such statements made about science and scientific work and therefore, our scientists felt may be their work was not considered useful—that they were not considered as important as we think they should be and they think they could be.

Decline in Industrial Growth

*205. **SHRI CHITTA BASU:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial growth is on decline during the year 1979-80:

(b) if so, full facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to reverse the process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the general index of industrial production released by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) and available upto November 1979, the rate of growth for the period April-November 1979 was 0.3 per cent as compared with 7.9 per cent for the corresponding period of the previous year.

(c) The steps taken to improve industrial production include measures to ensure fuller utilisation of capacity by close monitoring to achieve targets, availability of requisite imports where necessary, improved labour relations and increase in infrastructural facilities.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I want to know whether it is not a fact that the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce submitted a memorandum to the Government of India suggesting an immediate action for economic progress which included, Sir, amongst others, entry of big houses into coal, power generation, road transport and steel industry, inclusion of the representatives of the big houses in the Board of Directors of the public sector industries, handing over certain public sector enterprises to the private sector on a long trial and contract basis and deletion of certain provisions of the MRTP Act and also stricter measures for disciplining the labour. If that memorandum was received by the government, may I know, does it not constitute a complete reversal of the industrial policy of the government and what are the reactions of the government in regard to that particular memorandum for economic regeneration given by the FICCI?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): It is true that the FICCI presented a memorandum which contained many of the things the hon. Member had listed. But like any other person in India they have a right to represent their point of view and every person who presents his point of view cannot think that his point of view is accepted by the government. All that I can say is that a number of memoranda have been received by me. They are all under consideration and no decision has been taken.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Is it a reply, Sir? I did not say that the FICCI has not got a right to present a memorandum. I wanted to know the attitude of the government regarding the points they have raised.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I have said very clearly that Government has not taken any decision on this matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You come to your second Supplementary.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: In view of this fact, does the Government propose to overhaul the entire industrial policy in relation to this and also whether it is a fact that this decline has been due to the under capitalisation, and under utilisation of the capacities, particularly, in the production of the Public Sector industries. If so, what particular steps does the Government propose to take except those that have been mentioned with regard to overcoming these difficulties?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, Government are considering each statement on the industrial policy. It does not imply a complete overhaul in the sense that all that we stood for and stood by in these thirty years will be given up. On the contrary, it will be strengthened. We are going to make it a more effective instrument for industrial growth and deve-

lopment. The second part of his question is relating to public sector. I wish to inform the hon. Member that we are committed to a policy of improving the performance of the public sector and we will afford every facility to the public sector including higher capital resources, better utilisation of facilities and higher import of raw materials and larger facilities for the infrastructure. These are the points that we have in mind.

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: Is it a fact that the decline in industrial growth rate in 1979-80 was due mainly to the incompetence of the previous Government in their systematically damaging the economy of the country? I want to know whether it is a fact.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, the public have decided it without any doubt.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: It is obvious that the industrial growth in 1977-78 when the Administration was stable, was 7.9 per cent but in 1979 when Government was completely unstable as the Battle Royal and internecine warfare was going on in the Government, the industrial growth went down to 0.3 per cent. Obviously the political stability is very important for the industrial growth. I want to know what is the projection for the growth in 1980?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, the hon. Member has given his inference, his reasons, for the lower rate of growth in 1979-80. It is obviously a fact that unless there is a determined direction in economic spheres, the country cannot progress. It is our conviction that the country lacked during 1979-80 the determined directions that the country needed.

So far as our policy is concerned, as I have already mentioned, we will strengthen the infrastructure, produce more power and make it available to the industry so that they can get over the depression in which they had fallen.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Sir, it has been revealed by the leading Economic Daily that the industrial production during the current financial year is now expected to show a zero rate of growth as compared to 7.6 per cent last year. Would hon. Minister kindly tell us how is it that during the Janata regime of the previous year, the growth rate was 7.6 but in this year it is 0 per cent? In which sector the weaknesses are?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: Sir, the hon. Member's question will be replied by the data that I read out monthwise. Then, the hon. Member would be enlightened on the behaviour of the growth rate.

The industrial growth rate between 1978-79 and 1979-80 is as follows:—

April	+2.1	You take it as the best.
May	—1.7	
June	—0.3	
July	—1.3	
August	+1.5	
September	0.4	
October	2.5	

What I was reading was minus figure.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Sir, I want your protection. My question was this. During the same regime, the Janata regime, in 1978-79, the growth rate was 7.6 per cent according to the leading Economic Daily of the country. In the same regime while there was political instability, from the month of June when politicking started, originated by Mrs. Gandhi—We will agree—how is it that in the same ruling party regime, from 7.6 per cent it is now coming down Zero? This is what I want to know from him.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am replying to the hon'ble Member's question. I would only request the hon'ble Member to wait till I bring him from the past regime to the regime which

started under Mrs. Gandhi. (Interruptions).

When I am talking of the averages I am talking of the months between 1978-79 and 1979-80. I was talking of the month of November and said it was —0.6. (Interruptions). 7.6 was the total for the last year. This is the month-wise break-up which will take you deeper into the matter. We have not yet got the data for our period. I would like to tell the hon'ble Member that for growth rate there is a formula which takes into account many factors. 7.6 is the total but I am going to give you the break-up. (Interruptions). 0.3 which the hon'ble Member is talking of is for the period of the Janata government excepting two months.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You toppled the Janata government long back in collaboration with others.

AN HON'BLE MEMBER: Mr. Dandavate has said that Janata party at that time was in dialysis.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: We might be in dialysis but you were in paralysis.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: The hon'ble Minister was trying to give us the figures month-wise so that we may understand that from minus growth during the Janata Lok Dal regime we have come to plus growth. Further, the hon'ble Minister has said that they are going to revise the industrial policy. I would like to know in which direction they are going to revise the same.

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Member's question is right as to whether we are going to convert the minus rate into plus one. That is correct. But converting the minus into plus is a gigantic task on which we are already working. People are seeing that. Plus indications are already available in the economic indicator.

Secondly, the first chapter of our industrial policy would definitely be to cure the damaged infrastructure which we have inherited from the Janata and the off-shoot of Janata which hon'ble Member was referring to.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Lakkappa, you are the last.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the accumulated decline in industrial production has been reflected during the last 2½ years. At the time of the Janata Government the public sector undertakings were not functioning in a disciplined manner and there was a dismantling of the entire system because the previous Government followed a laissez-faire policy. In view of those things there was the accumulated lack of growth because of the unrest in the public undertaking system and their functioning. All these things accumulated and created a situation where the public undertakings were not functioning properly in this country. Therefore, in view of these things which I mentioned, I would like to know whether this Ministry is going to have a high level committee to bring discipline on the public undertakings and reverse the policy adopted by the previous Government. This is my question. Will the hon. Minister agree with the suggestion that we may have a high level committee to discipline the public sector undertakings to yield maximum results and also to use their installed capacities properly?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: We welcome the hon. Member's comments but I may draw the kind attention of the hon. Member to the fact that we have already formed a Cabinet Committee on Industrial Infrastructure which was set up in January, 1980 which is working on this, which is trying to see how we can repair the damage done by the previous two governments.

Prevention of Pollution Resulting from Operation of Industrial Plants

*206. **SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Industry at the time of granting licences for setting up new industrial plants do impose conditions to prevent large scale pollution and emission of toxic wastes likely to result from the operation of the plants;

(b) if so, details of precautions taken; and

(c) further measures contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Standard condition in letters of intent is as follows:

"Adequate steps shall be taken to the satisfaction of Government to prevent air, water and soil pollution. The anti-pollution measures taken should be according to the standards prevailing in the State in which the factory of the industrial undertaking is located."

(c) The Industries (Development and Regulation) Act 1951 is proposed to be amended to provide for measures relating to the pollution control conditions being included in industrial licences also. Industrial undertakings will be required to indicate the details of steps taken to prevent pollution, equipment etc. installed, expenditure incurred, and the period of completion of pollution control measures etc., in their periodical reports.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: There is no shortage of laws in this matter to control pollution. There are life-