

Outlook

7.73 During 1999-2000 sectors such as Manufacturing and Electricity registered relatively slower growth rates when compared to the previous year, a pattern replicated during 2000-01 (April-November) contributing to the slowdown in Industrial production. As against this during 1999-2000 Mining performed better when compared to the previous year. Consumer Goods (both durables and non-durables) have performed well during 1999-2000 and 2000-01 (April-November) when compared to the corresponding period of last year. However, capital goods during 1999-2000 and 2000-01 (April-November) registered significantly lower growth rates when compared to the corresponding period of last year.

7.74 In the background of mixed trends, the endeavour should be that the Indian industry must be an efficient and competitive one, able to stand on its own in the face of foreign competition. Such an industry would not require any support or subsidy from the government except for a transient pre-specified period. In order to ensure this, Government on its part is committed to remove all obstacles and bottlenecks for the efficient functioning of the industry. This would entail removal of infrastructural constraints in power, transport and telecommunications; reducing bureaucratic controls in as many spheres as possible and ensure that financial markets are competitive and capital is available at competitive rates.