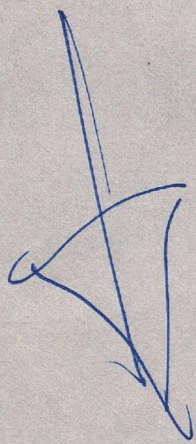


Technology Policy Statement

Sequence of TPRS File

- 1) Janata Govt - effort was made to change Scientific Policy Resolution by saying that it needed "updating" and that it had to be reconciled with Industrial P.R.
- 2) When I.B. came back to office she felt that without guidelines of Tech. Policy, the SPR would remain ineffective. She therefore entrusted the responsibility to SAEC to formulate the T.P.R.
- 3) After a great deal of ~~preparation~~ ^{deliberation} SAEC made a recommendation (through a draft TPRS) for Cabinet (1982) - where
4) This document was then circulated to the concerned



ARCHIVES

Nurul Hasan conv. notes
in his CSIR, VI office
shortly before he departed

Secys. to Govt, and
after full consideration
by them, the matter was
~~not~~ referred to P.C.

3. P.M. thereupon appointed
a sub. Cte under the
Chairmanship of Shri
Pranab Mukherjee
incl. all concerned
ministers & secretaries

6. After detailed discussion
lasting several hours,
a compromise draft
was prepared.

Panels, Tiwari, Mead
went to PM to apprise her.

7. This was referred
to CEST, provided
over by PM herself.

Scheduled
20 mts
went on
for 3 hrs
or so

At this meeting she
invited, all members
of the sub-cte, and

a para wise discn. was
held in her presence.

The consensus was recorded

8. After obtaining the consensus
PM sought and was given
authorisation by the cte.
to touch-up the draft
language-wise, without

changing the sense and
to issue it on behalf
of the Cabinet.

(Cab. ~~signed~~ received in
Dec 1982)

9. She announced the TPS
on 3 Jan 1983 ^{write in a} at the
Indian Sr. Congress, T

10. Cab. Sectt was then
asked to prepare the
rules for implementing TPS

11. In June/July this
responsibility was given
to TPS - byfile. etc.

The Prime Minister wished to have
a draft of the Resolution on Government's
Scientific Policy proposed by the Scientific
Advisory Committee to the Cabinet. It is
sent herewith.

H. S. Wilks
13. 12. 57

The Minister

[Handwritten signature]

RESOLUTION ON THE SCIENTIFIC POLICY
OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

The key to national prosperity, in the modern age, lies in an effective combination of three factors, technology, raw materials and capital, of which the first is perhaps the most important, since the creation and adoption of new scientific techniques can, in fact, make up for a deficiency in natural resources, and reduce the demands on capital. But technology can only grow out of the study of science and its applications.

2. The dominating feature of the contemporary world is the intense cultivation of science on a large scale, and its application to meet a country's requirements. It is this, which, for the first time in man's history, has given to the common man in countries advanced in science, a standard of living and social and cultural amenities, which were once confined to a very small privileged minority of the population. Science has led to the growth and diffusion of culture to an extent never possible before. It has not only radically altered man's material environment, but, what is of still deeper significance, it has provided new tools of thought and has extended man's mental horizon. It has thus influenced even the basic values of life, and given to civilization a new vitality and a new dynamism.

3. It is only through the use of scientific knowledge that reasonable material and cultural amenities and services can be provided for every member of the community, and it is out of a recognition of this possibility that the idea of a welfare state has grown. It is characteristic of the present world that the progress towards the practical realisation of a welfare state differs widely from country to country in direct relation to the extent of industrialisation and the effort and resources applied in the pursuit of science.

4. The wealth and prosperity of a nation depends on the effective utilisation of its human and material resources through industrialisation. The use of human material for industrialisation demands its education in science and training in technical skills. Industry, on

the other hand, opens up possibilities of greater fulfilment for the individual. India's enormous resources of manpower can only become an asset in the modern world when trained and educated.

5. Science and technology can make up for deficiencies in raw materials by providing substitutes, or, indeed, by providing skills which can be exported in return for raw materials. In industrialising a country, a heavy price has to be paid in importing science and technology in the form of plant and machinery, highly paid personnel and technical consultancy. An early and large scale development of science and technology in the country could therefore greatly reduce the drain on capital during the early and critical stages of industrialisation.

6. Science has developed at an ever-increasing pace since the beginning of the century, so that the gap between the advanced and backward countries has widened more and more. It is only by adopting the most vigorous measures and by putting forward our utmost effort into the development of science that we can bridge the gap. It is an inherent obligation of a great country like India, with its traditions of scholarship and original thinking and its great cultural heritage, to participate fully in the march of science, which is probably mankind's greatest enterprise today.

7. The Government of India have accordingly decided that (the aims of) their scientific policy will be

(i) to foster, promote, and sustain, by all appropriate means, the cultivation of science, and scientific research in all its aspects - pure, applied, and educational;

(ii) to ensure an adequate supply, within the country, of research scientists of the highest quality, and to recognize their work as an important component of the strength of the nation;

(iii) to encourage, and initiate, with all possible speed, programmes for the training of scientific and technical personnel, on a scale adequate to fulfil the country's needs in science and education, agriculture and industry, and defence;

DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

: 3 :

(iv) to ensure that the creative talent of men and women endowed with the highest intelligence is channelled into scientific activity;

(v) to encourage individual initiative for the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge, and for the discovery of new knowledge, in an atmosphere of academic freedom;

(vi) and, in general, to secure for the people of the country all the benefits that can accrue from the acquisition and application of scientific knowledge.

The Government of India have decided to pursue and accomplish these aims implement this scientific policy by offering the best conditions of service to scientists, ensuring for them an honoured position in the social order, by taking such legislative and administrative measures, as may be deemed necessary from time to time, and by associating scientists with the formulation of policy.

MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON
TUESDAY, THE 25TH FEBRUARY, 1958,
AT 3 P.M.

CASE NO.

53/15/58.

RESOLUTION ON THE SCIENTIFIC
POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

P R E S E N T

(As in the previous case)

A L S O P R E S E N T

(As in the previous case)

I N A T T E N D A N C E

Dr. H.J. Bhabha, Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy.
Dr. M.S. Thacker, Secretary, Ministry of Education and
Scientific Research.
Dr. D.S. Kothari, Scientific Adviser to the Ministry of Def

.....

The draft resolution on the Scientific Policy of the
Government of India was approved with the following changes:-

(1) The first sentence of para 1 should read as follows:

"The key to national prosperity, apart
from the spirit of the people, lies, in the
modern age, in the effective combination of
three factors, etc."

(2) There is no need to underline the words
"common man" occurring in the second sentence
of para 2.

(3) The first sentence of para 3 should be amended as follows:

"It is only through the scientific approach
and method and the use of scientific knowledge
that reasonable material and cultural amenities
and services can be provided, etc."

(4) The words "on the other hand" in the third sentence
of para 4 should be omitted.

remits
to be
circ
please
25/2/58

(5) In the second sentence of para 5, the word "consultancy" should be replaced by "consultants".

(6) Para 7 (iv) should be amended as follows:

"to ensure that the creative talent of men and women is encouraged and finds full scope in scientific activity;"

(7) The last sentence of the resolution should be reworded as follows:

"The Government of India have decided to pursue and accomplish these aims by offering good conditions of service to scientists and according them an honoured position, by associating scientists with the formulation of policies, and by taking such other measures as may be deemed necessary from time to time."

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May, 1985

The Prime Minister (Shri Rajiv Gandhi): If I may add a little bit to that because it is on the policy. What has happened in the past that we have tried to develop everything right across the board from small components to large finished units, and invariably we have lagged behind what is happening in the world. Except for very few areas, we have not been able to keep up with the frontline technology. And as we go further, technology is advancing very, very rapidly and it is going to be more and more difficult for us to keep up this race. What happens is this. First we want to buy something. They do not sell it to us. You cannot buy it So, we try to develop it. The minute we develop it and we are on the verge of getting into production, they suddenly say, 'You can buy it'. Then our own development cost is wasted. Our production costs are higher because it is a new development and they have been making it for some years. So, it frustrates our own process. We must identify certain, what we are going to call 'mission areas' and thrust along those areas. We want to improve the technology. When we talk of technology, I am talking on a broader concept, not only of electronics but we might want to improve, for example, the seed of rice, we might want to improve fertiliser, we might want to improve something else; and we concentrate on these 'mission areas' so that ten years from now, we are the most advanced country in that area irrespective of anything else. Because we will have to concentrate along these lines, we will have to reduce our efforts on some of the other lines. This is the basic change. I thought I would just explain that.