

U.N.I.D.O. Conference

1079. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the important achievements of the UNIDO conference that was held in January, 1980 in India; and

(b) what is the reaction of Government to the views taken by some newspapers that the UNIDO conference could not make any substantial achievements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) The Third General Conference of UNIDO concluded on the 9th February, 1980 with adoption by majority vote of New Delhi Declaration and Plan of Action, copies of which are available in the Library of Parliament. It will be seen that this Declaration and Plan of Action contains various measures at national, regional and international levels to be taken by the developed and developing countries, and also international agencies, to accelerate industrialisation of developing countries

(b) It was not possible for all the participating groups to come to unanimous agreement on some of the crucial issues facing the Conference. To that extent there was a setback to the efforts for achieving the goals of the New International Economic Order by consensus.

Directives to Premier Automobiles to reduce prices of Cars

1080. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had issued directives to Premier Automobiles and other companies to reduce the prices of motor cars;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that contrary to the directives, the

price of fiat cars has been increased by Rs. 3000 to Rs. 6000; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Percentage of people in Orissa living below Poverty Line

1081. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of the people of Orissa living below poverty line,

(b) what is the national average; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to reduce the percentage of the people of Orissa living below the poverty line?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). The information which was last compiled with reference to the year 1972-73 is not out of date. Compilation has now been taken on hand with reference to the year 1978-79 and the information will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as the compilation has been completed.

(c) For reduction of poverty in Orissa, the programmes envisaged relate partly to the general economic development of the States (e.g. agriculture, industry, power) and partly to specific individual beneficiary oriented schemes including the integrated rural development programme. The present Government proposes to revitalise and implement the 20-Point Programme which had come as a boon to the poorer sections of society. Further, the minimum needs

programme will also be accorded high priority. Stress will also be laid on tribal development.

Increase in per capita and National Income

1082. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that the National Income and per capita income in 1978-79 recorded increase over those in 1977-78;

(b) if so, what was the percentage of increase in both and factors responsible for the increase; and

(c) what steps are contemplated to effect further increase in national and per capita incomes?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI. MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to Quick Estimates of national income for the year 1978-79 issued by the Central Statistical Organisation on 7-2-1980, the national income in 1978-79 at constant (1970-71) prices recorded an increase of 4.1 per cent over the year 1977-78. The corresponding increase in per capita income was 2.1 per cent. The increase in national income during 1978-79 was shared by all sectors other than Railways. The Sectors which recorded significant increase were registered manufacturing (8.0 per cent), electricity, gas and water supply (11.4 per cent), banking and insurance (17.0 per cent) and 6 to 7 per cent in case of unregistered manufacturing, communication, trade, hotels and restaurants and public administration and defence.

(c) Agriculture accounts for nearly half of the national income. Government is committed to according high priority to agriculture and rural development. All assistance will be extended to the farmers to achieve maximum production ensuring proper

and timely supply of inputs like fertilisers, water, electricity, diesel etc. Infra-structural facilities which had deteriorated leading to transport bottlenecks and inadequate supply of crucial inputs like steel, cement, coal and power will be strengthened and given high priority. On the industrial front, emphasis will be laid on the rapid increase in industrial production through better utilisation of existing capacity, improvement of labour relations and better management particularly of public sector undertakings.

Rise in Price of Cotton Yarn

1083. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to considerable rise in the price of cotton yarn, the financial position of the loom weavers has become very critical,

(b) whether it is also a fact that in the absence of Government financial assistance, the industry is confronted with worst crisis; and

(c) if so, the scheme prepared by Government to safeguard the interest of loom weavers?

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

(a) Prices of cotton yarn have been steadily rising since October, 1978. The position worsened during April-May 1979 due to the prolonged strike in several spinning mills and power cuts and diesel shortage in several States. This has affected the earnings of the weavers.

(b) There is no reduction in financial assistance to the handloom sector from the Government.

(c) Following the increase in prices of yarn, 'roll-back' scheme was introduced in May, 1979. According to the scheme, prices were rolled back to levels prevailing in October,