

(b) The Central Government in the Department of Mines constituted a Study Group in November, 1984 to consider the revision in the rates of royalty on all major minerals, except coal, lignite and sand for stowing and make recommendations to Government. The Study Group submitted its report in December, 1985. The revision in the rates of royalty is under the active consideration of the Government.

Similarly, a Study Group to consider the revision in the rates of royalty on coal was constituted by Department of Coal in November, 1984. The Study Group has submitted its report but no decision has yet been taken by the Government.

#### Consumer Price Index

3650. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the month-wise variation in the consumer price index of essential commodities during the year 1986 ;

(b) the factors responsible for the increase in the prices of some commodities ; and

(c) the steps being envisaged for controlling the price rise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) The officially published Consumer Price Index, monthly, during January-June, 1986 is given in the statement given below. There is no published Consumer Price Index of essential commodities.

(b) and (c). The rise in the prices of some essential commodities during the first half of 1986 may be mainly attributed to the lean season and shortfall in the production of some commodities.

The main thrust of the Government policy continues to be to increase the

production of essential commodities, particularly those which are in short supply. The Public Distribution System is being streamlined and expanded. The allocation of foodgrains, imported edible oils etc. for distribution through the Public Distribution System has been increased in recent months. Some of the essential commodities are imported to supplement the domestic supply. The export of essential commodities is banned/regulated. Action is being taken by the State Governments against black-marketeers and profiteers under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.

#### Statement

(Consumer Price Index Nos. base year 1960=100)

Month	C.P.I. Nos.
January, 1986	629
February, 1986	633
March, 1986	638
April, 1986	643
May, 1986	651
June, 1986	658

#### Planning and Construction of Houses by HUDCO

3651. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI :  
SHRI R. DHANUSKODI  
ATHITHAN :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Housing and Urban Development Corporation was established purely with a view to undertake the responsibility of a financial organization for implementing the ambitious housing programme of Government for meeting the needs of poor and weaker sections of the society ;

(b) whether instead of restricting its activities for which it was established, HUDCO has assumed the role of planning and construction of houses ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that since HUDCO had no experience in organizing construction activity, it had to depend on the help of Central Public Works Department for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) The main function of the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) is to provide loans for housing and urban development programmes meant for various income groups including economically weaker section of the society.

(b) and (c). HUDCO does not normally undertake construction work. Since its inception in 1971, HUDCO took up only three construction projects, two of which have already been completed and handed over to the concerned agencies long ago. The third project, which relates to the construction of houses at Mehrauli Badarpur Road, New Delhi, was delayed due to various reasons and has been handed over to Central Public Works Department (CPWD) for completion.

**Comments on the Performance of  
C.P.W.D. by HUDCO**

3652. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI :

DR. V. RAJESWARAN :  
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA ;

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the HUDCO has published Technical circulars commenting on the performance of the C.P.W.D. ;

(b) whether the HUDCO is advocating for privatisation of architectural planning and designing in the C.P.W.D. ;

(c) if so, whether this kind of public expression of views by one Government

agency against the other is permissible under the Government rules ; and

(d) if not, the action being taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (d). HUDCO has published technical circulars and other documents containing *inter-alia* certain suggestions relating to improvement in quality of architecture of Public buildings and involving of Private architects. The entire matter requires detailed examination.

**Allotment of Land to Cooperative Group  
Housing Societies in Palam Area by D.D.A.**

3653. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether DDA propose to offer land to the cooperative group housing societies in Palam area at a much higher rate in violation of the rules and regulations incorporated in the brochure published by DDA before registration of new societies and contrary to its policy adopted in the case of old cooperative housing societies which were allotted land on subsidised rates ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the relief proposed to be given by Government to these cooperative group housing societies so that they are not forced to wind up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) No decision has been taken in this regard.

(b) Does not arise.

**Letter of Intent for Manufacture of  
Naphtha based Urea Fertilizer at  
Paradeep**

3654. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :