

(b) the constitution of the Corporation; and

(c) the amount placed at its disposal?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) to (c). No decision has yet been taken on the subject of establishment of a Central Housing Finance Corporation.

Hindustan Housing Factory

**828. Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Balmiki:
Shri Bagri:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:**

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 870 on the 18th November, 1965 and state:

(a) the final decision taken in regard to the expansion of the Hindustan Housing Factory; and

(b) the total amount earmarked for this purpose?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) and (b). In view of the acute shortage of foreign exchange, the proposal to import a pre-fabricated housing plant for the expansion of the Hindustan Housing Factory Limited has been dropped for the present.

Conference of Power Ministers

**829. Shri Linga Reddy:
Shri Vahwa Nath Pandey:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and power be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the recommendations made by the Ministers for Power at their conference held in November, 1965 have been accepted by the Central and State Governments;

(b) the steps taken to implement them; and

(c) whether electricity is made available free of cost or at concess-

sional rates for agricultural purposes during the period of drought and food crisis?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Fakhruddin Ahmed) (a) and (b). A statement explaining the position is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5573/66].

(c) In order to bring down the rate of supply of electricity for agricultural purposes, the Government have decided to subsidize, for a period of three years in the first instance electricity supplies for agricultural purposes, wherever the rates exceed 12 paise per unit. This subsidy will be shared by the Centre and the States on 50:50 basis.

Committee on Prevention of Food Adulteration

**830. Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:**

Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made by the team set up to collect necessary material for the effective enforcement of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954; and

(b) when its report will be ready?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) and (b). The report of the Two-Man team consisting of the Secretary, Central Committee for Food Standards and the Director, Central Food Laboratory, Calcutta which was appointed by the Central Government to collect necessary material for reviewing the overall position of the enforcement machinery and laboratory facilities and submit proposals in the matter to the Central Committee of Ministers on the Prevention of Food Adulteration has been received. The report will be placed before the Central Committee of Ministers at their next meeting in March, 1966.