

Year	Establishment cost (Rs./Crores)
1986-87	169.95
1987-88	197.20
1988-89 (Provisional)	386.22

The increase in establishment costs has mainly been because of

(i) payment of interim relief and instalments of dearness allowances to the officers and staff;

(ii) payment of wage revision arrears to Category III & IV staff.

(b) the Corporation has effected ban on entry level posts except in cases of operational and other necessities. the Corporation has also taken steps to improve the productivity by making its officers and staff conversant with modern management systems through continuous training programmes.

(c) The quantum of food subsidy depends on the level of procurement, issue prices, quantum of supplies under various schemes and the level of buffer stocks etc. Food Subsidy released to FCI during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Amount of Food Subsidy (Rs. in crores)
1986-87	2000
1987-88	2000
1988-89	2200

The difference between the economic cost and issue prices of grains is paid as subsidy

to FCI as a deliberate welfare policy of the Central Government to keep the prices of grains within the reach of the common consumers.

(d) The Food Corporation of India have taken steps to reduce its operational costs such as capital restructuring, reduction in staff strength, reduction in transit and storage losses, dehiring of uneconomic/surplus godowns etc. FCI saved Rs. 640.91 crores during the period from 1986-87 to 1989-90 (upto December,1989) and consequently there was reduction in the food subsidy to the above extent.

Meet on National Consumer Protection Council

1510. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAV-
INCHANDRA MEHTA: Will the Minister of
FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to
state:

(a) whether the meeting of the National
Consumer Protection Council was held re-
cently;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed and the
decisions taken at the meeting; and

(c) the progress made in the implemen-
tation of the decisions taken at the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL
SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) No, Sir. The last meeting was held on
30th August, 1989.

(b) and (c). In view of above question
does not arise.

Cancellation of Retail Coal Licences

1511. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the
Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be
pleased to state: