

tackled by the quasi-judicial machinery which has powers to dismiss frivolous complaints as well as by developing a responsible and responsive consumer movement.

(b) Consumer Protection Act, 1986 provides for setting up of State Consumer Protection Councils, State Commissions and District Forums by the State Governments. Rules have to be framed by the State Governments for carrying out the provisions of the Act. Guidelines and model rules have been circulated to the States for time-bound implementation of the Act.

(c) Suggestions/representations have been received by the Government to amend the Act to provide for right to pollution free environment, inclusion of one member in the redressal forum from professional field, setting up of the Consumer Protection Councils, etc.

(d) Resolution of the Consumer Protection Councils in the Centre and States will be recommendatory and the existing provisions are considered adequate for their functioning.

Consumers' protection movement

1300. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any policy of the Central Government towards consumers' protection movement;

(b) if so, the manner in which Central Government propose to encourage and extend this movement in the rural areas; and

(c) what efforts are being made by the Central Government to strengthen the movement and bring all the cities and towns under its cover?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) to (c) Concern for consumer is included in Item No. 18 of 20-Point Programme—1986. The policy of the Government is to promote a broad-based, responsible and responsive voluntary consumer movement throughout the country. Various measures taken by the Central Government for this purpose include enactment of a comprehensive legislation called the Consumers' Protection Act, 1986, holding of national level and state level seminars, workshop, distribution of literature on consumer protection; use of TV/AIR and other media for creating consumer awareness in both rural and urban areas; co-ordination with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, etc. Moreover, rights have been conferred in the Consumer Protection Act as well as in other important laws such as Essential Commodities Act, Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, Standards of Weights and Measures Act, etc., to the consumers and consumer organisations to file complaints in the courts.

Allotment of Government quarters in Vasant Vihar . . .

1301. SHRI HASHIM RAZA ALLAHABADI ABDI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the difficulties being faced by the allottees of Government quarters Vasant Vihar, New Delhi;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the quarters being allotted are not complete in all respects and are not habitable;

(c) whether Government have received any representations in this regard; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?