

*prima facie* no scope for the grant of new coal linkages/LoAs for Twelfth Plan Power Projects.

#### **Rise in prices of commodities**

2497. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the rise in prices of different commodities, other than commodities covered under the Essential Commodities Act;

(b) whether Government has established any price control mechanism to check prices of these commodities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD, AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) shows the headline inflation in respect of various commodities in the country, like primary articles, metals and minerals, and manufactured products. These include commodities not covered under the Essential Commodities Act, such as textiles, paper and paper products, leather and leather products, chemicals and chemical products, metals and mineral products, and machinery and machine tools. Prices of these commodities are monitored sectorally and no centralized information is maintained.

#### **Infrastructure for Consumer Protection Fora**

2498. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has budget allocation to strengthen the infrastructure for Consumer Protection Fora in the country;

(b) if so, whether the allocated funds were released to all the States for 2011-12;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;