

recommendations made by the Committee will be examined by Government and action will be taken on such of the recommendations as are finally accepted by Government.

*328. [Transferred to the 19th March, 1979.]

Foreign visits of Minister of Industry

*329. SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN: SHRI M. KADERSHAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of visits to foreign countries made by Shri Georga Fernandes, Minister of Industry during the last one year;

(b) the names of the countries visit-ed, the number of trips made to each country and the purpose of such visits; and

(c) the total expenditure involved in these trips?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) Five.

(b) and (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix CVIII Annexure No. 102].

Nexus Committee Report on Prices of Raw Cotton and Cloth

*330. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: SHRI S. K. VAISHAM-PAYEN: SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Nexua Committee, appointed by Government in February, 1976, to fix the relation between the prices of raw cotton and doth haa submitted Its report; if so, what action Government have taken thereon; and

(b) what are the details of indices of wholesale and retauk prices of 25

common varieties of cloth used by the rural people and by the middle class community during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. The Committee was appointed to recommend, after taking into account the nexus between prices of kapas on the one hand and the price of yarn and cloth on the other, any changes in the existing system in the interests of maintaining stability of prices in cotton, yarn and fabrics. A gist of recommenda, tions of the Committee is annexed. The Statement on Textile Policy laid on the Table of the House on 7th August, 1978 has taken into consideration the main recommendations of the Committee e.g. the enlargement of the role of the Cotton Corporation of India and the setting up of a buffer stock of cotton.

(b) Indices of prices are not maintained for particular varieties of cloth nor on basis of rural and urban consumption. The wholesale price index of cloth, however, during the current season has been moving as follows:

Statement ..

1. Setting up of a buffer stock of cotton to be operated by the Cotton Corporation of India to influence supply and prices of cotton.

Base 1970-71—100

September 1978	183.4
October 1978	184.5
November 1978	185.0
December 1978 (provincial)	184.7
January 1979 (provisional)	185.3

2. An effective policy for ensuring payment of remunerative prices for kapas to the cotton growers should be evolved so as to sustain the interests of cultivators hi cotton growing.

3. Suitable arrangement should be made for giving wide publicity to the prices of kapas etc. through Radio

programmes, district level newspapers etc.

4. A mechanism for estimating and reporting on the cotton crop position and the consumption of cotton by the industry should be evolved.

5. Provision of easy credit facilities to the cotton growers to enable them to come out of the clutches of the local money lenders and help them in obtaining better prices for their produce.

6. Intensifying and strengthening cooperative cotton marketing societies by the State Govts.

Finalisation of the Sixth Five Year Plan

*331. SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI;
SHRI JAHARLAL BANERJEE; SHRI M.
ANANDAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a recent Press report to the effect that the finalisation of the Sixth Five Year Plan is being bogged down due to shortfall in production in the key sector and in resource generation;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what are the details of resource generation by the Central and State Governments during the last two years and also the sector-wise details of investments and of production in key sectors like steel, coal, energy and textile during the same period?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

As the Hon'ble Members are aware the Draft Plan for 1978—83 prepared by the Planning Commission was submitted to the National Development Council in March, 1978. The Council

accepted the objectives and strategy proposed in the Draft Plan and recommended that the Plan should be finalised in the light of the decision of the Government of India on the recommendations of the Seventh Finance Commission and decisions to be taken in regard to the principles of distribution of Central Plan assistance to the States. These exercises have since been completed and approved by the National Development Council in late February, 1979. The work of finalising the Plan is now under way. There has, therefore, been no delay in the finalisation of the Plan due to shortfall in production in key sector and in resource generation.

Annexure I indicates the estimates of resources for the public sector Plans for 197-78 and 1978-79. [See Appendix CVIII, Annexure No. 103]

Annexure H gives the Plan Outlay and production in the key sectors during the last two years. [See Appendix CVIII, Annexure No. 104].

332. [Transferred to the 23rd March, 1979].

Consumption of liquor in Delhi

*333. SHRI M. KADERSHAH; SHRI
E. R. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the consumption of liquor has gone up during the last two years in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) and (b) As compared to the consumption of liquor in Delhi during 1976-77, there was about 19 per cent increase in consumption during the following year. But during the current year, from 1st April, 1978 to 31st January, 1979,