

standardise designations and scales of pay and to bring about uniformity concerning amenities in respect of leave, holidays, medical benefits and retirement age.

NATIONAL FUEL POLICY COMMITTEE  
REPORT

\*284. DR. SALIG RAM :

SHRI ARJUN ARORA :  
SHRI KRISHAN KANT :  
SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP  
SINHA :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee on national fuel policy has submitted its report to Government ;

(b) if so, what are its recommendations ; and

(c) whether Government have accepted these recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्री (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SELF SUFFICIENCY IN FOODGRAINS

\*285. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA :  
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India has become self-sufficient in foodgrains.

(b) if so, in what crops the country has become self-sufficient ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to stop imports of food by the end of the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) :  
(a) and (b) We are still importing certain quantities to meet consumption requirements and for building up buffer stock. The imports are restricted mainly to wheat and rice. Other grains are not being imported.

(c) It is envisaged that concessional imports of foodgrains would be stopped after 1971.

TARGET FOR COTTON PRODUCTION

\*286. SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON :

SHRI M. V. BHADRAM :  
DR. Z. A. AHMAD :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the targets fixed for cotton production were not achieved except for one or two years during the last 19 years ;

(b) if so, what were the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps taken to step up the production of cotton ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) :

(a) and (b) The achievement in the case of cotton has generally lagged behind the target. This may attributed mainly to concentration of the crop in rain-fed areas involving relatively greater risk and uncertainty about crop output thereby inhibiting the farmer to invest, lack of varietal break-through, etc.

(c) Steps have been taken to increase the production of cotton by adoption of intensive cultivation measures on the lines of package programme in the potential areas. Research scientists have been working on Coordinated Projects to evolve varieties which among other things will give high yields.

DEVELOPMENT OF COCONUT  
AGRICULTURE

\*287. SHRI A. D. MANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Coconut Community has been offered technical and financial assistance under the United Nations Development Programme ;

(b) what is the nature of assistance that is going to be extended by the U. N. D. P.

(c) whether India is a member of this Asian Coconut Community ; and