

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (1972-73)

(FIFTH LOK SABHA)

SIXTY-SECOND REPORT

**[Action taken on the Recommendations of the Public
Accounts Committee contained in their 4th Report
(Fifth Lok Sabha) on Indian Council of Agricultural
Research.]**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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Corrigenda to Sixty-Second Report of Public
Accounts Committee (Fifth Lok Sabha) presented
on the 20th February, 1973.

<u>Page</u>	<u>Para</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
4	1.9	22	to work	work
7	1.13	7	desire	desire
11	1.24	7	organisation	organisations
26	-	27	(pp.86-90)	(pp.92-96)
26	-	29	(pp.90-91)	(pp.96-97)
27	-	19	(pp.86-90)	(pp.92-96)
27	-	20	(pp.90-91)	(pp.96-97)
28	-	5-6	The amount outstand - given by the earstwhile commodity Committee is Rs.20.03 lakhs	The amount outstanding in respect of the grants issued up- to 1966-67 is Rs.157.29 lakhs
104	1.19	4 in column4	concerned	concerted
106	1.42	column 3	add "Ministry of Industrial Development" after "Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture)"	

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
 (1950-51)
 COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
 AND
 DEBATES
 Date 22.2.58

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

(1972-73)

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SECRETARIAT

Shri B. B. Tewari—*Deputy Secretary.*

Shri T. R. Krishnamachari—*Under Secretary.*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, as authorised by the Committee, do present on their behalf this Sixty-second Report on action taken by Government on the recommendations of the Committee contained in their Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) relating to Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

2. On the 6th June, 1972 an 'Action Taken' Sub-Committee was appointed to scrutinise the replies received from Government in pursuance of the recommendations made by the Committee in their earlier Reports. The Sub-Committee was constituted with the following Members:

Shri B. S. Murthy—*Convener*

2. Shri Ramsahai Pandey	}	<i>Members</i>
3. Shri M. Anandam		
4. Shrimati Savitri Shyam		
5. Shri H. M. Patel		
6. Shri Shyam Lal Yadav		
7. Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad		

3. The draft Report was considered and adopted by the Sub-Committee at their sitting held on the 28th November, 1972 and finally adopted by the Public Accounts Committee on the 16th December, 1972.

4. For facility of reference the main conclusions|recommendations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report. A statement showing the summary of the main recommendations observations of the Committee is appended to the Report (Appendix).

5. The Committee place on record their appreciation of the assistance rendered to them in this matter by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

NEW DELHI;
January 11, 1973.
Pausa 21, 1894 (S).

ERA SEZHIYAN,
Chairman,
Public Accounts Committee.

REPORT

This Report of the Committee deals with action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) on Indian Council of Agricultural Research which was presented to the House on the 16th July, 1971.

1.2. Action taken notes have been received in respect of all the 55 recommendations.

1.3. The action taken notes on the recommendations have been categorised under the following heads:—

(i) *Recommendations|Observations which have been accepted by Government:*

Sr. Nos. 1 to 5, 7 to 14, 17 to 38, 40, 41, 44, 45 and 47 to 51.

(ii) *Recommendations|Observations which the Committee do not like to pursue in view of the replies of Government:*

Sr. Nos. 39, 42, 52 to 54.

(iii) *Recommendations|Observations replies to which have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration:*

Sr. Nos. 15, 43, 46 and 55.

(iv) *Recommendations|Observations in respect of which Government have furnished interim replies:*

Sr. Nos. 6 and 16.

1.4. The Committee hope that final replies in regard to those recommendations to which only interim replies have so far been furnished will be submitted to them expeditiously after getting them vetted by Audit.

1.5. The Committee will now deal with the action taken by Government on some of the recommendations.

Reorganisation of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (Paragraph 1.17—Sr. No. 1).

1.6. While dealing with the reorganisation of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in paragraphs 1.1 to 1.16 in their Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha), the Committee had observed as follows in paragraph 1.17:

“The Committee note that after examining the recommendations made by several teams of experts, the Government of India decided in March, 1965 to reorganise the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The basic intention behind the decision was to make the Council a truly functional, technically competent and fully autonomous organisation for promoting, guiding, coordinating and

directing agricultural research and animal husbandry research and education throughout the country. Accordingly, during the period 1st October, 1965 to 1st April, 1969, the Council took over the functions of 9 Central Commodity Committees, 15 research institutes and 8 soil conservation centres, which were previously financed by the Central Government grants. Although, the Council has been reorganised from 1st April, 1966 and has taken over the administrative control of the various organisations, the process of consolidation has not yet been completed. The evaluation of the assets and liabilities of three research institutes (Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research and Sugarcane Breeding Institute) and one Commodity Committee (Indian Lac Cess Committee) has not been done. The formal transfer deeds in respect of assets and liabilities of the erstwhile Government Research Institutes and four Commodity Committees have not yet been executed. As mentioned in the subsequent part of this Report, the Secretariat of the Council has not yet been reorganised and it continues to be an attached office of the Department of Agriculture. A bill for declaring the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, as an institution of national importance is still under drafting in consultation with the Ministry of Law. The Committee desire that the reorganisation of the new set up of the council should be completed without further delay and would like to know the action taken by Government in that behalf."

1.7. In a note dated the 11th January, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) has stated:

"Further to the position indicated earlier in para 1.8 of the Report, progress has been made with regard to the evaluation of the Assets and Liabilities of the 3 Research Institutes (Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Indian Institute of Sugar Cane research and Sugar Cane breeding Institute) and the one erstwhile Central Commodity Committee (Indian Lac Cess Committee). In respect of Indian Agricultural Research Institute excepting information relating to the cost of residential quarters which is still being collected from the Central Public Works Department, the evaluation of other Assets and Liabilities has since been completed. However, in respect of the 2 Sugarcane Research Institutes the required information is still awaited and the matter is being vigorously pursued

with the Central Public Works Department and the Accountants General concerned. The statement showing the Assets and Liabilities of the Indian Lac Cess Committee was furnished to the Accountant General, Bihar for audit in December, 1970 but his certificate is still awaited. He has been requested to expedite the same.

As soon as the above information is available, the combined meeting between the representatives of the Department of Agricultural, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the Comptroller and Auditor General, Accountant General, Commerce Works and Miscellaneous, Ministries of Finance and Law will be convened to evolve a procedure for transferring the Assets and Liabilities of the erstwhile Government Research Institutes and the 4 erstwhile Statutory Commodity Committees from the books of the Government to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The question of execution of formal deeds of transfer of the property owned by the Government to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has also got linked up with the proposed comprehensive legislation for declaring the Indian Council of Agricultural Research as an Institution of National importance and other matters incidental thereto.

A first draft Bill of the proposed legislation has already been prepared in consultation with the Ministry of Law. The salient features of the Bill, have also been discussed in a meeting held with the representative of that Ministry. Since, however, certain important basic policy issues have been raised by that Ministry it has been found necessary to have them examined thoroughly and decisions taken at the highest level. This is being done on a priority basis."

1.8. The Committee had desired that the process of reorganisation of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research which started on the 1st April, 1965 should be completed without further delay. The Committee note that some progress has been made in the evaluation of assets and liabilities of 3 Institutes and one Commodity Committee with a view to taking over their administrative control by the Council. The Committee, however, find that the evaluation of assets and liabilities of two Sugarcane Research Institutes is yet to be made. Transfer deeds for the transfer of assets and liabilities of the erstwhile Government Research Institutes and four erstwhile statutory Commodity Committees from the books of Government

to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research are also yet to be executed. A comprehensive Bill for declaring the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institute as an Institute of National Importance is not yet finalised. The Committee desire that the entire process of reorganisation and consolidation of the Organisation should be expedited.

Desirability of bringing under I.C.A.R. other organisations dealing with Agricultural Research (Paragraphs No. 1.19 and 1.20—Sr. Nos. 3 and 4)

1.9. Commenting upon the desirability of bringing under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, other organisations dealing with agricultural research, the Committee made the following observations in paragraphs 1.19 and 1.20:

"The Agricultural Research Review Team (1964) had also suggested bringing under the control of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, certain other organisations dealing with agricultural research. The Committee particularly wish to refer to research work in regard to coffee, tea and rubber, at present being done under the control of the respective Boards which work under the Department of Foreign Trade. According to the Review Team, "Technical staff practically work in isolation and are denied the benefit of meeting and discussing common problems with staff of identical discipline in the agricultural department". The Study Team of the Administrative Reforms Commission have also pointed out the need for bringing the research aspects of these Boards under the overall purview of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The shortcomings in the research work pointed out by the Study Team are lack of competent men to work in their research posts, lack of expert guidance in their respective subject matter fields and influence of non-scientists on research workers and research programmes. In view of the importance of the three commodities for internal consumption and export, the Committee would urge the Government to pay serious attention to the inadequacy of research work and examine how far the situation can be improved by bringing this work under the purview of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research or establishing closer coordination between the Boards and Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

The Committee desire that Government should also examine the feasibility of bringing other research organisations

concerned with agricultural research under the purview of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research."

1.10. In their note dated the 11th January as amended *vide* their note dated the 6th October, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) has stated:

"As already stated before the Committee (reference para 1.12 of the Report) the Agricultural Research Review Team (Parker Committee) on whose recommendations primarily the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been reorganised, had *inter-alia* recommended that the reorganised Council should, amongst others fulfil the following functions:—

"Assume full technical and administrative control of all Central Agricultural Research Institutes, all existing Commodity Committees including the Central Sugarcane Committee and certain other Research Organisations in the fields of Botany and Zoology, Fisheries, Forestry and Food Processing which are now financed by the Government of India through various channels".

The recommendations of the Agricultural Research Review Team (1964) were, amongst others, discussed by the Panel of Agricultural Scientists with the Union Minister of Food and Agriculture. It was felt that it would be more advantageous to get cooperation between the Ministries of Agriculture and Commerce in the matter of research in these cash crops (Tea, Coffee, Rubber etc.) rather than to attempt to get the research taken away from the various Boards under the Commerce Ministry and give it to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

It was accordingly felt that the position of Indian Council of Agricultural Research should be consolidated first by taking only those Institutes as were within the purview of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture itself. Accordingly while soliciting the approval of the Cabinet to the proposals for the reorganisation of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, it was indicated that the reorgani-

sation of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research would be initiated by bringing under its administrative control all Research Institutions under the control of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

The process of consolidation of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is not yet complete. However, the question of bringing under the reorganised Council, Research Institutes functioning under other Ministries, is being reviewed from time to time. A proposal for the transfer of the administrative control of the Botanical Survey of India, the Botanical Gardens and the Herbarium is accordingly, under examination in consultation with the concerned Ministries. As regards Tea, Coffee and Rubber, the matter was brought before the Conference on Inter-Organisational Cooperation and Research (in which the various Commodity Boards were also represented) held in October, 1969. This Conference recommended that individual Study Groups should be set up to go into details of collaborative research on the above commodities. Based on the above recommendations, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have already constituted Study Groups on "Cardamom" and Combined Study Group on Plantation crops namely (i) Tea, (ii) Coffee, (iii) Rubber and (iv) Sericulture including Tassar Industry. The first meeting of the Study Group on Cardamom was held on the 23rd January, 1971. The meeting of the Combined Study Group was held in October, 1971."

1.11. The Committee had taken note of the fact that the research work on coffee, tea and rubber was inadequate and that even the organisational arrangements had been recognisedly not satisfactory. The Ministry have informed that in pursuance of the recommendations of the Conference of Inter Organisational Cooperation and Research, the I.C.A.R. have already constituted a Combined Study Group on plantation crops namely, Tea, Coffee, Rubber and Sericulture including Tassar industry. The first meeting of the Combined Study Group was held in October, 1971. It is presumed that the Study Group is required to submit periodical reports on its findings. The Committee desire that Government should take necessary steps to improve the research work and to establish better coordination between the respective Boards and the I.C.A.R. on the basis of the findings of the Study Group at an early date.

1.12. The Committee note that a proposal for transfer of the administrative control of the Botanical Survey of India, the Botanical

Gardens and the Herbarium is under examination in consultation with the Ministries concerned. The Committee hope that the question of bringing other Institutions under the control of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research will also be taken up in due course.

Review of Staff Position: Paragraph 1.46 (Sr. No. 10):

1.13. Commenting on the increase of the staff of the Council the Committee made the following observations in paragraph 1.46 of their Report:

"The Committee feel that not only there is considerable increase in the administrative, technical and class IV staff but also their proportion to othe Scientific staff seems to be on the higher side. The Committee, therefore, deseire that staff position in the headquarters of the Council as well as in the various research Institutes should be reviewed by an independent organisation with a view to assessing the requirements. That organisation should also lay down guidelines or norms, regarding ratio of scientific, technical and administrative staff for the various Institutes, The imbalance in staff should be suitably corrected."

1.14. In a note dated the 11th January, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) has stated:

1. The Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance has been requested to review the staff position of I.C.A.R. headquarters by including the Council in their programme for the year 1972.
2. The Council's own Work Study Unit is being strengthened to enable them to conduct work study of the Institutes under the I.C.A.R. in a cycle of 3 years."

1.15. The Committee note that the Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance has been requested to review the staff position of the I.C.A.R. headquarters by including the Council in their programme for the year 1972. As more than 10 months have lapsed since the receipt of this information, the Committee hope that the Staff Inspection Unit would have taken up the review of the staff position of the I.C.A.R. headquarters. The Committee trust that the review would be completed early and necessary follow-up action taken without any loss of time.

1.16. The Committee also desire that the Works Study Unit of the Council should complete the work study of its institutes within 3 years and lay down guidelines or norms regarding rates of Scientific technical and administrative staff of the various Institutes.

Delay in Reorganisation of the Council's Secretariat—Paragraph 1.47—Sr. No. 11:

1.17. Commenting upon the delay in the reorganisation of the Secretariat of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the Committee made the following observations in paragraph 1.47:

“The Committee regret to note that there is delay in the reorganisation of the Secretariat of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. It was decided in March, 1965 that the present Indian Council of Agricultural Research Secretariat which is functioning as an attached office to the Department of Agriculture might be converted into an office wholly financed and controlled by the Council from a date to be appointed. The Secretariat, however, continues to be an attached office of the Department of Agriculture being manned by partly Government side staff and partly by non-Government (Research side) staff. The Committee desire that the amalgamation of Government side staff and non-Government side staff should be expedited. The Committee hope that while fixing the seniority of the staff it will be ensured that the research side staff do not suffer.”

1.18. In a note dated the 11th January, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) has stated:

“Pending the fixation of a final date for the exercise of option for the Council's service by the Government employees of the various erstwhile Government Research Institutes, administrative control of which has already been taken over by the Council, Government employees who have not yet opted for the Council's service, continue to remain as Government servants on notional foreign service with the Council. Till the final date is fixed and they are permanently absorbed in the Council, the Secretariat of the Council is functioning as their parent office. For this purpose, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Secretariat will continue to function as a Government Office. The question of fixing the final date for the exercise of option is now linked up with the proposed Legislation for declaring the Indian Council of Agricultural Research as an Institution of national importance and matters incidental thereto. However, the process of amalgamation of the Research side staff of the Council and such of the Government staff as have opted for the Council's service has already been initiated and the

persons opting for Council's service have been appointed in the Council on notional foreign service. Both the sets of staff are now being treated as belonging to one unified cadre for various purposes. It has also been decided that "date of appointment to the grade on a regular basis" will determine the *inter-se* seniority of the ministerial staff in the re-organised Council. In this connection, it may be stated that under Government rules all permanent Officers are ranked *en-bloc* senior to persons who are officiating on temporary basis. Adoption of this principle would have, however, put the Research side staff to great disadvantage since the institution of permanency was introduced for the research side staff only with effect from 1st June, 1961. Accordingly it was decided in consultation with the concerned Ministries that "date of appointment to the grade on a regular basis" should determine the *inter-se* seniority of the ministerial staff in the reorganised Council. It may be added that in cases involving merger of various cadres with well defined grades, the *inter-se* seniority of the persons involved in a particular grade is usually determined on the basis of continuous length of service on a regular basis in a particular grade. This formula for *inter-se* seniority, which is considered to be fair, equitable and just and in consonance with the wishes of the Research side Staff, has also been upheld as such by the Hon'ble Delhi High Court *vide* its Judgement dated the 13th April, 1971 in Civil Writ Petition No. 788 of 1970".

1.19. The Committee note the steps that are being taken towards amalgamation of Government staff and non-Government staff in the Secretariat of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. They desire that concerted efforts should be made to complete the re-organisation of the Headquarters of the Council.

Co-ordination of Research Work: Paragraph 2.7—S. No. 13.

1.20 Commenting upon the coordination maintained by the Council to establish coordination with State Government Institutes, Agricultural Universities and other organisations, the Committee made the following observations in para 2.7:

"The Committee note the other measures taken by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research to establish coordination with State Government institutions, Agricultural Universities and other organisations, like collation

of research information, organisation of symposia etc. The Committee desire that the impact of these measures on strengthening the research work should be kept under review so that these can be suitably modified/augmented in the light of experience."

1.21. In a note dated the 12th July, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) stated:

"The research information on all aspects is being collected and collated by the respective Project Coordinators as well as by the Research Project Unit at the Headquarters of the I.C.A.R. The workshops by and large constitute in principle a kind of symposia themselves. In addition as and when the specialised interest develop they are discussed in special seminars and symposia which are being organised by the I.C.A.R. Several problems are being discussed in periodical symposia or seminars organised within the country as well as outside the country.

The progress of the work as well as the shortfalls, etc. are being reviewed every five years to synchronize with the preparations of the Five Year Plans."

1.22. The Committee note that the progress of work on agricultural research is being reviewed every 5 years to synchronise with the preparation of Five Year Plans. This should be a comprehensive review so that the results could be utilised for the formulation of the successive Five Year Plans in regard to agricultural research. The Committee further desire that apart from this review the Indian Council of Agricultural Research should devise a suitable machinery to keep under constant watch the impact of the various coordination measures for the strengthening of research work so that corrective steps could be taken concurrently.

Roles of Various Research Organisations: Paragraph 2.12—Serial No. 15:

1.23. Commenting upon the role of Central Institutions, State Institutions and Agricultural Universities, the Committee made the following observations in paragraph 2.12:

"The Committee appreciate that by and large the Central Institutes take up research on National problems which override State boundaries. In view of the fact that dif-

ferent agencies e.g., Central Institutes, State Institutes and agricultural universities are at present doing research work, the Committee feel that it is necessary to lay down some guidelines regarding roles of these agencies with a view to avoiding duplication."

1.24. In a note dated the 12th July, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) has stated:

"The Institutes are primarily meant for taking up research on the aspects which cross the boundaries of the state or regions in their interest. In so far as the effectiveness as well as the avoidance of the duplication of the research by various organisation is concerned, the ICAR is contemplating to have Advisory Committees set up for each Institute in which the representatives of the Agricultural Universities, State Governments and other concerned agencies will be present. Further, these programmes are also being discussed in annual workshops and various technical meetings through which the overlapping of programmes is avoided."

1.25. The Committee note that Indian Council of Agricultural Research are contemplating to have Advisory Committees set up for each Institute in which the representatives of the Agricultural Universities, State Governments and other concerned agencies would be present. The Committee would like to reiterate that the feasibility of laying down guidelines regarding roles for different Research agencies to avoid duplication in research work, should also be examined.

Dissemination of Result of Research: Paragraph 2.34—Serial No. 19

1.21. Commenting upon the dissemination of results of agricultural research, the Committee made the following observations in paragraph 234:

"From the information furnished to them, the Committee gather that the communication of results of research to cultivators is primarily the responsibility of the Directorate of Extension and Training of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The Committee find from the Report of the Study Team of the Administrative Reforms Commission that "as it is organised today, the Extension Directorate is handling functions most of which are entire-

ly the responsibility of the States". The Study Team have recommended that "the Directorate of Extension in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation should be abolished forthwith. Functions relating to international aspects, national obligations and responsibilities pertaining to extension and coordination among the States should be handled by a top level technical specialist in extension of the rank of Joint Secretary. He should work in close coordination with the ICAR." The Committee attach utmost importance to the communication of the results of research work to the farmer and would like the Government to consider whether any change in the set-up is necessitated to handle this task."

1.27. In a note dated the 6th October, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (ICAR) has stated:

"ICAR is keen that the research results should reach the users as speedily as possible. With this objective, a Coordination Committee has been appointed with D.G. ICAR as Chairman to Coordinate the extension work of the Department of Agriculture and the ICAR. A close liaison is maintained between the National Demonstration Scheme and the Farmers Training Programme. Emphasis has been laid on the Farmers' Days organised by the ICAR Institutes."

1.28. The Committee would like to know if Government have examined the Report of the Study Group of the Administrative Reforms Commission particularly in regard to the question of effective dissemination of research information and if so, the results of the examination.

Review of old research schemes—(paragraph 3.154—Serial No. 39).

1.29. Commenting upon some research schemes in dairy science continuing for a long time, the Committee made the following observations in paragraph 3.154:

"The Committee find that during the year 1969-70, the Institute took up seven fresh schemes for research while there were 50 continuing schemes already under research. Some of the schemes which were commenced more than 10 years

back are still continuing. The Committee desire that the reasons for delay in completion of the old schemes should be analysed and necessary action taken to complete them."

1.30. In their note dated the 12th July, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (ICAR), has stated:

The details of the continuing Research Schemes are as follows:

Schemes continuing more than 10 years	5
Schemes continuing more than 5 years	8
Schemes continuing more than 3 years	6
Schemes continuing more than 2 years	21
Schemes continuing more than 1 year	10
	<hr/>
	50

Projects continuing more than 10 years and required to be continued are (i) cross-breeding of Zebu cattle (Sahiwal and Red Sindhi) with Brown Swiss (ii) cross-breeding with Jersey-Tharparkar to evolve suitable breed (iii) progeny testing, (iv) Varietal trial with fodder varieties, (v) cost of milk production. Out of these 3 projects are related to genetics and breeding. In these studies animals have to be improved generation by generation for their economic characters. For improvement of economic characters in dairy cattle, the experiments have to be conducted over number of generations. The generation interval in case of dairy cattle is about 6 to 8 years depending upon the breed. Therefore, such products cannot be completed within the limited period. Similarly studies on progeny testing, i.e., search for better bulls is aimed for estimating the breeding value of a bull by studying the performance of its daughter, which is the most reliable way of knowing the genetic potential of a bull. Since the bull is to be widely used for mating with a number of females we have to be sure about its transmitting ability to achieve the desired progress. Therefore, this should be a continuous and regular project in the breeding programme of any organised dairy farm for improvement of dairy cattle. Studies on varietal trials

with different fodder crops is also a continuous project. Since varieties are constantly evolved at the various research Institutes and Agricultural Universities in India and abroad and they have to be introduced in our varietal trials from time to time to test their efficiency.

Studies on cost of milk production, etc., require evaluation every year, since the price of various items varies from year to year. Periodic evaluation of cost of milk production for different breeds, will be useful for price fixation policy and also in devising ways and means to lower the cost of production of milk. Out of the eight projects continuing more than five years, four projects are related to studies on milk protein. As a result of fundamental studies on milk protein, many new vistas have become apparent from these findings. These observations demanded continuity in new lines of research originally not visualised. Further more, milk protein is such a topic, there cannot be an end to such investigation and more so with buffalo milk. Present trend of studies on foreign countries is emphasising more on milk protein because of its dietary value. Another project continuing more than five years is studies on rumen microbiology. Detailed study on the types of microorganisms growing in rumen of cow and buffalo at various stages after feeding different rations and the corresponding production of volatile acids and other biochemical changes yielded encouraging results. These observations demanded more studies on the role of the organisms in the utilisation of different feeds using artificial rumen techniques;

Three Projects, viz., effective utilisation of NPN in the ration of Zebu cattle and buffalos, flavour components of ghee and starter bacterial and their genetic variants are continuing for five years in dairy husbandry, chemistry and bacteriology, respectively. These projects are financed by P.L. 480 authorities and have to function according to the technical programme for five years approved by the sponsoring authority."

1.31. The Committee appreciate that certain research schemes relating to cross-breeding, progeny testing etc...require long experimentation They nevertheless consider that it is necessary to have the progress made on such schemes under constant review.

Sale of Publications—(Paragraph 4.16 and 4.17—Sr. Nos. 40-41.

1.32. Commenting on the heavy accumulation of unsold publications of the Council, the Committee had observed as follows in paragraphs 4.16 and 4.17:

“4.16. The Committee are not satisfied over heavy accumulation of unsold publications of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, particularly scientific monographs which have a limited demand. A large number of copies of the publications published as early as 1959 are still lying in stock. The Committee have been informed that as on 31st March, 1970, the total value of the unsold publications increased to Rs. 15.74 lakhs of which the scientific monographs accounted for Rs. 7.60 lakhs and semi-technical publications Rs. 8.14 lakhs. The Committee desire that in the light of experience of Council regarding the sale/issue of the publications, the print order of both scientific monographs and semi-technical publications should be carefully fixed. In their opinion the print order of scientific monographs should be kept to the minimum.”

“4.17. The Committee desire that vigorous steps should be taken to reduce the stock of old publications by adopting various sales promotion measures and by distribution of copies to Libraries, Agricultural Universities, Research Institutes etc.”

1.33. In a note dated the 12th July, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (ICAR) has stated.

“Of the total stock value of Rs. 15.74 lakhs as on 31-3-1970 the Council has been able to sell the stock worth Rs. 5.20 lakhs through concentrated and systematic sales promotion measures. Thus the stock value of unsold publications has been reduced to Rs. 10.54 lakhs as on 31-3-1971. A comparative statement of the value of the stock held as on 31-3-1970 and as on 31-3-1971 is given below:—

	Stock as on 31-3-70	Stock of new pub- lications added during 1970-71	Stock sold during 1970-71		Balance as on 31-3-71
			Old stock	New stock	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
(i) Scientific publications	7.60	00.22	1.23	00.11=1.34	6.48
(ii) Semi-technical publications	8.14	4.36	3.97	1.26=5.23	7.27
TOTAL	15.74	4.58	5.20	1.37=6.57	13.75

Of the old stock, while over 48 per cent of the semi-technical publications have been sold, the sale of scientific publications has been about 16 percent. This is primarily due to the fact that most of the institutes interested in such publications have already purchased the copies immediately after release of these publications. The pace of sale of these publications has thereafter been rather slow in view of their limited demand. However the Council is taking measures to bring these publications to the notice of organisations in India and abroad through publicity folders, circulars, letters, display at important fairs and exhibitions etc.

The Committee's observation regarding print orders for publications has been noted. In fact the print orders for publications are given on the basis of the estimated demand of various agencies in India and abroad. However, in order to keep the sale price at a reasonable level print orders are not allowed to go below a minimum limit. For example, of the various titles which are under print the print order is kept to the minimum as is indicated in respect of the following publications:—

<i>Scientific Monographs</i>	<i>Print Orders</i>
1. Myxomyoetes	1000 copies.
2. Codogonials.	1000 copies.
<i>Semi-technical publications</i>	<i>Print Orders</i>
1. Exploitation of Hybrid Vigour in vegetables.	1000 copies.
2. Entomological Research in Jute, Mesta, Sunhemp.	1000 copies.

Vigorous, systematic and intensive promotional measures are taken to expedite the sale of publications. Publicity folders, list of publications, promotion circulars etc. are sent regularly to booksellers, educational institutions, research organisations, libraries, extension organisations, panchayat officers, Zila Parishads, Government Departments and other prospective buyers numbering over 20,000 both in India as well as abroad. The help of Indian Mission abroad is also sought to give wide publicity to the Council's publications. Complete and up-to-date lists of the Councils' publications are also mailed to prospective buyers in India as well as abroad from time to time.

Nine Publicity folders with a total print order of 1,33,000 copies were mailed.

With a view to bring the Council's publications to the notice of a wider audience, the Council also participates in exhibitions|shows|fairs|seminars|workshops|conferences|kisan melas|book fairs etc., where the publications are displayed for sale to the public.

During 1970-71, the Council participated in 26 exhibitions|shows, more important among them to warrant mention are Annual Book Exhibition, Washington,—Exhibition of Indian Books, Mexico,—International Book Fair, Singapore,—Leipzig Autumn Fair, Leipzig,—International Fair, Bucharest (Romania) and Frankfurt Book Fair, Frankfurt. The publicity literatures such as list of books, folders are freely distributed to the public who visit the exhibitions/shows etc.

The Council has prescribed rules for weeding of old publications. The publications have been divided into five categories for this purpose. Non-periodicals publications priced at over Rs. 5 are weeded out when there has been no demand for four consecutive years or when the demand for four years is less than 5 per cent of the stock. Similarly non-periodical publications priced at less than Rs. 5|— are weeded out when there is no demand for two consecutive years or when the demand for three consecutive years is less than 5 per cent of the stock. If in the view of Secretary, ICAR, the publication is likely to command sale at a reduced price, it will be so offered to consumers. If in the view of Secretary, ICAR, a publication has ceased to be of any value even after reducing its sale price and there is no demand, copies will then be offered free of cost to agricultural Universities, public

libraries etc., as may be decided by Secretary, ICAR provided packing and forwarding charges are borne by the recipient institutions.

By way of personal contacts too, efforts are being made to push up the sales of the Council's publications. To achieve better results, the Country has been divided into various Zones. All important towns/cities in each zone are covered by senior sales staff and the Departments of Central/ State Governments, book trade, Colleges, Libraries and other interested institutions are personally visited by them for establishing close contacts and procuring business. During 1970-71 the sales staff visited 21 important business centres in India to procure business for the Council's books. These centres are classified as 'A' 'B' and 'C' depending upon their importance from the point of view of sale of publications. The periodicity of visits to these centres has been fixed in the following manner.

1. Class 'A' cities.	Thrice a year.
2. Class 'B' cities.	Twice a year.
3. Class 'C' cities.	Once a year.

The Committee's decision to adopt various sales promotion methods has been noted and suitable steps as mentioned above have been taken. The distribution of copies of old publication to libraries, agricultural universities, research organisations etc., is considered on the merits of each case."

1.34. The Committee note that out of the total stock value of Rs. 15.74 lakhs of unsold publications as at the end of March, 1970, the Council has been able to sell stock worth Rs. 5.20 lakhs by the end of March, 1971. While over 48 per cent of the old stock of semi-technical publications have been sold, the pace of sale of old scientific publications has been low i.e., about 16 per cent. The Committee desire that special efforts should be made to clear the stock of old publications both scientific and semi-technical. In this connection they would suggest that if some of these old publications have already become obsolete they may be disposed of early. The Committee would further urge that sale promotion of publications

should be concentrated more in the country than abroad so that useful information contained in them may reach the user in the country.

Cost of production of publications: Paragraph 4.27 Sr. No. 43:

1.35. Commenting upon the high cost of publications of the Council, the Committee had, in paragraph 4.47 made the following observations:

"The Committee are of the view that one of the factors contributing to the cost of production of publications of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is the use of art paper. The Committee suggest that the publications and annual reports may be printed on ordinary paper. A few copies required to be sent to foreign countries, embassies etc. may, however, continue to be printed on art paper."

1.48. In a note dated the 12th July, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) has stated:

The Council's publications are highly technical and scientific in character. Keeping their contents and scientific value in view an appropriate brand of paper is used commensurate with the standard of production desired. Generally super calendered paper and white printing paper, which are the cheapest brands of indigenous paper, are used for printing the text of practically all the publications of the Council. In a few cases, Indian Offset paper is used.

Art paper/Art Card is used only on the covers/jackets of the Council's publications for better market appeal and to make them attractive. The use of art paper/Art Card on covers and jackets is considered essential for suitable reproduction of colour blocks.

The Council does not use Indian or imported Art Paper for the printing of the text of its publications. Occasionally, the plates when highly graphic, are printed on art paper depending on the production requirements and the results to be achieved. Some of the books like 'The Rose in India' are of International Standard and their quality cannot be sacrificed for a little economy in paper for plates. In fact, their strength is in excellence of production."

1.36. The Committee desire that the cost of production of publications, Annual Reports and other non-technical publications should be kept as low as possible.

Staff position of Publications Wing: Paragraph 4.50—Sr. No. 45:

1.37. Commenting upon the staff position in the Publications wing of the Council, the Committee observed as follows in paragraphs 4.32 to 4.50:

“From the information furnished to them, the Committee find that the number of books, journals etc. published by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research during the years 1966-67 to 1969-70 was 38,49,38 and 43 respectively. The expenditure on staff employed on publications wing increased from Rs. 7.26 lakhs in 1967-68 to Rs. 7.87 lakhs in 1968-69 and Rs. 8.31 lakhs in 1969-70. The posts of technical and supporting ministerial staff during 1969-70 numbered 130 including a number of senior posts. Considering that the number of books, journals, etc. brought out by the Council during the last four years ranged from 38 to 49 the Committee feel that staff employed for the purpose is not fully justified. Elsewhere in this report, the Committee have already recommended that the staff of the Council as a whole should be reviewed by an independent body.”

1.38. In a note dated the 12th July, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) has stated:

“One of the main objectives of the ICAR is to disseminate research findings and scientific information on agricultural and animal sciences. Pursuing this objective, the Council has, over the years, become one of the largest clearing house of scientific information and literature on agriculture. The publications and information programme, comprising books, monographs, bulletins, journals, releases to the press, participation in exhibitions, and production of instructional films, is a means not only for expeditious communication of the results of agricultural research to the users but also for building up valuable scientific knowledge in the country on agriculture.

Keeping these objectives in view, the publications Wing of the ICAR has been broadly organised into the following groups:—

- (i) **Editorial:**— It includes English Editorial staff and the staff dealing with Hindi and other Indian Languages. The staff dealing with Hindi and other Indian Languages deals not only with editing of the ICAR publications but also with release of information bulletins relating to latest

research results and thus feed the newspapers all over the country.

- (ii) *Arts and Photography*:—The Chief Artists and his staff deal with not only the art and photographic work for ICAR publications but also provide assistance in art work and photography to the scientists for preparing maps, graphs, charts, slides etc., for their scientific work.
- (iii) *Production*:—Besides handling the production work of the ICAR publications, this unit also provides advice to the ICAR Institutes regarding printing of their publications, purchase of printing material etc.
- (iv) *Business, publicity and Public Relations*:—This unit besides handling the sales of ICAR publications maintains close liaison with the press for publicity of the latest ICAR research results and also participates in exhibitions, guides the ICAR Institutes in matters relating to publicity and public relations.

It may thus, be seen that the staff of these units is not exclusively handling only publications. The expenditure on publicity, public relations and release of information bulletins in Hindi and other Indian Languages and advisory service rendered by these units is thus a service charge and, therefore the cost cannot be directly related to the production of printed literature.

It may also be pointed out that though the journals in number may be five, they are periodicals, and one volume may include as many as 12 issues. In 1969-70, the periodicity of 'Indian Farming' and 'Kheti' was monthly, the 'Indian Horticulture' and 'Indian Journal of Animal Sciences' was quarterly and the 'Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences' was bi-monthly. Thus these five journals actually amounted to 38 issues, each issue being regarded as a separate publication.

The expenditure on the publication side increased due to improvement in the quality of service by providing technical advice at higher level, increase in the printed pages, increase in the cost of production and greater publicity and public relations efforts.

The number of printed pages of publications including journals increased from 2800 in 1968-69 to 4600 in 1969-70, 6400 in 1970-71 and 8600 in 1971-72. The number of pages of journals whose periodicity has been increased, increased from 2144 in 1969-70 to 3688 in 1970-71 excluding special numbers.

The price of the journals has also been increased to some extent to meet the increased cost. The price of 'Indian Farming' was revised from 85 paise to Re. 1 from 1st April, 1970. The price of 'Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences' and of 'Indian Journal of Animal Sciences' was also increased from Rs. 2.50 and Rs. 2.25 respectively to Rs. 4 per issue from 1st January, 1970.

The number of exhibitions in which ICAR has participated has increased from 16 in 1968-69 to 23 in 1969-70.

The income from sales and advertisement increased from Rs. 6.84 lakhs in 1968-69 to Rs. 7.63 lakhs in 1969-70 i.e. by about 12 per cent as against the increase in the expenditure on the staff from Rs. 7.87 lakhs in 1968-69 to Rs. 8.31 lakhs in 1969-70 i.e. by about 5.5 per cent. The details of the income are as follows:

	1968-69	1969-70
	Rs. *	Rs.
Sales	5,29,900	6,18,680
Advertisement	1,54,000	1,44,000
	6,83,900	7,62,680
Round	6,84,000	7,63,000

1.39. The Committee hope that the review of the headquarters of the ICAR by the Staff Inspection Unit will cover the Publications Division also.

Delay in utilisation of costly equipment: Paragraph 5.8—Sr. No. 46:

1.40. Commenting upon the delay in utilisation of costly equipment, the Committee had observed as follows in paragraphs 5.1 to 5.8:

"The Committee are surprised that in this case while the Directorate-General, Technical Development cleared the foreign exchange of Rs. 3.43 lakhs for purchase of the Spinning Machinery, they appear to have dealt within a routine manner the request of the Laboratory for sanctioning foreign exchange amounting to only Rs. 13,500|- required for certain components in the Air-Conditioning Plant without which the Spinning Machinery could not be installed. Even after the efforts made to explore the

possibility of getting the air-conditioning plant from the indigenous sources had failed the D.G.T.D. did not clear the foreign exchange component of Rs. 13,500/-. Although after establishment of their factory in India, the manufacturer reduced in November, 1965 the foreign exchange requirement from Rs. 13,500/- to Rs. 3,600/- (later revised to Rs. 4,860/- consequent on the devaluation of the rupee), the total cost of the air-conditioning equipment was increased from Rs. 67,500/- quoted in 1963 to Rs. 1,62,000 in 1965 due to increase in cost of raw materials, labour charges and excise duty. Ultimately, a contract was finalised with the firm in September, 1967 for Rs. 2,61,000 which included Rs. 36,000 for a stand-by compressor and Rs. 63,000 towards the cost of ancillary works. The Committee are unhappy that delay in clearance of foreign exchange component of Rs. 13,500 in 1963 resulted in extra cost of the air-conditioning equipment to the tune of Rs. 94,500. Besides extra cost paid for the procurement of the air-conditioning plant the installation of the costly machinery valued at Rs. 4.60 lakhs (foreign exchange expenditure Rs. 3.43 lakhs) in the new building was delayed. The Committee feel that responsibility should be fixed for the delay at various stages in the case. The Committee desire that necessary steps should be taken by the Director-General, Technical Development to prevent recurrence of such cases."

1.41. In a note dated the 12th July, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) has stated:

"The Special Sub-Committee of the Indian Central Cotton Committee which finalised in May, 1957, the list of equipment necessary for modernisation of the Cotton Technological Research Laboratory realised the need for maintaining constant atmospheric conditions of 27°C. temperature and 65 per cent relative humidity in the Spinning and Testing Sections. Accordingly, the Sub-Committee had recommended the import of a Conditioning Plant manufactured by Messrs. Carrier Corporation, U.S.A., at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,80,000. However, in view of the difficulty of the foreign exchange position of the country, it was decided in 1961-62 to explore the possibility of obtaining the conditioning plant locally with a view to minimise the requirement of foreign exchange. Accord-

ingly, quotations were invited by the Laboratory for the Humidity and Temperature Control Plant in December, 1962, from fifteen local firms. Representatives of various firms visited the Laboratory to inspect the site and to have an idea of the extent of work involved. The lowest quotation for one plant was submitted by M/s. Voltas for Rs. 67,500/- in early 1963, involving a foreign exchange component of Rs. 13,500/- on condition that the I.C.C.C. will arrange for the release of foreign exchange to this extent. This quotation did not include the cost of installation and other ancillary works such as provision of false ceiling, plumbing, ducting, electrical wiring, etc. The Government of India approved the proposals of the I.C.C.C. regarding the release of foreign exchange of Rs. 3.43 lakhs for the spinning machinery and Rs. 13,500/- for the necessary part of the control plant. The D.G.T.D. who cleared the requirement for the machinery would not clear the requirement of Rs. 13,500/- for the required part of the control plant. Before he could clear from the indigenous angle he wanted the I.C.A.R. to contact M/s. Industrial Air-Control (I) Limited whether they could supply the required parts. This was in July, 1963. After making enquiries with M/s. I.A.C. (I) Limited, the I.C.C.C. informed the I.C.A.R. in October, 1963 that the firm was not in a position to supply the particular essential parts required for the Carrier model. D.G.T.D. wanted to know whether the work could not be entrusted to any other firm who might be ready to complete it with indigenously available material. The Laboratory stated after consulting the Ahmedabad Textile Industries Research Association that the only Indian firm capable of giving constructive advice on the installation of the plant was M/s. Voltas Limited. As suggested by the D.G.T.D., the I.C.C.C. was directed to approach Messrs. Blue Star, Bombay, M/s. American Refrigeration Company, Calcutta and M/s. Batliboi and Co. Bombay. Complete quotation was received only from the Blue Star who also wanted foreign exchange to be provided. After weighing all the pros and cons and also considering the stature and capability of the various firms in India, the I.C.C.C. requested for approval of the Government of India for entrusting the work of air-conditioning the testing laboratory to M/s. Voltas Limited, at a cost of Rs. 1,35,000 (excluding the charges for ancillary items). This was in June, 1965.

It would appear from the alternative suggestions made by the D.G.T.D. while withholding clearance from the indigenous angle to the import of component parts, essential for maintaining the temperature and humidity levels, constantly within a rigid narrow range, for which the foreign exchange was asked for, that the requirements of the Laboratory were not fully appreciated. Air-conditioning equipment for general purposes such as office, theatres, hospitals, etc., was locally available. In these cases, the temperature inside the room is kept lower than that outside, mainly for providing comfort for the occupants. On the other hand, the requirement of the laboratory was a plant to maintain the temperature and humidity at constant levels of 27 C and 65 per cent relative humidity. Hence, the indigenous plants were not suitable for the Laboratory as these did not have necessary arrangements to control the temperature and humidity. This point was repeatedly stressed in the letters from the Laboratory to the Government and to D.G.T.D. and was also personally explained to the D.G.T.D. authorities by the then Director of the Laboratory in July, 1964. It was also pointed out from time to time that these special controls were not being manufactured in India.

During the intervening years, M/s. Voltas had established their own factory near Bombay for manufacture of air-conditioning equipments. Hence, in November, 1965, the firm informed us that the requirements of foreign exchange was reduced from Rs. 13,500/- to Rs. 3,600/- as only six components were required to be imported. However, the price of the plant had been increased to Rs. 1,62,000/- due to various factors such as increase in cost of raw material, labour charges and excise duty. Even this price did not include ancillary works such as false ceiling, plumbing, etc. This was in December, 1965. At this stage also the D.G.T.D. pressed for exploring the local market for the six components. For example, the Laboratory was asked to contact M/s. Danfoss (India) Limited., Bombay and M/s. Jaswant Lal Kanti Lal, Bombay. The I.C.A.R. could not process the case further due to the Government ban on utilisation of foreign exchange during 1965-66 following the national emergency. In the meanwhile, the requirements of foreign exchange for the six components were revised to Rs. 4,860.00 in August, 1966 consequent

on the devaluation of the rupee. No Indian firm was in a position to supply these components and only in September, 1967, the I.C.A.R. was able to get release of foreign exchange and the contract with M/s. Voltas was finalised for Rs. 2,61,000 which included Rs. 36,000/- for standby Compressor and Rs. 63,000/- towards the cost of ancillary works. Though the Government's sanction was accorded for release of foreign exchange for Rs. 4,860/- to import the six control parts required, the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports issued a licence for Rs. 3,200/- only in October, 1968, to cover only three of the six items. After protracted correspondence with the C.C.I. & E. at a high level from the I.C.A.R., the licence for another Rs. 1,200/- to cover the import of two more parts was received by the end of September, 1969. M/s. Voltas agreed to procure the sixth item from their own quota. The installation of the plant was completed and the plant was commissioned to service on manual controls on the 25th September, 1969, and the Yarn Testing Section was at last shifted to the first floor of the new Building in September, 1969.

M/s. Voltas have now imported the control parts required and fitted them on the Humidity-Temperature Control Plant during July, 1970.

A brief summary of the progressive date-wise development of the case from the beginning so far as I.C.A.R. is concerned is enclosed (pp. 86—90). A copy of the note received from the Ministry of Industrial Development clarifying the position so far as they are concerned in the case is also enclosed (pp. 90—91). A study of the Ministry of Industrial Development note mainly brings out the following points so far as the question of delay is involved:

- (i) the file remained with the D.G.T.D. comparatively for shorter intervals than with the I.C.A.R.
- (iii) D.G.T.D. was out of the picture from 24-8-1964 to 17-6-1966.
- (iii) The urgency of the matter, if it did exist, was not duly impressed upon them.

Regarding (i) above:

It may be clarified that as the D.G.T.D. had been pressing every time on the same, point of indigenous procurement and as the I.C.A.R.

had thereupon to collect information each time from different sources, naturally therefore, it required time every time such a reference was made.

Regarding (ii) above: the position with regard to the period from 24th August, 1964 to 17th June, 1966 is that though the file could not be referred to D.G.T.D. during this period yet the date-wise developments stated in (pp. 86—90) clearly indicate that from 4th September, 1964 we started again with the possibility of indigenous equipment and this process kept us busy till the beginning of 1965. In the meantime, came the Ministry of Finance Ban on Foreign Exchange release due to National Emergency during 1965-66. Ban on Foreign Exchange release was lifted in 1966 and the file was referred to D.G.T.D. on 2nd July, 1966 after completing *pro forma* information in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and C.T.R.L. Thus it is clear that the I.C.A.R. at no stage relaxed its efforts to finalise the case as quickly as possible.

Regarding (iii) above: This is a matter of inference based on facts. A comparative study of the brief summary prepared by I.C.A.R. (pp. 86—90) and the note of Ministry of Industrial Development (pp. 90—91) will reveal that in spite of repeated instances at personal and official levels on 18th April, 1964, 3rd June, 1964, 29th June, 1964, 30th June, 1964, 17th July, 1964 and 5th August, 1964, the urgency of the matter was not recognised. There was no other alternative with the I.C.A.R. but to try the indigenous sources as suggested by D.G.T.D."

1.42. The Committee are unhappy that in this case delay in clearance of foreign exchange component of Rs. 13,500 by the DGTD resulted in delay of over 7 years in providing the humidity and temperature control plant in the building which was necessary to instal spinning machinery procured at a cost of Rs. 4.60 lakhs in 1964. Further, the cost of the plant went up by Rs. 94,500. Although the urgency of the matter should have been sufficiently impressed by the ICAR, the Committee are unable to appreciate the handling of the matter in a routine manner by the DGTD. The Committee hope that the DGTD will take steps to see that the cases of this kind are processed with a sense of urgency that they deserve.

Outstanding Utilisation Certificates: Paragraph No. 5.19—Sr. No. 47.

1.43. Commenting upon the outstanding utilisation certificates in respect of grants paid by the Council, the Committee had in paragraph 5.19, observed as follows:—

"The Committee are not satisfied over a large amount of Rs. 691.45 lakhs outstanding for want of utilisation certificates in respect of grants paid by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research upto 31st March, 1969. The Committee are particularly concerned about the pendency of the old utilisation certificates. The amount outstanding by the erstwhile Commodity Committees is Rs. 20.03 lakhs, which includes Rs. 45.27 lakhs paid upto 31st March, 1964. Besides an amount of Rs. 24.61 lakhs was outstanding in respect of grants given by the erstwhile Commodity Committees. The Committee desire that any procedural difficulty in the issue of utilisation certificates in the old cases should be discussed with Audit with a view to clear the arrears. The Committee would like to know the concrete measure taken in this behalf and the progress achieved.

The Committee note that according to the Council's revised schedule of terms and conditions, further payments of grants should be stopped unless audit utilisation certificates were furnished by grantees within a period of two years. The Committee hope that the revised procedure will be strictly followed in future in order to avoid accumulation of utilisation certificates."

1.44. In a note dated the 23rd February, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) have stated:

"As against the amount of Rs. 691.46 lakhs for which Utilisation Certificates were required in respect of the grants paid by the I.C.A.R. upto the 31st March, 1969, the present position indicates a pendency of Rs. 566.89 lakhs. This includes Rs. 38.54 lakhs paid upto 31st March, 1964, and Rs. 128.90 lakhs in respect of the grants remitted upto 1966-67. The present pendency in respect of the grants given by the erstwhile Commodity Committees is Rs. 20.03 lakhs. With reference to the very old cases where getting audited utilisation certificates at this distance of time has become practically impossible, a thorough examination was made and the matter was taken up with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the suggestions made by the Council for settlement of such old cases have been accepted by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. It is hoped that with the adoption of the measures approved by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India the Council will be able to clear old cases of outstanding audit certificates substantially and also prevent accumulation of outstandings in future.

The revised procedure is being strictly followed in order to avoid accumulation of outstanding utilisation certificates."

1.45. The Committee are not satisfied about the progress made in issue of utilisation certificates for grants given by the Council. As against the pendency of Rs. 691.6 lakhs upto March, 1969 utilisation certificates in respect of grant paid by the Council have been received only to the extent of Rs. 124.57 lakhs during the past 3 years upto February, 1972. As the pendency relates even to the period prior to 1964, the Committee would appreciate if the ICAR could give an indication of the date by which the past cases will be cleared giving priority to the relatively older ones. The Committee hope that as a result of the adoption of the measures approved by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for settlement of old cases, the Council will be able to clear old cases early and also prevent accumulation of outstandings in future.

Directive Planning: Paragraph 5.50—Sr. No. 55:

1.46. Commenting upon lack of planning in seeking the services of a foreign expert in the Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Malapura, the Committee had observed as follows in paragraphs 5.47 to 5.50:

"The Committee regret to point out that there was lack of planning in this case, as a result of which the foreign expert arrived in India several months in advance of the construction of building and the arrival of the plant and machinery that he was required to instal therein. The Committee feel that had proper liaison been maintained with the supplier about the supply of the plant and machinery, the time of delivery could have been known. In case delay was anticipated in the delivery of the plant and machinery, the arrival of the expert in India could have been deferred and the extension of his assignment for a further period of six months and extra expenditure avoided."

1.47. In a note dated the 11th/12th July, 1972, the Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) has stated:

"The Weaving and Finishing Specialist (Mr. P. Wilson) was assigned by the Food and Agriculture Organisation, of the United Nations for the establishment of the two departments viz. Weaving and Finishing in the Fibre Processing Section of the Institute. He was also to assist in the installation of the machinery and commissioning thereof, apart from assisting in imparting appropriate training to the staff of this Section. Mr. Wilson joined the Institute in June, 1968, and his initial period of assignment was for 18 months. The weaving machines which were expected to be received by then,

started arriving from October, 1968. During this period Mr. Wilson was required to remain busy with the initial planning regarding the lay-out, electrical fitting, etc., and also in holding technical discussions with the Institute's counter-part. During this period he imparted technical training to the staff of fibre processing Section. His visit to some Indian Woolen Mills were also arranged so that he could acquaint himself with the local weaving and finishing practices.

2. Apart from this, the presence of Food and Agriculture Organisation representative at the time of the arrival of the machinery was also essential so that in case any breakages, damages etc. were detected at the time of unpacking, claims for insurance, replacement of broken|damaged parts were timely lodged and honoured. Since the supply order was placed by the Food and Agriculture Organisation, the claims had to be certified|verified on the spot by their technical specialist. In this way, the services of Mr. Wilson were usefully utilised and the purpose of his assignment fulfilled right from the initial stages. As soon as the weaving machines started arriving, Mr. Wilson carried out the erection and commenced practical training of the weaving staff. All the weaving machinery were received by February, 1969 and their erection completed by May, 1969. The assignment of Mr. Wilson was extended upto 31st December, 1971 to enable him to complete the installation work relating to finishing machinery. He however left in the last week of December, 1971, owing to expiry of his term. Seven out of the eight machines for the finishing work were installed and trial runs made. The eighth finishing machine viz. stanter was received incomplete from the suppliers and so could not be installed. The matter was brought to the notice of the F.A.O. authorities who assured to supply the missing parts soon."

1.48. The Committee find that the foreign expert who joined the Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Malapura in June, 1968 for 18 months to establish two departments of the Institute and to assist in installation of the machinery and commissioning thereof, actually left in December, 1971. The Committee feel that the very fact that the assignment of the foreign expert was extended from 18 months to 42 months indicates that there was lack of planning in this case. They accordingly desire that the nature of the work originally required to be done by the expert and a detailed analysis of the work actually done by him in the course of 42 months of his stay as well as the justification therefor may be intimated to them.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS|OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Recommendation

The Committee note that after examining the recommendations made by several teams of experts, the Government of India decided in March, 1965 to reorganise the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The basic intention behind the decision was to make the Council a truly functional, a technically competent and fully autonomous organisation for promoting, guiding, coordinating and directing agricultural research and animal husbandry research and education throughout the country. Accordingly, during the period 1st October, 1965 to 1st April, 1969, the Council took over the functions of 9 Central Commodity Committees, 15 research institutes and 8 soil conservation centres, which were previously financed by the Central Government grants. Although, the Council has been reorganised from 1st April, 1966 and has taken over the administrative control of the various organisations, the process of consolidation has not yet been completed. The evaluation of the assets and liabilities of three research institutes (Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research and Sugarcane Breeding Institute) and one Commodity Committee (Indian Lac Cess Committee) has not been done. The formal transfer deeds in respect of assets and liabilities of the erstwhile Government Research Institutes and four Commodity Committees have not yet been executed. As mentioned in the subsequent part of this Report, the Secretariat of the Council has not yet been reorganised and it continues to be an attached office of the Department of Agriculture. A bill for declaring the Indian Council of Agricultural Research as an institution of national importance is still under drafting in consultation with the Ministry of Law. The Committee desire that the reorganisation of the new set up of the Council should be completed without further delay and would like to know the action taken by Government in that behalf.

[S. No. 1, (para 1.17) of Appendix to the Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

Further to the position indicated earlier in para 1.8 of the Report, progress has been made with regard to the evaluation of the Assets and Liabilities of the 3 Research Institutes (Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research and Sugarcane Breeding Institute) and the one erstwhile Central Commodity Committee (Indian Lac Cess Committee). In respect of Indian Agricultural Research Institute excepting information relating to the cost of residential quarters which is still being collected from the Central Public Works Department, the evaluation of other Assets and Liabilities has since been completed. However, in respect of the 2 Sugarcane Research Institutes the required information is still awaited and the matter is being vigorously pursued with the Central Public Works Department and the Accountants General concerned. The statement showing the Assets and Liabilities of the Indian Lac Cess Committee was furnished to the Accountant General, Bihar for audit in December, 1970 but his certificate is still awaited. He has been requested to expedite the same.

As soon as the above information is available, the combined meeting between the representatives of the Department of Agriculture, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the Comptroller and Auditor General, Accountant General, Commerce Works and Miscellaneous, Ministries of Finance and Law will be convened to evolve a procedure for transferring the Assets and Liabilities of the erstwhile Government Research Institutes and the 4 erstwhile Statutory Commodity Committees from the books of the Government to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The question of execution of formal deeds of transfer of the property owned by the Government to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has also got linked up with the proposed comprehensive legislation for declaring the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Society as an Institution of National importance and other matters incidental thereto.

A first draft Bill of the proposed legislation has already been prepared in consultation with the Ministry of Law. The salient features of the Bill, have also been discussed in a meeting held with the representative of that Ministry. Since, however, certain important basic policy issues have been raised by that Ministry it has been found necessary to have them examined thoroughly and decisions taken at the highest level. This is being done on a priority basis.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71—Budget
dt. 11-11-1972]

Recommendation

The Committee hope that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research will play effective role in not only strengthening agricultural research and animal husbandry but also establishing proper coordination in the research work and education throughout the country. [S. No. 2 (Para No. 1.18 of Appendix to the 4th Report of the PAC (V Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The All India Coordinated Projects of the I.C.A.R. aim at co-ordinating research on agriculture and animal sciences throughout the country. The research workers of the projects meet at least once a year in a workshop and discuss the implementation of the project and thus ensure that coordination in the programme amongst the ICAR Institutes Agricultural Universities and State Research Stations is ensured.

Similarly the ICAR Coordinates the educational programmes in the field of agricultural and animal sciences throughout the country through the Agricultural Universities Development programmes and the other general policies.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71-Accts. II dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

1.19. The Agricultural Research Review Team (1964) had also suggested bringing under the control of the Indian Council of Agricultural research, certain other organisations dealing with agricultural research. The Committee particularly wish to refer to research work in regard to coffee, tea and rubber, at present being done under the control of the respective Boards which work under the Department of Foreign Trade. According to the Review Team, "Technical staff practically work in isolation and are denied the benefit of meeting and discussing common problems with staff of identical discipline in the agricultural department". The Study Team of the Administrative Reforms Commission have also pointed out the need for bringing the research aspects of these Boards under the overall purview of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The shortcomings in the research work pointed out by the Study Team are lack of competent men to work in their research posts, lack of expert guidance in their respective subject matter fields and influence of non-scientists on research workers and research programmes. In view of the importance of the three commodities for internal consumption and export, the Committee would urge the Government to pay serious attention to the inadequacy of research

work and examine how far the situation can be improved by bringing this work under the purview of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research or establishing closer coordination between the Boards and Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

1.20. The Committee desire that Government should also examine the feasibility of bringing other research organisations concerned with agricultural research under the purview of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

[Sr. Nos. 3 and 4 (Para Nos. 1.19 and 1.20) of Fourth Report (5th Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

As already stated before the Committee (reference para 1.12 of the Report) the Agricultural Research Review Team (Parker Committee) on whose recommendations primarily the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been reorganised, had *inter-alia* recommended that the reorganised Council should, amongst others fulfil the following functions:—

“Assume full technical and administrative control of all Central Agricultural Research Institutes, all existing commodity Committees including the Central Sugarcane Committee and certain other Research Organisations in the fields of Botany and Zoology, Fisheries Forestry and Food Processing which are now financed by the Government of India through various channels”.

The recommendations of the Agricultural Research Review Team (1964) were, amongst others, discussed by the Panel of Agricultural Scientists with the Union Minister of Food and Agriculture. It was felt that it would be more advantageous to get cooperation between the Ministries of Agriculture and Commerce in the matter of research in these cash crops (Tea, Coffee, Rubber etc.) rather than to attempt to get the research taken away from the various Boards under the Commerce Ministry and give it to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

It was accordingly felt that the position of Indian Council of Agricultural Research should be consolidated first by taking only those Institutes as were within the purview of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture itself. Accordingly while soliciting the approval of the Cabinet to the proposals for the reorganisation of the Indian

Council of Agricultural Research, it was indicated that the reorganisation of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research would be initiated by bringing under its administrative control all Research Institutions under the control of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

The process of consolidation of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is not yet complete. However, the question of bringing under the reorganised Council, Research Institutes functioning under other Ministries, is being reviewed from time to time. A proposal for the transfer of the administrative control of the Botanical Survey of India, the Botanical Gardens and the Herbarium is accordingly, under examination in consultation with the concerned Ministries. As regards Tea, Coffee and Rubber, the matter was brought before the Conference on Inter-Organisational Cooperation and Research (in which the various Commodity Boards were also represented) held in October, 1969. This Conference recommended that individual Study Groups should be set up to go into details of collaborative research on the above commodities. Based on the above recommendations, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have already constituted Study Groups on "Cardamom" and Combined Study Group on Plantation Crops namely (i) Tea, (ii) Coffee, (iii) Rubber and (iv) Sericulture including Tassar Industry. The first meeting of the Study Group on Cardamom was held on the 23rd January, 1971. The meeting of the Combined Study Group was held in October, 1971.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. Nos. F. 5(2)/71-Budget dated 11.1.72 and 6.10.1972].

Recommendation

The Committee are dissatisfied over the Indian Council of Agricultural Research holding large amounts as their closing balances at the end of the years 1966-67 and 1968-69. The closing balance was Rs. 104.67 lakhs for 1966-67, Rs. 181.80 lakhs for 1967-68 and 202.56 lakhs for 1968-69. The sources of income of the Council are from the cess levied under the Agricultural Produce Cess Act, 1940 and grants received from Government of India. In paragraph 21 of their 35th Report (1964-65), the Committee had pointed out that Government continued to give grants to the Council year after year without considering the financial position of the latter and even properly scrutinising the schemes. With the re-organisation of the Council from 1st April, 1966, the quantum of Government grants has been increased to meet expenditure on their expanding activities. The Committee desire that the Government grants required for the

expenditure of the Council should be determined realistically. The quantum of cash grants should be carefully determined after taking into consideration the estimated receipts from cess and the receipts from encashment of securities due to mature during the particular year.

[S. No. 5 (para 1.36) of Appendix to Fourth Report (FIFTH Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

The Government grants required for the expenditure of the Council are being determined very realistically and the present trend of utilisation also indicates that the Government grants for the Non-Plan and Plan activities of the I.C.A.R. are being fully and purposefully utilised. The cash balances taken over from the former commodity committees have been partly utilised for meeting the liabilities of those committees and the balance of these sums is still being shown as part of the closing cash balance of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Now-a-days, there is hardly any unutilised balance from the Non-Plan and Plan Grants from the Government of India to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The receipts available from time to time from encashment of the securities (purchased out of accumulated A.P. Cess funds prior to 1963-64) will be utilised for the furtherance of the objectives of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research with due concurrence of the Government of India.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. Nos. F. 5(2)/71-Budget dated 11.1.1972].

Recommendation

The Committee hope that under the new system of release of grants to the Council in instalments, drawal of funds more than the requirement for the year will be avoided.

[S. No. 7, (para 1.38) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The Government assures the Committee that under the new system of grants to the Council drawal of funds more than those required for the year will be avoided.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71-Accts. II dated 23.2.1972]

Recommendation

The Committee note that there has been delay in surrender/adjustment of unspent balance of Government Grants due to delay in compilation of accounts and audit thereof. The unspent balances for 1966-67, 1967-68 were adjusted during 1969-70 and those relating to 1968-69 and 1969-70 would be adjusted during 1970-71. The Committee hope that with the finalisation of the accounting system, adjustment of unspent amounts of Government Grants will invariably be made during the following year.

[S. No. 8 (para 1.39) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth L.S.)].

Action taken

The Unspent balances upto 1968-69 have already been adjusted. The Accounts of 1970-71 are currently under audit and the unutilised balances of 1969-70 and 1970-71 will be adjusted during the current financial year. Adjustment of unspent balance of Government Grants will be scrupulously made during the following year as soon as the grants for the previous year are audited.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5 (2) | 71-Accounts II dated 23-2-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee find that with the reorganisation of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, there has been considerable increase in the expenditure on the Administration. The administrative expenditure of the Council increased from Rs. 40.14 lakhs in 1966-67 to Rs. 71.80 lakhs in 1969-70. The Committee feel that the administrative expenditure of the Council needs to be reviewed with a view to putting it under check and making sure that the increase was commensurate with the expansion of the activities of the Council and the resultant benefits.

[S. No. 9 (Para 1.45) of Appendix to the 4th Report (V Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The ICAR was reorganized in April 1966 and among the major changes made were the revision of the rules and bye-laws of the Council so as to make it a full autonomous organization with administrative control of the various Agricultural Research Institutes. Consequently, control of 9 Research Institutes, previously adminis-

tered by the Department of Agriculture was transferred, to the ICAR. The Commodity Committees were dissolved and 8 Research Institutes formerly working under the various Commodity Committees were transferred to the ICAR. The administrative control of 3 Fisheries Institutes at Barrackpore, Mandapam and Ernakulam and 8 S.C.R.D. & T. Centres was also assumed by the ICAR in October, 1967. Administrative control of the Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Lucknow, Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore and All India Soil and Landuse Survey Organisation was taken over by the ICAR with effect from April, 1969. Thus, within a period of 4-5 years, ICAR's responsibilities increased manifold. From and organisational set up dealing with sponsoring *ad hoc* research projects it had to administer 30 research institutes|centres and help in the development of Agricultural Universities. During this period the ICAR also undertook as many as 69 All India Coordinated Projects. Though the administrative control of the Research Institutes was transferred from the Department of Agriculture and the various Commodity Committees, no staff component of these Research Institutes was transferred to the Headquarters of the ICAR for looking after the administration of these Institutes. The number of Agricultural Universities to which ICAR had to give grant-in-aid increased from 8 in 1965 to 14 in 1969 and the grants released to these universities increased from Rs. 62 lakhs in 1965-66 to about Rs. 4 crores in 1969-70.

Prior to the reorganisation of ICAR and transfer of administrative control of erstwhile Government Research Institutes etc., to the Council, the accounts and audit work of these Institutes was done by respective Accountant Generals. With the change in administrative control of these Institutes, accounts and audit work of these Institutes devolved on ICAR. For handling this work a post of Director (Audit & Accounts) and other supporting posts had to be created in I.C.A.R.

At the time the various Research Institutes were under the administrative control of Government of India, the recruitment of all Class I and Class II posts was made through U.P.S.C. With the taking over of administrative control of these Institutes by I.C.A.R., the Council had to take over the recruitment work of these posts through its own agency. For this purpose, a Recruitment Wing headed by a Director of Recruitment and Controller of Examinations and supporting staff has been set up in I.C.A.R.

The total expenditure incurred by the I.C.A.R. on the Institutes and Plan and non-Plan Schemes increased from Rs. 6.46 crores in 1965-66 to 19.57 crores in 1970-71.

The increase in Administrative expenditure of the I.C.A.R. is due to the above factors. It may be added that efforts have all along been made to keep the administrative expenditure as low as possible.

The S.I.U. Unit of the Ministry of Finance is at present engaged in evaluating the work load and staff requirement of the Council at the Headquarters.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71—Accts-II,
dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee feel that not only there is considerable increase in the administrative, technical and class IV staff but also their proportion to the scientific staff seems to be on the higher side. The Committee, therefore, desire that staff position in the headquarters of the Council as well as in the various research institutes should be reviewed by an independent organisation with a view to assessing the requirements. That organisation should also lay down guidelines or norms, regarding ratio of scientific, technical and administrative staff for the various Institutes. The imbalance in staff should be suitably corrected.

[Serial No. 10 (para 1.46) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action Taken

1. The Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance has been requested to review the staff position of I.C.A.R. headquarters by including the Council in their programme for the year 1972.

2. The Council's own Work Study Unit is being strengthened to enable them to conduct work study of the Institutes under the I.C.A.R. in a cycle of 3 years.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71-Budget dated
11-1-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee regret to note that there is delay in the reorganisation of the Secretariat of the Indian Council of Agricultural Re-

search. It was decided in March, 1965 that the present Indian Council of Agricultural Research Secretariat which is functioning as an attached office to the Department of Agriculture might be converted into an office wholly financed and controlled by the Council from a date to be appointed. The Secretariat, however, continues to be an attached office of the Department of Agriculture being manned by partly Government side staff and partly by non-Government (Research side) staff. The Committee desire that the amalgamation of Government side staff and non-Government side staff should be expedited. The Committee hope that while fixing the seniority of the staff it will be ensured that the research side staff do not suffer.

[Serial No. 11 (para 1.47) of Appendix to the Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action Taken

Pending the fixation of a final date for the exercise of option for the Council's service by the Government employees of the various erstwhile Government Research Institutes, administrative control of which has already been taken over by the Council, Government employees who have not yet opted for the Council's service, continue to remain as Government servants on notional foreign service with the Council. Till the final date is fixed and they are permanently absorbed in the Council, the Secretariat of the Council is functioning as their parent office. For this purpose, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Secretariat will continue to function as a Government Office. The question of fixing the final date for the exercise of option is now linked up with the proposed legislation for declaring the Indian Council of Agricultural Research as an Institution of national importance and matters incidental thereto. However, the process of amalgamation of the Research side staff of the Council and such of the Government staff as have opted for the Council's service has already been initiated and the persons opting for Council's service have been appointed in the Council on notional foreign service. Both the sets of staff are now being treated as belonging to one unified cadre for various purposes. It has also been decided that "date of appointment to the grade on a regular basis" will determine the *inter-se* seniority of the ministerial staff in the re-organised Council. In this connection, it may be stated that under Government rules all permanent Officers are ranked *en-bloc* senior to persons who are officiating on temporary basis. Adoption of this principle would have, however, put the Research side staff to great disadvantage since the institution of permanency was introduced

for the research side staff only with effect from 1st June, 1961. Accordingly it was decided in consultation with the concerned Ministries that "date of appointment to the grade on a regular basis" should determine the *inter-se* seniority of the ministerial staff in the reorganised Council. It may be added that in cases involving merger of various cadres with well defined grades, the *inter-se* seniority of the persons involved in a particular grade is usually determined on the basis of continuous length of service on a regular basis in a particular grade. This formula for *inter-se* seniority, which is considered to be fair, equitable and just and in consonance with the wishes of the Research side Staff, has also been upheld as such by the Hon'ble Delhi High Court *vide* its Judgement dated the 13th April, 1971 in civil writ petition No. 788 of 1970.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71-Budget dated 11-1-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee appreciate that the launching of All India Coordinated Research Projects on important problems is a big step in avoiding overlapping of research efforts by different agencies in the Country. All India Coordinated Research Projects were launched in 1965 on rice, wheat, sorghum, bajra, maize and pulses under the leadership of the National Projects Coordinator. In 1968-69 the number of such projects increased to 29. The Committee hope that the target of 60 projects during the Fourth Plan will be achieved. The Committee would like to watch the progress in this regard.

[S. No. 12 (para 2.6) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action Taken

The research effort has been considerably strengthened by launching 12 new All India Coordinated Projects on Crops Improvement, 5 in the field of soil, agronomy and engineering and 24 in the field of Animal Sciences. In all the I.C.A.R. has now 70 All India Coordinated Research Projects during the Fourth Five Year Plan period in which the Central Research Institutes, Agricultural Universities and State Deptts. of Agriculture cooperate. These Projects deal with the improvement of all the major food crops and the industrial crops on a multidisciplinary basis and cover breeding, agronomy research is soil and water management and other aspects of crop production

and agricultural engineering. As a result of implementation of these projects, improved varieties of different crops have been evolved. Some very promising varieties have already been released and a large number of them are in final stage of testing. The 'green revolution' has been mainly ascribed to the increase in wheat production. The release of a 3-gene dwarf variety named 'Hira' which possesses resistance to rust with excellent grain quality is bound to make impact on the production of wheat. The release of some varieties of rice with different periods of maturity and fine grain quality coupled with plant type that is responsive to high fertilization, has now provided the necessary base for a revolution in rice production. The impact of research innovations has, however, been felt in irrigated areas only. The research effort has, therefore, been intensified in the field of dry land agriculture. Priority has been given to the breeding of high yielding variety of different crops for dry land areas to the development of technology for water harvesting and moisture conservation. Similarly, research in the field of animal sciences is being directed towards developing different breeds of livestock with higher productivity and the improvement of animal health so as to provide economic returns to the farmers and to increase the availability of animal products in the country. The research programmes are undertaken at the Central Institutes, Agricultural Universities and State Research Stations.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71-Acctts. II, dated 23-2-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee note that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research to establish coordination with State Government institutions, Agricultural Universities and other organisations, like collation of research information, organisation of symposia etc. The Committee desire that the impact of these measures on strengthening the research work should be kept under review so that these can be suitably modified/augmented in the light of experience.

[S. No. 13 (Para No. 2.7) of Appendix to the Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action Taken

The research information on all aspects is being collected and collected by the respective Project Coordinators as well as by the Research Project Unit at the Headquarters of the I.C.A.R. The workshops by and large constitute in principle a kind of symposia them-

selves. In addition as and when the specialised interest develop they are discussed in special seminars and symposia which are being organised by the I.C.A.R. Several problems are being discussed in periodical symposia or seminars organised within the country as well as outside the country.

The progress of the work as well as the shortfalls, etc. are being reviewed every five years to synchronize with the preparations of the Five Year Plans.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Accts. II, dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee desire that in view of the General problem of low yields in the country, the council of Agricultural Research should examine whether the present machinery for studying the methods followed and research work done in other countries requires strengthening.

[S. No 14 (para 2.8) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

In order to improve the technology of production and to utilize the latest techniques in agricultural research, I.C.A.R. has taken the following steps to strengthen the contacts between agricultural research workers in India and research workers in other countries:

1. Contacts with international research institutes like the International Rice Research Institute, Philippines and International Centre for maize and wheat Research Mexico with which the Indian Agricultural Research programme is closely associated in respect of particular items of research in which Indian scientists derive benefit by joint discussions in the meetings and seminars organised by these institutions in the host countries or outside.
2. Indian scientists visit other countries for participating in conference and Symposia organised by various international societies, etc. and these help them establish contacts with scientists abroad and see the research programmes being handled at important research centres in the countries visited.
3. Bilateral agreements have been entered into between India and several other countries such as USSR, Canada and

Arab Republic of Egypt which provide exchange of research workers between India and these countries, besides exchange of research information, breeding material etc. ICAR is collaborating in the Dryland Farming project with Canada.

4. Similar agreements have/are being drawn up with several other countries.
5. Scientists from abroad are invited to work in our Agricultural Universities and Institutes through UNDP and other Project.
6. An International crops Research Institute has been established at Hyderabad with support from the consultative group on International Agricultural Research.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Accts. II, dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee desire that the question of intensifying the research at Research Stations under the State Governments should also be pursued with them.

[S. No. 17 (Para No. 2.19) of Appendix to the Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action Taken

Annual plans are being discussed every year at the Planning Commission in which the ICAR is represented. The State Governments have been impressed upon the need for allocation of funds for agricultural research of the state of regional interest and show for agricultural research and also requested to show them under such allocated grants under seperated heading in their budgets. In many States, responsibility for research has been transferred to Agricultural Universities with whom ICAR is in constant contact. In all-India Conferences where the representatives of States and ICAR are present, this point is being emphasised from time to time.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Accts. II, dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee note that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research propose to launch an all India Coordinated Project on dry farming during the Fourth Plan, covering most of the States where dry farming is practised. In view of the fact that the dry land area constitutes about 80 per cent of the country, the Committee desire that the project should be made fairly comprehensive covering all the States where dry farming is undertaken.

The Committee would like to emphasize that the research efforts for improvements of dry farming technology should be made with a sense of urgency, so that the application of the improved technology in the dry farming areas may help increase the food production.

[S. No. 18 (Para 2.25) of Appendix to the Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action Taken

While formulating the proposal for Five Year Plan, the coordinated project for research and improvement of crop production under rainfed condition was prepared on a modest scale with the outlay of Rs. 60 lakhs. However, the Government of India decided to undertake a huge development programme of rainfed farming for the whole country. Success of this programme obviously depends upon the development of suitable and adequate technology through intensive research for bringing about a significant change in the production per unit area in unit time. In view of the increased importance given to the programme, the outlay of the coordinated research project for dryland agriculture was increased to Rs. 147.5 lakhs.

Recognizing that about 80 per cent of the cultivated area in the country raises rainfed crops and agriculture in these areas suffers from the twin problem of low productivity and instability, ICAR has taken up a comprehensive coordinated programme of research at 24 centres representing different agro-climatic and Soil conditions and spread over 13 States which have a sizeable area under dry farming. The list of these centres and their location is given in Annexure. The work is being coordinated from the centre at Hyderabad and the special fundamental research is done at I.A.R.I., New Delhi. The centres and the States have been selected on the basis of the moisture deficit index which is an integrated value of the rainfall and its relation to climate and the soil. Only States of Kerala, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Assam and its neighbouring areas which

fall in the assured rainfall or high rainfall zone, have not been provided for in this project. The total provision for the project is Rs. 147.5 lakhs. The project started functioning from 1st October, 1970. The Canadian assistance has been obtained for the project and it will amount to about 1.5 million dollars in 5 years. It hardly needs to be emphasised that the project is being executed with the highest sense of urgency and all the cooperating agencies in the States are being constantly reminded to give maximum support for the implementation of the programme. The technical programme has been laid out at all the 24 centres. Steps have also been taken to increase the tempo of fundamental and applied research on dry farming at I.A.R.I. and other institutions.

The project is also providing technical support to the pilot project on dry farming taken up by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The supporting programmes to develop suitable varieties and practices have been taken up under the various other coordinated crop improvement, water management and coordinated agronomic trials schemes of the I.C.A.R. Trials are also being conducted on cultivators' fields in 20 districts so as to develop a suitable technology for dry farming. The technology emanating from all these projects is being extended to farming community through National Demonstrations on Farmer's fields in selected dry farming districts. It will thus be appreciated that I.C.A.R. has mobilised all its resources, technical as well as material for giving the highest priority to develop a suitable technology for dry farming. The programme is receiving the highest priority.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Accts. II, dated 24-4-1972].

ANNEXURE

List of Centres provided under the Co-ordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture

S.No.	State	Main/Sub-Centre	Name of the Centre
1	Haryana	Main Centre	Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar, Haryana.
2	Rajasthan	(i) Main Centre	Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur.
		(ii) Sub-Centre	University of Udaipur, Udaipur, Rajasthan.
3	Mysore	(i) Main Centre	Soil Conservation Research Demonstration and Training Centre, Ballary (Mysore).
		(ii) Main Centre	University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore.

1	2	3	4
	(iii) Sub-Centre	University of Agricultural Sciences, <i>Bijapur</i> .	
4	<i>Andhra Pradesh</i>	(i) Main Centre	Regional Soil Conservation Centre, <i>Anantpur</i> . (Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University Hyderabad)
		(ii) Main Centre	Soil Conservation Research Demonstration and Training Centre, Hyderabad.
5	<i>Gujarat</i>	(i) Main Centre	Agricultural Research Station, <i>Rafkot</i> . (State Department of Agriculture)
		(ii) Sub-Centre	Institute of Agriculture, <i>Anand</i> .
6	<i>Maharashtra</i>	(i) Main Centre	Agricultural Research Station, <i>Sholapur</i> . (Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri)
		(ii) Main Centre	Agriculture Research Station, <i>Akola</i> . (Punjabrao Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola)
7	<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>	(i) Main Centre	Banaras Hindu University, Agri. College, <i>Banaras</i> .
		(ii) Main Centre	Soil Conservation Research Demonstration and Training Centre, <i>Dehra Dun</i> .
		(iii) Sub-Centre	Indian Grassland & Fodder Research Institute, <i>Jhansi</i> .
		(iv) Sub -Centre	B. R. Agriculture College, <i>Agra</i> .
8	<i>Tamil Nadu</i>	Main Centre	Agriculture Research Station, <i>Kovilpatti</i> . (Department of Agriculture, Tamil Nadu)
9	<i>Madhya Pradesh</i>	(i) Main Centre	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, <i>Jabalpur</i> .
		(ii) Sub-Centre	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Agriculture College, <i>Rewa</i> .
10	<i>Orissa</i>	Main Centre	Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, <i>Bhubaneswar</i> .
11	<i>Bihar</i>	Main Centre	Agriculture College, <i>Ranchi</i> , (Rahendra Agricultural University, Patna).
12	<i>Punjab</i>	Sub-Centre	Punjab Agricultural University, <i>Ludhiana</i> .
13	<i>Jammu and Kashmir</i>	Sub-Centre	Ranbir Singh Pura Agriculture College, <i>Jammu, Samba</i> . (State Department of Agriculture).
14	Special Centre		Indian Agricultural Research Institute, <i>New Delhi</i> .
15	Co-ordination Cell under the Scheme located at Hyderabad.		

Recommendation

From the information furnished to them, the Committee gather that the communication of results of research to cultivators is primarily the responsibility of the Directorate of Extension and Training of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The Committee find from the Report of the Study Team of the Administrative Reforms Commission that "as it is organised today, the Extension Directorate is handling functions most of which are entirely the responsibility of the States". The study Team have recommended that "the Directorate of Extension in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation should be abolished forthwith. Functions relating to international aspects, national obligations and responsibilities pertaining to extension and co-ordination among the States should be handled by a top level technical specialist in extension of the rank of Joint Secretary. He should work in close co-ordination with the I.C.A.R." The Committee attach utmost importance to the communication of the results of research work to the farmer and would like the Government to consider whether any change in the set-up is necessitated to handle this task.

[S. No. 19 (Para 2.34) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

I.C.A.R. is keen that the research results should reach the users as speedily as possible. With this objective, a Co-ordination Committee has been appointed with D.G. I.C.A.R. as Chairman to Co-ordinate the extension work of the Department of Agriculture and I.C.A.R. A close liaison is maintained between the National Demonstration Scheme and the Farmers' Training Programme. Emphasis has been laid on the Farmers' Days organised by the I.C.A.R. Institutes.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2) 71—
Accts-II, dated 6-10-1972]

Recommendation

The Committee note that five institutions of I.C.A.R. have extension services and it was proposed to provide extension units to almost all the institutes during the Fourth Plan. The institutions of the I.C.A.R. also communicate the results of research to the farmers through National demonstration, publicity in newspapers and attending to the problems of farmers. The Committee hope that the extension work by the I.C.A.R. will be done in close co-ordination with other organisations and made really effective.

The Committee suggest that it should be examined whether adequate arrangements exist for the practical training of farmers so that they may adopt improved technology to increase agricultural production.

[S. No. 20 (Para 2.35) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

Research results of the Institutes are being popularised through the Extension Unit attached to the Institute as well as through the Project Co-ordinator Incharge of the National Demonstrations. It is also being done by conducting field days, farmers' melas etc. The extension activities of the Council are channelised through the Agricultural Universities and the State Departments of Agriculture. In addition, the I.C.A.R. Institutes also directly enter into extension operations wherever they are attached with the community development blocks. Further more the Farmers Training Institutes established by the Directorate of Extension, Deptt. of Agriculture constitute additional media through which I.C.A.R. institutes extend the results of their research to farmers.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Accts. II, dt. 6-10-1972]

Recommendation

The Committee suggest that the High Powered Achievement Audit Committees proposed to be set up to review the working of the various Research Institutes would also include some scientists from outside the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

[S. No. 21 (Para 2.37) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

A list of the members of the Achievement Audit Committee set up so far for various Research Institutes of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is enclosed (Annexure). It would be observed therefrom that the practice to include some Scientists from outside the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in the Achievement Audit Committee set up to review the working of the various Research Institutes is already being followed in the Council. The recommendation of the Public Accounts Committee, therefore, stands implemented.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F-5(2)/71-Budget dt. 11-1-1972].

ANNEXURE

List of the members of the Achievement Audit Committees set up in various Research Institutes of the I. C. A. R.

Sl. No.	Name of the Institute	Name of the members Achievement Audit Committee
1	2	3
1	C. S. & W. R. I., Malpura	<p>1. Shri H. B. Shah, Chairman, Former Animal Husbandry Commissioner with the Govt. of U. P., 24-New Berry Road, Lucknow, U. P.</p> <p>Members</p> <p>2. Dr. G. A. Bandy, Director of Sheep & Wool Jammu & Kashmir, Srinagar.</p> <p>3. Dr. V. B. Chipalkatti, Director, Sri Ram Institute of Technology, Delhi.</p> <p>4. Dr. H. K. Lall, Director of Animal Husbandry Govt. of U. P., Lucknow.</p> <p>5. Dr. G. L. Sharma, Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine, Hissar</p>
2	C. T. R. L., Bombay	<p>1. Dr. C. Najundayya, Director, Bombay Textile Research Association, Bombay.</p> <p>2. Dr. P. B. Sarkar, Retired Director, Jute Technological Research Laboratory, Calcutta.</p> <p>3. Dr. B. W. X. Ponniah, Emeritus Scientist, C/o Madras University, Madras.</p> <p>4. Dr. Gursham Singh, Director of Agriculture, Punjab, Chandigarh.</p> <p>5. Shri K. Srinivasan, Director, South India Textiles Research Association, Coimbatore.</p>
3	C.M.F.R.I., Ernakulam, Cochin.	<p>1. Dr. N. K. Panikar, Chairman, Director, National Institute of Oceanography, Miramar, Panaji (Goa).</p>

2. Shri V. N. Amble, Central Statistical Organisation, New Delhi.
 3. Dr. D. S. Datar, Director, Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute, Bhavnagar-2.
 4. Dr. C. V. Kulkarni, Retired Director of Fisheries, 3/4 Sharda Ashram, Bhavani Shankar Road, Bombay-28.
 5. Dr. D. V. Bal, Retired Scientist, A-7, Kamdar Building, Gokhale Road, South Dadar, Bombay-28.
- 4 C.I.F.T., Ernakulam
1. Dr. B.A.B. Parpia, Chairman Director, C.F.C.P.I., Mysore.
 2. Dr. A. Bose, Professor of Food Technology, Jadaupur University.
 3. Shri P. Madhava Nair, Managing Director, Cochin, Company Pvt. Ltd., XXIII/1366-M. G. Road, Ernakulam, Cochin.
 4. Shri S. Miskieth, Superintending Engineer, Deep Sea Fishing Station, 2nd Floor, Borwala Chambers, Bombay-1.
 5. Dr. A. C. Pandya.
- 5 N.D.R.I., Karnal
1. Dr. V. Kurian, Chairman N.D.D.R., Anand.
 2. Dr. H.A.B. Parpia, Director, CFTRI, Mysore.
 3. Dr. D. K. Desai, Prof. Indian Institute of Management, Vastrupur, Ahmedabad-6.
 4. Dr. P. Bhattacharya, Rtd. Animal Husbandry Commissioner, C-207, Sarbodaya Enclave, New Delhi-17.
 5. Shri D. N. Khurody, Controller, Administration, M/r. Larsen and Toubro, Ballard Estate, Bombay-1.
- 6 J.T.R.I., Calcutta
1. Dr. V. B. Chipalkatti, Chairman, Director, Shri Ram Institute for Industrial Research, 19-University Road, Delhi-7.

1	2	3
		2. Dr. J. S. Patel, Member 770-Gotri Road, Baroda.
		3. Shri S. Paul, Member Principal Institute of Jute Technology, Calcutta.
		4. Dr. A. K. Day, Member Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute, Durgapur.
		5. Dr. R. L. N. Iyengar, Retired Scientist, C o Cotton Techno- logical Research Laboratories, Bombay.
7	I.V.R.I., Izatnagar	1. Shri Laxmi Sahai, Retd. A.H.C. Chairman.
		2. Dr. S. N. Ray, Member Emeritus Scientist.
		3. Dr. D. Sundaresan, Member Director, NDRI, Karnal.
		4. Dr. M. N. Menon, Member Director of Animal Husbandry, Kerala.
		5. Dr. J. B. Srivastava, Director General of Health Services.
		6. Dr. B. K. Soni, Member. D.D.G., ICAR.
8	J.A.R.I., Barrackpore.	1. Dr. J. S. Patel, Chairman. 770, Gotri Road, Baroda.
		2. Dr. S. K. Mukherji, Member. Member, National Commission on Agri., New Delhi.
		3. Dr. P. N. Bhaduri, Member. Prof. of Botany, Burdwan University.
		4. Dr. S. Pradhan, Member Head of the Division of Entomology IARI, New Delhi.
		4. Dr. T. V. Parikh, Dy. Director, Textile Chemist., Bombay Textile Res. Association, Bombay.

1	2	3
9	I.A.R.S., New Delhi	<p>1. Dr. K. Ramiah, M.P. Chairman.</p> <p>2. Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Member Director, IARI, New Delhi.</p> <p>3. Dr. P. V. Sukhatma, Member Director, Statistics Divn. FAO, Rome.</p> <p>4. Dr. C. R. Rao, Member Director, ISI, New Delhi.</p> <p>5. Prof. V. M. Dandekar, Member University of Poona.</p>
10	C.M.F.R.I., Ernakulam, Cochin-11	<p>1. Dr. N. K. Paniker, Chairman Director, National Institute of Oceanography, Mirmar, Panaji (Goa).</p> <p>2. Dr. Kunwar Kishan, Babugani, Lachman Prasad Building Lucknow, (U.P)</p> <p>3. Dr. D. J. Mehra, Director, Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute, Bhavanagar-2.</p> <p>4. Dr. C. V. Kulkarni, Retired Director of Fisheries., B-4 Sharda Ashram, Bhavani Shankar Road, Bombay-28.</p>
11	C.T.R.I., Rajahmundry	<p>1. Dr. G. A. Patel, Director of Agriculture, Gujarat State Paldi, Ahmedabad.</p> <p>2. Dr. B. V. Metha, Principal, College of Agriculture, Anand.</p> <p>3. Dr. N. S. Reddy, M's. Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Guntur.</p> <p>4. Dr. K. Ramakrishnan, Dean and Additional Director of Agriculture and Research Institute, Coimbatore.</p>
12	C.I.F.R.I., Barrackpore	<p>1. Dr. N. K. Panikkar, Director, National Institute of Oceanography, (CSIR), Nirmar, Panaji, (Goa).</p> <p>2. Dr. S. S. Bhimachar, Retired Director, Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, C/o Central Institute, of Fisheries Education, Jagdish Road, Versova, Bombay-58(AS).</p>

1	2	3
		3. Dr. G. P. Dubey, Director of Fisheries, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
		4. Dr. P. N. Ganapati, Retired Professor of Zoology Andhra University, Waltair (A.P.)
		5. Dr. D. Bhatia, Poplars, Gurgaon Road, New Delhi-37.
13 I.G.F.R.I., Jhansi		1. Dr. J. S. Patel, Chairman Retired Vice Chancellor & Agri. Commissioner, 770-Gotri Road, Baroda.
		2. Dr. S. N. Ray, Member Emeritus Scientist (ICAR), College of Veterinary Medicine, U.P. Agricultural University, Pantnagar.
		3. Dr. T. J. Michandani, Member Regional Executive of Fertiliser Association of India, 305 Neelkanth, 98 Marine Drive, Bombay-2.
		4. Dr. H. K. Jain, Head of Division of Genetics, IARI, New Delhi.
		5. Dr. Ch. Krishnamoorthy, ADG-Cum-Project Director (Dry Farming 1-2-412/A Gagan Mahal Colony, Hyderabad-20.
14 C.M.F.R.I., Ernakulam		1. Dr. N. K. Panikar, Chairman Director, National Institute of Oceanography, Miramar, Panaji (Goa).
		2. Dr. C. G. Kulkarni, Retired Director of Fisheries, B'4 Sharda Ashram, Bhavani Shankar Road, Bombay-23.
		3. Dr. D. V. Bal, Retired Scientist, A-7, Kamdar Building, Gokhale Road, South, Dadar, Bombay.
		4. Dr. N. M. Bhat, Principal, Sir, PP Institute of Science and Director, Shourashtra University College, Bhavanagar (Gujarat).
		5. Shri G. Kakshminarayana Rao, Director of Fisheries, 2nd Floor Multi-storeyed Building, Vidhana Veedhi, Bangalore-1.

Recommendation

The Committee are glad to note the good research work done by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research on high yielding new dwarf wheat varieties which has resulted in wheat revolution during the past few years. The total production has increased from 113.93 lakhs tonnes in 1966-67 to 165.40 lakhs tonnes in 1967-68 and 186.52 tonnes in 1968-69. The latest average of wheat yields (1250 Kg/ha) compare favourably with other countries. The Committee hope that efforts will continue to achieve still higher yields and to meet the demand for somewhat shorter duration varieties to promote intensive cropping. Efforts should also be made to enrich the protein content of wheat. Early steps should be taken to study the types of wheat required for the manufacture of wheat products like samelina, noodles, biscuits etc.

[S. No. 22 (Para 3.13) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

In the All-India Co-ordinated Project of Wheat, emphasis is given to the work on different species of wheat and to the grain type and quality suitable for different types of wheat products. For example, durum wheat varieties which are particularly in demand for manufacture of needles and soft wheat for biscuits are specially identified for being tested for their suitability for the different products. Among quality factor considerable attention is being paid to protein content and important amin acid contents for selection of the best varieties of wheat for release among farmers. To relevant publications as follows are appeared:

- (1) Wheat for the Industry.
- (2) Recent Research on the experiment of Protein and Nutritive Properties of Food and Feed Plants.

(Not printed).

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)|71—
Acctts-II, dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation:

The problem of growing the new high yielding strain under extensive cropping condition is that it may lead to micro-nutrient deficiency which may limit the yield. The Committee desire that research effort should be intensified on the micro-nutrient requirement of this crop.

[S. No. 22 (Para 3.14) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The possibility of running into micro-nutrient deficiencies with the use of high-yielding varieties and high doses of fertiliser application had been anticipated and brought out in the meetings held in connection with the formulation and review of the programme relating to the high-yielding varieties during the annual reviews. The problem of micro-nutrient deficiency receiving careful study under a co-ordinated project of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Recommendations on Zinc application in zinc, deficient areas have been made.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Acctts. II, dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee are, however, concerned to note that with the introduction of the high yielding varieties, the insect pest problem which was not very much evident in wheat cultivation is assuming serious proportions. The Committee desire that serious attention should be paid to the problem and studies on the incidence of pests should be taken up alongwith suitable controlled measures.

[S. No. 23 (Para 3.15) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

Under the All-India Coordinated Project for the improvement of Wheat adequate measures have been taken to strengthen research to study the insect problems and work out the control measures.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Acctts. II, dt 12-7-1972]

Recommendation

The Committee have been informed that upto now yield increases have been obtained mostly under irrigated conditions. The Committee consider it important that efforts should be made to evolve the varieties and suitable agronomic schedules for raising the yield under dry farming and drought conditions.

S. No. 24 (Para 3.16) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

Under the All India Coordinated Wheat Improvement Project, trials are conducted under unirrigated conditions all over the country. Varieties suitable for dry farming and drought conditions are identified. Recent examples of improved varieties for barani conditions are Narbada 4 and 9-30/- Kalyan Sona has also been performing well under unirrigated conditions. Trials under Dry Farming Condition are also conducted under the All India coordinated Agronomic experiments scheme and the All India Dryland Farming Research Scheme.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Acctts. II, dt 12-7-1972]

Recommendation

The Committee find that researches taken up so far have resulted in the evolution of high yielding varieties of rice suited for different environments, but the impact of the research results on production is not very much noticeable. The total yield of rice in the country is stated to have increased from 353.31 lakhs tonnes in 1966-67 to 376.12 lakh tonnes in 1967-68 and 397.62 lakh tonnes in 1968-69. The yield per hectare is the lowest in India being 1550 Kg. against 5750 Kg. in Japan. The limiting factor in increasing the yields of paddy crop has been the incidence of some serious diseases and pests like bacterial blight, gall midge, stem borers which affect the crop. The Committee hope that besides formulating chemical control measures, the research efforts will be intensified to evolve varieties with a built-in resistance to the disease and pests which afflict the crop.

[S. No. 25 (para 3.36) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The instability in rice yields even with the use of high yielding varieties and high doses of fertilizers is often due to a damage caus-

ed to the crop by diseases and pests. To remove instability and increase production and profits the coordinated rice research project has been greatly strengthening its work on breeding of varieties having a broad spectrum of resistance to different pests and diseases. The latest information on sources of resistance available anywhere in the world is being fully utilized. India has proved to be the best source of resistance to many of these diseases and pests, and the findings of the rice research workers in India through identification of resistant varieties found in north-eastern parts of the country is greatly assisting the programme not only in India but in other countries also such as Japan, and the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines. Some gall midge resistant varieties have already been bred and are now being tested on farmers field this season (Kharif 1972). Breeding of varieties resistant to other pests and diseases is also making good progress.

Among the recently developed varieties, the following possess moderate resistance.

(a) *Stem borer and leaf hoppers.*

Ratna, Vijaya and I.R. 20.

(b) *Blast and Tungro virus.*

Vijaya and I.R. 20.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71. Accts-II, dt 12-7-1972]

Recommendation

Another problem requiring serious attention is improvement of water management. The Committee desire that the research programmes on this important problem should be strengthened. The Committee feel that the present training facilities for the farmers in growing the dwarf varieties, adoption of plant protection schedules and water management practices need to be expanded.

[S. No. 26 (para 3.37) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

A Water Technology Centre which has already been established at the IARI is handling the problems relating to water management. In respect of the training facilities for farmers in growing crop varieties etc. It is being done as part of the extension programme by the Department of Agriculture at the centre, and the Department of

Agriculture in the States. It is usual for the departments to organise periodical training sessions in connection with the high-yielding varieties programme.

Moreover the research programme under the following projects leads to the development of new technology:—

- (I) Water Technology Centre.
- (II) Co-ordinated Project on water management and Soil Salinity.
- (III) Coordinated Project on Cropping pattern and water management in new command areas.

Moreover under the national demonstration Project, subject matter specialists in water management are provided in the distt. under the programme which enables the transfer of technology on water management relating to Crop production to the farmers.

Farmers Training programmes linked to National Demonstrations provide an opportunity to introduce farmers to the latest technology.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71. Accts-II,
dt 12-7-1972]

Recommendation

In view of the fact that most of the area under rice is under rain-fed conditions, the Committee emphasise that for a break-through in rice production in these areas, better varieties specifically suited to tolerate or escape the water shortage and suitable agronomic practices for maximising yields under these conditions should receive special attention. Further, for obtaining good yields, researches on balanced use of fertilisers including micro-nutrients should be intensified.

[S. No. 27 (para 3.38) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The problems of growing suitable rice varieties under water shortage or upland conditions are being studied by the All India Co-ordinated Rice Improvement Project and a separate series of trials of varieties bred for such situations is giving fruitful results. One of the varieties already released viz. Bala, is gaining popularity in some States, and West Bengal as an upland varieties. Several other

varieties of very short duration to suit the rain-fed upland condition are now ready for trial and will be tested in 1972-73.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71. Accts-II,
dt 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee feel that efforts should be continued to evolve high yielding varieties with increased nutritional quality suitable to Indian condition.

[S. No. 28 (para 3.39) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

Suitable measures have been initiated both in the Central Rice Research Institute as well as under the All-India Coordinated Research Project for Improvement of Rice to incorporate nutritional quality into high yielding varieties. In addition, a scheme for breeding of high yielding varieties with increased content has been sanctioned recently to be implemented in the Central Rice Research Institute at Cuttack.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71. Accts-II,
dt 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee are glad to note that the level of jute Production per hectare in India is the highest (1290 kg. per hectare) as compared with other countries (Pakistan 280 kg. per hectare, and Brazil 1050 kg. per hectare). The Committee are, however, concerned to note the fall in production of jute during the year 1968-69 to 35.52 lakh tonnes from 63.20 lakh tonnes in 1967-68. The Committee have been informed that the decrease in production was due to unfavourable weather conditions experienced in 1967-68 to 1969-70. All the same, the Committee desire that the research on jute should be intensified. The committee hope that as a result of improvement in technology, the jute production will be stepped up in the subsequent years and the requirements of the country fulfilled.

[S. No. 29 (para 3.59) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

In order to increase the production of jute and improve jute technology, the Jute Agricultural Research Institute at Barrackpore and the Jute Technological Research Laboratory have been strengthened and a coordinated project on Jute and other long fibres has been launched.

Suitable programmes have been evolved to breed high yielding disease resistant, short duration varieties of jute. Sufficient emphasis has also been laid to breed varieties resistant to diseases.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71. Accts-II,
dt. 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

From the information furnished to them, the Committee find that new jute varieties which are better yielding than the present one, have been released for cultivation. The Committee hope that the new varieties would push up the yield per hectare of this crop. The Committee desire that efforts should continue to be made to evolve new varieties which will possess the desirable qualities like resistance to premature flowering and non-shattering of pods

[S. No. 30 (para 3.60) of Appendix to Fourth Report (FIFTH Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

The items suggested have been included in the coordinated Project relating to research on improvement of jute.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Accts. II,
dt. 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee hope that agronomic studies pertaining to the time of application of fertilisers, time of sowing, harvest, rotation etc. will be intensified. In view of the fact that studies in crop rotation have brought out the possibilities of growing two, three or four crops in rotation with jute, efforts should be intensified to evolve short duration varieties of jute. Necessary steps should also be taken to improve the quality of jute.

[S. No. 31 (para 3.61) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

Efforts to maximise production through intensive cropping of Jute with other crop in rotation have been taken up in the research programmes at the Jute Agricultural Research Institute. Among the rotations tried, jute, paddy, wheat taken in rotation in one year, using suitable varieties and fertilizer doses, has given very high yields and returns. Such work is being taken up at several locations now and varieties of different crop suitable for multiple cropping with jute are being identified. Selections of short duration varieties are being made. Research has shown that harvesting the jute crop after 120 days improves the quality of jute without any appreciable reduction in yield. This permits taking normal rice crop after jute.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Accts. II, dt. 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee note that work on plant protection carried out has enabled the formulation of plant protection schedules and resulted in gains upto Rs. 300 to 500 per hectare. The Committee desire that results of the research in this behalf should be suitably disseminated to the cultivators by arranging for their training so as to increase jute production.

[S. No. 32 (para 3.62) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The Jute Agricultural Research Institute has undertaken regular training programmes for extension of newer methods of jute cultivation. This includes training as the effective measures of plant protection.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Accts. II, dt. 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee are concerned to find that the yield of cotton in India is the lowest (120 kg/ha) as compared with other countries (USSR 840 kg/ha, UAR 640 kg/ha). There has been no appreciable increase in the production of Cotton in recent years. This leads to the conclusion that research work undertaken so far has not resulted in stepping up of production of cotton in the country. The total yield of cotton in the Country was 49.73 lakh tonnes in 1966-67, 54.54

lakh tonnes in 1967-68 and 52.70 lakh tonnes in 1968-69. It has been stated that the average yield in India is the lowest because 80 per cent of the cotton grown in this country is under rainfed conditions while in other countries it is grown under conditions of assured irrigation. The Committee have been informed that the research programme on cotton is strongly oriented towards increase in production. The twin object of improving the per acre yield and simultaneously securing qualitative improvement of fibre and spinning properties has been set forth for the newly developed varieties since the country requires both quantitative as well as qualitative self-sufficiency in cotton in respect of various staple lengths and spinning cotton groups. The Committee desire that research to evolve high spinning varieties of cotton should be intensified and a phased programme drawn up in his behalf so that India can become self-reliant in this vital field.

In view of the fact that 80 per cent of the total cotton areas is rainfed, the Committee desire that the future activities should in particular be devoted to evolving short duration and higher yielding varieties. It is very essential to increase the total production of cotton grown in the country by introducing better agronomic schedules for both irrigated and rainfed conditions. Efforts should also be intensified to evolve disease resistant and insect resistant high yielding varieties.

[S. No. 33 and 34 (para Nos. 3.84 and 3.85 of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)).]

Action taken

The All India Coordinated Cotton Improvement Project has been taken up in the Fourth Five Year Plan originally with an outlay of Rs. 122 lakhs. This was later revised to Rs. 137 lakhs. Special emphasis has been laid in the Technical Programme to breed extra long staple varieties with high spinning ability. A variety *Sujata* with more than 80 counts spinnability has already been released for more general cultivation. Another variety *Suvra* which has more than 100 counts spinnability has been recommended by the Cotton Workshop for pre-release multiplication. Sufficient emphasis has also been laid for breeding varieties tolerant to drought. As a result of intensive study, a variety *Reba-B-50* has been found to be not only drought tolerant but also better in yielding than the locally cultivated *hirsutum* varieties in the States of Maharashtra, Mysore and Tamil Nadu. This variety has now been recommended by the Workshop for Pilot Project Demonstrations. Work on breeding for

resistance to black arm and wilt diseases has been sufficiently strengthened and a few black arm resistant strains have already been identified which are under various stages of development. Efforts are also in progress to develop jassid resistance in high yielding varieties.

Based on the research results available, the Department of Agriculture, Government of India have launched a number of intensive cotton development district programmes with a view to progressively achieve self-reliance in cotton production.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No: F: 5(2)/71—Accounts—
II. dt. 12-7-1972].

Recommendations

3.103. The Committee are concerned to note that oilseed production which touched a peak of 8.45 million tonnes in 1964-65 dropped to 6.9 million tonnes in 1968-69. From the figures of average yield per tectare, yield per hectare given in respect of groundnut, the Committee find that the yield in India is the lowest (760 kg/ha) as compared with other countries Japan 2190 kg/ha USA 1980 kg/ha.

3.104. The Committee feel that there is an urgent need to increase the per hectare yield of oilseed crops which are mostly grown under rainfed conditions. The research effort should be intensified to build up resistance to major pests and diseases that affect these oilseed crops. In order to achieve higher yields, it is also essential that the varieties evolved need to be drought resistant or drought escaping. For this purpose suitable agronomy for cultivation for these crops in dry land needs to be paid special attention.

3.105. The Committee have been informed that in view of the fact that India's vegetable fat economy is in the main based on groundnut, a crop of uncertain performance, diversification of our vegetable resources has become essential. With this object in view some Russian varieties of sunflower have been introduced and feasibility studies are under way. The Committee desire that intensive studies should be made in the selection of suitable strains for the various areas and agronomic and other schedules for successful growing of the crop should be evolved.

[S. Nos. 35, 36 and 37 (Para Nos. 3.103, 3.104 and 3.105) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

A full-fledged All India Coordinated Project for Improvement of Oilseeds has been launched at the beginning of the Fourth Five Year Plan with a total outlay of Rs. 150 lakhs. Later, with a view to strengthen the research on groundnut to improve its productivity, special research programmes on selected aspects have been undertaken with a total outlay of Rs. 10 lakhs. Now the work is in full swing in all the centres all over the country. A few promising varieties of groundnut with a yield of more than 4 tons per hectare with oil content of 50 per cent and dormancy of nearly a month have been developed. AH-1192, J-11 and KG-61-240 are capable of yielding as much as 9 kgs. of oil per hectare. The package of practices suitable for improving the yield levels of groundnut both under irrigation as well as under dryland conditions have been formulated and recommended for general adoption. With a view to augment the production of oilseeds in the country, a full-fledged research project has been formulated for improvement of safflower and niger. Similarly, a project on sunflower has also been initiated recently. The number of varieties originally imported from Russia have been extensively tested all over the country and depending upon their suitability they have been recommended for cultivation in their respective regions.

A special emphasis has been laid in the breeding programme to evolve drought resistant varieties of oilseeds. Some of the sunflower varieties which have been tested have shown capacity to tolerate drought conditions. Package of practices suitable for dryland cultivation for safflower have been developed and recommended for adoption. Further investigations to improve upon these aspects are in progress. With regard to the breeding for resistance to diseases and pests, the research efforts have been intensified. However, suitable prophylactic measures to combat the disease and pests have been evolved and recommended for adoption.

[Ministry of Agriculture O.M. No. F. 5(2) 71—Accounts-II, dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee are distressed to note that average milk yield per milch cattle in India is very low. The average yield per milch cow per annum in India 448 kg. as against 4001 kg. in USA, 3875 kg. in Denmark, 3830 kg. in U. K. 3650 kg. in Sweden 2966 kg. in New Zealand and 2300 kg. in Australia. Committee have been informed that in order to increase milk production, the Council

have taken up cross-breeding of Indian cattle with exotic breeds in different parts of the country. Certain development projects in collaboration with foreign countries have been taken up to introduce exotic breeds for increased milk production. The Council has also drawn up an All India Coordinated Research Project on improvement of cattle for milk production whereby it is proposed to study the combining ability of important indigenous breeds with exotic breeds. The Council have also formulated All India Coordinated Research Projects for the improvement of buffaloes and goats. The Committee desire that the research efforts to improve the cattle should be intensified with a view to increasing the milk yield.

The Committee note the research work done by the National Dairy Research Institute in regard to cattle feed, fodder, milk, milk products, chemistry, bacteriology, etc. The Committee desire that close coordination should be maintained with the industry so that these research processes are actually put to use. The coordination with the industry should also be aimed at taking up on priority basis research projects which would help resolve the problems that are facing them. The figures furnished to the Committee show that at present only a few problems are referred to the Institute by the State Government industry, farmers etc. During the years 1967-68, 1968-69 and 1969-70, the number of problems referred to the Institute was 14, 13 and 12 respectively. The Committee would like to know about the efforts made to establish closer coordination with the industry.

[S. No. 38 (Para 3.152) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The necessity for improving milk yield of Indian cattle to meet the increasing demand for milk has been recognised from the very inception of the I.C.A.R. Earlier, research on Indian milch breeds was taken up in organised farms with a view to improve their milk potentialities. The three important milch breeds, namely, Sahiwal, Red Sindhi and Tharparkar, have their home tracts in Pakistan and only comparatively small herds are maintained in organised farms in India. Research on these breeds had therefore to be confined to the farms within the country. As majority of breeds of Indian cattle were of drought type, until 1953, research in cattle improvement was directed mainly towards infusing milk qualities in these breeds with a view to evolve dual purpose of animals. In 1953, a cautious cattle breeding policy was formulated to undertake cross-

breeding of non-descript Indian cattle in hilly and heavy rain-fall areas with Jersey bulls. The object was to produce progeny having higher milk production. This was taken up as a research programme of the I.C.A.R. at different centres in the country for production of half-bred progeny. The results of research have shown a significant increase in their milk production. During the 3rd Five Year Plan introduction of exotic bulls, mostly, Jersey, was taken up on a limited scale as a developmental programme.

In addition, with a view to developing high milk yielding animals, a coordinated research project for studying cross-bred progeny of different grades of the exotic breeds, namely Holstein, Jersey and Brown Swiss with Indian breeds, namely Haryana gir and Ongole has been taken up at different centres. Multi-disciplinary research work is being done in this project so as to make a comprehensive study of breeds, adaptability of different crosses, their nutritional requirements and disease problems.

Research is also in progress on Haryana breed of cattle at Harringhata, West Bengal under a project jointly financed by UNDP, Government of India and PL-480 programme. Cross-breeding research with a view to develop high milk yielding strains is also in progress on a limited scale at the National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal and Bangalore, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi Hessarghata Farm, Mysore and Mannar (Kerala). With the same objective small nucleus herds of exotic breeds have also been established at the Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, U.P.A.U., Pantnagar and Institute of Agriculture, Anand.

In India, buffalo is a very important milch animal which contributed more than half of the total milk production in the country. In numbers, more than 60 per cent buffaloes exist in India which include the best milk yielding breed of buffaloes in the world. There is evidence that among Indian buffaloes there is considerable scope for improvement of their milk production potential. An all India Coordinated Research Project on Buffaloes has been taken up at the N.D.R.I., Karnal, P.A.U., Ludhiana, Agricultural University, Dharwar and Udipur. Under this project, large sized breeds like Murrah are to be utilised in the centres located in north while sized breeds like Surti are to be used in the Centres, in the south for research purposes. Selection on individual performance, progeny test and also cross-breeding among Indian breeds is to be restored for increasing milk product, as well as productive efficiency of these animals.

Goat is a valuable source of milk in India, particularly for weaker sections of the population. Average milk production per Goat in the country is low. Moreover, goats are not stalled as is the practice in some of the other countries where milch goats are maintained. So far only limited investigations have been made in India for raising milking qualities of goats. Under an ICAR scheme research for developing high yielding indigenous Bectal goats was taken up in Hissar. In Orissa, studies were conducted to evolve superior milch goats by grading Black Bengal goats with Beetal bucks. Some attempts were also made in U.P., for rearing the goats under farm conditions. As a result of these studies, it has been found that certain breeds of goats appear to possess potentialities for developing their milk yielding qualities through breeding programme utilising Indian and exotic breeds. Accordingly a coordinated research project on goats for milk production has been taken up with a view to evolve new breed/breeds of milch goats by producing different crosses and studying the progenies with a view to developing high milking animals. This research work has been undertaken at N.D.R.I., Karnal, Assam Agricultural University, Gauhati and vety. College, Trichur.

From the above account it would be seen that steps have already been taken for improving milking qualities of cattle, buffaloes and goats through systematic research programmes.

There appears to be some confusion between the numbers of problems referred to our Institute by the Industry and correspondingly the number of completed procedures for adaption by the Industry released by the Institute, during any selected year. The problems referred are of minor as well as major importance which could be dealt with on the basis of existing knowledge, or as the basis for gathering new information. The following table gives the basis for gathering new information. The following table gives the number of enquires received from the dairy trade on all aspects (minor major) and the number of replies sent and process released.

Year	Inquiries received	Replies sent	Process released
1967-68	727	All	14
1968-69	730	All	13
1969-70	886	All	12

The Institute has been maintaining liaison with Industry as well as rural milk producers for a two-way feed back of problems and research information. Besides, to establish still closer co-ordination with the industry, recently teams of experts of Scientists in the respective disciplines have been appointed to visit dairy industry factories to examine the entire situation and render advice to the organisation concerned.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. (2)/71-Accounts-II, dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee are not satisfied over heavy accumulation of unsold publications of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, particularly scientific monographs which have a limited demand. A large number of copies of the publications published as early as 1959 are still lying in stock. The committee have been informed that as on 31st March, 1970, the total value of the unsold publications increased to Rs. 15.74 lakhs of which the scientific monographs accounted for Rs. 7.60 lakhs and semi-technical publications Rs. 8.14 lakhs. The Committee desire that in the light of experience of Council regarding the sale/issue of the publications, the print order of both scientific monographs and semi-technical publications should be carefully fixed. In their opinion the print order of scientific monographs should be kept to the minimum.

[S. No. 40 (Para 4.16) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

Of the total stock value of Rs. 15.74 lakhs as on 31-3-70 the Council has been able to sell the stock worth Rs. 5.20 lakhs through concentrated and systematic sales promotion measures. Thus the stock value of unsold publications has been reduced to Rs. 10.54 lakhs. A comparative statement of the value of the stock held as on 31st March, 1970 and as on 31st March, 1971 is given below:—

	Stock as on 31-3-70	Stock of new publications added during 1970-71	Stock sold during 1970-71		Balance as on 31-3-71
	(Rs.)		Old Stock	New Stock	(Rs)
(i) Scientific publications	7.60	00.22	1.23	00.11 = 1.34	6.48
(ii) Semi-technical publications	8.14	4.36	3.97	12.6 = 5.23	7.27
TOTAL	15.74	4.58	5.20	1.37 = 6.57	13.75

Of the old stock, while over 48 per cent of the semi-technical publications have been sold, the sale of scientific publications has been about 16 per cent. This is primarily due to the fact that most of the institutes interested in such publications have already purchased the copies immediately after release of these publications. The pace of sale of these publications has thereafter been rather slow in view of their limited demand. However the Council is taking measures to bring these publications to the notice of organisations in India and abroad through publicity folders, circulars, letters, display at important fairs and exhibitions etc.

The Committee's observation regarding print orders for publications has been noted. In fact the print orders for publications are given on the basis of the estimated demand of various agencies in India and abroad. However, in order to keep the sale price at a reasonable level, print orders are not allowed to go below a minimum limit. For example, of the various titles which are under print, the print order is kept to the minimum as is indicated in respect of the following publications:—

Scientific Monographs:

Print Orders

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Myxomycetes | 1000 copies |
| 2. Cologorials | 1000 copies |

Semi-technical publications

Print Orders

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Exploitation of Hybrid Vigour in vegetables | 1000 copies |
| 2. Entomological Research in Jute, Mesta, Sunhemp | 1000 copies |

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2) 71-Accounts-II, dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee desire that vigorous steps should be taken to reduce the stock of old publications by adopting various sales promotion measures and by distribution of copies to Libraries, Agricultural Universities, Research Institutes etc.

[S. No. 41 para 4.17 of Appendix to Fourth Report of the P.A.C. (Fifth Lok Sakha)]

Action taken

Vigorous, systematic and intensive promotional measures are taken to expedite the sale of publications. Publicity folders, list of publications, promotion circulars etc., are sent regularly to book-sellers, educational institutions, research organisations, libraries, extension organisations, panchayat officers, Zila Parishads, Govt. Departments and other prospective buyers numbering over 20,000

both in India as well as abroad. The help of Indian Mission abroad is also sought to give wide publicity to the Council's publications. Complete and up-to-date lists of the Council's publications are also mailed to prospective buyers in India as well as abroad from time to time.

Nine Publicity folders with a total print order of 1,33,000 copies were mailed.

With a view to bring the Council's publications to the notice of a wider audience, the Council also participates in exhibitions|shows|fairs|seminars|workshops|conferences|kisan melas|book fairs etc. where the publications are displayed for sale to the public.

During 1970-71, the Council participated in 26 exhibitions|shows, more important among them to warrant mention are Annual Book Exhibition, Washington,—Exhibition of Indian Books, Mexico,—International Book Fair, Singapore,—Leipzig Autumn fair, Leipzig,—International Fair, Bucharest (Romania) and Frankfurt Book Fair, Frankfurt. The publicity literatures such as list of books, folders are freely distributed to the public who visit the exhibitions' shows etc.

The Council has prescribed rules for weeding of old publications. The publications have been divided into five categories for this purpose. Non-periodicals publications priced at over Rs. 5 are weeded out when there has been no demand for four consecutive years or when the demand for four years is less than 5 per cent of the stock. Similarly non-periodical publications priced at less than Rs. 5/- are weeded out when there is no demand for two consecutive years or when the demand for three consecutive years is less than 5 per cent of the stock. If in the view of Secretary, ICAR, the publication is likely to command sale at a reduced price, it will be so offered to consumers. If in the view of Secretary, ICAR, a publication has ceased to be of any value even after reducing its sale price and there is no demand, copies will then be offered free of cost to agricultural Universities, public libraries etc. as may be decided by Secretary. ICAR provided packing and forwarding charges are borne by the recipient institutions.

By way of personal contacts too, efforts are being made to push up the sales of the Council's publications. To achieve better results the Country has been divided into various Zones. All important towns|cities in each zone are covered by senior sales staff and the Departments of Central|State Governments, book trade, Colleges, Libraries and other interested institutions are personally

visited by them for establishing close contacts and procuring business. During 1970-71 the sales staff visited 21 important business centres in India to procure business for the Council's books. These centres are classified as 'A' 'B' and 'C' depending upon their importance from the point of view of sale of publications. The periodicity of visits to these centres has been fixed in the following manner.

1. Class 'A' cities—thrice a year
2. Class 'B' cities—twice a year
3. Class 'C' Cities—once a year

The Committee's decision to adopt various sales promotion methods has been noted and suitable steps as mentioned above have been taken. The distribution of copies of old publication to libraries, agricultural universities, research organisations etc. is considered on the merits of each case.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F 5(2) | 71 Accounts II, dt.1 12-7-1972]

Recommendation

The Committee consider that there is need for publishing books of semi-technical and general nature in regional languages also so that they may be of use to the farmers. They note that in the whole country for this purpose the Indian Council of Agricultural Research are at present utilising the services of the Regional Assistant Editors who have been appointed to deed the news in regional languages. The Committee would suggest that the question of bringing out publications in regional languages may be taken up by the Council with State Governments.

[S. No. 44, para 4.31 of Appendix to Fourth Report of the P.A.C. (Fifth Lok Sabha)]

Action Taken

The ICAR set up a committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. M. S. Swaminathan to review the publication programme in regional languages. The Committee, after reviewing the programme, has recommended that:

- (1) The ICAR should contact the State Governments to find out their actual requirements and to ascertain whether there is any machinery already existing in the State entrusted with the responsibility of translating technical books in regional languages.

- (2) The ICAR should start a dialogue with the State Governments regarding the role to be played by the ICAR in the matter of Regional Language Publications.
- (3) The ICAR should be catering to a felt need without in any way duplicating anything that is being done either by the Extension Directorate or by the State Governments.

Action is being taken to implement these recommendations.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2) | 71-Accounts-II.
dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

From the information furnished to them, the Committee find that the number of books, journals etc., published by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research during the years 1966-67 to 1969-70 was 38, 49, 38 and 43 respectively. The expenditure on staff employed on publications wing increased from Rs. 7.26 lakhs in 1967-68 to Rs. 7.87 lakhs in 1968-69 and Rs. 8.31 lakhs in 1969-70. (The posts of technical and supporting ministerial staff during 1969-70) numbered 130 including a number of senior posts. Considering that the number of books, journals, etc., brought out by the Council during the last four years ranged from 38 to 49 the Committee feel that staff employed for the purpose is not fully justified. Elsewhere in this report, the Committee have already recommended that the staff of the Council as a whole should be reviewed by an independent body.

[S. No. 45 (Para 4.50) of Appendix to the Fourth Report.
(Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

One of the main objective of the ICAR is to disseminate research findings and scientific information on agricultural and animal sciences. Pursuing this objective, the Council has, over the years, become one of the largest clearing house of scientific information and literature on agriculture. The publications and information programme, comprising books, monographs, bulletins, journals, releases to the press, participation in exhibitions, and production of instructional films, is a means not only for expeditious communication of the results of agricultural research to the users but also for building up valuable scientific knowledge in the country on agriculture.

Keeping these objectives in view, the publications Wing of the ICAR has been broadly organised into the following groups:—

- (i) *Editorial*.—It includes English Editorial staff and the staff dealing with Hindi and other Indian Languages. The staff dealing with Hindi and other Indian Languages deals not only with editing of the ICAR publications but also with release of information bulletins relating to latest research results and thus feed the newspapers all over the country.
- (ii) *Arts and Photography*.—The Chief Artist and his staff deal with not only the art and photographic work for ICAR publications but also provide assistance in art work and photography to the scientists for preparing maps, graphs, charts, slides, etc., for their scientific work.
- (iii) *Production*.—Besides handling the production work of the ICAR publications, this unit also provides advice to the ICAR Institutes regarding printing of their publications, purchase of printing material etc.
- (iv) *Business, Publicity and Public Relations*.—This unit besides handling the sales of ICAR publications maintains close liaison with the press for publicity of the latest ICAR research results and also participates in exhibitions, guides the ICAR Institutes in matters relating to publicity and public relations.

It may thus, be seen that the staff of these units is not exclusively handling only publications. The expenditure on publicity, public relations and release of information bulletins in Hindi and other Indian Languages and advisory service rendered by these units is thus a service charge and, therefore, the cost cannot be directly related to the production of printed literature.

It may also be pointed out that though the journals in number may be five, they are periodicals, and one volume may include as many as 12 issues. In 1969-70, the periodicity of 'Indian Farming' and 'Kheti' was monthly, the 'Indian Horticulture' and 'Indian Journal of Animal Sciences' was quarterly and the 'Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences' was bi-monthly. Thus these have journals actually amounted to 38 issues, each issue being regarded as a separate publication.

The expenditure on the publication side increased due to improvement in the quality of service by providing technical advice at higher level, increase in the printed pages, increase in the cost

of production and greater publicity and public relations efforts.

The number of printed pages of publications including journals increased from 2800 in 1968-69 to 4600 in 1969-70, 6400 in 1970-71 and 8600 in 1971-72. The number of pages of journals whose periodicity has been increased, increased from 2144 in 1969-70 to 3688 in 1970-71 excluding special numbers.

The price of the journals has also been increased to some extent to meet the increased cost. The price of 'Indian Farming' was revised from 85 paise to Re. 1 from 1st April, 1970. The price of 'Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences' and of 'Indian Journal of Animal Sciences' was also increased from Rs. 2.50 and Rs. 2.25 respectively to Rs. 4 per issue from 1st January, 1970.

The number of exhibitions in which ICAR has participated has increased from 16 in 1968-69 to 23 in 1969-70.

The income from sales and advertisement increased from Rs. 6.84 lakhs in 1968-69 to Rs. 7.63 lakhs in 1969-70 i.e. by about 12 per cent. as against the increase in the expenditure on the staff from Rs. 7.87 lakhs in 1968-69 to Rs. 8.31 lakhs in 1969-70, i.e., by about 5.5 per cent. The details of the income are as follows:—

	1968-69	1969-70
	Rs.	Rs.
Sales	5,29,900	6,18,680
Advertisement	1,54,000	1,44,000
TOTAL	6,83,900	7,62,680
Round	6,84,000	7,63,000

[Ministry of Agriculture (ICAR) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71-Accounts.II, dt. 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee are not satisfied over a large amount of Rs. 691.46 lakhs outstanding for want of utilisation certificates in respect of grants paid by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research upto 31st March, 1969. The Committee are particularly concerned about the pendency of the old utilisation certificates. The amount outstanding in respect of the grants issued upto 1966-67 is Rs. 157.29 lakhs which includes Rs. 45.27 lakhs paid upto 31st March, 1964. Besides an amount of Rs. 24.61 lakhs was outstanding in respect of grants given by the erstwhile Commodity Committees. The Committee desire that any procedural difficulty in the issue of utilisation

tion certificates in the old cases should be discussed with Audit with a view to clear the arrears. The Committee would like to know the concrete measures taken in this behalf and the progress achieved.

The Committee note that according to the Council's revised schedule of terms and conditions, further payments of grants should be stopped unless audit utilisation certificates were furnished by grantees within a period of two years. The Committee hope that the revised procedure will be strictly followed in future in order to avoid accumulation of utilisation certificates.

[S. No. 47 (Para 5.19) of Appendix to the Fourth Report,
(Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

As against the amount of Rs. 691.46 lakhs for which Utilisation Certificates were required in respect of the grants paid by the ICAR upto the 31st March, 1969, the present position indicates a pendency of Rs. 566.89 lakhs. This includes Rs. 38.54 lakhs paid upto 31st March, 1964, and Rs. 128.90 lakhs in respect of the grants remitted upto 1966-67. The present pendency in respect of the grants given by the erstwhile Commodity Committees is Rs. 20.03 lakhs. With reference to the very old cases where getting audited utilisation certificates at this distance of time has become practically impossible, a thorough examination was made and the matter was taken up with the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India and the suggestions made by the Council for settlement of such old cases have been accepted by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India. It is hoped that with the adoption of the measures approved by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, the Council will be able to clear old cases of outstanding audit certificates substantially and also prevent accumulation of outstandings in future.

The revised procedure is being strictly followed in order to avoid accumulation of outstanding utilisation certificates.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2) 71-Accounts-II,
dt. 23-2-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee find that out of Rs. 44.64 lakhs advanced to the various parties during the year 1958-59 to 1966-67, a sum of Rs. 2.22 lakhs is still pending adjustment. The Committee desire that efforts should continue to be made to adjust the outstanding amount.

Necessary steps should also be taken to ensure that the advances are adjusted promptly in future.

[S. No. 48 (Para 5.23) of Appendix to the Fourth Report,
(Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

Out of Rs. 44.64 lakhs advanced to the various parties during the years 1958-59 to 1966-67 a sum of Rs. 1.57 lakhs is now pending adjustment. Continuous efforts are being taken to ensure that the advances are adjusted promptly.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Acctts. II,
dt. 23-2-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee are concerned to note that the proforma accounts of the Biological Products Division of the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar disclosed a net loss amounting to Rs. 2.00 lakhs in 1966-67, Rs. 2.81 lakhs in 1967-68 and Rs. 2.59 lakhs in 1968-69. The Committee desire that necessary action should be taken to increase the selling price of the products based on the proforma accounts of 1967-68. The Committee suggest that the Institute should lay down a procedure for periodical review of the selling prices of the products so as to ensure that no losses are suffered on the sale. The Committee also suggest that the administrative expenditure of the institute should be kept under check.

[S. No. 49 (Para 5.31) of Appendix to the Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

On the basis of proforma accounts of Biological Products Division for the year 1967-68, the prices have already been revised in consultation with the Cost Accounts Branch of the Ministry of Finance, *vide* Council's letter No. 13-4/69-AHI.I(ASR.II), dated 6th January, 1971 (copy enclosed). The prices of biological products have further been revised on the basis of proforma accounts for the year 1969-70 *vide* Council's letter No. F.25(1)/71-ASR.II dated 29th May, 1971 (copy enclosed). However, Public Accounts Committee suggestion for periodical review of prices of biological products has been noted and a system of annual or biennial revision of prices will be introduced. Committee's suggestion for keeping the administrative expenditure of the Biological Products Division of the

Institute under check has been noted and will be given effect to.

[Miny. of Agriculture (ICAR) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71-Accounts-II,
dt. 24-4-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee would like the Indian Council of Agricultural Research to examine whether it is desirable to have the present degree of meticulous accounting in the case of small left overs like test tube holders, etc., after the schemes are completed. The Committee are of the view that the question of the recovery of their cost should be limited to important items. This would avoid delay in assessment and recovery of the assets left with the grantee. The Committee would like to know the outcome of the examination.

[S. No. 50 (Para 5.36) of Appendix to the Fourth Report,
(Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research considers that it is not desirable to have the present degree of meticulous accounting in the case of small left-overs available with the grantees on the termination of the schemes. The Government and the ICAR gratefully accept the suggestion of the Committee that the question of recovery of cost should be limited to important items so that delay in adjustment and recovery of the assets left with the grantees can be considerably minimised. The ICAR have already taken up the revision of Schedule of Terms and Conditions which also takes care of this item. The proposed revision of the Schedule of Terms and Conditions has been concurred in by the Financial Adviser and will now be put up to the Governing Body of the Council for formal approval.

[Miny. of Agriculture (ICAR) O.M. No. F.5(2)/71-Accounts-II,
dt. 23-2-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee note that the outstanding amount for recovery from various parties for Publications products sold on credit by the Council and its institutions has been reduced from Rs. 16.36 lakhs as on 31st March, 1969 to Rs. 9.82 lakhs as on 30th June, 1970. The Committee urge that vigorous efforts should be made to recover the

outstanding amount and the dues should not be allowed to accumulate in future.

[S. No. 51 (Para 5.39) of Appendix to Fourth Report,
(Fifth Lok Sabha).]

Action Taken

The Committee's suggestions have been noted. Vigorous efforts are being made to recover the outstanding amounts. Care will be taken to see that dues are not allowed to accumulate disproportionately.

[Ministry of Agriculture (ICAR) O.M. No. F.5(2) | 71-Accounts-II,
dt. 23-2-1972].

CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS|OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT

Recommendation

The Committee find that during the year 1969-70, the Institute took up seven fresh schemes for research while there were 50 continuing schemes already under research. Some of the schemes which were commenced more than 10 years back are still continuing. The Committee desire that the reasons for delay in completion of the old schemes should be analysed and necessary action taken to complete them.

[S. No. 39 (Para 3.153) of Appendix to Fourth Report,
(Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The details of the continuing Research Schemes are as follows:

Schemes continuing more than 10 years	.	.	.	.	5
" " " 5 years	.	.	.	.	8
" " " 3 years	.	.	.	.	6
" " " 2 years	.	.	.	.	21
" " " 1 years	.	.	.	.	10
					50

Projects continuing more than 10 years and require to be continued are (i) cross-breeding of Zebu cattle (Sahiwal and Red Sindhi) with Brown Swiss (ii) cross-breeding with Jersey-Tharparkar to evolve suitable breed (iii) progeny testing (iv) Varietal trial with feeder varieties (v) cost of milk production. Out of these 3 projects are related to genetics and breeding. In these studies animals have to be improved generation by generation for their economic characters. For improvement of economic characters in dairy cattle, the experiments have to be conducted over number of generations. The generation interval in case of dairy cattle is about 6 to 8 years depending upon the breed. Therefore, such products cannot be completed within the limited period. Similarly, studies on progeny testing, i.e., search for better bulls is aimed for estimating the breeding value of a bull by studying the performance of its daughter, which is the most reliable way of knowing genetic poten-

tial of a bull. Since the bull is to be widely used for mating with a number of females we have to be sure about its transmitting ability to achieve the desired progress. Therefore, this should be a continuous and regular projects in the breeding programme of any organised dairy farm for improvement of dairy cattle. Studies on varietal trials with different fodder crops is also a continuous project. Since varieties are constantly evolved at the various research Institutes and Agricultural Universities in India and abroad and they have to be introduced in our varietal trials from time to time to test their efficiency.

Studies on cost of milk production, etc., require evaluation every year, since the price of various items varies from year to year. Periodic evaluation of cost of milk production for different breeds, will be useful for price fixation policy and also in devising ways and means to lower the cost of production of milk. Out of the eight projects continuing more than five years, four projects are related to studies on milk protein. As a result of fundamental studies on milk protein, many new vistas have become apparent from these findings. These observations demanded continuity in new lines of research originally not visualised. Further more, milk protein is such a topic, there cannot be an end to such investigation and more so with buffalo milk. Present trend of studies on foreign countries is emphasising more on milk protein because of its dietary value. Another project continuing more than five years is studies on rumen microbiology. Detailed study on the types of micro-organisms growing in rumen of cow and buffalo at various stages after feeding different rations and the corresponding production of volatile acids and other biochemical changes yielded encouraging results. These observations demanded more studies on the role of the organism in the utilisation of different feeds using artificial rumen techniques.

Three Projects, viz., effective utilisation of NPN in the ration of Zebu cattle and buffalos, flavour components of ghee and starter bacterial and their genetic variants are continuing for five years in dairy husbandry, chemistry and bacteriology, respectively. These projects are financed by PL-480 authorities and have to function according to the technical programme for five years approved by the sponsoring authority.

[Miny. of Agriculture (ICAR) O.M. No. F.5(2) | 71-Accounts-II,
dt. 12-7-1972]

Recommendation

The Committee find that two of the five journals published by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research are still being sold below the cost price. The Committee desire that steps should be taken to make all the journals self supporting by reducing the cost of production on increasing the sale price.

[S. No. 42 (Para 4.25) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The Council publishes five journals—Indian Farming (monthly), Indian Horticulture (quarterly) Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences (monthly), Indian Journal of Animal Sciences (monthly), and Kheti (Hindi monthly). Excepting 'Indian Horticulture' and 'Indian Journal of Animal Sciences' all the remaining three journals of the Council are self-supporting. In fact, taking all five journals together there is an overall surplus of Rs. 91,238.00 during 1969-70. The Governing Body of the Council at its meeting held on 25th March, 1969 has agreed that while computing profit and loss account of the journals, the overall position of the journals should be considered.

2. However, the following steps have been taken to reduce the cost of production:

- (i) Maximum possible economy is being effected in the use of photographs, diagrams charts etc. which add to the cost.
- (ii) As far as possible, articles are printed in continuation one after another and not on new pages.
- (iii) The Journals are being composed in 10 pt. solid type. This helps to accommodate more matter in a page resulting in economy in printing and paper consumption.
- (iv) Efforts are being made to increase advertisement revenue from these journals.

3. In addition to the above, their price were reviewed recently. The sale price of Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences has been increased from Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 4 per copy and that of Indian Journal of Animal Sciences from Rs. 2.25 to Rs. 4 per copy w.e.f. 1970. While revising the sale price of the above journals it was examined to the Governing Body that the publication of scientific journals need not always be planned with a view to be self-financing as their

main value lay in keeping the scientists informed of the latest researches. The scientific information disseminated in this way, therefore, should not be measured in terms of profit and loss. Besides, the price per copy of Indian Journal of Animal Sciences should not be more than that of Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences, as the two journals have similar production, status and get up. Accepting this position the S.F.C. and G. B. agreed to revising the price of our scientific journals as above. These general principles have been reiterated by the G.B. in its recent meeting held on 28th March, 1972.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Accounts-II,
dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee deprecate the delay of about seven years in utilizing the Freeze-Drying Apparatus purchased in 1964 for Rs. 10,000 for want of certain parts costing about Rs. 900. The Committee hope that early action will be taken on put the equipment in order. The Committee desire that responsibility should be fixed for delay in putting the equipment in order.

[S. No. 52(Para 5.42) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The equipment was received in a damaged condition from the United States. There was only one part which was damaged. We were trying to procure the damaged part through the Indian Supply Mission, Washington, but our efforts did not materialise earlier. As such no responsibility for negligence can be fixed on anyone for delay in putting the equipment in order. However, an indigenous fabricated spare parts have been procured and the machine has already been put into commission. Now the machine is working in order.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Accounts-II,
dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee feel that there has been unconsiderable delay of more than 14 years in replacing the compressor of Stokes Freeze Drying Unit purchased in July, 1956 at a cost of Rs. 33,955. The Committee suggest that responsibility should be fixed for the delay. The Committee desire that the compressor should now be procured

expeditiously and the equipment commissioned. The Committee would like to know the progress made in this regard.

[S. No. 53 (Para 5.44) of Appendix to the Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The Stokes Freeze Drying Unit was obtained through the T.C.M. in aid and was not purchased. For some time the T.C.M. authorities and later the U.S. Embassy authorities were themselves trying to procure and supply the damaged parts of the equipment but ultimately they regretted their inability to do so. While the efforts of the T.C.M. and U.S. Embassy authorities were in progress, the Unit was temporarily in use by using indigenous parts. The import of one spare part viz. Vacuum Gauge was necessary to obtain full life time use of the Unit. The difficult foreign exchange position, made more difficult on account of Chinese aggression and thereafter Indo-Pakistan hostilities prevented timely import of the equipment viz. vacuum gauge. This part has since been imported. It has arrived at Bombay airport and is awaiting clearance. On its receipt it would be fitted into the Unit, which is already functioning with the use of indigenous parts. Replacement of the original part will enable the Institute to obtain full life time use of the Unit.

Delay in the import of the spare part named above was not due to any individual's fault. Therefore, responsibility for the same cannot be fixed on any particular official. Since the Unit has been in use, though not constantly, and will very soon be in perfect working order on replacement of its original part, Public Accounts Committee is requested to condone the delay and agree to close the case.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2) | 71-Accounts-II, dated 12-7-1972].

Recommendation

The Committee regret to observe that this is another case where the installation and commission of costly equipment purchased in July, 1967 for Rs. 1,16,340 was delayed. The Committee desire that responsibility should be fixed for the delay.

[S. No. 54 (Para 5.46) of Appendix to the Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action taken

The delay in commission of the generating sets was due to factors beyond the control of the Institute staff. Firstly, part of the consignment booked by the suppliers was mis-directed by the railways. I was after several months of frantic efforts that the missing consignment was traced. Thereafter the specifications of the foundation originally given by the firm were changed after some months on the advice of the manufacturers of the generating sets. Then the C.P.W.D. took a long time in the construction of the foundation. Delay on the part of the C.P.W.D. was due mainly to their involved procedure. Mukteswar is an out of the way place and an officer of non-gazetted status of the C.P.W.D., namely a Section Officer is posted there. He has no financial powers nor is competent to finalise any estimate or award contracts. Higher authorities in whom these powers are vested are at Bareilly, Dehra Dun, and New Delhi. They were able to complete the Foundation after a long time after completion other formalities. Therefore, no officer of the Institute can be held responsible for the delay. Instead it is to their credit that they were pursuing this case at all stages. Ultimately, the sets were commissioned in June, 1970.

It would therefore be seen that no officer of the Indian Veterinary Research Institute can be held responsible for delay in installation and commissioning of the equipment.

In view of the above it is requested that the Public Accounts Committee may kindly condone the delay and agree to close this case.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F.5(2) 71—Accounts-II dated 24-4-1972].

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS|OBSERVATIONS REPLIES TO WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND WHICH REQUIRE REITERATION

Recommendation

The Committee appreciate that by and large the Central Institute take up research on National problems which override State boundaries. In view of the fact that different agencies e.g., Central Institutes, State Institutes and agricultural universities are at present doing research work, the Committee feel that it is necessary to lay down some guidelines regarding roles of these agencies with a view to avoiding duplication.

[S. No. 15 (Para No. 2.12) of Appendix to the 4th Report
(V Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

The Institutes are primarily meant for taking up research on the aspects which cross the boundaries of the state or regions in their interest. In so far as the effectiveness as well as the avoidance of the duplication of the research by various organisation is concerned, the ICAR is contemplating to have Advisory Committees set up for each Institute in which the representatives of the Agricultural Universities State Governments and other concerned agencies will be present. Further, these programmes are also being discussed in usual workshops and various technical meetings through the overlapping of programmes is avoided.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)|71-
Accounts-II dt. 12-7-1972]

Recommendation

The Committee are of the view that one of the factors contributing to the cost of production of publications of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is the use of art paper. The Committee suggest that the publications and annual reports may be printed on ordinary paper. A few copies required to be sent to foreign coun-

tries, embassies etc. may, however, continue to be printed on art paper.

[S. No. 43, (Para 4.27) of Appendix to Fourth Report
(Fifth Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

The Council's publications are highly technical and scientific in character. Keeping their contents and scientific value in view an appropriate brand of paper is used commensurate with the standard of production desired. Generally super calendered paper and white printing paper, which are the cheapest brands of indigenous paper, are used for printing the text of practically all the publications of the Council. In a few cases, Indian Offset paper is used.

Art paper|Art Card is used only on the covers|jackets of the Council's publications for better market appeal and to make them attractive. The use of Art Paper|Art Card on covers and jackets is considered essential for suitable reproduction of colour blocks.

The Council does not use Indian or imported Art Paper for the printing of the text of its publications. Occasionally, the plates when highly graphic, are printed on art paper depending on the production requirements and the results to be achieved. Some of the books like 'The Rose in India' are of International Standard and their quality cannot be sacrificed for a little economy in paper for plates. In fact, their strength is in excellence of production.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F 5(2)/71-
Accounts-II, dt. 12-7-1972]

Recommendation

The Committee are surprised that in this case while the Directorate-General, Technical Development cleared the foreign exchange of Rs. 3.43 lakhs for purchase of the Spinning Machinery, they appear to have dealt with in a routine manner the request of the laboratory for sanctioning foreign exchange amounting to only Rs. 13,500/- required for certain components in the Air-Conditioning Plant without which the Spinning Machinery could not be installed. Even after the efforts made to explore the possibility of getting the air-conditioning plant from the indigenous sources had failed, the D.G.T.D. did not clear the foreign exchange component of Rs. 13,500/-. Although after establishment of their factory in India, the manufacturer reduced in November, 1965 the foreign exchange require-

ment from Rs. 13,500/- to Rs. 3,600/- (later revised to Rs. 4,860/- consequent on the devaluation of the rupee), the total cost of the air-conditioning equipment was increased from Rs. 67,500/- quoted in 1963 to Rs. 1,62,000 in 1965 due to increase in cost of raw materials, labour charges and excise duty. Ultimately, a contract was finalised with the firm in September, 1967 for Rs. 2,61,000 which included Rs. 36,000 for a stand-by compressor and Rs. 63,000 towards the cost of ancillary works. The Committee are unhappy that delay in clearance of foreign exchange component of Rs. 13,500 in 1963 resulted in extra cost of the air-conditioning equipment to the tune of Rs. 94,500. Besides extra cost paid for the procurement of the air-conditioning plant the installation of the costly machinery valued at Rs. 4.60 lakhs (foreign exchange expenditure Rs. 3.43) in the new building was delayed. The Committee feel that responsibility should be fixed for the delay at various stages in the case. The Committee desire that necessary steps should be taken by the Director-General, Technical Development to prevent recurrence of such cases.

[S. No. 46 (Para 5.8) of Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

The Special Sub-Committee of the Indian Central Cotton Committee which finalised in May, 1957, the list of equipment necessary for modernisation of the Cotton Technological Research laboratory realised the need for maintaining constant atmospheric conditions of 27 C. temperature and 65 per cent relative humidity in the Spinning and Testing Sections. Accordingly, the Sub-Committee had recommended the import of a Conditioning Plant manufactured by Messrs. Carrier Corporation, U.S.A., at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,80,000. However, in view of the difficulty of the foreign exchange position of the country, it was decided in 1961-62 to explore the possibility of obtaining the conditioning plant locally with a view to minimise the requirement of foreign exchange. Accordingly, quotations were invited by the laboratory for the Humidity and Temperature Control Plant in December, 1962, from fifteen local firms. Representatives of various firms visited the laboratory to inspect the site and to have an idea of the extent of work involved. The lowest quotation for one plant was submitted by M/s. Voltas for Rs. 67,500/- in early 1963, involving a foreign exchange component of Rs. 13,500/- on condition that the I.C.C.C. will arrange for the release of foreign exchange to this extent. This quotation did not include the cost of installation and other ancillary works such as provision of false ceiling, plumbing, ducting, electrical wiring, etc. The Government of India approved the proposals of the I.C.C.C.

regarding the release of foreign exchange of Rs. 3.43 lakhs for the spinning machinery and Rs. 13,500/- for the necessary part of the control plant. The D.G.T.D. who cleared the requirement for the machinery would not clear the requirement of Rs. 13,500/- for the required part of the control plant. Before he could clear from the indigenous angle he wanted the I.C.A.R. to contact M/s. Industrial Air-Control (I) Limited whether they could supply the required parts. This was in July, 1963. After making enquiries with M/s. I.A.C. (I) Limited, the I.C.C.C. informed the ICAR in October, 1963 that the firm was not in a position to supply the particular essential parts required for the Carrier model. D.G.T.D. wanted to know whether the work could not be entrusted to any other firm who might be ready to complete it with indigenously available material. The Laboratory stated after consulting the Ahmedabad Textile Industries Research Association that the only Indian firm capable of giving constructive advice on the installation of the plant was M/s. Voltas Limited. As suggested by the D.G.T.D., the I.C.C.C. was directed to approach Messrs. Blue Star, Bombay, M/s. American Refrigeration Company, Calcutta and M/s. Batliboi and Co., Bombay. Complete quotation was received only from the Blue Star who also wanted foreign exchange to be provided. After weighing all the *pros and cons* and also considering the stature and capability of the various firms in India, the I.C.C.C. requested for approval of the Government of India for entrusting the work of air-conditioning the testing laboratory to M/s. Voltas Limited, at a cost of Rs. 1,35,000 (excluding the charges for ancillary items). This was in June, 1965.

It would appear from the alternative suggestions made by the D.G.T.D. while withholding clearance from the indigenous angle to the import of component parts, essential for maintaining the temperature and humidity levels, constantly within a rigid narrow range, for which the foreign exchange was asked for, that the requirements of the laboratory were not fully appreciated. Air-conditioning equipment for general purposes such as office, theatres, hospitals, etc., was locally available. In these cases, the temperature inside the room is kept lower than that outside, mainly for providing comfort for the occupants. On the other hand, the requirement of the laboratory was a plant to *maintain the temperature and humidity at constant levels of 27°C and 65 per cent relative humidity*. Hence, the indigenous plants were not suitable for the laboratory as these did not have necessary arrangements to control the temperature and humidity. This point was repeatedly stressed in the letters from the laboratory to the Government and to D.G.T.D. and was also personally explained to the D.G.T.D. authorities by the then Director of the laboratory in July, 1964. It was also pointed out

from time to time that these special controls were not being manufactured in India.

During the intervening years, M/s. Voltas had established their own factory near Bombay for manufacture of air-conditioning equipments. Hence, in November, 1965, the firm informed us that the requirements of foreign exchange was reduced from Rs. 13,500/- to Rs. 3,600/- as only six components were required to be imported. However, the price of the plant had been increased to Rs. 1,62,000/- due to various factors such as increase in cost of raw material, labour charges and excise duty. Even this price did not include ancillary work such as false ceiling, plumbing, etc. This was in December, 1965. At this stage also the D.G.T.D. pressed for exploring the local market for the six components. For example, the laboratory was asked to contact M/s. Danfoss (India) Limited, Bombay and M/s. Jaswant Lal Kanti Lal, Bombay. The I.C.A.R. could not process the case further due to the Government ban on utilization of foreign exchange during 1965-66 following the national emergency. In the meanwhile, the requirements of foreign exchange for the six components were revised to Rs. 4,860.00 in August, 1966 consequent on the devaluation of the rupee. No Indian firm was in a position to supply these components and only in September, 1967, the I.C.A.R. was able to get release of foreign exchange and the contract with M/s. Voltas was finalised for Rs. 2,61,000 which included Rs. 36,000/- for standby Compressor and Rs. 63,000/- towards the cost of ancillary works. Though the Government's sanction was accorded for release of foreign exchange for Rs. 4,860/- to import the six control parts required, the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports issued a licence for Rs. 3,200/- only in October, 1968, to cover only three of the six items. After protracted correspondence with the C.C.I. & E at a high level from the I.C.A.R., the licence for another Rs. 1,200/- to cover the import of two more parts was received by the end of September, 1969. M/s. Voltas agreed to procure the sixth item from their own quota. The installation of the plant was completed and the plant was commissioned to service on manual controls on the 25th September, 1969, and the yarn Testing Section was at last shifted to the first floor of the new Building in September, 1969.

M/s. Voltas have now imported the control parts required and fitted them on the Humidity-Temperature control Plant during July, 1970.

A brief summary of the progressive date-wise development of the case from the beginning so far as I.C.A.R. is concerned is enclosed

(Annexure I). A copy of the note received from the Ministry of Industrial Development clarifying the position so far as they are concerned in the case is also enclosed (Annexure II). A study of the Ministry of Industrial Development note mainly brings out the following points so far as the question of delay is involved:

- (i) the file remained with the D.G.T.D. comparatively for shorter intervals than with the I.C.A.R.
- (ii) D.G.T.D. was out of the picture from 24-8-1964 to 17-6-66.
- (iii) The urgency of the matter, if it did exist, was not duly impressed upon them.

Regarding (i) above: It may be clarified that as the D.G.T.D. had been pressing every time on the same, point of indigenous procurement and as the I.C.A.R. had thereupon to collect information each time from different sources, naturally therefore, it required time every time such a reference was made.

Regarding (ii) above: the position with regard to the period from 24-8-64 to 17-6-1966 is that though the file could not be referred to D.G.T.D. during this period yet the date-wise developments stated in Annexure-I clearly indicate that from 4-9-1964 we started again with the possibility of indigenous equipment and this process kept us busy till the beginning of 1965. In the meantime, came the Ministry of Finance Ban on Foreign Exchange release due to National Emergency during 1965-66. Ban on Foreign Exchange release was lifted in 1966 and the file was referred to D.G.T.D. on 2-7-1966 after completing *pro forma* information in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and C.T.R.L. Thus it is clear that the I.C.A.R. at no stage relaxed its efforts to finalise the case as quickly as possible.

Regarding (iii) above: This is a matter of interference based on facts. A comparative study of the brief summary prepared by I.C.A.R. (Annexure I) and the note of Ministry of Industrial Development (Annexure II) will reveal that in spite of repeated instances at personal and official levels on 18-4-1964, 3-6-1964, 29-6-1964, 30-6-1964, 17-7-1964 and 5-8-1964, the urgency of the matter was not recognised. There was no other alternative with the I.C.A.R. but to try the indigenous sources as suggested by D.G.T.D.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2) '71-
Accounts-II, dt. 12-7-1972]

ANNEXURE I

Summary of Efforts made for release of foreign exchange for Air-conditioning plant at the C.T.R.L.

Action	Progressive dates
1	3
1 Proposal was received from ICCG for the installation of the control humidity plant in the laboratory building of the CTRL.	U.O. No. T. 154/6456 15th April, 1963.
2 The I.C.A.R. referred the case to the Directorate of E & S from clearance from foreign exchange point of view.	U.O. No. 1(8)/63-Com. 26th April, 1963.
3 On the advice of Dte. of E & S proforma information was obtained for ICCG and CASE referred to D.G.T.D.	U.O. No. 1(8)/63-Com. III 1st June, 1963.
4 D.G.T.D. cleared all item except foreign exchange of Rs. 16,000/- for which they desired ICAR to contact M/s. Industrial Air Control (India) Ltd.	U.O. No. CD-IV/G. 1/1248/169 29th July, 1963.
5 After making enquiries from IAC (Ltd) ICCG informed that the firm was not in position to supply.	T.11-54/20065 6-11-1963.
6 Supporting details were called for from I.C.C.C.	1(8)/63-Com. III
7 Information was received from ICCG.	27-11-1963. (i) T. 1154/22477
	20-12-63. (ii) D.O. No. T. 1154/11/768
	14-1-1964.
8 In the absence of comparative statement of rates of different firms and justification the case was discussed with Director, CTRL, at New Delhi and final position drawn up. The Director was not available before February, 1964.	14-2-1964.
9 Letter received from Director, CTRL in this connection.	D.O. No. S 769/158.
	28-2-1964.
10 Case referred to Ministry of Finance (DFA)	11-3-1964.
11 Dy. P.A. returned the file saying that it will be difficult to get foreign exchange and that this may first be discussed at SFC.	11-3-1964.
12 Case discussed by Secretary, ICAR with Secretary April, 1964. I.C.C.C.	
13 File referred to D.G.T.D. for clearance from indigenous angle.	UO. No. 1(8)/63-C. III.
	19-4-1964.
14 D. G. T. D. returned file advising to approach M/s. Blue Star, M/s. American Refrigeration Cp., & M/s. Betilje Co.	D.O.No.CD-4/G-1/1265/64
	5th May, 1964.

1

2

3

- 15 D. G. T. S. written back by ICAR saying that the matter was getting delayed and not much purpose will be served by consulting these firms particularly when M/s. Voltas Ltd., only was in a position to fit in the equipment within the required specification. D.O.No.1(8)/63-C-III
3rd June, 1964 (From Secretary, IC A.R. to Director, D.G. T.D.)
- 16 D.G.T.D. reminded expedite clearance UO No.1(8)/63-III.
29-6-1964.
- 17 D.G.T.D. again advised ICAR that M/s. Industrial Air Conditioner Pt. Ltd., is able to supply. UO No.CD-IV/G-1/2036/64
30-6-1964.
- 18 Case personally discussed with DGTD and file handed over to them explaining the position in details. 17th July, 1964.
- 19 File returned by DGTD re-iterating their EARLIER STAND OF EXPLORING INDIGENOUS sources. UO. No. CD/IV/G-1/2307/64
24-7-1964.
- 20 Position again clarified to DGTD explaining *inter alia* that the quotation of M/s. Voltas Ltd. was the lowest and the firm had sufficient experience of installation of such type. UO.No.1(8)/63-E.III.
5-8-1964.
- 21 D. G. T. D. returned file again desiring ICAR to approach indigenous manufactures. U.O.NO.CD-IV G.1/2517/64.
- 22 Secretary, ICCC informed accordingly. 1 (8)/63-Co., III
-9-1964.
- 23 Brief note supplied for placing before General Meeting of the I. C. C. C. September, 1964.
- 24 I. C. C. C. informed C. T. R. L. to approach (i) M/s. Blue Star Industries, Bombay, (ii) M/s. American Refrigeration Co., Calcutta and (iii) M/s. Batliboi & Co., Bombay for plant. T.1154/III/14294
19-9-1964.
- 25 Quotations were invited by CTRL from ten firms including the names suggested by DGTD. No.s/769
8-10-1964.
- 26 The date of submission of quotations extended by C. T. R. L. thrice, last date being 30th December, 1964. 30-12-1964.
- 27 Enquiry from ICCC to CTRL whether disposed off air conditioned plant meant for the air conditioned godown would suit for maintaining Humidity and Temperature Plant for the laboratory. T.1154.19103
14-12-1964.
- 28 Reply sent by CTRL to ICCC S/769/II/11335
17-12-1964.

1	2	3
29 In response to CTRL's invitation for quotations only one complete quotation for Rs. 19,300/- was received from M/s. Blue Star Engineering Co Private Ltd. and that was forwarded to I.C.C.C.	S.769/1234	11-2-1965.
30 Details of air conditioning Plant meant for Godown received from ICCO by C.T.R.L.	T.1154/III/1829.	12-2-1965.
31 CTRL intimated to I.C.C.C. that the disposal PLANT MEANT FOR AIR CONDITIONING THE GODOWN was not suitable for the laboratory as it had no provision for humidity control.	S.769/1428.	16-2-1965.
32 Since the quotation received from M/s. Blue Star Engg. Co. Pvt., Ltd., was higher and also involved foreign exchange, ICCO considered desirable to approach Government of India for permission to entrust the work to M/s. Voltas Ltd. on the basis of their original quotations.	T.1154—III/2119.	20-2-1965.
33 Ban on foreign exchange release due to national emergency.		1965-1966.
34 Ban on foreign exchange release was lifted early 1966 and the file was referred to the Ministry of Finance (Department of E A) for release of foreign exchange worth Rs. 3,6000/-.	U.O.No.14(5)/66-C.I.-1	10-3-1966.
35 File received back from Department of E.A. FOR EXAMINATION BY Dte. of E&S.	U.O.No.D.1498-CIE(I) 66.	21-3-1966.
36 Proforma information called for from Director, CTRL	14(5)/66-C.I.-1.	27-4-66.
37 Proforma information received from CTRL	3.769/Vol. II/1101.	24-5-1966.
38 File referred with proforma information to DGT.D.	U.O.No.14(5)/66-C.I.-1.	10-6-1966.
39 D.G.T.'s clearance from indigenous angle excluding the (i) thermostat, (ii) Humidistate and they wanted ICAR to contact M/s. Danfoss (I) Ltd. and M/s. Jaswant Lal Kanti Lal for these items.	U.O. No. 14(5) 66-C.I.-1	2-7-1966.
40 The Director, CTRL was informed as above (item 39).	14(5) 66-Com. Instt. I.	17-7-1966.
41 Director, CTRL informed ICAR that the above mentioned firms were not in position to supply the type and M/s. Voltas Ltd. had promised to procure these controls from their own import quota.	S. 769 Vol. I/3472	12-8-66
42 File sent to D.G.T.D. stating the above position	U.O. No. 14(5)/66-C.D.I.	20-1-67

1	2	3
43	File returned by DGTD desiring to know in what respect indigenous make is not suitable.	U.O. No. C.D.IV.G.I./209/67
44	Clarification called for from Director, CTRL.	13-2-67. 14(5)/66-Com. Instt. I
45	Clarification received from Director, CTRL.	17-2-67 S. 769. Vol. II/4411
46	File sent back to D.G.T.D. with required information.	23-5-1967 U.O. No. 14(5)/66-C.I.
47	D.G.T.D. returned file with no objection certificate.	1-6-67. U.O. No. C.D. IV.G.I./1728/67
48	File referred to Deptt. of Agri. (F.E. Unit) for release of foreign exchange worth 4860.	17-6-67. U.O. No. 14(5) 66/C.I.1
49	Deptt. of Agr. (F.E. Unit) referred the file to the Ministry of Finance for the release of foreign exchange.	7-7-67. U.O. No. 909/F.E. 21-7-67.
50	Ministry of Finance agreed to release of foreign exchange worth Rs. 4,860.	U.O. No. D-3408-CIE(I)/67
51	Sanction was conveyed accordingly.	11-8-67 14(5)/66-Com. Instt. I
52	Controller of Export and Imports requested for issue of import licence for the import of the equipment in question.	13-9-67. 14(5)/66-Com. Instt. I 25-10-67
53	Sanction for entrusting the work of installation of the plant to M/s. Voltas Ltd. issued by I.C.A.R.	14(5)/66-Com. Instt. I 10-11-67
54	C.C.I. & E. issued import licence (After repeated reminders from the Director, CTRL) for Rs. 3,200 only.	C. 329/Inst./67-68/II/2702 9-10-68
55	Director, CTRL again addressed C.C.I & E for import licence for the balance amount of Rs. 1,660.	S. 769 Vol. II/595 23-1-69.
56	C.T.R.L. informed the position to I.C.A.R.	Enit No. S.769/Vol. II/596
57	C.C.I. & E. requested to expedite import licence.	23-1-69. 14(5)/66-Com. Instt. I
58	Secretary, ICAR reminder C.C.I. & E. by DO to Joint Chief Controller, C.C.I & E.	7-2-1966 14(5)/66-Com. Instt. I 20-2-69.
59	Again official reminder issued.	14(5)/66-Com. Instt. I
60	Again D.O. reminder issued to Dy. Chief Controller, C.C.I. & E.	12-3-69. 14(5)/66-Com. Instt. I 11-4-69.
61	Office of the C.C.I. & E. informed Director, C.T.R.L. regretting inability to issue the licence on validity ground of DGTD clearance.	C. 239/Instt. 67-68/ILS April, 1969.

1	2	3
62	On the ground of above mentioned letter from C.C.I. & E., I.C.A.R. requested DGTD to review the clearance from indigenous angle.	14(5)/66-Com. Istt. I 20-5-69
63	D.G.T.D. issued the renewed clearance direct to C.T.R.L.	DGTD/INSTT/5767/69 20-6-69.
64	Director, C.T.R.L. clarified position to C.C.I & E. and requested him to expedite the import licence required.	S. 769/Vol. III/6671 22-8-69
65	C.C.I. & E. ultimately issued the import licence for the balance amount of foreign exchange i.e., Rs. 1,200.	CENT/14/69-70/ELS/B/1894 24-9-69.

M/s. Voltas Ltd., Bombay agreed to procure the Sixth item from their own quota. The installation of the plant was completed and the plant was commissioned to service on manual controls on the 25th September, 1969 and the yarn Testing Section was the last shifted to the first floor of the new building in September, 1969. The air-conditioning plant was commissioned formally on 27th September, 1969. All the controls were delivered by the Firm to C.T.R.L. on the—July, 1970 and work on fixing the controls started on the 6th July, 1970. The plant is now functioning on automatic control.

ANNEXURE II

Statement showing brief history of time taken by DGTD and I.C.A.R. in dealing with the case of import of airconditioning plant reqd. for new building of laboratory at Matunga, Bombay-19.

Date on which reference recd. in DGTD	Date of return by DGTD	Brief details of the case
1	2	3
15-6-1963	29-7-1963	The reference was for a variety of equipment. Clearance was given for all items concerning D.G.T.D. except humidification and temperature control for which the ICAR were asked to contact Industrial Air Control (I) Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.
24-4-64	5-5-64	ICAR, having decided not to accept the entirely indigenous offer, asked for clearance of the following items costing Rs 16,000/- : "Compressor, Humidifier Controls, etc. for Humidification and Temperature Control Plant" DHTD declined to give the clearance and suggested that three more Indian Firms might be contacted.
29-6-64	30-6-64	ICAR referred back the case to DGTD without any further justification and asked DGTD to accord indigenous clearance. DGTD declined to grant the same on the ground that M/S. Industrial Air Control (P) Ltd. were able to supply without any foreign exchange <i>vide</i> position stated by ICAR themselves.

1	2	3
17-7-64	24-7-64	Mr. Garg of Ministry of Food & Agri. personally handed over the case to I.M. (I) Dte. of DGTD, without any further justification for clearance. Case returned to Ministry of Food & Agriculture with the advice that the case may be referred to DGTD after exploring the indigenous availability of the spares.
6-8-64	24-8-64	ICAR referred the case again to DGTD repeating the previous arguments and requesting grant of indigenous clearance. ICAR was advised by DGTD that "Compressors offered by the indigenous firms do possess capacity controls, etc. besides, these are manufactured in collaboration with foreign firms of repute. ICAR was again advised that indigenous manufacturers may be approached for the supply.
17-6-66	2-7-66	The ICAR reduced the demand for imported components from Rs. 16,000 to Rs. 3,600 only and asked for indigenous clearance for eight items only. Clearance was given for six items and ICAR advised to contact indigenous manufacturers for thermostat and humidistat.
23-1-67	12-2-67	In spite of the fact that M/s. Voltas agreed to import the humidistat and thermostat from their own import quota, request was made to DGTD for according indigenous angle clearance for same. DGTD asked for full technical justification and also queried "in what respect the indigenous make was not suitable." Regret letters from the Indian Suppliers were also asked for.
6-6-67	17-6-67	Case referred back to DGTD with regret letters from the indigenous suppliers. Clearance from indigenous angle accorded for the thermostat and humidistat in view of the justification now furnished by the party.

Recommendation

The Committee regret to point out that there was lack of planning in this case, as a result of which the foreign expert arrived in India several months in advance of the construction of building and the arrival of the plant and machinery that he was required to instal therein. The Committee feel that had proper liaison been maintained with the supplier about the supply of the plant and machinery, the time of delivery could have been known. In case delay was anticipated in the delivery of the plant and machinery, the arrival of the expert in India could have been deferred and the extension of his assignment for a further period of six months and extra expenditure avoided.

[Serial No. 55 (Para No. 5.50) of Appendix to the Fourth Report
(Fifth Lok Sabha)]

Action taken

The Weaving and Finishing Specialist (Mr. P. Wilson) was assigned by the Food and Agriculture Organisation, of the United Nations for the establishment of the two departments viz. Weaving and Finishing in the Fibre Processing Section of the Institute. He was also to assist in the installation of the machinery and commissioning thereof, apart from assisting in imparting appropriate training to the staff of this Section. Mr. Wilson joined the Institute in June, 1968, and his initial period of assignment was for 18 months. The weaving machines which were expected to be received by then, started arriving from October, 1968. During this period Mr. Wilson was required to remain busy with the initial planning regarding the lay-out, electrical fitting, etc. and also in holding technical discussions with the Institute's counterpart. During this period he imparted technical training to the staff of fibre processing section. His visit to some Indian Woollen Mills were also arranged so that he could acquaint himself with the local Weaving and finishing practices.

2. Apart from this, the presence of Food and Agriculture Organisation representative at the time of the arrival of the machinery was also essential so that in case any breakages, damages etc. were detected at the time of unpacking, claims for insurance, replacement of broken/damaged parts were timely lodged and honoured. Since the supply order was placed by the Food & Agriculture Organisation, the claims had to be certified/verified on the spot by their technical specialist. In this way, the services of Mr. Wilson were usefully utilised and the purpose of his assignment fulfilled right from the initial stages. As soon as the weaving machines started arriving, Mr. Wilson carried out the erection and commenced practical training of the weaving staff. All the weaving machinery were received by February, 1969 and their erection completed by May, 1969. The assignment of Mr. Wilson was extended upto 31-12-1971 to enable him to complete the installation work relating to finishing machinery. He however left in the last week of December, 1971, owing to expiry of his term. Seven out of the eight machines for the finishing work were installed and trial runs made. The eighth finishing machine viz. starter was received incomplete from the suppliers and so could not be installed. The matter was brought to the notice of the F.A.O. authorities who assured to supply the missing parts soon.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2) | 71-Accounts-II,
dated 11 | 12-7-1972].

CHAPTER V

RECOMMENDATION/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH GOVERNMENT HAVE FURNISHED INTERIM REPLIES

Recommendation

The Committee are distressed that there has been an element of unspent balance each year arising out of the drawal in March of sums required during April of the next year. It has been said that the Council has recently approached the Ministry of Finance for sanction of interest free ways and means advances to the Council equal to the requirement of funds for drawal so that the recurrence of intentional overdrawal of funds during one year to meet a part of the requirement of the next year is avoided. The Committee suggest that a suitable procedure should be worked out to meet the situation.

[S. No. 6 (Para 1.37) of Appendix to Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action Taken

The Government have noted the Committee's suggestion that a suitable procedure should be worked out to take care of the requirements of the Council for meeting expenditure at various Stations during the fortnight of April. It is understood that the C.S.I.R. has been recently permitted to have a working balance of Rs. 75 lakhs which can be carried forward from year to year and which should be utilised for contingencies of this type. The I.C.A.R. is in touch with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research with a view to have full details of the arrangement so that a similar method can be adopted. The Committee will be informed as soon as a decision is taken in this regard.

[Deptt. of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Accounts-II,
dated 23-2-1972].

Recommendation

The need for reviewing the existing research stations currently run by the Centre has been emphasised by the High Level Commit-

tee of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in 1962 and the Study Team of the Administrative Reforms Commission in 1967. In his letter addressed to the Agriculture Ministers of the States in 1965, the Minister of Food and Agriculture while pointing out the need for review of the research stations of States observed. "The scope as well as the need for such a review are obvious from the fact that while in a country like the United States there are only about 200 agricultural research stations, we have over a thousand in India. Most of our stations are both ill-equipped and inadequately staffed." The Study Team of A.R.C. have observed. "A review of all the Research Stations and Farms currently being run by the Centre should be made by competent experts and action should be taken to close down such of the stations and farms which are not running on reasonable standards and the remaining should be handed over to the States. The Centre should only maintain national and all-India institutions and farms." The Committee have been informed that at a meeting of the Directors of Institutes held in June, 1970, it was decided that an assessment should be made of the role played by each regional or sub-station of the I.C.A.R. Institutes and the purpose served by each. Wherever it was felt that the substation served a useful purpose and was not duplicating the work of State agency, such stations should be kept. Regarding others, recommendations may be made to the I.C.A.R. for winding up or handing over the stations to the appropriate State agencies. The Committee regret that although the need for reducing the number of research stations has been felt for a long time, no concrete steps have been taken towards this direction. The Committee desire that a time-bound programme should be drawn up to implement the decision taken at the meeting of the Directors of the Institutes held in June, 1970, and the Committee informed of the progress made in this behalf.

[S. No. 16 (Para No. 2.18) of Appendix to the Fourth Report (Fifth Lok Sabha)].

Action Taken

In order to assess the need for continuing a large number of stations under the aegis of I.C.A.R. in the background of the All India Coordinated Projects launched on all-India basis and the establishment of Agricultural Universities in every State, Achievement Audit Committees which have been constituted to look into the functioning of the Institutes have also been specifically requested to look into this aspect also and advice the Council about the necessity of retaining the Stations/Sub-Stations.

I.C.A.R. has also constituted a few special committees to look into this matter. Their reports are awaited, and a thorough examination of the question and appropriate decisions will be taken before the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan.

[Ministry of Agriculture (I.C.A.R.) O.M. No. F. 5(2)/71-Accounts-II,
dated 12-7-1972].

NEW DELHI;
January 11, 1973
Pausa 21, 1894 (Saka).

ERA SEZHIYAN,
Chairman,
Public Accounts Committee.

APPENDIX

Summary of main Recommendations/Conclusions

S.No.	Para No.	Name of the Ministry/ Deptt.	Recommendations/Conclusions
1	2	3	4
1.	1.8	Ministry of Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture)	<p>The Committee had desired that the process of reorganisation of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research which started on the 1st April, 1965 should be completed without further delay. The Committee note that some progress has been made in the evaluation of assets and liabilities of 3 Institutes and one Commodity Committee with a view to taking over their administrative control by the Council. The Committee, however, find that the evaluation of assets and liabilities of two Sugarcane Research Institutes is yet to be made. Transfer deeds for the transfer of assets and liabilities of the erstwhile Government Research Institutes and four erstwhile statutory Commodity Committees from the books of Government to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research are also yet to be executed. A comprehensive bill for declaring the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institute as an Institute of National Importance is not yet finalised. The Committee desire that the entire process of reorganisation and consolidation of the Organisation should be expedited.</p>

2. I.11 -Do-

The Committee had taken note of the fact that the research work on coffee, tea and rubber was inadequate and that even the organisational arrangements had been recognisedly not satisfactory. The Ministry has informed that in pursuance of the recommendations of the Conference of Inter Organisational Cooperation and Research, the I.C.A.R. have already constituted a Combined Study Group on plantation crops namely, Tea, Coffee, Rubber and Sericulture including Tassar industry. The first meeting of the Combined Study Group was held in October, 1971. It is presumed that the Study Group is required to submit periodical reports on its findings. The Committee desire that Government should take necessary steps to improve the research work and to establish better coordination between the respective Boards and the I.C.A.R. on the basis of the findings of the Study Group at an early date.

3. I.12 -Do-

The Committee note that a proposal for transfer of the administrative control of the Botanical Survey of India, the Botanical Gardens and the Herbarium is under examination in consultation with the Ministries concerned. The Committee hope that the question of bringing other Institutions under the control of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research will also be taken up in due course.

4. I.15 -Do-

The Committee note that the Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance has been requested to review the staff position of the I.C.A.R. headquarters by including the Council in their programme for the year 1972. As more than 10 months have lapsed since the

1	2	3	4
			<p>receipt of this information, the Committee hope that the Staff Inspection Unit would have taken up the review of the staff position of the I.C.A.R. headquarters. The Committee trust that the review would be completed early and necessary follow-up action taken without any loss of time.</p>
5.	I. 16	Ministry of Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture)	<p>The Committee also desire that the Works Study Unit of the Council should complete the work study of its Institutes within 3 years and lay down guidelines or norms regarding ratio of scientific, technical and administrative staff of the various Institutes.</p>
6.	I. 19	-Do-	<p>The Committee note the steps that are being taken towards amalgamation of Government staff and non-Government staff in the Secretariat of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. They desire that concerned efforts should be made to complete the reorganisation of the Headquarters of the Council.</p>
7.	I. 22	-Do-	<p>The Committee note that the progress of work on agricultural research is being reviewed every 5 years to synchronise with the preparation of Five Year Plans. This should be a comprehensive review so that the results could be utilised for the formulation of the successive Five Year Plans in regard to agricultural research. The Committee further desire that apart from this review the Indian Council of Agricultural Research should devise a suitable machinery</p>

to keep under constant watch the impact of the various coordination measures for the strengthening of research work so that corrective steps could be taken concurrently.

8. I. 25 -Do-

The Committee note that Indian Council of Agricultural Research are contemplating to have Advisory Committees set up for each Institute in which the representatives of the Agricultural Universities, State Governments and other concerned agencies would be present. The Committee would like to reiterate that the feasibility of laying down guidelines regarding roles for different Research agencies to avoid duplication in research work, should also be examined.

9. I. 28 -Do-

The Committee would like to know if Government have examined the Report of the Study Group of the Administrative Reforms Commission particularly in regard to the question of effective dissemination of research information and if so, the results of the examination.

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10. I. 31 -Do-

The Committee appreciate that certain research schemes relating to cross-breeding, progeny testing etc. requires long experimentation. They nevertheless consider that it is necessary to have the progress made on such schemes under constant review.

11. I. 34 -Do-

The Committee note that out of the total stock value of Rs. 15.74 lakhs of unsold publications as at the end of March, 1970, the Council has been able to sell stock worth Rs. 5.20 lakhs by the end of March, 1971. While over 48 per cent of the old stock of semi-

1	2	3	4
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technical publications have been sold, the pace of sale of old scientific publications has been low i.e. about 16 per cent. The Committee desire that special efforts should be made to clear the stock of old publications both scientific and semi-technical. In this connection they would suggest that if some of these old publications have already become obsolete they may be disposed of early. The Committee would further urge that sale promotion of publications should be concentrated more in the country than abroad so that useful information contained in them may reach the user in the country.

12. I. 36 Ministry of Agriculture
(Deptt. of Agriculture)

The Committee desire that the cost of production of publications, Annual Reports and other non-technical publications should be kept as low as possible.

13. I. 39 -Do-

The Committee hope that the review of the headquarters of the I.C.A.R. by the Staff Inspection Unit will cover the Publications Division also.

14. I. 42 -Do-

The Committee are unhappy that in this case delay in clearance of foreign exchange component of Rs. 13,500 by the D.G.T.D. resulted in delay of over 7 years in providing the humidity and temperature control plant in the building which was necessary to instal spinning machinery procured at a cost of Rs. 4.60 lakhs in 1964. Further, the cost of the plant went up by Rs. 94,500. Although the urgency of the matter should have been sufficiently impressed by

the I.C.A.R., the Committee are unable to appreciate the handling of the matter in a routine manner by the D.G.T.D. The Committee hope that the D.G.T.D. will take steps to see that the cases of this kind are processed with a sense of urgency that they deserve.

15.

1945

-Do-

The Committee are not satisfied about the progress made in issue of utilisation certificates for grants given by the Council. As against the pendency of Rs. 691.46 lakhs upto March, 1969 utilisation certificates in respect of grant paid by the Council have been received only to the extent of Rs. 124.57 lakhs during the past 3 years upto February, 1972. As the pendency relates even to the period prior to 1964, the Committee would appreciate if the I.C.A.R. could give an indication of the date by which the past cases will be cleared giving priority to the relatively older ones. The Committee hope that as a result of the adoption of the measures approved by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for settlement of old cases, the Council will be able to clear old cases early and also prevent accumulation of outstandings in future.

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Sl. No.	Name of Agent	Agency No.	Sl. No.	Name of Agent	Agency No.
DELHI			33.	Oxford Book & Stationery Company, Scindia House, Connaught Place, New Delhi-1.	68
24.	Jain Book Agency Connaught Place, New Delhi.	11	34.	People's Publishing House, Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi.	76
25.	Sat Narain & Sons, 3141, Mohd. Ali Bazar, Mori Gate, Delhi	3	35.	The United Book Agency, 48, Amrit Kaur Market, Pahar Ganj, New Delhi.	88
26.	Atma Ram & Sons, Kashmiri Gate, Delhi-6.	9	36.	Hind Book House, 82, Janpath, New Delhi.	59
27.	J. M. Jain & Brothers, Mori Gate, Delhi.	11	37.	Bookwell, 4, Sant Narakari Colony, Kingsway Camp, Delhi-9.	96
28.	The Central News Agency, 23/90 Connaught Place, New Delhi.	15	MANIPUR		
29.	The English Book Store, 7-L, Connaught Circus, New Delhi.	20	38.	Shri N. Chaoba Singh, News Agent, Ramlal Paul High School Annexe, Imphal	77
30.	Lakshmi Book Store, 42, Municipal Market, Janpath, New Delhi.	23	AGENTS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES		
31.	Bahree Brothers, 188, Lajpatrai Market, Delhi-6.	27	39.	The Secretary, Establishment Department, The High Commission of India, India House, Aldwych LONDON W.C.—2.	59
32.	Jayana Book Depot, Chaparwala Kuan, Karol Bagh, New Delhi.	66			

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