

**ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
(1967-68)**

EIGHTH REPORT

(FOURTH LOK SABHA)

**MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT
AND REHABILITATION**

Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventy-first Report of the Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha) on the erstwhile Ministry of Rehabilitation—Reception, Dispersal and Rehabilitation of New Migrants arriving in India from East Pakistan since 1st January, 1964.



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

June, 1967/Asadha, 1889 (Saka)

**LIST OF AUTHORISED AGENTS FOR THE SALE OF LOK SABHA
SECRETARIAT PUBLICATIONS**

Sl. No.	Name of Agent	Agency No.	Sl. No.	Name of Agent	Agency No.
ANDHRA PRADESH					
1.	Andhra University General Cooperative Stores Ltd., Waltair (Visakhapatnam).	8	13.	Deccan Book Stall, Ferguson College Road, Poona-4.	65
2.	G. R. Lakshminpathy Chetty and Sons, General Merchants and News Agents, Newpet, Chandragiri, Chittoor District.	94	RAJASTHAN		
			14.	Information Centre, Government of Rajasthan, Tripolia, Jaipur City.	38
ASSAM					
3.	Western Book Depot, Pan Bazar, Gauhati.	7	UTTAR PRADESH		
			15.	Swastik Industrial Works, 59, Holi Street, Meerut City.	2
BIHAR					
4.	Amar Kitab Ghar, Post Box 78, Diagonal Road, Jamshedpur.	37	16.	Law Book Company, Sardar Patel Marg, Allahabad-1.	48
GUJARAT					
5.	Vijay Stores, Station Road, Anand.	35	17.	Granthaloka, 5/1, Ambica Mookherjee Road, Belgharia, 24 Parganas.	10
6.	The New Order Book Company, Ellis Bridge, Ahmedabad-6.	63	18.	W. Newman & Company Ltd., 3, Old Court House Street, Calcutta.	44
MADHYA PRADESH					
7.	Modern Book House, Shiv Vilas Palace, Indore City.	13	19.	Firma K. L. Mukhopadhyay, 6/1A, Banchharam Akrur Lane, Calcutta-12.	82
MHARASHTRA					
8.	M/s. Sunderdas Gianchand, 601, Girgaum Road, near Princess Street, Bombay-2.	6	DELHI		
9.	The International Book House (Private) Limited, 9, Ash Lane, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bombay-1.	22	20.	Jain Book Agency, Connaught Place, New Delhi.	1
10.	The International Book Service, Deccan Gymkhana, Poona-4.	26	21.	Sat Narain & Sons, 3141, Mohd. Ali Bazar, Mori Gate, Delhi.	3
11.	Charles Lambert & Company, 101, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Opposite Clock Tower, Fort, Bombay.	30	22.	Atma Ram & Sons, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-6.	9
12.	The Current Book House, Maruti Lane, Raghunath Dadaji Street, Bombay-1.	60	23.	J. M. Jaina & Brothers, Mori Gate, Delhi.	11
			24.	The Central News Agency, 23/60, Connaught Place, New Delhi.	15
			25.	The English Book Store, 7-L, Connaught Circus, New Delhi.	20
			26.	Lakshmi Book Store, 42, Municipal Market, Janpath, New Delhi.	23

CORRIGENDA

To

Eighth Report of the Estimates Committee on Action-taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 71st Report of the Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha).

1. Page (iv), line 2, for 'Shri Gajraj Singh' read 'Shri Gajraj Singh Rao'.
 2. Page 17, line 3, after 'laid down' insert 'on'.
 3. Page 19, line 29, for 'they' read 'the'.
-

CONTENTS

		PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE	(iii)
INTRODUCTION		(v)
CHAPTER I	Report	1
CHAPTER II	Recommendations that have been accepted by Government	6
CHAPTER III	Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply	47
CHAPTER IV	Recommendations in respect of which replies have not been accepted by the Committee	50
APPENDIX	Analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 71st Report of the Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha)	58

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

(1967-68)

CHAIRMAN

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah

MEMBERS

2. Shri Panna Lal Barupal
3. Shri Onkar Lal Berwa
4. Shri Maharaj Singh Bharti
5. Shri Bibhuti Mishra
6. Shri R. K. Birla
7. Shri Jyotirmoy Basu
8. Shri Tridib Chaudhuri
9. Shri Hardayal Devgun
10. Shri Y. Gadilingana Goud
11. Shri J. N. Hazarika
12. Shri J. M. Imam
13. Shri Tulshidas Jadhav
14. Shri Dhireswar Kalita
15. Shri S. Kandappan
16. Shri Baij Nath Kureel
17. Shri Yashwant Singh Kushwah
18. Shri K. Lakkappa
19. Shrimati Sangam Laxmi Bai
20. Shri J. M. Lobo Prabhu
21. Shri Inder J. Malhotra
22. Shri Yamuna Prasad Mandal
23. Shri Dhuleshwar Meena
24. Shri F. H. Mohsin
25. Shri Chintamani Panigrahi

(iii)

(iv)

26. Shri Rajdeo Singh
27. Shri Gajraj Singh
28. Shrimati Jayaben Shah
29. Shri Shantilal Shah
30. Shri P. Sivasankaran.

SECRETARIAT

Shri B. B. Tewari—*Deputy Secretary.*

Shri G. D. Sharma—*Under Secretary.*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Estimates Committee, having been authorised by the Committee, present this Eighth Report of the Estimates Committee on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventy-first Report of the Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha) on the erstwhile Ministry of Rehabilitation—Reception, Dispersal and Rehabilitation of New Migrants arriving in India from East Pakistan since 1st January, 1964.

The Seventy-first Report of the Estimates Committee was presented to the Lok Sabha on the 6th April, 1965. Government furnished their replies indicating the action taken on the recommendations contained in the Report on the 12th October and 15th November, 1965 and 5th September, 1966. These replies were considered by the Study Group 'E' of the Estimates Committee (1966-67) at their sitting held on the 5th September, 1966. The Study Group desired that further information in respect of 13 recommendations might be called for from Government. Further replies in respect of these 13 recommendations were received from Government, on the 5th and 19th November, 1966, 28th December, 1966 and 5th January, 1967.

The draft Report was adopted by the Committee on the 29th May, 1967.

The Report has been divided into the following four chapters:

- I. Report.
- II. Recommendations that have been accepted by Government.
- III. Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's reply.
- IV. Recommendations in respect of which replies have not been accepted by the Committee.

An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventy-first Report (Third Lok Sabha) of the Estimates Committee is given in the Appendix. It would be observed therefrom that out of 59 recommendations made in the

(vi)

Report, 49 recommendations i.e. 83.1 per cent have been accepted by Government and the Committee do not desire to pursue 2 recommendations i.e. 3.4 per cent in view of Government's replies. Replies of the Government in respect of 8 recommendations i.e. 13.5 per cent have not been accepted by the Committee.

NEW DELHI-1.
29th June, 1967.

8th Asadha, 1889 (Saka).

P. VENKATASUBBAIAH,
Chairman,
Estimates Committee.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

Desertions and Expulsions from Camps

The Committee in paras 10 and 11 of their 71st Report (Third Lok Sabha) on the erstwhile Ministry of Rehabilitation had recommended that details of families who either deserted the Camps or were expelled from the Camps for various reasons should be suitably circulated to the Governments of West Bengal, Assam, Tripura etc. in order to enable those Governments, in the case of deserters, to persuade them to return to the camps and to keep track of those who did not return, and, in the case of those expelled from the camps, to watch their movement, and, if necessary, try to keep them on the right track.

Government have stated that circulation of details of such families "would not serve any useful purpose" as the precise destinations of such families were not known even to the camp authorities and without that information, the State Governments would not be in a position to establish any contact with them. Further, Government have stated that they "do not consider it necessary to advise the State Governments that they should watch the movements of such (expelled) migrants and try to keep them on the right track, as such a line of action does not appear to be feasible in the existing circumstances."

The Committee feel that even though the State Governments may not be able to establish contact with the deserters or those expelled from the camps for lack of information as to their precise destinations, reporting of details of the deserting or expelled families to the Governments of West Bengal, Assam and Tripura, where most of such families migrate, would enable those Governments to keep a watch that such families or any members thereof do not take advantage of the facilities by registering themselves as new migrants de novo. This would also keep those Governments informed of the extent of desertions or expulsions from various camps*.

*At the time of factual verification in June, 1967, the Ministry have stated as follows:

"The suggestions made in para 1 of Chapter 1 of the draft Report, namely, to send lists of families which had left the camps voluntarily or which had been expelled from the camps, to the Governments of West Bengal, Assam and Tripura are accepted, in view of what is stated in the third sub-para. Necessary instructions to all concerned would be issued."

Migration without Migration Certificate

2. In para 16, the Committee had enumerated some of the difficulties and reasons which might have been compelling an appreciable number of intending migrants to cross the border without securing a migration certificate from the Indian Deputy High Commission at Dacca. The Committee had recommended that a Committee consisting *inter alia* of the representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Rehabilitation and of the State Governments of Assam and West Bengal might "review the entire system of issue of migration certificates, including the existing rules of eligibility, procedures and facilities and to suggest the lines on which further liberalisation could be done." They also desired that the Committee might as well consider "how relief and rehabilitation benefits should not be denied to genuine and deserving migrants even though they may not be able to obtain the migration certificates because of disturbed conditions, distance, ignorance etc."

The Government have in their reply maintained that "the existing rules relating to eligibility for, and the procedures and facilities in regard to, the issue of migration certificates are quite liberal and need no periodical review." According to them, "at present, migration certificates are issued promptly and the applicants are not put to any avoidable inconvenience". They have, however, assured that "Government would be agreeable to consider the scope for further liberalisation of the existing system, if events in East Pakistan at any time make it necessary to do so."

As regards the question of extending relief and rehabilitation assistance to migrants entering India without travel documents, Government have stated that "with effect from 1st April, 1965, intending migrants to India are allowed to cross the border only if they have valid travel documents. A person who seeks to enter India without such documents is allowed to do so only if the authorities are satisfied that he would be able to subsist on his own, without any assistance from the Government. In the light of this policy, the question of extending relief and rehabilitation benefits to this category of migrants would not arise." For these reasons, the setting up of a committee, as recommended in the report of the Estimates Committee, is not "considered necessary" by the Government "at this stage".

The Committee would like to emphasise that migration from East Pakistan is a continuing problem which at any time can get accentuated due to the peculiar circumstances in which minority community

is placed in East Pakistan. As pointed out earlier by the Committee, in such circumstances, the members of the minority community might be forced to leave their homes at short notice. It is, therefore, essential that the formalities for issuing the migration certificates by the Indian Deputy High Commissioner at Dacca are simplified and streamlined having due regard to the need for expedition and of ensuring security. The Committee also feel that the question of grant of relief and rehabilitation benefits to genuine and deserving migrants who have to leave their homes and cross the border because of disturbed conditions without obtaining migration certificates on account of distance, ignorance etc. deserves sympathetic examination. The Committee therefore reiterate their recommendation that a Committee consisting inter-alia of the representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Rehabilitation etc. and of the State Governments of Assam and West Bengal might review the entire system of issue of migration certificates to members of the minority community from East Pakistan and examine the question of affording some relief and rehabilitation assistance to migrants entering India without valid travel documents*.

Revision of Policy regarding grant of rehabilitation benefits

3. The revised policy restricting relief and rehabilitation benefits to those who possessed migration certificates was amended by Government only a week before the date from which it was to come into force. The Committee had, in para 18 of their report, observed that the notice period of revised policy was too short for the news to reach the interior of Pakistan from where the exodus took place. Moreover, the Committee had felt that in view of the fact that repeated assurances had been given in Parliament that all the migrants arriving after 1st January, 1964 would be eligible to relief and rehabilitation benefits irrespective of whether they possessed migration certificates or not, it was only appropriate that Government should have announced in Parliament their intention of modifying their policy before it was enforced.

*At the time of factual verification in June, 1967, the Ministry have stated as follows:

"Recently at the State Rehabilitation Ministers' Conference, the present policy in regard to giving relief and rehabilitation benefits was set forth in a note and the Ministers attending the Conference were requested to advise whether the present policy needed any modification. No modification has been suggested at the Conference.

However, the Department of Rehabilitation proposes to set up an Inter-Departmental Committee, as recommended by the Estimates Committee for examination of the two issues raised by them."

Government have, in their reply, stated that "The normal practice ever since 1952 has been not to permit the entry into India of persons without valid travel documents. Since 1958 even persons entering with migration certificates were not considered eligible for the grant of relief and rehabilitation benefits. These restrictions were temporarily relaxed early in 1964 in view of the conditions then prevailing in East Pakistan and persons coming from that country were permitted free entry into India and were also given relief and rehabilitation benefits. After the situation there had eased and the procedure for the grant of migration certificates by Indian Deputy High Commission at Dacca had been both liberalised and simplified, these temporary relaxations were withdrawn partly in November, 1964 and partly in April, 1965. Since the relaxations were temporary and their withdrawal restored the position to what it was before January, 1964 and did not constitute any departure from the basic policy of the Government, it was not considered necessary to announce the decisions in the Parliament before they were implemented. Government's policy about regulating the entry of migrants from East Pakistan is however, kept constantly under review and due note is taken of the developments of East Pakistan from time to time."

The Committee are not convinced by the explanation of the Government that "it was not considered necessary to announce the decisions in the Parliament before they were implemented" as "the relaxations (allowing free entry to migrants from East Pakistan without travel documents and extending relief and rehabilitation benefits to them) were temporary and their withdrawal restored the position to what was before January, 1964". They feel that such major policy revisions should be announced in Parliament in advance of their implementation so as to afford an opportunity to Parliament to consider the same. The Committee hope that, in future, Government would take Parliament into confidence whenever any policy changes in regard to grant of relief and rehabilitation benefits to migrants from East Pakistan are contemplated*.

*At the time of factual verification in June, 1967, the Ministry have stated as follows:

"It is,.....felt that a prior announcement of policy in Parliament may make it difficult to attain the objective in some cases, as such an announcement may induce undesirable persons to seek admission to camps or to cross over to India in large numbers without any apparent justification. Where no such difficulty is apprehended, there would be no objection on the part of this Department to making a prior announcement of the policy in Parliament, if it is in Session."

Business Loan Scheme

4. In para 70, the Committee had urged that an early decision should be taken on the Business Loan Scheme submitted by the Maharashtra Government, suggesting that the scheme should be made applicable to all the migrants arriving in India after 1st January, 1964 irrespective of whether they were lodged in camps run by Government or not. Government have intimated that they have since taken a decision on the scheme and issued the necessary orders on 14th May and 17th June, 1965. The benefits under the scheme, as finalised, are however not open to all the migrants irrespective of whether they are in camps run by the Government or not.

The Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Business Loan Scheme should be extended to all the migrants arriving in India from East Pakistan since 1st January, 1964, irrespective of whether they are lodged in Transit/Relief Camps set up by Government or not. The Committee consider that this measure would go a long way in accelerating the rehabilitation of such of the migrants also as have elected not to be a burden on the Government.

Discharge from Camps on grounds of indiscipline

5. At present, if a migrant is expelled from the camp on grounds of breach of discipline, his family is also expelled from the camp along with him. In para 72, the Committee had urged consideration by the Government of the question of allowing the family of such migrants to remain in the Permanent Liability Camp, if the family so wishes, on compassionate grounds. Government have expressed their inability to accept the suggestion of the Committee as, according to them, "the present provision acts as a deterrent on migrants who might otherwise be tempted to violate camp discipline".

While noting the views expressed by Government, the Committee feel that where the members of the family of an inmate expelled from the camp on grounds of indiscipline are not found to be responsible for his conduct, there may be scope for a lenient view being taken by the Government in the matter of expelling the members of the family also along with the guilty person. The Committee hope that suitable instructions in the matter will be issued by Government.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Serial No. 1, Para No. 6)

The Committee feel that the question of providing gainful occupation to such of the migrants as have stayed outside the camps in West Bengal, Assam and Tripura should also receive urgent attention of the Government. Although, it may not be feasible to draw up agricultural Schemes for resettlement of these migrants, Government should in consultation with the State Governments concerned, consider the feasibility of having some alternative schemes for providing gainful employment to them. To that end the Committee suggest that the development plans of the concerned States, particularly of West Bengal, may be urgently and suitably reviewed so as to assess the requisite resources for generating adequate employment potential for these migrants and to devise ways and means to make these resources available. They also feel that besides providing work for unskilled migrants, Government should not overlook the need to provide adequate employment opportunities for the skilled and educated migrants.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Government of India have taken various steps for providing employment to the migrants under the Government and also in the Public Sector Undertakings, etc., as detailed below:—

(a) *Reservation of vacancies in Defence Establishments.*—Fifty per cent of the vacancies in the Defence Establishments in the Eastern Region and 25 per cent of the vacancies in other areas have been reserved for the new migrants. These special reservations relate only to Class III and Class IV posts and will be for a period of one year in the first instance.

(b) *Vacancies in Public Sector Undertakings.*—In response to the request of this Ministry, the Ministries concerned with the Public Sector Undertakings have requested the Undertakings under their control to reserve vacancies for the new migrants in the same manner as the Defence Establishments. The State Governments have also been requested to allow similar concessions in the State Undertakings.

(c) *Age concession for competitive examinations.*—Age concession for competitive examinations held by the U.P.S.C. up to three years in excess of the normal upper age limit has been given to the new migrants.

(d) *Fee concessions.*—Fee concessions have been granted to new migrants for submission of applications for posts advertised by U.P.S.C. or for admission to examinations conducted by them.

(e) *Age relaxation for entry into Government Service.*—The maximum age limit for entry into Government Service has been relaxed up to 45 years for new migrants.

(f) *Setting up of Special Employment Exchanges.*—(i) A special cell in the Directorate General of Employment and Training has been set up for sponsoring candidates to the vacancies arising in the offices/undertakings of the Central Government.

(ii) Permanent displaced Class III and Class IV Government servants from East Pakistan, who have migrated to India on or after 1st January, 1964, are granted the facility of absorption in employment under the Government of India through the Special Cell in the Directorate General, Employment and Training.

(iii) For the Registration of the new migrants and to provide facilities for their employment a Special Employment Exchange has already been set up at Mana (Raipur) and two special employment officers have been appointed in Calcutta (West Bengal) and Shillong (Assam) and their offices have been located in the State Directorate of Employment and Training.

The Employment Exchanges in various States have so far registered 17,079 migrants and secured jobs for about 1,000 migrants.

In regard to the recommendation made for the review of the development plans of the States concerned, it is presumed that the States have brought their difficulties and problems to the notice of the Planning Commission and the Finance Commission.

It has, however, been agreed in the case of West Bengal, that in regard to developmental assistance for expansion of medical and educational facilities, on account of substantial addition to the State's population due to the influx of the migrants, the Government of West Bengal might have to provide medical and educational facilities on an expanded scale in a few cases in certain areas. Proposals for such expansion would be formulated by the State Government in the context of the development schemes in that Sector and

would be forwarded to the Ministry of Rehabilitation which, as already agreed to, would take them up with the Ministries concerned in the Government of India.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH.I, dated 12-10-1965]

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate:

(a) whether the special reservation of vacancies in Class III and Class IV posts to the extent of 50 per cent in the Defence Establishments and 25 per cent in other areas, for the new migrants are still in force? If so, upto what period these shall remain in force?

(b) what is the latest position in regard to reservation of vacancies for the new migrants in the Public Sector Undertakings under the Central and State Governments?

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23 (1) ECI/65, dated 15-9-1966]

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

(a) The instructions regarding reservation of 50 per cent of the vacancies in Defence Establishments in the Eastern Region and 25 per cent of the vacancies in the Defence Establishments in other areas, were issued by the Ministry of Defence on 19th August, 1964 and these orders remained in force for a period of one year. When further continuance of these orders up to December, 1967, was considered, a constitutional point was raised whether reservation would not be *ultra vires*. This is under consideration.

(b) Public Sector Undertakings under the Central Government have agreed to give priority to new migrants wherever there is scope. Some of the State Governments have also issued suitable instructions in the matter to the Public Sector Undertakings under them. A statement is enclosed showing in brief the replies received in this behalf from some of the Public Sector Undertakings. (See Annexure below).

2. So far, 2041 migrants have been provided employment through the Directorate General of Employment and Training, as under:—

(i) Under Central Government	1160
(ii) State Government	602
(iii) Public Sector Undertakings	65
(iv) Quasi Government and Local Bodies	168
(v) Private Sector Undertakings	46
TOTAL	2041

3. Recently the Heavy Electricals (India) Ltd., Bhopal have agreed to employ about 200 I.T.I. trained migrant boys. The Bharat Electricals Limited, Hardwar have also employed two I.T.I. trained migrants. Efforts are still being continued to explore avenues of employment of the migrants in various Industries and Public Sector Undertakings in the country.

ANNEXURE

Statement showing in brief the replies received from the Public Sector Undertakings.

Sl. No. Name of the Undertakings	Brief contents of the reply received from the Undertakings
1. Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., Koraput.	I.T.I. trained migrants will be considered for employment.
2. Oil & Natural Gas Commission, Dehradun.	Preference will be given to migrants if suitable.
3. Beas Project Admn., Talwara Township.	No scope for absorption of migrants as surplus workers of Bhakra Dam to be employed.
4. Bokaro Steel Limited.	High Priority will be given to migrants for employment.
5. Hindustan Teleprinters Limited, Madras.	Migrants suitable for appointment and sponsored by DGE&T will be given preference.
6. Indian Oil Corporation Limited.	As soon as the surplus personnel retrenched from Projects under them are absorbed, employment opportunities would be given to D.Ps.
7. Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited.	No reservation for D.Ps. possible. Instructions being issued to Regional Offices to try to absorb as many D.Ps. as possible.
8. Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Madras.	Factory is in the process of construction. Very limited scope for employment of migrants. Migrants sponsored by DGE&T will no doubt be considered.
9. Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited, Ranchi.	Due to internal adjustment of surplus staff, little scope for migrants in the near future.

Sl. No.	Name of the Undertakings	Brief contents of the reply received from the Undertakings
10.	Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited,	Projects are at the construction and erection stage. However, vacancies would be notified to DGE&T and migrants sponsored by them would be considered alongwith others.
11.	Farraka Barrage Project, Murshidabad.	Not possible to employ migrants as there is a proposal to curtail works programme.
12.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bombay.	People with experience in Oil Industry are recruited. Not possible to accommodate migrants. For office cadre, vacancies are notified and suitable candidates are given due consideration.
13.	Cement Corporation of India, Limited.	No migrant from East Pakistan has yet been absorbed. In fact hardly any recruitment has been made from open market.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation O.M.
No. 3(3)/65-RH.I, dated 5-11-1966]

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please furnish further progress in regard to employment of migrants in Central/State Governments' Quasi-Government/Local Bodies and Public/Private Sector Undertakings.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23 (1) ECI/65, dated 21-11-1966]

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The total number of new migrants provided employment through the D.G.E. & T., upto October, 1966 is 2,212. The break-up of the figure is as under:—

Under Central Government	1230
„ State Government	624
„ Quasi Government & Local Bodies	224
„ Public Sector Undertakings	68
„ Private Sector Undertakings	66
TOTAL ..	2212

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation O.M.
No. 3(3)/65-RH.I, dated 28-11-1966]

Recommendation [Serial No. 2(i); Para No. 9]

The following reasons have been given by the Government for desertions from Camps:

- (i) insistence by the migrants on the allotment of agricultural land which was not readily available;
- (ii) disinclination to do manual work;
- (iii) the hot climate of the locality to which the migrants are not accustomed;
- (iv) shortage of water supply in the initial stages caused by the sudden increase in population;
- (v) desire to join their relations in West Bengal or to rehabilitate themselves through their own efforts in West Bengal.

The Committee do not consider the first two reasons given for desertion of migrants from camps as quite convincing inasmuch as the migrants must be fully aware that desertion entails stoppage of cash doles and forfeiture of any right for the grant of land should it ever become available. They are also expected to realise that they shall have to eke out their living outside the camps by hard manual labour. In view of the fact that the number of desertions from camps is very high, the Committee recommend that a critical study should be made as to the causes of desertions from the camps so that suitable remedial measures may be adopted. They would also stress that, in the light of the study, suitable criteria for location of the camps that may be set up in future, and broad guide lines for their administration, may inter alia be laid down.

The Committee do not consider the first two reasons given for desertion of migrants from camps namely (i) "insistence by the migrants on the allotment of agricultural land which was not readily available" and (ii) "disinclination to do manual work" as quite convincing inasmuch as the migrants must be fully aware that desertion entails stoppage of cash doles and forfeiture of any right for the grant of land should it ever become available. They are also expected to realise that they shall have to eke out their living outside the camps by hard manual labour.

In view of the fact that the number of desertions from camps is very high, the Committee recommend that a critical study should be made as to the causes of desertions from the camps so that suitable remedial measures may be adopted.

They would also stress that, in the light of the study, suitable criteria for location of the camps that may be set up in future and broad guide lines for their administration may inter alia be laid down.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The facts available with the Government do not support the feeling of the Committee that migrants' insistence on allotment of land and their disinclination to work could not result in desertions from camps.

Instructions have however been issued that when desertions occur in large numbers, particularly when there are complaints against the administration and against the living conditions in camps, a detailed enquiry about the reasons for desertion should be made by a senior officer of the State Government, preferably by the Collector of the district.

As regards the criteria for locating a camp, a great many factors such as the climate, the availability of suitable lands and buildings, water supply, nearness to potential rehabilitation sites, the availability of employment facilities, administrative convenience and the wishes of the State Government have to be taken into account. Ideal conditions are seldom met with, and a balanced view is taken of the pros and cons in every case, before a site is finally approved.

Guide lines for the administration of the camps were laid down in September, 1964.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/R.H.I, dated 12-10-1965]

[Recommendation Serial No. 2(ii); Para No. 7]

The Committee find that while a total of 82,115 families comprising 3,51,716 persons were moved from the Reception/Interception Centres on the borders upto the end of December, 1964, the number of migrants actually lodged in Transit/Relief Camps as on 2nd January, 1965 was only 66,713 families comprising 2,83,177 persons. Explaining the reasons for variation in the figures to the extent of 15,402 families, comprising 38,539 persons. Government have stated that, from time to time, migrants have been leaving the Camps, with or without permission, with the intention of settling down elsewhere, or perhaps in a few cases, of going back to Pakistan.

The Committee would like the camp authorities to remember that the migrants are mostly in a state of nervous tension and emotionally disturbed. So, seeing no immediate prospect, they may choose for even a worse future which should be guarded against.

The Committee feel that migrants desiring to leave the camps should be persuaded to stay on and for this purpose the camp authorities may avail of the good offices of Rama Krishna Mission and Bharat Sevasram Sangh in persuading them to continue to stay in the camps.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Government are conscious of the fact that the migrants are emotionally upset and in a state of nervous tension. As soon as the intention of a migrant to leave the camp comes to the knowledge of the camp staff, every efforts to dissuade him from doing so is made, the consequences of such action are explained to him, and the help of voluntary organisations, engaged in welfare work in the camp, if any is also taken in this regard.

The Government of India, however, have issued instructions stressing once again the need for exercising patience, persuasion, and tact while dealing with such case.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH, I dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 7; Para. No. 22)

In view of the fact that the Central Government is meeting the entire expenditure on the operation of Reception/Interception Centres, the Committee recommend that appropriate agencies of the Central Govt. should undertake a periodical survey of those centres to ensure that adequate facilities are available. In this context they would particularly stress the need for providing suitable accommodation in those Centres and of keeping it in a satisfactory State of repair.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Accepted.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH, I, dated 12-10-1965]

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate precisely the action taken in pursuance of this recommendation.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23(1)ECI/65, dated 15-9-1966]

FURTHER REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The observations/recommendation of the Committee have already been brought to the notice of the Government of West Bengal. Necessary action is now being taken to depute an officer of this Department to undertake a survey of these Centres with a view to ensuring that adequate facilities are available there.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation, Department of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH. I, dated 19-11-1966.]

Recommendation (Serial No. 8; Para No. 23)

The Study Group of the Estimates Committee during their visit of the Petrapole Railway Station on the border in West Bengal in February, 1964 noticed that there were no lighting arrangements at the Railway Station. The representative of the Ministry assured the Committee during evidence that the Ministry would take up with the Railway authorities the question of providing lighting arrangements at the Railway Stations on the border.

The Committee feel that even though the rate of migration has gone down or may further go down, there should be adequate lighting arrangements for purpose of security necessary in a border station. The Committee hope that necessary action would be taken by the Government in this regard.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation of the Committee has been accepted by the Government of India. Necessary orders for providing lighting arrangements on all the border Railway Stations in the Eastern Region have accordingly been issued by the Railway Board.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH. I, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 9; Para No. 24)

The Committee feel that a telephone and telegraph net work on or near the border Railway stations or check-posts would be in the interest of security. Incidentally, it would also be of help to the migrants in contacting their friends and relatives in India. The Committee, therefore, recommend that Government may examine the feasibility of providing telephone and telegraph facilities at the border Railway Stations and Reception/Interception Centres.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation has been accepted by the Government.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH. I, dated 12-10-1965]

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate precisely the action taken in pursuance of this recommendation.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23(1) ECI/65, dated 15-9-1966]

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Ministry of Home Affairs, the Railway Board and the Governments of Assam, West Bengal and Tripura were informed of the Government's acceptance of the recommendation to examine the feasibility of providing telephone and telegraph facilities. They were requested to intimate the action taken by them on the recommendation.

2. The Government of Assam have stated that, at the time of influx, all the reception centres in that State had telegraphic and telephonic communications or some wireless connections. The State Government have further stated that the reception centres in that State have since been abolished. As regards border railway stations, the question of providing such facilities does not arise, in the opinion of the State Government, as there is no influx now worth the name.

3. In the case of check posts or reception centres of West Bengal, the question of providing telegraph and telephone facilities is under the consideration of the State Government.

4. In the case of reception centres in Tripura, a reply is still awaited from the Government of Tripura. A reply from the Railway Board regarding border stations is also awaited.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation, Department of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH. I, dated 5-11-1966]

FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Please state the position regarding installation of telephone and telegraph facilities in the reception centres in the Union Territory of Tripura and at the Railway Stations on the border.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23(1) ECI/65 dated 21-11-1966]

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Government of Tripura have intimated that all the reception centres in Tripura are located either very close to, or within the compound of, the Rehabilitation/Subdivisional office. Hence, no separate telephone connections were necessary. They have further

informed that the telegraph offices were not very far off from the reception/interception centres. Thus, it appears that the migrants reporting at these centres could easily avail themselves of the telephone and telegraph facilities.

As regards the Ministry of Railways they have requested the Posts and Telegraphs Department that the telegraph offices at the border railway stations, if not already licensed (to receive telegrams from the public), may be licensed in consultation with the Zonal Railways concerned. They have also requested the Director General, Posts & Telegraphs to take suitable steps for installing public telephones at the border railway stations, since the existing telephones at most of these railway stations were control telephones, connected only to the Railway Controller, which in the interest of security and safe operation of the Railways, cannot be made available for public use.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation, Department of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH. I, dated 5-1-1967]

Recommendation (Serial No. 11; Para No. 28)

In view of the admitted rise in the price of foodstuffs the Committee suggest that the scales of cash relief admissible to the migrants during their stay at the Reception/Interception Centres in the States and at the commencement of, and during, their journey to the transit Camps may be reviewed in consultation with the State Governments concerned at an early date so that the scale of cash relief may be related to the minimum requirement of foodstuffs.

They would further suggest that there should be an arrangement for the periodic review of the scales of relief by a departmental committee to make sure that these/are sufficient to cover the prevailing prices of foodstuffs.

Recommendation (Serial No. 13, Para No. 31)

The Committee note that so far as the gross amount of cash doles payable to the migrant families of different sizes is concerned, the old scales fixed sometime in 1960 and the new scales are identical.

The Committee have already recommended in para 28 that a departmental committee may review periodically the scale of cash relief admissible to the migrants so as to ensure that they are commensurate with the prevailing prices of foodstuffs. The departmental committee may also review the scales of cash doles payable to the migrant families accommodated in the Transit/Relief Camps.

Recommendation (Serial No. 32, Para No. 63)

In view of the fact that the scales of subsistence allowance have been laid down austerity standards and on the basis of controlled price of foodgrains, the Committee feel that it is imperative for the Government to ensure that the supplies of foodstuffs at fair price shops at controlled rates are available without interruption. In case of failure of supply at the fair price shops at controlled rates, it is but equitable that the migrants should be compensated for the higher price paid by them by either subsidising their purchases or enhancing their cash doles.

The Committee would also like to stress that adequate number of fair price shops should be located not far from the Camps.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Fair price shops are functioning in all the camps. The Government of India are thinking of supplying rice to all the camp inmates at a uniform rate, the difference between this rate and the local economic price of rice being treated as a subsidy. The other recommendations of the Estimates Committee are under consideration.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate precisely the action taken in pursuance of this recommendation.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23 (1) ECI/65, dated 15-9-1966].

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Instructions were issued by this Department on the 20th October 1965, to the effect that migrant families, living in all camps, should be supplied with rice, their staple food, at the subsidised rate of 57 paise per kilogram. These instructions are being followed in the Centrally-administered camps and in a majority of the camps run by the State Governments. The State Governments, who found it difficult to implement the instructions, for procedural or other reasons, were given necessary help and guidance in the matter.

The Committee's recommendations regarding (i) provision of foodstuffs at controlled rates and (ii) periodic review by a departmental committee of the scales of cash doles in relief/transit camps, with a view to co-relating them with the prevailing prices, are being

met by selling rice (and now wheat also) at a uniform subsidised rate of Rs. 57 per quintal irrespective of the prevailing market prices. However, it is proposed to set up a departmental committee to review the scales of cash doles paid to the migrant families and consider what further action, if any, in this direction is needed. It may also be mentioned that apart from providing the migrant families with rice at a uniform subsidised rate, remunerative work is provided, wherever possible, to their able-bodied adult male members for augmenting the income of the families.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation, Department of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH.I, dated 5-11-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 12; Para No. 29)

The Committee note that two of the camps in the Mana group, namely Bhanpuri and Nowgaon were closed down after being operated for a few months, the former because the State Government wanted the accommodation and the latter for administrative reasons. The Committee hope that the capital expenditure incurred on these camps to the extent of Rs. 3.21 lakhs will not be allowed to go infructuous and that these will be utilised for some other purpose connected with the rehabilitation of displaced persons.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

As already stated at the time of factual verification of the draft report, it would not be quite correct to say that the expenditure was rendered infructuous by the closure of the camps. Since the transit camps are expected ultimately to be closed down, the capital expenditure thereon is designed to cover only a limited purpose. The capital expenditure incurred on the Bhanpuri and Nowgaon camps cannot, therefore, be said to have been infructuous; it was incurred only with the limited objective of providing certain essential facilities for a temporary period. The Bhanpuri camp was set up on the clear undertaking that the sheds will have to be returned to the State Government after a few months. This was done when the influx was at its peak. The camp was closed down when the State Government pressed for the return of the industrial estate sheds. The camp at Nowgaon was closed down when the influx went down. It is, however, being utilised at present, for the Headquarters of Khand No. 1 of the Rashtriya Vikas Dal.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH.I, dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 14; Para No. 32)

The Committee recommend that payment of cash doles should be made to the migrants in instalments regularly and no adminis-

trative difficulties should be allowed to stand in the way of disbursement of the doles in instalments and in time.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Payment of cash-doles is made to migrants in instalments regularly in all the camps.

The system of payment of cash-doles in three instalments has been introduced in the Mana Group of camps w.e.f. 1st May, 1965.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 15; Para No. 34)

While the Committee appreciate the difficulties in the supply of article to the migrants at the initial stages when the procurement and movement of stores could not have kept pace with the rate of influx, they do not see any justification for long delays in the supply of articles to migrants during recent months when the position has more or less stabilised. They recommend that adequate arrangements should be made to ensure the supply of articles according to the prescribed scales within 10 days of the arrival of the migrants in the Transit Camp.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation has been noted and appropriate instructions have been sent to all concerned.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 17; Para No. 38)

The Committee recommend that the dispersals from Mana Group of Transit Camps should be accelerated so that there is no need to accommodate more than one family in one room resulting in over-crowding.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Action on the lines suggested by the Committee has already been taken by the Government. There is no over-crowding these days, as a result of accelerated dispersals. Mana now has less than 5,000 families and Kurud less than 1,000 families.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 18; Para No. 40)

The Committee find that certain categories of staff have been provided at the Mana Group of camps at a much higher scale than would be permissible under the pattern laid down. The Committee recommend that while creating additional posts, due consideration should be given to the pattern and to the need for economy consistent with efficiency in the management of the camps. They also recommend that as soon as conditions in the Mana Camps are stabilised, steps should be taken to rationalise the staff structure keeping in view the fact that Mana Group of Camps are a transitory arrangement for housing the migrants until they can be dispersed to sites of their permanent rehabilitation.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

As already stated at the time of factual verification of the draft report, the sanction for staff had been reviewed and considerable reductions were made in December, 1964 (vide foot note to paragraph 40 at page 23 of the Report).

A further review of the staff provided for the Mana Group of camps has been undertaken having regard to the fact that a large number of families have been moved from these camps to different States for settlement. The low rate of fresh arrivals is also being taken into consideration. The recommendation of the Committee will be given due consideration during the review.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3)/65-RH.I, dated 12-10-1965].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate the results of the review of the staff provided for the Mana Group of camps and concrete action taken to effect economy, if any.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23 (i) ECI/65 dated 15-9-1965].

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Staff position at Mana Group of Camps has been further reviewed from time to time. Since the submission of last report to the Committee in this regard, 217 posts have been reduced.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3)/65—RH-I, dated 19-11-1966].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 19; Para No. 41)

The Committee hope that the hours of supply of water in the Mana camps will be increased after the new pipe-line is laid and until then the present arrangements regarding the hours of water supply will be phased in consultation with representatives of the migrants. The Committee also hope that in the ensuing summer season adequate supply of water to the migrants will be ensured.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

As already stated at the time of factual verification of the draft report, the position in regard to the supply of water has improved greatly. Water is now supplied from the powerised pumps both in the morning and in the evening. In addition, the supply of water through the hand pumps is available throughout the day. The hour of supply compare favourably with the arrangements available even in big cities. As the present hours of supply are considered very reasonable, it has not been found necessary to consult the representatives of the migrants in this regard. There was no complaint of any shortage of water in this group of camps *this summer*.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 20; Para No. 42)

The Committee recommend that the arrangements for conservancy and sanitation in the Mana Group of Camps should be improved so as to prevent outbreak of epidemic and they feel that an adequately paved drainage system and provision of dustbins at suitable places near the residential quarters would be a distinct help in this regard. In view of the fact that migrants are not accustomed to the mode of living in congested area, the Committee would further suggest that the inmates of the camps should be educated in normal hygiene and sanitation through various publicity media, and if necessary, by an incentive scheme.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendations of the Committee are under examination. The final decision in the matter will be communicated to the Committee.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state the final decision in the matter.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23 (1) ECI/65 dated 15-9-1966].

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendations of the Committee have been examined in detail in consultation with the Chief Commandant, Mana Group of Transit Camps. It has been reported that conservancy and sanitation arrangements in the camps have considerably improved since the visit of the Study Group of the Estimates Committee. It has been possible for the camp administration to educate the migrants to keep the area in front of their quarters clean by using dust-bins, adequate numbers of which have already been provided. The pot-holes used earlier for throwing refuse by the migrants, have been closed. Regular clearance of garbage is being done by one tractor fitted with trailer and a truck. *Kutch*a drains have been made and these are properly maintained. This has been serving the purpose fairly satisfactorily.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 19-11-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 21; Para No. 45)

The Committee regret that no adequate arrangements have been made for the supply of hospital diet to indoor patients. In view of the fact that patients admitted in camp hospitals generally suffer from diseases associated with malnutrition, the Committee recommend that proper arrangements should be made in the hospitals for providing adequate diet to the patients.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

At the time of factual verification of the Draft Report of the Committee, it was stated that arrangements had been made with effect from 1-2-65 to give two full meals to patients at Rs. 1.25 per head per day. (This has also appeared as a foot note to paragraph 45 of the Committee's Report *vide* page 26 *ibid*).

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 23; Para No. 47)

The Committee recommend that Government should launch a publicity campaign about family planning among the migrants in

camps and provide clinical facilities for family planning in the hospitals and dispensaries attached to the camps. They would also suggest that State Governments may be approached for making similar arrangements in the camps managed by them.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Action is being taken on the lines recommended by the Committee. A publicity campaign is well under way in the Mana Group of Camps.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 24; Para No. 49)

As most of the migrant families arrived in the camps in a poor state of health and are easily susceptible to diseases, the Committee recommend that emphasis should be laid on prevention of diseases in the camps and that Government should take measures in this regard in all the Transit/Relief Camps with the assistance of the Union Ministry of Health, State Governments concerned, World Health Organisation and other international agencies.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Preventive measures are taken in the camps. The advice of the Ministry of Health is also taken. The State Government also attach sufficient importance to this aspect in the camps under their management. However, the need for taking preventive measures has been emphasised once again through circular instructions. It is not considered necessary to seek any assistance from world bodies in this regard.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 25; Para No. 53)

The Committee are of the view that though it may not be worthwhile to incur sizeable expenditure on the creation of employment opportunities of a permanent nature at the Transit Centres in view of their temporary existence, yet, in view of the fact that migrants are being kept in these camps for pretty long time, it is desirable to train the inmates of the Transit Centres in short term industrial and vocational courses so that better opportunities may be available to them for absorption in industries in the country. In this connection, the Committee appreciate the drawing up of schemes at Mana with a training capacity of 476 persons including 132 women, besides

the job training facilities provided to over 100 persons by the existing Industrial Centre. They, however, feel that there is scope for further expansion of training facilities in the Transit Camps at Mana which accommodate over 14,000 new migrant families. The Committee would also like to suggest that arrangements may be made for providing proper training to the migrants in the steel plant in Bhilai and other industrial units as in Raigarh, Korba, Bilaspur etc.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Various training schemes are being formulated by this Ministry in consultation with the D.G.E.&T. Some of these schemes when finalised would be considered for implementation at the Mana Camps for expansion of the training facilities available to the migrants.

As regards the suggestion for providing facilities for training of suitable migrants in the Steel Plant in Bhilai and other Industrial Units, arrangements have already been made for giving training in the Steel Plant at Bhilai to the students of I. T. I., Mana. A learner worker scheme to be implemented with the assistance of private industrial undertakings in and around Meerut has been sanctioned. Possibilities of training in Industrial units at Raigarh, Korba and Bilaspur are being explored.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state the action taken in regard to training schemes which were being formulated by the Ministry and the result of exploration of possibilities of training in Industrial Units at Raigarh, Korba and Bilaspur.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23 (1) ECI/65 dated 15-9-1966].

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The position with regard to the important training schemes which have been formulated by this Department and sanctioned or are under consideration is as under:—

Training schemes sanctioned

(1) I.T.I. Mana.—The I.T.I. Mana which was sanctioned in Nov. 1964 for training of 344 migrants was further expanded from 1-8-1966 to provide training to 472 migrants. In the examination for General Mechanics Course 137 boys came out successful and the number of

those who qualified in the Standard I. T. I. trades is 159. Pass percentage was 94% for General Mechanics Course and 97½% for I.T.I. trades.

(2) *Heavy Vehicles Mechanics-cum-Drivers Training Centre, Mana.*—A scheme for training of 500 migrants and repatriates from Burma and Ceylon as Heavy Vehicle Mechanics-cum-Drivers was sanctioned on 26-4-1966. The training centre started functioning from 1-7-1966.

(3) *I.T.I. Hastinapur.*—The scheme for training of 168 migrants in Standard I. T. I. trades was sanctioned on 24-1-1966. The Institute was set up at Hastinapur and started functioning from 1-8-1966.

(4) *Training in Spinning Mills of M/s Madan Industries Limited, Hastinapur.*—A scheme for training of 351 new migrants in Spinning Mills of M/s. Madan Industries Limited, at Hastinapur was sanctioned on 3-9-1966.

(5) *Other training schemes sanctioned for implementation through State Government.*—Various training schemes for training of 956 migrants have so far been sanctioned for implementation through the State Governments. These schemes relate to training in Industrial Units in Orissa, training in the Industrial Cluster, Haldwani, U.P., training as Weavers in Orissa etc. About 400 migrants have been trained under these schemes.

Training schemes under consideration—

(1) *Training centre for spinning at Mana.*—A scheme for training of 152 migrants in Spinning at Mana has been formulated and is being processed further in consultation with the Associated Finance.

(2) *Training of migrant girls as Auxiliary Nurse and Midwife at Mana.*—Another scheme for training of 40 migrant girls as Auxiliary Nurse and Midwife has been formulated and is being processed further.

Few other training schemes proposed by State Governments are also under consideration.

2. In Madhya Pradesh, 379 migrant boys have been trained in the State I. T. Is. at Ambikapur, Raigarh, Kosi-Bilaspur, Indore, Shahdol

etc. and 28 more boys are undergoing training. In other States also, 276 migrant boys have been admitted for training in States I. T. Is 12 migrant boys were also trained in the Tractor Training Centres at Hissar and Budni.

3. In addition to the above training programmes, 334 migrants have been trained and employed in the Industrial and other Production Centres at Mana Camp.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation O. M. No. 3 (3)/65-RH.I, dated 5-11-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 26; Para No. 54)

The Committee find that there is considerable over-crowding in the Primary schools in the Mana Group of Camps particularly at Kurud camp. They suggest that the question of splitting up the existing schools in the camps into smaller units may be considered.

The Committee also note that there is considerable shortage of teachers in all the schools in the Mana Group of Camps. Only 47 teachers are in position for a total of 3,692 students in the schools and the teacher student ratio is 1:79. The Committee recommend that suitable measures should be taken to attract adequate number of teachers preferably from among the migrants, with a view to bring the teacher student ratio, as far as possible, to Madhya Pradesh standards.

They also recommend that, in case trained teachers are not available, arrangements should be made to get them trained by the Directorate of Education, Madhya Pradesh/West Bengal.

The Committee recommend that urgent steps should be taken by Government to procure text books and other stationery articles for distribution among the children in the schools in the Mana Group of camps.

Government should ensure that in future students are supplied text books and stationery immediately after they are admitted into schools.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Arrangements have been made for the supply of text books to the students in the schools. Arrangements for the training of teachers are also being examined.

The Chief Commandant, Mana, has been advised to appoint more teachers in the primary schools so as to bring down the teacher student ratio to 1:50.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965]

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate the arrangements made for training of teachers employed in the Mana Group of camps.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23 (1) ECI/65 dated 15-9-1966]

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

It has not yet been feasible to arrange for a regular course of training for the teachers employed at Mana. The Chief Commandant, Mana has, however, reported that a course is being run in the camp by trained teachers for the training of the untrained ones. He is trying to make arrangement for a regular training course to be run by the District Education Board during the vacation for the untrained teachers of the Mana Group of camps.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation O. M. No. 3 (3) /65-RH.I, dated 19-11-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 27; Para No. 56)

The Committee feel that the migrants should not be allowed to remain on doles and in a state of uncertainty as to their permanent rehabilitation for long because of its baneful effect on their morale and spirits. Further, they should not be allowed to feel that they are a drag on the society but should be rehabilitated as soon as possible so that they can stand on their feet and make useful contribution to the wealth of nation. In view of the fact that the resettlement of migrants is being tackled as a national problem, the Committee recommend that an assessment should be made urgently of the number of families that each State is prepared to accept and a programme for their speedy dispersal chalked out so that full advantage is taken of the offers made by the States.

The Committee also recommend that each State Government may be approached to take the optimum number of families in its Relief Camps for being rehabilitated in schemes and projects sanctioned for this purpose.

The Committee further suggest that, as far as possible, migrants should be settled in compact areas and in congenial social environments and small pockets of resettlement areas in far-off States may be avoided.

The Committee hope that Government will keep under constant review the scope for rehabilitation of new migrants in the States and endeavour to expand the opportunities for their rehabilitation in the States, particularly in the northern region.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Considerable progress has been made in dispersing families from the Central camps, etc., to the States or areas where they are ultimately going to be rehabilitated. About 44,000 families have already been dispersed to camps in various States for permanent rehabilitation. In the middle of August 1965, the number of families in the Central camps, work centres, etc., was 10,848, as compared to the figure of 21,755 families at the beginning of January, 1965. In particular, the number of families in the Mana group of transit centres has fallen from 14,165 families to 5,483 families during this period. The 5,483 families now in this group of transit centres include nearly 1,700 families, who belong to the long-term liability categories, and about 1,000 families of migrants who have joined the Rashtriya Vikas Dal and have been sent to work sites.

Efforts are continuing to persuade the State Governments to take over as many families as possible, having regard to the offers made by them. With a view to obviating delays in processing rehabilitation schemes, the Government of India have issued general orders recently, prescribing scales of rehabilitation assistance for settlement on land as also for settlement in non-agricultural occupations. The State Governments have also been authorised to sanction financial assistance in individual cases in accordance with these orders without further reference to this Ministry. These measures, it is now hoped, will help in accelerating the pace of rehabilitation. It should, however, be recognised that in regard to schemes for the settlement of migrant families on land, the progress is bound to be somewhat slow, as the lands offered by the States generally require extensive reclamation and development before they can be cultivated profitably by the migrants.

2. The Government of India are in general agreement with the various recommendations made by the Committee.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH.I, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 28; Para No. 59)

The Committee feel that even after the migrant families are dispersed to Relief Camps in the States, their relief, rehabilitation and welfare continues to be the responsibility of the Central Government. They, therefore, suggest that the Central Government should keep a close watch on the operation of the Relief camps in the States and see that the general instructions issued in regard to the facilities to be provided in the camps are strictly followed, that the camps are efficiently managed and that the money provided by the Central Government to the States for relief and rehabilitation of migrants is directed to approved ends.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Government of India are in agreement with the views expressed by the Committee and have been acting on the lines recommended by the Committee.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH.I, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 29; Para No. 60)

While the Committee appreciate the efforts being made to secure gainful employment to the migrants, they suggest that Government should also try to secure suitable employment to them in the existing irrigation, industrial and other developmental projects in the various States which are being financed by Government, particularly in the various Public Sector Undertakings.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In response to a request made by the Ministry of Rehabilitation, certain other Ministries of the Government of India have already issued suitable instructions to the Public Sector Undertakings under them for providing employment to the new migrants.

The Special Cell in the Directorate General of Employment and Training are establishing contact with the Managing Directors of the Public Sector Undertakings so that as many new migrants as possible are taken by the Undertakings for employment.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH.I, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 30; Para No. 61)

The Committee note that attempts have been made to recruit the medical staff for the camps mainly from West Bengal. They feel that efforts should be made to recruit or take on loan/deputation medical staff from other States as well. Suitable incentives should also be offered, if necessary.

The Committee appreciate that there may be difficulty in the initial stages on account of doctors not being conversant with the language spoken by the migrants. But they feel that this difficulty can be overcome by attaching to such doctors inter-preters drawn from the educated inmates of the camp who can explain to them the ailments of the patients.

The Committee suggest that this arrangement may be introduced even in respect of the non-Bengali knowing doctors already working in the camps.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In the Central Camps Bengali knowing doctors have been posted in sufficient numbers. It has, however, not been possible to recruit the required number of Bengali knowing doctors for the State Camps, owing largely to the low scales of pay given in the States. The recommendation has been brought to the notice of the State Governments for necessary action *vide* Ministry's letter No. 11(40)/65-E&M/RL. II dated 8th October, 1965.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O. M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I. dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 31; Para No. 62)

The Committee are distressed to note the abnormally high infant mortality in the Relief/Transit camps and particularly the Mana Group of Camps due to lack of proper sanitation arrangements in the initial stages. They recommend that besides providing money to the State Govts. for the provision of medical facilities, the Central Government should keep a regular watch with a view to ensure that the facilities provided by the State Governments in the camps set up by them are adequate. In this connection the Committee welcome the appointment of an officer from the Ministry of Health to coordinate medical facilities available in the camps and they hope that the position regarding medical facilities in camps, particularly in the States which are managed by the State Governments themselves, will further improve.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

An Officer of the Ministry of Health has been associated with the provision of medical facilities in the camps managed by the Central Government. Both in the Central camps as also in the State Camps, the position in regard to the provision of medical facilities has improved considerably and the facilities now provided are considered satisfactory. Senior officers of the Ministry during their tours take particular care to check whether the facilities provided in this regard are adequate.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O. M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I. dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 33; Para No. 67)

The Committee appreciate the action taken by the Government to create opportunities for technical and vocational training of new migrants and hope that these would be given practical shape without undue delay.

They also hope that Government will constantly endeavour to expand these opportunities thereby assisting the migrants to stand on their own feet and at the same time relieving the Government of the burden of maintaining them for long.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Government of India agree that adequate opportunities should be provided to the displaced persons for technical and vocational training as a measure of rehabilitation. As the Committee have already been informed, two Industrial Training Institutes have been set up, one at Mana with 344 seats and the other at Ambaguda with 62 seats. Proposal for a third Training Institute at Hastinapur is under consideration. Other schemes for training covering about 700 migrants have been sanctioned in the States of Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh. Training schemes presently under consideration would cover another 1700 migrants.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O. M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I. dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 34; Para No. 69)

The Committee recommend that State Governments particularly of the eastern zone may also be requested to reserve a certain percentage of vacancies in the Government as well as in development-

al projects financed by them to be filled up out of suitable candidates drawn from among the new migrants.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

All the State Governments including those in the Eastern Zone have been requested by the Ministry to consider issuing instructions:—

- (1) for placing as many new migrants as possible in suitable employment in the offices of the State Government; and
- (2) for reservation of 50 per cent vacancies in the Public Sector Undertakings under the control of the State Governments for new migrants, particularly for those who are suitable for Class III and Class IV posts.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O. M. No. 3(3)/65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 36; Para No. 71)

While the Committee welcome the measures taken to root out indiscipline from the Camps, they suggest that efforts should be made to find out the causes of indiscipline in the various Camps so that remedial action may be taken wherever necessary. The Committee also feel it necessary to emphasise that in view of the fact that the migrants are mostly in a state of emotional and nervous instability, a proper psychological approach would be helpful in enforcing discipline.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Government are in agreement with the views expressed by the Committee. Serious cases of indiscipline are always investigated by the camp-officers and steps are taken to remove any reasonable grievances. The need for taking appropriate action in such cases, has been reiterated in circular instructions to all concerned.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O. M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I. dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 38; Para No. 74)

The Committee recommend that adequate security arrangements may be made in the portions of Transit/Relief Camps where permanent liability families are accommodated so as to prevent anti-social elements from creating mischief in the camp and any cases of mischief reported should be vigorously investigated and those detected should be effectively dealt with.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Government of India have accepted the recommendation. Necessary instructions have been issued to the various State Governments, etc., in this regard.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3)/65-RH-1, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 39; Para No. 75)

In view of the fact that unattached women and children in Camps, are likely to fall prey to unscrupulous elements, the Committee recommend that each case of desertion of unattached women and children should be reported to the police authorities with the object of ascertaining that the deserter has not been abducted or enticed away by anti-social elements.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation has been accepted and necessary instructions have been issued to the State Governments/Centrally Administered Camp Commandants, etc.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3)/65-RH-1, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Sr. No. 40(i), 40 (ii) and 41; Para No. 76)

The Committee are informed that all the permanent liability families at present accommodated in the Transit/Relief Camps required long term assistance and have to be maintained in Homes and Infirmaries.

The Committee have doubts about the advisability of dispersing the families from Transit Camps at Mana to the Relief Camps in the States thereby creating in some of these camps small pockets of even less than ten permanent liability families.

The Committee feel that no useful purpose would be served in shifting such families from the Transit Centres at Mana, etc., to the Relief Camps in the various States until the permanent liability families can be provided permanent accommodation in Homes and infirmaries.

The Committee feel that there is an imperative need for gainful employment and training of such members of permanent liability families as are able to do work with a view to assist them in standing on their own feet in course of time. In this connection, the Committee appreciate the opening of an art and craft centre at Mana where trades such as tailoring and paper-bag making are being

taught to the permanent liability families. They are glad to note that a scheme to open training classes in biri-making, khadi-weaving, pottery-ware making, paddy hushing (dhan-kutai), edible oil-crushing, soap-making and handpaper-making is under way. The Committee recommend that adequate arrangement should be made for technical and vocational training of permanent liability families in such of the Transit/Relief Camps as have a fair concentration of such families.

They hope that the various training schemes for the permanent liability families in Mana camp would be implemented without delay. The Committee also recommend that similar schemes should be drawn up for other centrally administered camps and that State Governments should be requested to draw up similar schemes for the Relief Camps in their States.

The Committee recommend that in view of the large number of permanent liability families at present accommodated in the Camps, who have ultimately to be found a place in homes and infirmaries, urgent steps should be taken in consultation with the Department of Social Security to draw up a scheme for opening adequate number of homes and infirmaries for permanent settlement of these families.

The Committee recommend that a scheme for permanent resettlement of unattached women and children among the new migrants may be drawn up in consultation with the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust and the Central Social Welfare Board or in the alternative the entire rehabilitation work of such women and children may be entrusted to these social welfare organisation.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Some permanent liability families were dispersed from the Mana Group of Camps to other camps in the initial stages. Care is now taken to see that such families are not included in any programme of dispersal to other States. The other recommendations made in this paragraph have been noted and appropriate action is being taken in consultation with the State Governments and the Department of Social Security.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH-1, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 42; Para No. 80)

The Committee understand that it would take about six months to compile complete information regarding occupations followed in

East Pakistan in respect of all the families in the Camps, which on 2nd January, 1965 numbered the 66,713.

While appreciating the necessity of collection of full data in regard to the occupations followed by the new migrants while in East Pakistan, the Committee feel that that rehabilitation plans may not always correspond to the previous occupations of migrants but may have to be conditioned by the opportunities and facilities available in the country. The Committee, therefore, recommend that without waiting for the occupation-wise classification of all the new migrants Government should proceed with the collection of data regarding rehabilitation opportunities and facilities available in the country so that rehabilitation schemes may be framed accordingly.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation of the Committee has been noted for guidance. The Government is already proceeding with the formulation of schemes for the rehabilitation of new migrants, in consultation with the State Governments, without waiting for the occupation-wise classification of all the migrants in camps by the Screening Teams.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3)/65-RH-1, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 43; Para No. 82)

The Committee recommend that the progress of recording of particulars in the revised forms termed 'Relief Eligibility Certificate' and screening may be periodically reviewed to ensure that the work is completed as per schedule. They trust that the recording of particulars and screening of migrant families is now being done promptly as soon as the families arrive at the reception/interception centres and that the work is not being allowed to fall into arrears. They also hope that there would be gradual reduction in administrative staff recruited for screening purposes, once the backlog of screening work is cleared.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Government are anxious to complete the screening as early as possible. The progress in this regard has however, been slow as suitable personnel, with the required experience, are not easily available and as the Special Officer (Camps) has to examine all the doubtful cases personally. Only 19 teams were actually appointed but the number of teams now functioning is 14 only. Steps are, however, being taken to speed up the work and a few more teams

will be appointed shortly. The particulars of migrants arriving nowadays are being promptly recorded in RE-I forms at the border reception/interception centres, though they are not being subjected to a through screening there.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965]

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state the revised target date for the completion of recording of particulars in the new forms and screening of migrants.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23 (1) ECI-65, dated 15-9-1966]

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Particulars of all the migrant families have since been recorded in the requisite forms and all these families have been screened. Most of the screening teams have since been disbanded. A skeleton staff is being retained till the end of 1966 for completing the residuary work in respect of the families already screened.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) / 65-RH-I, dated 5-11-1966]

Recommendation (Serial No. 44, Para No. 85)

The Committee are glad that Government have launched the scheme for organising the 'Rashtriya Vikas Dal'. They hope that the Assam and Tripura units will be organised without delay. They further hope that the scheme which is now being launched on a pilot basis with one unit each at Mana, Assam and Tripura will, as its efficacy is tested, be more extensively organised to cover larger number of young migrants.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Two Khands of the Rashtriya Vikas Dal, one at Mana and other at Matia are already operating in full swing with a total strength of about 2,000 Sahkaris. The third Khand is being raised by enrolling Sahkaris from amongst the inmates of camps in Tripura and Assam.

On a review of the working of the Rashtriya Vikas Dal it has been found that the scheme is working quite satisfactorily and that the agencies under which they have been deployed are also fully satisfied with their work. Opportunities are available for the de-

ployment of a large number of Sahkaris in various works under the Central and State Governments. It has, therefore, been decided to raise the total strength of the Dal to 6,000*.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation [Serial Nos. 45 and 46; Para No. 87]

The Committee understand that most of the land offered by the State Governments so far consists of forest and would have to be reclaimed before it can be utilised for the resettlement of migrants. Arrangements for soil survey of land offered by the States are being made by the State Governments themselves.

In Dandakaranya, extensive areas of land in the Kondagaon Zone were denuded of forest wealth without proper soil test and it was found later that they were either unfit or sub-marginal for agricultural purposes. The Committee hope that similar mistakes would not be repeated, and before reclaiming land offered by the States, proper soil testing will be done.

The Committee feel that the soil survey Organisations of the State Governments may not be adequate and properly equipped to cope with the survey work at the scale and speed necessary for the reclamation programme. They would suggest that the assistance of the Union Soil Survey Organisation and laboratories under it may be made available to the States to carry out expeditiously the soil survey of the land offered before reclamation operations are started.

*At the time of factual verification, the Ministry have furnished the following additional information:

'On account of dispersal of families from Tripura to other States, a sufficient number of able-bodied volunteers was not available in Tripura to raise the third Khand. It was accordingly decided to raise the third Khand in Assam. However, on account of non-availability of work the sahkaris from Assam have since been shifted to Lakhimpur Kheri in Uttar Pradesh for work on lateral roads. Due to non-availability of able-bodies Volunteers to join the Rashtriya Vikas Dal and for other reasons, the target of 6,000 sahkaris could not be achieved. As and when re-settlement opportunities are becoming available, the sahkaris are being released from the Rashtriya Vikas Dal for permanent rehabilitation. About 360 sahkaris have so far been released. The present strength of sahkaris is about 1,800 out of which about 500 are in Andamans (379 at Betapur and 116 at Mayabunder). It is proposed to reduce the strength of Khanda from three to two.'

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Normally land reclamation operations are undertaken after necessary soil surveys and tests have been carried out to determine the suitability of the lands proposed to be reclaimed from the viewpoint of agriculture by the State Governments concerned. However, some of the State Governments are not adequately equipped and do not have the necessary laboratory facilities and/or organisational set-up to undertake large-scale soil surveys and tests. They have approached the Government of India for the services of the Union Soil Survey Organisation or for strengthening their existing organisations.

2. The Ministry of Food and Agriculture are being approached to make available the services of the Union Soil Survey Organisation and other facilities to the State Governments of (1) Madhya Pradesh, (2) Assam and (3) Maharashtra for undertaking the necessary soil surveys and test in the area earmarked for reclamation of land for the resettlement of migrant families from East Pakistan.

3. The recommendation of the Estimates Committee has been noted and necessary steps have been taken in consultation with the State Governments concerned and the Dandakaranya Development Authority to ensure that soil surveys and tests are invariably undertaken before taking up reclamation operations in new areas.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH-I, dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial Nos. 48 and 49; Para No. 92)

The Committee suggest that the economics of the scheme for establishing State Farms should be properly worked out before it is given a practical shape. The Committee have no doubt that Government would put to good use the experience gained and the shortcomings and failures noticed in the working of the State Farms at Suratgarh and Jetsar in Rajasthan.

The Committee suggest that the possibility of introducing co-operative farming or at least service cooperative where large blocks of agricultural lands are available may be examined.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The observations made by the Committee have been noted. On reconsideration, the Government of India now intend that wherever land is available in large blocks, measuring 250 acres or more, arrangements should be made to introduce group farming. The idea is that while technical advice, guidance and financial assistance in the form of equipment, seeds, fertilizers, manure and means of husbandry will be provided by the Government, the responsibility for the actual cultivation of the crop will be that of the group.

After the land has been cultivated for a period of 3—5 years, the group could be converted into a cooperative. The details of the scheme are being finalised.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I, dated 12-10-1965]

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please furnish details of the scheme for organizing agriculture on cooperative basis.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23(1)ECI/65, dated 15-9-1966]

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

A copy of the prototype scheme for settlement of new migrant agriculturist families from East Pakistan in Group Farms as formulated by this Ministry is attached (not printed). The State Governments have been asked to formulate specific schemes for the setting up of Group Farms in each compact block of land measuring 250 acres or more on the lines of the prototype scheme, with such modifications as may be considered necessary to suit local requirements and forward them to this Ministry for formal sanction.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I, dated 5-11-1966]

Recommendation (Serial No. 50; Para No. 93)

The Committee feel that in any comprehensive plan for rehabilitation, an important role has to be assigned to industrial schemes inasmuch as agriculture cannot absorb the bulk of the migrants. The Committee find that non-agricultural schemes constitute only a small part. The Committee would urge that greater emphasis should be placed on industrial and non-agricultural schemes than has hitherto been done so that the pace of rehabilitation may be stepped up. The Committee also suggest that Government may consider the question of setting up industrial cooperative for the benefit of migrants.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In view of paucity of surplus agricultural land in the country it has been recognised that a large number of new migrants will have to be rehabilitated through non-agricultural occupations, particularly industries. With this end in view, schemes for setting up of Industrial clusters are being formulated in various parts of the country where new migrants are to be settled.

2. Having regard to the vast mineral and forest resources, it has been decided to take up an intensive development programme in Dandakaranya. The recommendations of the Nagaraja Rao Team which has conducted a techno-economic appraisal of the area are under consideration in consultation with the other technical Ministries concerned. The proposals under consideration include a Cement

Plant, Pulp and News Print Factory and Hard Board, Ply Wood and Particle Board Factories. Sanction has already been accorded for the setting up of a Spinning Mill with 25,000 spindles by the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation. A Priority Programme of small scale industrial units has also been approved for implementation by the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation or the Dandakaranya Project Administration. Handloom Centres have already been set up by Rehabilitation Industries Corporation at Paduwa and Jagdalpur. Dandakaranya Project Administration have also taken steps to expand their existing Industrial Centres and to set up new Centres under the Priority Programme. Proposals for setting up Industrial Centres at Hastinapur in Uttar Pradesh and at Ramagundam in Andhra Pradesh are under active consideration. The possibility of setting up Industrial Centres at Bhilai and near Raipur are also under consideration.

3. The suggestion regarding formation of industrial cooperatives will be considered after the migrants have been settled and are in a position to contribute to the share capital of the cooperative societies. [Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH.I, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 51; Para No. 94)

The Committee note that the total investment made in the industrial and other non-agricultural schemes would be only Rs. 32.64 lakhs. The Committee consider that the problem of unemployment amongst migrants is acute, it is but necessary that more such schemes as are labour intensive and are expected to be successful should be evolved to create sizeable employment for new migrants.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Ministry is cognisant of the unemployment problem amongst the new migrants and the need for undertaking labour intensive schemes to provide employment to them. Accordingly, 23 industrial schemes have so far been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 32.94 lakhs for the rehabilitation of 1,727 new migrants. The average per capita investment in respect of these schemes works out to less than Rs. 2,000, and the schemes may be regarded as labour intensive. The recommendations made by the Estimates Committee are, thus being borne in mind while sanctioning other industrial schemes.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH.I, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 52; Para No. 95)

The Committee recommend that the question of moving of some migrant families outside Assam for rehabilitation in other States/Territories may be reviewed from time to time and such of the migrant families as cannot be rehabilitated in Assam may be dispersed early to sites where they are to be eventually rehabilitated.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The matter has already been examined by this Ministry. The Ministry has been doing its best to develop avenues of rehabilitation in other States for surplus migrant families in Assam Camps, but the scope for shifting such families continues to be rather limited at present. There are still about 2,50,000 persons in the various transit and relief camps including the camps in Assam. As soon as rehabilitation schemes in different States get into their stride and migrant families in camps have been shifted to the rehabilitation sites, the question of moving migrants from the camps in Assam to other States, will be further considered. Meanwhile, the Assam Govt. have been requested to absorb as many of the migrants as possible in Assam itself. It may also be mentioned that about 500 Bihari families, who were accommodated in camps in Assam, have been moved to Bihar. In addition, 200 migrants have been selected as Sahkaris for employment in the Andamans. For the present, these Sahkaris will go to the Islands alone and their families will be moved subsequently if they agree to resettle there permanently.

The Government of Assam are also exploring the possibilities of employment of the migrants in the Border Roads Organisation etc. It is understood that arrangements have been made to recruit about 6,500 labourers from the Matia Group of Camps for work in the Mizo Hills area. Another 1000—1500 persons are likely to be employed on the Dalu-Tura road in Garo Hills.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH-I, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 53; Para No. 95)

The Committee suggest that while drawing up plan for rehabilitation of migrant tribal families, every effort should be made to put them in compact areas so as to enable them to retain their identity and culture. In this context, the Committee also suggest that the question of resettling Buddhist migrants from the Chittagong Hill Districts in suitable and compact areas, preferably in NEFA, Tripura and Assam may be considered.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The observations made by the Committee have been noted. The Government of India give due regard to the consideration that tribal families should be settled in compact areas and several steps in this regard have already been taken. It will not be feasible, however, to select any area in Tripura for resettlement of Buddhist

migrants as Tripura is not in a position to absorb more migrant families.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH-I, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 54; Para No. 97)

The Committee recommend that information in regard to cases of migrant families who have arrived in Assam, Tripura and West Bengal after exchanging their properties should be compiled. The Committee also recommend that either these families should be treated at par with other local agriculturist families as regards the grant of agricultural loans and other facilities or, if it is not possible to do so for any reason, they should be treated as new migrants entitled to the normal rehabilitation benefits.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

According to the latest information received upto July, 1965, the number of new migrant families who have arrived in West Bengal and Tripura after exchanging their properties in East Pakistan with Muslims in West Bengal and Tripura is as under:—

State	No. of families
Tripura	4,622
West Bengal	2,887 (These relate to exchanges in Malda, Nadia, Murshidabad and West Dinajpur Districts).

Similar information from West Bengal Government in respect of the remaining district and from the Assam Government is still awaited.

The recommendation of the Estimate Committee that these families should be treated at par with other local agriculturist families as regards the grant of agricultural loans etc. has been brought to the notice of the Govts. of West Bengal, Assam and Tripura.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH.I, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 55; Para No. 98)

The Committee have been informed that there is a proposal to resettle 1000 families in NEFA area and for that purpose some families are accommodated in the Ledo camps which is situated near the NEFA area. More such Transit Camps are being opened near NEFA.

The Committee suggest that besides the schemes for resettlement of these migrants on agriculture, the possibility of resettling them in forest-based industries in the NEFA area may also be examined.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Government accept the recommendation. They are examining the possibility of setting up forest-based and small-scale industries in the NEFA area in consultation with the NEFA Administration.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 56; Para No. 99)

The Committee feel that there is considerable scope for rehabilitating the new migrants in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. They suggest that the possibility of reclaiming forest land in Andaman and Nichobar Islands and other Union Territories for re-settlement of new migrants from East Pakistan may also be explored by the Government and proper steps be taken for framing rehabilitation schemes in those places.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

An inter-departmental team of officers which was constituted to draw up an integrated resource development programme for the Islands has recommended clearance of about 60,000 acres of forest land during the Fourth Plan and about 65,000 acres during the Fifth Plan and its exploitation for agriculture, horticulture and plantation, after visiting the Islands in February, 1965.

A little earlier, a small team of officers of the Rehabilitation Ministry had been to the Islands with the immediate objective of accelerating reclamation of about 3,000 to 4,000 acres of land, known to be available in Middle Andaman, securing employment for some Sahkaris of the Rashtriya Vikas Dal, and the setting of a camp for them and their families. In pursuance of its recommendations, work on the reclamation of 3,000 acres of land in Betapur Valley in Middle Andaman has already commenced with the help of a fully mechanised unit of tractors of the Rehabilitation Reclamation Organisation. Tree-felling has been completed on about 150 acres. Experimental sowings of the mainland varieties of paddy have been undertaken on about 25 acres of land already cleared.

186 Sahkaris of the Rashtriya Vikas Dal have already moved to Betapur in Middle Andaman along with their families (totalling 446). More families are proposed to be moved to the same area as soon as the monsoon is over*.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3) /65—RH.I dated 12-10-1965].

*At the time of factual verification, the Ministry have furnished the following additional information:

'About 2,000 acres of land has already been reclaimed at Betapur.

In all 379 sahkaris along with their families have since been moved to Betapur (totalling 1432).'

Recommendation (Serial No. 57; Para No. 100)

The Committee feel that the possibilities that the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation can offer in creating employment potential for the migrants have not so far been properly explored. The Committee are of the view that the Corporation can play a big role in rehabilitating the new migrants and suggest that its activities should be suitably expanded so as to create adequate employment potential for a sizeable number of new migrants.

The Committee further suggest that the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation should try to set up small and rural industries which may gradually be handed over to the migrants and that the industrial loan scheme of the Corporation should be properly planned and adequate safeguards made therein to ensure that the industries set up with the help of loans obtained from the Corporation actually employ migrants.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Rehabilitation Industries Corporation has already adopted a diversified programme of work to (i) take direct responsibility for setting up industries either on its own or in collaboration with private enterprises, (ii) set up a number of industries in Dandakaranya, (iii) arrange for training of displaced persons, (iv) set up industrial estates, (v) participate in equity share capital of corporate bodies and (vi) grant financial assistance to deserving industries. In order to bring about unified and effective implementation and supervision of all rehabilitation programmes for new migrants, the administrative control of the Corporation has been taken over by this Ministry from the Ministry of Industry and Supply with effect from 28-10-1964, and its Board of Directors has also been expanded by taking representative of the States where new migrants are being settled.

Faced with the problem of finding employment for the continued influx of displaced persons from East Pakistan the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation has a big programme to expand its activities. A large spinning mill with 25,000 spindles will be set up in Dandakaranya which will employ about 1,000 persons.

2. The Rehabilitation Industries Corporation has been asked to examine the scope for taking up small schemes in areas where old migrants are settled in the light of the present day conditions in such colonies and the market prospects of items selected for production in the proposed units. The general experience with cottage units throughout the country has revealed that although they can be set up with small investment and brought into production quickly, owing to their inherent disadvantages such units generally face considerable difficulties both in achieving viability themselves and pro-

viding a living wage to their workers. Nonetheless, the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation has been asked to take up items which offer reasonable prospects of successful production and the capital investment increased according to actual requirements. The Corporation has also been asked to consider the grant of Cottage and Small Scale Industries loans on terms and conditions allowed under the State Aid to the Industries Act, i.e. up to 75 per cent of the fixed assets.

From the position explained, it would be seen that steps have already been initiated to expand the activities of the Corporation to create employment potential for the new migrants, this Ministry accepts the recommendation of the Estimates Committee regarding the setting up of Small and Rural Industries.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3 (3)/65—RH-I, dated 12-10-1965]

Recommendation (Serial No. 58; Para No. 101)

The Committee feel that there are ample opportunities for resettling new migrant fisherman families on inland, estuarine and sea water fisheries particularly around the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Committee would impress on the Government the need for finalising the schemes regarding training and employment of fishermen at an early date.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The total number of fishermen families in Camps to be rehabilitated is roughly 1,500. Three schemes for the rehabilitation of 340 fishermen families have already been sanctioned as under:—

Name of the Scheme	Amount sanctioned	No. of families to be rehabilitated
(i) Scheme for the rehabilitation of fisherman families in Kheri District (U. P.)	Rs. 1,11,000	40
(ii) Rehabilitation of new fisherman families in Chanda & Bhandara Districts of Maharashtra :	Rs. 1,29,000	200
(iii) Scheme for the rehabilitation of fisherman families in Goalpara Sub-Division of Assam	Rs. 1,36,000	100
Total :	Rs. 3,76,000	340 families

2. In addition to the above mentioned schemes, steps are being taken to explore possibilities for the rehabilitation of fishermen families at different places in the country and in this connection specific schemes for their rehabilitation and training in the States of Assam, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab have been received and are under active consideration.

3. As regards the opportunities in Andaman and Nicobar Islands as a part of the accelerated development programme of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands under the Special Areas Development Programme, a scheme has been drawn up for the development of fisheries in these Islands. The scheme envisages coastal fishing by 100 country boats, off-shore fishing by 160 power boats and deep-sea fishing by two fishing-cum-processing vessels of which one is being included in the immediate programme. Provision has been made for training of fishermen in the operation of power boats. The manpower for the operation of the scheme would be found from amongst such migrants as have experience of sea-water fishing in estuarine areas of East Pakistan and, if necessary, from persons of the mainland having aptitude or necessary skill for the various types of fishing proposed to be introduced under the scheme.

In view of the position explained, no difficulty is anticipated in finding employment for migrant fishermen families under these and other schemes.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH.I dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 59; Para No. 102)

The maintenance of tens of thousands of families in Camps and planning for their rehabilitation involves a complex human problem of great magnitude. While the Committee are gratified that on the whole they will to help these helpless victims of destiny has not been wanting and neither money nor effort has been grudged in the attempt, they feel that those in charge of Camps and rehabilitation programmes would do well always to bear in mind that they are dealing with a vast number of nerve-shaken and emotionally disturbed people who have undergone agonising experience and have lost all their meagre earthly possessions and often their near and dear ones also.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Noted.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH-I, dated 12th October, 1965].

CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY

Recommendation (Serial No. 22; Para No. 46)

Now that the position in the camps has more or less stabilised, the Committee suggest that arrangements should be made in the Infectious Diseases Hospital in the Mana Camps to segregate patients suffering from different kinds of infectious diseases.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The conditions in the Mana Group of camps are now very much better than what the Study Group had observed during their visit in October, 1964. This Group of camps now accommodates a little over, 5,000 families only, and even this strength is likely to go down in the near future, when further dispersals take place. It is true that there are no arrangements in the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Mana to segregate patients suffering from different kinds of Infectious diseases. However, most of these diseases occur during different seasons of the year and it is only on rare occasions that patients suffering from different diseases have to be accommodated in this hospital at the same time. As far as T.B. cases are concerned, arrangements have been made for giving domiciliary treatment and the persons affected by T.B. do not have to be kept in this infectious diseases hospital. Under the circumstances, particularly having regard to the present trend of influx, it does not seem to be very necessary to incur substantial expenditure on making the arrangements recommended by the Committee.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-RH.I dated 12-10-1965].

Recommendation (Serial No. 47; Para No. 89)

While examining the performance of the Reclamation Organisation of the Dandakaranya Development Authority the committee found that a large percentage of tractors possessed by the D.D.A. remained idle and that there was hardly any occasion to work them

in more than one shift. The main reasons given to the Committee for not utilising the tractors fully was that releases of land were neither enough nor timely.

The Committee, would, therefore, like to caution that before procuring additional machinery for reclamation, it should be ensured that there is enough work-load to justify the additional expenditure.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

As explained to the Committee the requirements of additional machinery have been calculated after full examination of the availability of the land and the work load. However, in view of the Committee's observations, the position has been reviewed. Of the 98,300 acres of land to be reclaimed in States outside Dandakaranya (consisting of land for agriculture and land village and common amenities) in the areas already placed at the disposal of R.R.O., 7863 acres were reclaimed, leaving a balance of 90,437 acres still to be reclaimed. In Dandakaranya the land to be reclaimed in 1965-66 is 17,600 acres. Further land has been offered in Phulbani by Government of Orissa and a preliminary survey shows that 50,000 acres of land are to be available for reclamation. In Andamans and Nicobar Islands, an area of 60,000 acres would be available for reclamation in the Fourth Plan period.

The land that has already been placed at the disposal of R.R.O. in States outside Dandakaranya and the land that would be available in Dandakaranya should be reclaimed in 1965-66 and 1966-67. Even this would mean a delay of three years in the movement of families from the camps in some cases. The reclamation of land in Phulbani can be phased as follows:—

1965-66	10,000	acres
1966-67	20,000	„
1967-68	20,000	„

With the existing units, 80,000 acres of land can be reclaimed in 1965-66 and 1966-67. Additional tractor units required for reclaiming the balance of the 58,000 acres in 1965-66 and 1966-67, including 30,000 acres in Phulbani, would be six. Another unit has to be obtained to replace one of the existing units shifted from the mainland for work in Andamans and Nicobar Islands on a long term basis. Against these requirements of seven units, one has already been imported from U.S.A. Indents have been placed with D.G.S. & D. for two more units (one from U.S.A. and the other from France) and with D.G.O.F. for a Komatsu unit. It is, therefore, necessary to get foreign exchange for two more units for the rehabilitation programme.

The requirements of machinery for reclamation in Andaman and Nicobar Islands under the Special Areas Development Programme will have to be considered separately. The land expected to be available in the Fourth Plan period is 60,000 acres. One of the tractor units from the mainland has already been shifted there as mentioned above and this will have to be supplemented by additional units.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation D. O. letter No. 15(4) DNK/65 dated 5-9-1966*]

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

Recommendation (Serial No. 3; Para No. 10)

The Committee feel that if the policy of giving only one chance to the deserters to return to the Camps is to be made effective, details of families who desert the Camps should be immediately circulated to the Governments of West Bengal, Assam, Tripura etc. to enable them to persuade the deserting families to return to camps and to keep track of those families if they do not go back.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Government feel that the circulation, to the Governments of West Bengal, Assam, Tripura etc., of the details of the families who have deserted would not serve any useful purpose, as their precise destinations are not known even to the Camp authorities. Without such information the State Governments would not be in a position to establish any contacts with the deserters. A deserter, who wishes to return to the camp, will have to take the initiative. Once he does so and contacts the State Government, they would see what help they could render to him.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I., dated 12th October, 1965].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Please see comments in para 1 of Chapter I of the Report.

Recommendation (Serial No. 4, Para No. 11)

The Committee recommend that lists of migrants expelled from the camps should be suitably circulated to the Governments of West Bengal, Assam and Tripura so that those Governments may watch their movement and if necessary, try to keep them on the right track.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Government feel that circulation, to the Governments of West Bengal, Assam and Tripura, of the lists of families, which are

expelled from different camps from time to time, would not help the State Governments either in watching the movement of individual expelled families or keeping them on the right track. As their precise destinations are not known, the State Governments would not be able to establish any contact with them. A migrant expelled from a camp, will have to take the initiative, in case he desires any help or assistance. Once he approaches the State Government, they would have to take a decision on the merits of the case. The Government of India do not consider it necessary to advise the State Governments that they should watch the movements of such migrants and try to keep them on the right track, as such a line of action does not appear to be feasible in the existing circumstances.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I., dated 12th October, 1965].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Please see comments in para 1 of Chapter I of the Report.

Recommendation (Serial No. 5, Para No. 16)

While the Committee appreciate the action taken by Government to simplify procedures and liberalise criteria of eligibility for issue of migration certificate, they consider that appreciable percentage of migrants who continue to come without migration certificates is indicative of the genuine difficulties which are still being felt by the intending migrants in expeditiously obtaining migration certificates. The reasons for not being able to obtain the migration certificate may well be distance from Dacca, illiteracy, elaborate procedures or even red-tape necessitating their presence in Dacca for long periods causing unbearable expenditure and anxiety in the generally insecure conditions that exist in East Pakistan. They recommend that a Committee consisting inter alia of the representatives of the Ministries of External Affairs and Rehabilitation and of the State Governments of Assam and West Bengal may review the entire system of issue of migration certificates by the High Commission for India in Dacca, including the existing rules of eligibility, procedures and facilities and to suggest the lines on which further liberalisation could be done. They would also like this Committee to consider how relief and rehabilitation benefits should not be denied to genuine and deserving migrants even though they may not be able to obtain the migration certificates because of disturbed conditions, distance, ignorance, etc.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Government of India are of the view that the existing rules relating to eligibility for and the procedures and facilities in regard to the issue of migration certificates are quite liberal and need no periodical review. At present migration certificates are issued promptly and the applicants are not put to any avoidable inconvenience. The Government would be agreeable, however, to consider the scope for further liberalisation of the existing system, if events in East Pakistan at any time make it necessary to do so. The setting up of a committee at this stage is not considered necessary.

As regards the question of extending relief and rehabilitation assistance to migrants entering India without travel documents, it may be stated that, with effect from 1-4-1965, intending migrants to India are allowed to cross the border if only they have valid travel documents. A person who seeks to enter India without such documents is allowed to do so only if the authorities are satisfied that he would be able to subsist on his own, without any assistance from the Government. In the light of this policy, the question of extending relief and rehabilitation benefits to this category of migrants would **not arise, and the setting up** of a committee for the consideration of this question is, therefore, not considered necessary.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O. M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I., dated 12th October, 1965].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Please see comments in para 2 of Chapter I of the Report.

Recommendation (Serial No. 6, Para No. 18)

The Committee note that a period of only 7 days was allowed between the announcement of the revised policy and the date of enforcement of the same. This period was obviously too short for the news of the revised policy to reach the interior of Pakistan from where the exodus of migrants takes place. This is evident from the fact that, of the total migrations during the two months following the declaration of the revised policy (November and December, 1964) as much as 35:66 per cent. were without any travel documents. In view of the fact that repeated assurance have been given in Parliament that all the migrants arriving after 1st January 1964 would be eligible to relief and rehabilitation benefits irrespective of whether they possessed migration certificates or not, the Committee feel that it was only appropriate that Government should have announced in Parliament their intention of modifying their

policy before it was enforced. In the opinion of the Committee the real test of the revised policy would lie not in how it functions in periods of comparative calm as at present, but in how far it will suit conditions of the worst holocausts to which the minorities in East Pakistan are periodically exposed.

**At a very late stage, the Committee have come to learn that from 1st April, 1965, Government have put a ban on any migrants coming into India from East Pakistan without valid documents. In this case also, the Committee feel that this policy decision should have been first announced in Parliament as Parliament was in session then. The Committee further feel, that while the Government should take every step to prevent the infiltration of fifth columnists and saboteurs from East Pakistan, the policy of putting a ban on migration without valid documents, will work very hard with the minority Communities of East Pakistan, where conditions are yet far from satisfactory and secure for them, and will deny them protection and security in India which they may be compelled to seek particularly for the honour and safety of their womenfolk.*

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The normal practice ever since 1952 has been not to permit the entry into India of persons without valid travel documents. Since 1958 even persons entering with migration certificates were not considered eligible for the grant of relief and rehabilitation benefits. These restrictions were temporarily relaxed early in 1964 in view of the conditions then prevailing in East Pakistan and persons coming from that country were permitted free entry into India and were also given relief and rehabilitation benefits. After the situation there had eased and the procedure for the grant of migration certificates by Indian Deputy High Commission at Dacca had been both liberalised and simplified, these temporary relaxations were withdrawn partly in November 1964 and partly in April 1965. Since the relaxations were temporary and their withdrawal restored the position to what it was before January 1964 and did not constitute any departure from the basic policy of the Government, it was not considered necessary to announce the decisions in the Parliament before they were implemented.

2. Government's policy about regulating the entry of migrants from East Pakistan is however, kept constantly under review and due note is taken of the developments in East Pakistan from time to time.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I, dated 12th October 1965].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Please see comments in para 3 of chapter I of the Report.

Recommendation (Serial No. 10, Para No. 25)

The Committee appreciate that at the initial stage when articles had to be procured on an emergency basis it might not have been possible for Government to make their purchases through the usual channels such as D.G.S. & D. or by inviting open tenders. The Committee however feel that even in emergency, the Government should try to evolve some procedure for purchases and ensure that no misuse of powers and authority for emergency purchases takes place.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

By and large, open tender notices were issued by the State Governments concerned in connection with the procurement of supplies for the reception centres. As far as West Bengal is concerned, there is a Stores Purchase Board which is responsible for arranging procurement. In the event of an emergency the purchases are made after obtaining quotations, with the approval of the State Refugee Relief Commissioner, who has been authorised by the West Bengal Government in this regard. As the Refugee Relief Commissioner in West Bengal is a very senior officer, the arrangement appears to be satisfactory.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O. M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I., dated 12th October, 1965].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

*The Committee hope that Government will keep the existing purchase procedure under constant review and take prompt action to plug any loopholes that may be discovered in the course of its working.**

Recommendation (Serial No. 16, Para No. 35)

The Committee recommend that the quality of blankets purchased may be examined by Government to see whether those were according to the sample as previously approved and if any irregularities are noticed, suitable action may be taken to remedy them. They would also recommend that the Government may consider the desirability of setting up a Central Purchase Committee which may ensure that, as far as possible, normal procedures for purchase of articles by Government are followed and that the articles delivered are according to specifications and samples previously approved.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Government of India are satisfied that purchases were made by the State Governments by and large with due regard to normal

*Please see footnote under recommendation (Sr. No. 16, Para No. 35).

procedures and after taking proper precautions. There were, of course, some complaints in regard to the blankets supplied to the migrant families by the West Bengal Government. On enquiry, the West Bengal Government explained that no blankets were purchased specifically for the migrants in the initial stages. The migrants were, however, supplied with blankets remaining surplus out of the riot-relief stock purchased from the Bombay Trading Corporation through the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs. Mainly coarse Handloom/power loom blankets, occasionally cotton and mixed wool and cotton blankets, when woollen blankets could not be procured in adequate number within a short time were supplied. Purchases were generally made on open tender through the State Purchase Board. Purchase was also made on the basis of quotations with the approval of the State Refugee Relief Commissioner whenever quick supplies had to be procured. The Refugee Relief Commissioner has been authorised by the Government in this regard. During the winter of 1964-65, blankets of a much better quality were supplied by the State Government. These had been procured from the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Limited. The Government of India, however, had drawn the attention of the State Government to the recommendation made by the Estimates Committee and they hope that, in future, there would be no complaint about the quality of blankets supplied to the migrants. They, however, do not consider it desirable to set up a Central Purchase Committee, as in their opinion such a Committee would not be very effective. They consider that if all purchases are to be made through such a Committee, there would inevitably be delays in arranging supplies.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I., dated 12th October, 1965].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

*The Committee hope that the Union Government would impress upon the State Governments that it was unwise to leave the purchases being made to the discretion of individual officers and that there was need to evolve regular procedures to ensure that transactions were above board.**

*At the time of factual verification in June, 1967, the Ministry have stated as follows:

"This Department accepts the views expressed by the Committeein regard to their recommendation (Serial No. 10, Para No. 25). In respect of this recommendation as well as the other recommendation at Serial No. 16, para No. 35 this Department proposes to entrust these matters for consideration to the Inter-Departmental Committee referred to in the comments given in the footnote to para 2 of Chapter I, which will have a representative of the Ministry of Finance also serving on it."

Recommendation (Serial No. 35, Para No. 70)

The Committee note that it has taken the Government an unduly long time to take a decision on the business loan scheme for the new migrants submitted by the Maharashtra Government. They hope that in view of the urgency of the problem, expeditious action would be taken by the Government to give a definite shape to the scheme and to implement the same.

They would suggest that while finalising the scheme adequate safeguards should be provided to ensure that the loans are given in time and according to properly assessed needs and business viability so that timely repayment of loans may be possible. They would also suggest that the benefits of the scheme should also be made available to all the migrants arriving in India after 1st January, 1964 irrespective of whether they are in the Camps operated by the Government or not.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Orders fixing the ceilings for the grant of rehabilitation assistance and laying down the general principles on which such assistance should be given to the new migrant camp families settled in non-agricultural occupations in the various States, have since been issued. Copies of the Ministry of Rehabilitation's letters No. 24(90)/64-RR/ Rehab. I, dated the 14th May, 1965 and No. 19(1)/65-RH.I, dated the 17th June, 1965 containing these orders are enclosed (Not printed).

As regards the Committee's suggestion that the benefit of this scheme should also be made available to the migrants living outside camps, attention is invited to this Ministry's reply in respect of Serial No. 1 (Paragraph No. 6) of the Committee's Report.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I., dated 12th November, 1965.]

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Please see comments in para 4 of Chapter I of the Report.

Recommendation (Serial No. 37, Para No. 72)

The Committee feel that a Manual of Executive Instructions should be drawn up incorporating, for the purpose of clarity, illustrative cases in which the various penal provisions are intended to be invoked so as to ensure that the powers are not used indiscriminately.

They also feel that in cases where a migrant is adjudged to be guilty of repeated breaches of discipline in the camp and is consequently discharged from the camp in terms of the provisions of Ins-

truction 4 of the "Executive Instructions" Government may on compassionate grounds consider the question of allowing the family of the migrants to remain in the permanent Liability Camp, if the family so wishes.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The existing instructions on administration and maintenance of discipline in camps are considered to be adequate for achieving the object underlying this Recommendation and the Government of India do not consider it necessary to draw up a more comprehensive "Manual of Executive Instructions" for work which is of a purely temporary nature. It is regretted that the suggestion for retention in some Permanent Liability Home, of the families of migrants, who are expelled from the camps on charges of gross and repeated acts of indiscipline, is not acceptable, as the present provision acts as a deterrent on migrants who might otherwise be tempted to violate camp discipline.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(3)/65-R.H.I., dated 12th October, 1965].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Please see comments in para 5 of Chapter I of the Report.

APPENDIX

(Vide Introduction)

Analysis of the action taken by Government on the 71st Report of the Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha)

I. Total number of recommendations	59
II. Recommendations that have been accepted by Government (<i>vide</i> recommendations at S. Nos. 1, 2, 7—9, 11—15, 17—21, 23—34, 36, 38—46, 48—59 referred to in Chapter II; S. Nos. 3—6 referred to in Chapter I; and S. Nos. 10 and 16 referred to in Chapter IV).	
Number	49
Percentage to total	83.1
III. Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's reply (<i>vide</i> recommendations at S. Nos. 22 and 47 referred in Chapter III)	
Number	2
Percentage to total	3.4
IV. Recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee (<i>vide</i> recommendations at S. Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 16, 35 and 37 referred to in Chapter IV)	
Number	8
Percentage to total	13.5