

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Sixth Report
1953-54

MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

November, 1953

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Members of the Estimates Committee, 1952-53.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar (Chairman)

Shri B. Shiva Rao.

Shri U. Srinivasa Malliah.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava.

*Dr. Panjabrao S. Deshmukh**

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Shri Mohanlal Saksena.

Shri R. Venkataraman.

Shri Bali Ram Bhagat.

Shri Arun Chandra Guha†

Shri Upendranath Barman.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma.

Dr. Suresh Chandra.

Shri Shivram Rango Rane.

Shri Radhelal Vyas.

Shri Debeswar Sarmah.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram.

Shri Jaipal Singh.

Shri Shankar Shantaram More.

Shri Kadyala Gopala Rao.

Shri V. Muniswamy Avl. Thirukuralar.

Sardar Lal Singh.

Shri Girraj Saran Singh.

Shri Sarangadhar Das.

SECRETARIA I

Shri M. N. Kaul—Secretary.

Shri S. L. Shakhder—Joint Secretary.

* Resigned on 30th October, 1952.

† Resigned on 9th April, 1953.

Members of the Estimates Committee, 1953-54

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar (Chairman)
Shri Sarangadhar Das.
Shri Radhelal Vyas.
Shri Debeswar Sarmah.
Shri Nityanand Kanungo.
Pandit Balkrishna Sharma.
Shri Shivram Rango Rane.
Shri V. B. Gandhi.
Shri Upendranath Barman.
Shri R. Venkataraman.
Shri Balvantray Gopaljee Mehta.
Dr. Syed Mahmud.
Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava.
Prof. C. P. Mathew.
Shri U. Srinivasa Malliah.
Shri Rayasam Seshagiri Rao.
Shri Ahmed Mohiuddin.
Shri Girraj Saran Singh.
Dr. Suresh Chandra.
Shri Mohan Lal Saksena.
Dr. Lanka Sundaram.
Shri Kadyala Gopala Rao.
Shri V. Muniswamy Ayl. Thirukuralar.
Shri P. N. Rajabhoj.
Sardar Lal Singh.

SECRETARIAT

Shri M. N. Kaul—*Secretary*.
Shri S. L. Shakhder—*Joint Secretary*.
Shri A. N. Bery—*Deputy Secretary*.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Estimates Committee, having been authorised by the Committee to submit the report on its behalf, present this Sixth Report relating to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

2. The Committee for the year 1952-53 was elected on the 30th June, 1952. At a preliminary meeting held on the 10th July, 1952 the Committee decided to examine the Budget Estimates relating to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. Materials aggregating over 1,000 pages were received from the Ministry and entrusted for intensive study to five Sub-Committees specially constituted for the purpose. During the period 30th June, 1952 to 29th June, 1953 the Committee held 21 meetings covering 55 hours and examined 15 subjects. Oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture was also taken. In order to acquaint themselves fully with the work of the Ministry the Sub-Committees undertook visits during the intersession period, to the various research institutes and other outstation offices under the control of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. On the basis of the written materials furnished by the Ministry, the evidence taken and the experience gained from the visits the Committee formed their conclusions which are embodied in this report. An advance copy of the report was also sent to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture for factual verification.

3. This report embodies the conclusions of the Committee on

- I. Secretariat of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Agriculture Wing).
- II. Forest Research Institute and Colleges.
- III. Statistical Organisations.
- IV. Central Fisheries Research Institutes.
- V. Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack.
- VI. Publicity and Publications.
- VII. Import, Clearance and Storage of Foodgrains.

VIII. Central Palm Gur Training School, Cuddalore.

IX. Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

The Committee will in due course present reports on other subjects under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture examined by it.

4. The Committee wishes to express its thanks to the Officers of the Ministries of Food and Agriculture and Finance for placing before it the material and information that it wanted in connection with the examination of the Estimates. The Committee appreciates the pains that the Heads of the various Research institutes and other Offices took in explaining in details their work during the visit of the Members to their Offices.

M. ANANTHASAYANAM AYYANGAR.

NEW DELHI;

The 25th November, 1953.

I

SECRETARIAT OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

(AGRICULTURE WING)

THE Ministry of Food and Agriculture was formed as a result of the merger of the separate Ministries of (i) Food and (ii) Agriculture in March, 1951. The functions discharged by the former Food Ministry are now performed by the Food Wing of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. On the Agriculture Wing of the Ministry there are the following Secretariat Officers:

Secretary	..	..	..	1
Joint Secretary		..	..	1
Deputy Secretaries		..	..	2
Under|Assistant Secretaries			..	7

The under-mentioned officers have been given *ex-officio* Secretariat status to ensure speedy disposal of work.

1. Production Commissioner (*ex-officio* Additional Secretary).
2. Vice-President, I.C.A.R. (*ex-officio* Additional Secretary).
3. Secretary, I.C.A.R. (*ex-officio* Deputy Secretary).
4. Chairman, Central Tractor Organisation (*ex-officio* Deputy Secretary).
5. Economic and Statistical Adviser (*ex-officio* Deputy Secretary).

The Ministry maintains a number of Technical Advisers for advising it on technical matters and for giving similar advice to the States. Some of the Heads of Attached Offices at Headquarters also serve as Advisers to the Ministry.

Staff

2. A statement showing the strength of Officers in the Secretariat (Agriculture Wing) is given in Annexure I. As a result of the merger of the Food Ministry with the Ministry of Agriculture in March, 1951 a number of posts were abolished. The details of posts that existed on 31st January, 1951 (*i.e.* before merger) and 1st September, 1952 (*i.e.* after merger) are given in Annexure II. It was ascertained from the Ministry that the economy effected as a result of the amalgamation of the two Ministries of Food and Agriculture was to the tune of Rs. 1,75,660. This figure was made up as under:

			Rs.
Pay of Officers	.	.	92,400
Pay of Establishment	.	.	47,880
Allowances, Honoraria, etc.	.	.	35,380
			1,75,660

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Reorganisation of Sections

There are 28 Sections in the Ministry. Of these, 26 are manned by graded/protected Officers (gazetted) dealing with day-to-day duties in the Secretariat and all matters connected with the administration of the Attached and Subordinate Offices which number thirty. The remaining two Sections, viz. Parliament Section and Special Section are without a Section Officer.

The Committee has examined the administrative set-up of the Secretariat and the functions of the various Sections composing it and finds that Sections have been created haphazardly on an irrational basis and there is considerable duplication of work and overlapping of functions. The Committee is of the opinion that there is a possibility of reduction in the existing size and number of Sections by a redistribution of work and also by amalgamating two or more Sections into one Section. The Committee considers that some Sections are redundant and can be abolished without detracting from the efficiency of the Secretariat as a whole. A review of the existing set-up and the Committee's views thereon are given in the following paragraphs:

- (i) *Palm Gur Section*.—The Section is concerned with
 - (a) administration of the Central Palm Gur Training School, Cuddalore;
 - (b) development of palm gur industry;
 - (c) central demonstration squad for propaganda on palm gur;
 - (d) scrutiny of palm gur development schemes in the States; and
 - (e) monthly publication of *Tad Gur Khabar* in English and Hindi.

The estimated expenditure for 1953-54 is Rs. 22,860. The Committee is of the opinion that the work of the Section in so far as development and propaganda are concerned can conveniently be carried on by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research without any additional staff. No Central direction over schemes or Central scrutiny thereof is necessary. Any State may take the advice of the I.C.A.R. or submit its scheme for its scrutiny.

The Committee has elsewhere recommended the transference of the Central Palm Gur Training School to the State of Madras. If this proposal is accepted there will not be any need of Central direction over the institution. The Committee, therefore, recommends the abolition of the Palm Gur Section of the Ministry. This will effect a saving of about Rs. 23,000 at present spent on the Section.

Secretariat

(ii) *Land Reclamation Section.*—The Land Reclamation Section consists of 1 Section Officer, 5 Assistants and 3 Clerks. The estimated expenditure on establishment for this Section for 1953-54 is Rs. 30,900. This Section deals with the administration of the Central Tractor Organisation, International Bank Loans, Land Reclamation Targets, etc. The cases requiring the orders of Government are transmitted to this Section by the Central Tractor Organisation where they are handled by the Assistants in the first instance. The Committee considers it a waste of energy and time that proposals emanating from the Heads of the Subordinate Offices are subjected to the scrutiny of Secretariat Assistants. In this connection the Committee invites attention to the following recommendations made in its Second Report.

“The proposals made by Officers of a Subordinate Department or a Ministry must be attended to by Officers of equivalent or higher rank in the receiving Ministry and should be disposed of without their being sent through the mill of Assistant to Secretary forwards and backwards.”

The Ministry should keep the above recommendation in view while dealing with references received from the Heads of Subordinate Offices. The Committee recommends that the existing Land Reclamation Section in the Ministry should be wound up.

(iii) *Sugar and Vanaspati Section.*—What is said of the Land Reclamation Section applies with equal force to the Sugar and Vanaspati Section. This Section consists of 2 Section Officers, 6 Assistants and 5 Clerks. The estimated expenditure on establishment for this Section for 1953-54 is Rs. 47,580. A Joint Secretary of the Ministry holds charge of the Office of the Vegetable Oil Products Controller of India which is an Attached Office of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The Sugar and Vanaspati Section which is under the same Joint Secretary looks after the administration of the Office of the Vegetable Oil Products Controller and also deals with policy matters regarding import, export, etc. The Committee thinks that this duplicate set-up is unnecessary and wasteful. The Office of the Vegetable Oil Products Controller should be able to take over the functions of the Sugar and Vanaspati Section without any additional staff. The Sugar and Vanaspati Section should be wound up.

(iv) *Commodity Sections.*—There are two Commodity Sections in the Ministry having 2 Section Officers, 8 Assistants and 8 Clerks. The estimated expenditure on staff of these Sections for 1953-54 is Rs. 77,796. These two Sections are together responsible for the administration of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the various Commodity Committees. The Committee understands that Government have under consideration a proposal to set up a Directorate-General of Agriculture which would take over the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the administration of the various Institutes. When the Directorate-General is established the Commodity Sections would be transferred to it. The Committee does not think that the

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mere transference of the two Sections to the Directorate-General would result in any saving whatsoever. Whatever may be the final decision in the matter of creating a separate office of Director-General, the Committee feels that the volume of work in these two Sections is not more than what can be handled in a normal Section and accordingly recommends that the two Commodity Sections should be amalgamated into one Section and the staff of one Section surrendered.

(v) *Establishment Sections.*—There are two Establishment Sections at present. The estimated expenditure on these for 1953-54 is Rs. 73,044. Taking the volume of work into consideration there does not appear to be any justification for having two Sections for performing identical functions. These two Sections should be amalgamated into one and the staff of one Section surrendered. The tendency to duplicate establishment should be discouraged. The Committee would like to state here that it was assured by the representative of the Ministry that the question of the amalgamation of the two Sections would be examined by the Ministry after the Directorate-General had been formed.

(vi) *Institutes Sections.*—There are three Institutes Sections dealing with the work emanating from the Research Institutes manned by 3 Section Officers, 16 Assistants, 8 Clerks and 1 Collator. The estimated expenditure for these three Sections for 1953-54 is Rs. 1,06,104. The Committee does not think that references from the Research Institutes are of such a nature as to require handling at lower levels. The Institutes and other Attached and Subordinate Offices have their own administrative Officers and schemes submitted by them are duly scrutinised by experts. But the present practice in the Secretariat is that all references received from the Institutes and other Attached and Subordinate Offices are examined in the first instance by Secretariat Assistants who submit their suggestions to the higher Officers for acceptance or otherwise. This results in considerable delay in disposal.

The Committee in one of its previous reports has already deprecated the practice of chain noting on files and desires to reiterate its earlier recommendation that references from the Heads of Attached and Subordinate Offices should be dealt with directly by Officers of the rank of Deputy Secretary and above. In order that the number of routine references to the Ministry is reduced the Heads of Attached and Subordinate Offices should be given greater financial and administrative powers. The Committee hopes that Government will give due consideration to this question so that the position of the Attached and Subordinate Offices *vis-a-vis* the Ministry is clearly defined. Pending a reorganisation of the existing Sections the work of the three Institutes Sections should be concentrated in two Sections and the staff of one Section surrendered.

(vii) *Supply Coord and Machinery Section.*—This Section coordinates demands from State Governments for supply of controlled raw

Secretariat

materials such as iron, steel, coal, cement, etc., required for agricultural purposes and distribution of the materials to the States. The estimated expenditure on this Section for 1953-54 is Rs. 36,348. As the supply position of the controlled raw materials like iron, steel, etc., has improved and the State Governments may not be experiencing much difficulty in getting their requirements from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry there is no justification for a separate Section for coordination work. The Committee recommends that residual work, if any, should be taken over by some other Sections. The existing Section should be wound up.

(viii) *Policy Coordination Sections*.—Of the three Policy Coordination Sections involving an estimated expenditure (for 1953-54) of Rs. 1,12,536, one which consists of 1 Section Officer, 6 Assistants and 4 Clerks is responsible for the administration of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics and statistical coordination. As the Economic and Statistical Adviser has the status of an *ex-officio* Deputy Secretary the functions of the Section can as well be performed by the Directorate. The existence of a separate Section for purely statistical matters does not appear to be necessary. The Committee recommends that this Section should be abolished.

(ix) *Grow More Food (Schemes) Section and Production Section*. The Grow More Food (Schemes) Section has a staff of 1 Section Officer, 5 Assistants and 5 Clerks. The estimated expenditure on establishment for 1953-54 is Rs. 38,424. The Production Section has a staff of 1 Section Officer, 5 Assistants and 4 Clerks. The estimated expenditure for 1953-54 is Rs. 37,872. In the materials furnished by the Ministry the functions of the two Sections have been stated as follows:

G.M.F. (Schemes) Section:

- (i) Examination and sanction of the food production schemes and fisheries schemes covered by G.M.F. programme submitted by States Governments.
- (ii) G.M.F. budget matters and other policy matters.

Production Section:

- (i) Coordination of the work of all the Sections of the Production Division.
- (ii) Crop Competition.
- (iii) Subsidiary Food Crops.
- (iv) Land Utilisation.
- (v) Grow More Food Enquiry Committee.
- (vi) Short term crops.
- (vii) Suggestions and requests from the public connected with Grow More Food, etc.

Since the functions of the above two Sections are more or less identical the Committee recommends that the two Sections should be amalgamated into one Section and the staff of one Section surrendered.

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(x) *Special Section.*— There is a Special Section in the Ministry consisting of four Clerks for the upkeep of Secret and Top Secret files. The estimated expenditure on this Section for 1953-54 is Rs. 8,772. As the proper upkeep of files of secret nature is the responsibility of Senior Officers the Committee sees no justification for retaining four Clerks for the purpose. The Section should be reduced.

(xi) *Directorate Sections.*— There are two Directorate Sections consisting of 2 Section Officers, 10 Assistants and 8 Clerks to deal with administrative matters relating to the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage and the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection. The total estimated expenditure on these two Sections for the year 1953-54 is Rs. 63, 204. The Committee recommends that there should be greater decentralisation of functions with a view to effecting quicker despatch of work. The Heads of the Directorates should be given greater administrative powers so that the number of references from the Directorates to the Secretariat is considerably reduced. The two Directorate Sections should be amalgamated into one Section and the staff of one Section surrendered.

Reduction in Staff

4. In the foregoing paragraphs the Committee has recommended the abolition of the following Sections:—

- (i) Palm Gur Section.
- (ii) Land Reclamation Section.
- (iii) Sugar and Vanaspati Section.
- (iv) 1 Commodity Section.
- (v) 1 Establishment Section.
- (vi) 1 Institute Section.
- (vii) Supply, Goord, and Machinery Section.
- (viii) 1 Production or G. M. F. (Schemes) Section.
- (ix) 1 Policy Coordination Section.
- (x) 1 Directorate Section.
- (xi) Reduction in the staff of the Special Section.

As a result of the reduction in the number of Sections and posts proposed in the foregoing paragraphs the following staff will be rendered surplus:

Section Officers	.....11
Assistants	.....46
Lower Division Clerks	.....44
Statistical Assistant	.....1

This staff may be surrendered.

Secretariat

Reduction in the number of Secretariat Officers

The Committee feels that consequent on the reduction of 11 Sections in the Agriculture Wing of the Ministry the work-load of the Under Secretaries will be considerably diminished. The Committee accordingly recommends the abolition of three posts of Under Secretary out of the seven posts at present sanctioned.

Officer (Advisers)

5. There are at present a number of Advisers in the Agriculture Wing of the Ministry whose function is to give advice to the Ministry on technical matters. There are also a number of expert Advisers in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. In addition to these there are Heads of the Central Research Institutes who are experts in their own subjects. Although the number of Advisers has been reduced consequent on the merger of the Food and Agriculture Ministries in April, 1951 there is still scope for further reduction. The views of the Committee on the various posts of Technical Advisers are given in the subsequent paragraphs.

In this connection the Committee would like to invite attention to the following observations made by the Economy Committee:

"The Advisers are thus acting as additional Secretariat Officers who, though they contribute something to the technical questions on a file, deal with other matters too and get immersed in a lot of desk work. We feel that the system of work should be so rearranged as to preclude an Adviser wasting his time on purely administrative matters."

It should be ensured that Advisers are employed only on the technical part of the work and are shorn of all administrative duties.

6. *Palm Gur Advisers.*—There are in the Ministry

- (a) 1 Palm Gur Adviser
- (b) 1 Deputy Palm Gur Adviser*
- (c) 1 Assistant Palm Gur Adviser.

The Committee has recommended the abolition of the Palm Gur Section in the Ministry and the transference of the work relating to the development of palm gur industry to the I. C. A. R. The Committee does not see any necessity for the continuance of the posts of Palm Gur Advisers and therefore recommends that these posts should be abolished.

(ii) *Assistant Livestock Officer.*—The Committee considers that the functions of the Assistant Livestock Officer can be taken over by the Assistant Cattle Utilisation Adviser. The continuance of the post of Assistant Livestock Officer in the Ministry is not necessary.

(iii) *Adviser for Bone Meal Manure.*—The functions of the Bone Meal Adviser should be taken over by the Animal Husbandry Com-

*The post of the Deputy Palm Gur Adviser has been held in abeyance since 5th June, 1952.

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missioner of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. There is no necessity of a separate post of Bone Meal Adviser. This post should be abolished.

(iv) *Technical officer (Dairy Development)*.—The Committee is not convinced of the necessity of a Technical Officer to assist the Deputy Dairy Development Adviser. The post of the Technical Officer (Dairy Development) should be abolished.

Stenographers and Personal Assistants

7. The number of posts of Stenographers and Personal Assistants (as on 28th February 1953) was 23 and 7 respectively. The Committee considers that the number of Stenographers and Personal Assistants is rather high and there is scope for reduction. The following strength of Stenographers is recommended for Secretariat Officers:

For Deputy Secretaries (2)	..	..	..	2
For under Secretaries (4)	..	..	..	2
For Minister of Food and Agriculture	..	..	..	1
For Minister of Agriculture	..	..	..	1
For P. S. to Minister of Food and Agriculture			..	1
			Total	7

The post of the Stenographer for the Deputy Minister may be borne on the strength of the Food Wing of the Ministry. There should be a pool of ten additional Stenographers for the use of 19 Advisers and other Technical Officers.

The following strength of Personal Assistants is recommended:

For Minister of Food and Agriculture	..	..	..	2
For Minister of Agriculture	..	..	..	1
For Secretary	..	..	..	1
For Production Commissioner	..	..	..	1
For Joint Secretary	..	..	..	1
			Total	6

The post of the Personal Assistant for the Deputy Minister may be borne on the strength of the Food Wing of the Ministry.

Class IV Staff

8. The Committee has not examined the requirements of Class IV Staff for the Secretariat as a whole, but it thinks that consequent on the reduction in the number of certain Sections and diminution of staff there will be corresponding reduction in the strength of Class IV Staff.

Secretariat

ANNEXURE I

Statement showing the strength of gazetted Officers in the Agriculture Wing of the Ministry during 1952-53.

- 1 Secretary.
- 1 Joint Secretary.
- 2 Deputy Secretaries.
- 7 Under Secretaries.
- 1 Inspector-General of Forests.
- 1 Deputy Inspector-General of Forests.
- 1 Assistant Cattle Utilisation Adviser.
- 1 Assistant Live-stock Officer.
- 1 Fisheries Development Adviser.
- 1 Deputy Fisheries Development Adviser.
- 1 Assistant Fisheries Development Adviser.
- 1 Deputy Dairy Development Adviser.
- 1 Technical Officer (Dairy Development).
- 1 Deputy Adviser, Intensive Cultivation.
- 1 Adviser for Bone Meal Manure.
- 1 Adviser for Crop Competition.
- 1 Palm Gur Adviser.
- 2 Assistant Palm Gur Advisers.
- 1 Irrigation Adviser.
- 1 Assistant Irrigation Adviser.
- 1 Accounts Officer (Fertiliser).
- 1 Public Relations Officer.
- 1 Deputy Refrigeration Engineer.
- 1 Deputy Supply and Movement Officer.
- 1 Sewage Development Officer.
- 12 Section Officers (Grade II).
- 13 Section Officers (Grade III).
- 1 Assistant Private Secretary to H. M.
- 1 Private Secretary to Secretary.
- 1 Private Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture.

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ANNEXURE II

Statement showing the staff position (Officers and Ministerial) of the Agriculture Division (i) as on 31st January 1951 (before merger) and (ii) as on 1st September 1952 (after merger).

Name of the Post	No. of posts on 31-1-51 (before merger)	No. of posts on 1-9-52 (after merger)
1. Secretary	1	1
2. Joint Secretary	3	2
3. Deputy Secretaries	4	3
4. Under Secretaries	9	7
5. Assistant Private Secretary to Minister	1	1
6. Private Secretary to Deputy Minister	1	1 (Designation changed later to Private Secretary to Minister for Agriculture).
7. Private Secretary to Secretary	1	1
8. Supdts./Asstts. Incharge (now converted into Section Officers Grade II/III)	27	26
9. Assistants	146	127
10. Statistical Assistants	5	1
11. Collator	1	1
12. Accountant (Machinery)	1	1
13. Special Grade Clerk.	1	1
14. Dairy Draftsman	1	1
15. Upper Division Clerks	6	..
16. Clerks	170	162
17. Personal Assistants	8	8
18. Stenographers	39	20
19. Steno-typists	25	17
20. Staff Car Driver	1	1
21. Telephone Operators	2	2
22. Research Investigator . . . . .	..	1
23. Gestetner Operator . . . . .	..	1
<i>Advisers, etc.</i>		
1. Commissioner for Food Production . . . . .	..	..
2. Private Secretary to Commissioner for Food Production . . . . .	..	..
3. Deputy Commissioner for Food Production . . . . .	..	..
4. Inspector General of Forests	1	1
5. Deputy Inspector General of Forests	1	1
6. Cattle Utilisation Adviser	1	..
7. Deputy Cattle Utilisation Adviser	1	..

Secretariat

Name of the Post	No. of posts on 31-1-51 (before merger)	No. of posts on 1-9-52 (after merger)
8. Deputy Live-stock Adviser	1	..
9. Assistant Cattle Utilisation Adviser	1	1
10. Agricultural Development Commissioner	1	..
11. Director, Agricultural Machinery	1	..
12. Officer on Special Duty (Soil Conservator)	1	..
13. Assistant Director, Agricultural Machinery	1	..
14. Director, Intensive Cultivation	1	..
15. Deputy Adviser for Intensive Cultivation . . . . .	..	1*
16. Deputy Agricultural Production Adviser (Fertiliser)	1	..
17. Assistant Agricultural Production Adviser (Seeds)	1	..
18. Assistant Agricultural Production Adviser (Fertiliser)	1	..
19. Compost Development Officer	1	..
20. Sewage Development Officer	1	1
21. Accounts Officer (Fertiliser)	1	1
22. Dairy Development Adviser	1	..
23. Deputy Dairy Development Adviser	1	1
24. Technical Officer (Dairy)	1	1
25. Fisheries Development Adviser	1	1
26. Deputy Fisheries Development Adviser	1	1
27. Assistant Fisheries Development Adviser	1	1
28. Palm Gur Adviser	1	1
29. Deputy Palm Gur Adviser	1	1
30. Assistant Palm Gur Advisers	2	2
31. Bone Meal Adviser	1	1
32. Crop Competition and Prize Distribution Adviser	1	1
33. Director of Publicity	1	..
34. Assistant Director of Publicity	2	..
35. Deputy Irrigation Adviser	1	1†
36. Assistant Irrigation Adviser . . . . .	..	1
37. Officer on Special Duty (Irrigation) . . . . .	..	..
38. Refrigeration Development Engineer	1	..
39. Deputy Refrigeration Development Engineer	1	1‡
40. Public Relations Officer	1	1
41. Deputy Fruit Development Adviser	1	..
42. Assistant Fruit Development Adviser	1	..
43. Regional Agricultural Production Commissioner	8	..
44. Supply and Movement Officer	1	..
45. Deputy Supply and Movement Officer	1	1
46. Joint Secretary to the Gaushala Development Board . . . . .	..	..

* Created in lieu of Director, Intensive Cultivation.

† Since redesignated as Irrigation Adviser without any change in the scale of pay.

‡ Created by upgrading the post of Assistant Refrigeration Development Engineer.

FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND COLLEGES

THE genesis of Forest Research in India goes back to 1884 when the Forest Rangers School at Dehra Dun (started in 1867) was taken over by the Central Government. The existing Research Institute was founded in 1906 and was formally opened in 1914. Post-war (1914-18) developments in the scope of Forest Research led to the expansion of the Institute and in 1929 it was shifted to its new premises at Dehra Dun. The organisation is now manned by over 70 gazetted Officers and a staff of over 700 men.

Functions

10. Broadly speaking, the function of the Institute is to conduct research into problems connected with forestry and the profitable utilisation of forest wealth, and that of the Colleges to train officers and men for manning the Forest Departments of the various States. Primarily, the work of the Institute is research on problems connected with.

- (i) conservation of forests, their rearing, protection and regeneration; and
- (ii) efficient and profitable utilisation of forests products.

The dissemination of information regarding the results of researches and answering of enquiries from the Industry is also one of the functions of the Institute. Limited facilities exist for training in research methods and for the training of technical personnel for related industries.

Branches

11. The principal branches of the Institute are (i) Silviculture, (ii) Botany, (iii) Mycology, (iv) Entomology, (v) Wood Technology, (vi) Wood Seasoning, (vii) Composite Wood, (viii) Wood Preservation, (ix) Timber Mechanics, (x) Cellulose and Paper, (xi) Chemistry of Forest Products, (xii) Minor Forest Products, (xiii) Service and (xiv) Statistics. In addition, the following new branches have been created:

- (i) Timber Engineering, (ii) Soil Conservation and (iii) Desert Afforestation Research at Jodhpur.

Forest Research Institute and Colleges

• Budget Estimates

12. The Budget Estimates of the organisation for the year 1952-53 were as follows:

	Rs.
A. Forest Research Institute	23,42,000
B. Lump Sum Provision for Coimbatore Forest College	1,80,000
C. Conservancy and Works	4,00,000
D. Soil Conservation Demonstration Centres	2,00,000
E. Scheme for Matchwood Plantations	1,75,000
F. Charges in England	67,000
	Total
	33,64,000
Deduct Recoveries from I.C.A.R..	29,000
	Net
	33,35,000

A further provision of Rs. 7,80,000 has been provided for Capital Outlay on Communications and Buildings, Live-stock, Store, Tools and Plant.

RESEARCH INSTITUTE

13. The Institute has been provided with:

- (i) Spacious laboratories equipped with modern equipments;
- (ii) a Wood Anatomy Museum containing thousands of specimens of wood—both inland and foreign;
- (iii) an Insectry Museum having two lakh specimens of over 20,000 identified species of insect pests, collected from all over the world;
- (iv) a Minor Forest Products Museum exhibiting all kinds of forest products (*e.g.*, distillation products, oil seeds, papers, dyes, drugs etc.);
- (v) a well-laid out Botanical herbarium;
- (vi) Pilot Plants of various types and purposes, *viz*:
 - (a) Paper-making machines;
 - (b) Plant for timber treatments under pressure
 - (c) Timber Testing Machinery;
 - (d) plants for the manufacture of ply-wood, composite wood, utilization of waste wood for the manufacture of various products like roofing and flooring material, sticks suit cases, mattings etc.

Inadequacy of Results of Economic Utility

14. The Institute has been in existence for nearly half a century and the expenditure (including non-recurring expenditure) on it is of the order of Rs. 41 lakhs per annum during recent years. The Committee, however, feels that the Institute, well-equipped as it is

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both in men and material, is not producing results of practical commercial utility commensurate with the enormous expenditure that has been incurred on it. Undue attention has been given in the past to researches of fundamental nature, of academic interest only rather than to researches which are productive of results of practical and commercial utility aimed at enriching the forest wealth of the country. It is indeed regrettable that even in cases where applied research had been initiated, little has been done to carry out the same to the developmental stage in order to assess their economic potentialities. To cite a few instances; the manufacture of camphor from *Ocimum* (Tulsi), of starch from tamarind, the treatment of timber and bamboos against damage by insect pests, unfavourable weather and fire. Unless applied researches which promise to show practical results are 'followed up', the continued existence of a costly Forest Research Institute will be hard to justify.

Drastic Cut Necessary

15. Not only is it necessary that there should be a drastic reduction in the expenditure being incurred on economically unproductive activities but there has to be a complete change or reorientation in the mental outlook of research workers. Beautiful buildings, costly equipments, big insect collections and Museums may be fascinating and a source of pride and even useful in higher scientific research of academic or fundamental nature but the country expects some tangible results of economic utility. It is, therefore, absolutely necessary that full attention is directed to researches that are of primary, immediate and practical economic importance and continued to their developmental or pilot project stage. Fundamental research or research of academic interest which has no immediate utility should be given a secondary place at least for some time to come.

Research Utilisation Fund

16. The Committee feels that there are immense potentialities for exploitation of results of researches of applied nature, especially in forest products, only if: (a) research officers could devote more time to researches of applied nature, and (b) Government could provide facilities to determine whether the results are commercially exploitable. The Committee, therefore, recommends that Government should create a Research Utilisation Fund for giving trial to the research results by means of pilot plants or otherwise before recommending the exploitation of such results on a big scale by private or Government or private-cum Government agencies.

Non-utilisation of Expensive Plants

17. The Committee learnt with regret that in 1949 some plants or parts of machinery worth 15 to 20 lakhs of rupees were imported from foreign countries for the manufacture of paper, which have not so far been installed and in fact some of the machinery has not even been unpacked. The Committee did not find any justification for undue

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delay in the erection of the plant and feels that the responsibility for wastage of public money resulting from such delay should be fixed after due investigation and the persons concerned punished.

18. The Committee also recommends that expert opinion should be taken regarding the utilisation of the existing plant and for determining what additional machinery, if any, is required for the manufacture of paper.

Pilot Plant: Their Maximum Use

19. As regards pilot plants like the old paper plant with 2 ton daily capacity and the new plant of 6 ton daily capacity purchased in 1949, Plywood plant, Timber Testing and Seasoning plant and other plants costing in all probably a crore of rupees which exist at the Institute for various purposes, the Committee noted that they were being worked off and on, for experimental purpose for brief periods. The Committee feels that it is unwise to keep them idle for long periods inasmuch as their continuous use will (a) yield substantial income to the Institute, (b) provide opportunity for intensive training to the students or apprentices interested in the same and (c) enable the Institute to work out the economics of the pilot schemes in a more realistic manner. The Committee strongly recommends that such pilot plants should be put to commercial use to the maximum extent when they are not being utilised for experimental purposes. At the end of each year the extent to which these pilot plants had been used for (a) experimental purposes, and (b) commercial purposes, should be clearly indicated to justify the heavy expenditure—both capital and recurring incurred on them. The income and expenditure pertaining to these pilot plants should be shown separately.

F.A.O. Expert

20. An expert of the F.A.O. on timber engineering visited the Forest Research Institute three months ago and would continue to be there for another nine months. It was pointed out by him that as the full complement of staff consisting of a research assistant and other junior staff as also the purchase of tools and implements costing about a few thousand rupees had not been sanctioned, his work was not progressing according to the plan. The Committee recommends that the requisite expenditure be sanctioned so that the services of the F.A.O. expert are fully utilised.

21. It is understood that Government provide facility and assistance to social or recreational clubs attached to the Institute whose membership is confined exclusively to employees belonging to a particular class. It is necessary that such facilities and assistance should be extended to all classes and the Committee recommends that Government should give their attention to this.

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Head of the Institute

22. The President of the Forest College and Research Institute, according to past tradition, has always been a non-technical man. The Committee recommends that preference should be given to a technical man with requisite qualifications especially because the main function of the Institute is research, the results of which could only be assessed by the Head of the Institute, who should be competent and technically qualified.

23. It is also recommended that in keeping with the functions of the Institute, its Head should more appropriately be designated as Director of Forest Education and Research.

Associating Industry with the Institute

24. Since the main function of the Forest Research Institute is to assist the industry or industries concerned with the manufacture of forest products, it is desirable that industry should be associated with the Institute. The Institute should of course charge reasonable fees for services so rendered. The extent to which the Institute is able to solve the day-to-day problems of the industry and the extent to which the industry feels satisfied with the work of the Institute and is prepared to pay for the same will incidentally serve as a real index to the usefulness of the Institute.

Levy of cess

25. In regard to the levy of cess, the Committee supports the recommendation and the suggestion made by the Reorganisation Committee*:

"In order, as nearly as possible, to meet the cost of researches at present conducted on paper and strawboard and to develop the work thereon, it is suggested that the cess on these items should be raised from annas four and annas two per ton to rupee one and annas eight per ton respectively. The cess should also be made statutory, instead of voluntary as at present. The present cess on plywood is considered adequate.

A suggestion has been made for the levy of a cess @ 1 per cent on all sales of timber and other forest produce to form a Forest Research Fund to finance schemes of research in the Centre as well as in the States, the fund to be administered by a Committee to be constituted for the purpose".

This will help in providing funds for the running of the Forest Research Institute.

Achievement Audit

26. In order to assess the actual achievements of the Institute from time to time, the Committee feels that steps should be taken to appoint a Board of eminent scientists and representatives of the

*The Menon-Nair-Sundaram Committee appointed by the Ministry of Finance

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industry to conduct periodically, say after every three or five years an Achievement Audit.

Forest Education

27. Forest Colleges for Officers and Rangers are meant for the training of personnel for the Indian Forest Services. The training is imparted in two distinct standards, namely, (a) for those who are to become Forest Officers and (b) for those who are to become Forest Rangers. The College meant for Officers is virtually a part and parcel of the main Research Institute and is mainly situated in the upper storey of the Institute. For the training of Rangers, there are two Colleges—one at Coimbatore, called the Madras Forest College and the other at Dehra Dun of which one wing (1st year class) is located in the original Forest School building in Dehra Dun city, and the other wing (2nd year class) at a distance of about five miles from the city, at the premises of the Forest Research Institute. The training period, both for Forest Officers and Forest Rangers, extends over two years; the minimum qualification is B.Sc. for admission to the Officers' course and Intermediate in Science for the Rangers' course. The number of students admitted in both the Forest Colleges largely depends upon the requirements of the States who nominate the students.

Rangers' College

28. The Rangers' College at Dehra Dun has two sections in each class, with 30 students in each section, so that there are altogether about 120 students in both the classes in the Rangers' College. The Committee learnt that about 30 more students could be admitted, if necessary.

29. The Committee was informed that the buildings for Rangers' College at the Forest Research Institute (meant for second year students only) are sufficient to accommodate both the first and second year classes. The only reason for retaining the first year class in Dehra Dun city is the paucity of hostel accommodation at the Forest Research Institute so that if residential accommodation could be made available to the students at the premises of the Forest Research Institute, there will be no necessity of keeping a Wing of the Rangers' College (1st year class) at Dehra Dun proper. The arrangement of having both the classes at one place would result in increased efficiency in the training and in better supervision besides considerable economy in recurring expenses. The building in Dehra Dun city can be utilised for some other purposes either by the Forest Department or by other Government Departments, or can be disposed of at a good price. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the First Year class be shifted from Dehra Dun city to the Forest Research Institute and additional hostel accommodation, if necessary, may be provided for.

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Need for Amalgamating the two Colleges

30. The Indian Forest College and the Rangers' College are functioning at present as two separate Institutions with separate supervisory staff for each. It may be noted that other professional colleges like Engineering or Agricultural Colleges and Research Institutes have arrangements for imparting training in different types of courses and yet they are not considered separate entities, but are supervised by one and the same staff. There are instances that colleges and institutes imparting training in different courses are under the control of the same person. The Committee recommends that the Rangers' Colleges should be amalgamated with the Indian Forest College and substantial economy in expenditure on account of reduction in supervisory, teaching staff and in ministerial establishment shall accrue.

INDIAN FOREST COLLEGE FOR OFFICERS

Training Expenses Abnormal

31. Taking into consideration the pressing needs of the country and the demand for economy, it is for consideration whether training in forestry at very much lower cost than is the case at present cannot be imparted.

Salient Points

32. The salient points in regard to the Indian Forest College are: (a) It has only 30 students in each of the two classes, and the annual expenditure per student comes to Rs. 6,675; (b) the students are selected and nominated by each State for admission to the College and their expenses are borne by the nominating States, (c) the sense of competition is completely lacking in students inasmuch as they are guaranteed an appointment in the superior gazetted grade in their respective States, so long as they can just manage to pass the course, and (d) the tuition fees for two years course chargeable to students coming from Indian States are rupees seven thousand as against rupees one thousand charged from foreigners—a curious anomaly as in most countries quite the reverse is the general rule. Concessional fee to foreigners is fixed presumably because training in forestry in India is far more expensive than that in even rich countries like the U.S.A. and U.K.

Educational Expenses

33. The Committee recommends that the training expenses (excluding excursion expenses) must be reduced and brought to the level of those in other professional colleges, and, if possible, to that of science colleges.

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Admission by Open competition

34. When training cost is brought down within the reach of persons of average means as suggested above, then the question of admitting students by open competition may merit consideration with a view to attract the best students. If necessary, seats may be reserved for various States so that competition for admission is confined to the students of their respective States.

The reduction in the cost of education is expected to attract greater number of students than at present, thus providing an element of competition in the college itself. The trainees will naturally have to compete for appointment in Forest Department as is the case in other Services, depending upon their merits and academic record.

This arrangement will—

- (a) obviate the necessity of States having to pay heavy grants for training as students will largely be paying their own expenses unless some stipends are awarded by States;
- (b) throw the admission open to competition to attract best students and incidentally avoid nepotism and favouritism complained of at present;
- (c) provide incentive to students to work hard in the college as recruitment to services will depend upon their merits in the college examinations. This will also bring the college to the standard of other professional colleges, resulting in great deal of economy in expenses. In fact the advisability of affiliating the college with some University may also be considered so that there would be some independent body to judge the standard of education in this college.

In short the object is to eliminate the "exclusive character" of this college and bring it at par with other professional colleges.

Minimum Qualifications

35. In other professional colleges necessary modifications have been made from time to time in regard to the qualifications of students to be admitted. For instance, in the Engineering Colleges, only such students are admitted as have taken pre-Engineering group of courses in their Intermediate-science or Degree course; and likewise, in the Medical Colleges, only such students are admitted as have previously taken medical group of courses—the underlying idea is to admit such students only as possess requisite educational qualifications and who will benefit to the greatest extent by their study in the professional colleges. The Committee understands that if agricultural graduates alone are admitted in the college, either the duration of the course can be reduced to one half or it can be made more efficient and comprehensive.

Administrative Set-up

36. As regards the administrative set-up, the position at present is, that apart from I.G. Forests, D.I.G. Forests and other staff located

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at Delhi, there are at Dehra Dun (a) the President of Forest College and Research Institute, (b) the Vice-President in charge of research (but now replaced by P.A. to President so that in actual practice, the President with the help of P.A. now looks after the research work), (c) the Registrar and (d) the Director of Forest Education besides officers for publicity and other work. The Director of Forest Education, has under him (i) the Dean in charge of the Indian Forest College and (ii) two Principals in charge of the two Forest Rangers Colleges, *i.e.*, one at Dehra Dun and the other at Coimbatore. The Committee recommends that there should be only one person to be designated as Director of Forest Education and Research in charge of the whole Institute (including Colleges) and who should be assisted by the Principal of the Forest College at Dehra Dun. This will render the post of Director of Forest Education superfluous. Consequent on the amalgamation of the Rangers' College with the Forest College the post of Principal of the Rangers' College will also become superfluous. The Committee accordingly recommends that the posts of the Director of Forest Education and the Principal of the Rangers' College may be abolished with consequential reduction in staff as a result of amalgamation.

Under the arrangements now proposed, the Professors-in-charge of various subjects in the Forest College will also be responsible for the teaching of their respective subjects to the Rangers' class. Similarly Research Officers will also continue to give lectures to the students as heretofore.

Research Facilities

37. The Committee considers that research work at the Institute should not be confined to the regular staff of the Institute but it should provide facilities also to other scholars who may be desirous of conducting post-graduate research for higher degrees. To achieve this end, requisite facilities may be provided.

On completion of the courses of research, the successful students may be awarded diplomas similar to those awarded by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute at New Delhi and they should be recognised as equivalent to post-graduate degrees.

Patents for Processes developed at the Institute

38. The Committee learns that the Ascua method of treatment of soft-woods for their preservation was developed in the laboratories of the Forest Research Institute. While this stands to the credit of the Institute, the Committee regrets to note that the scientist responsible for the discovery was allowed to take out a patent in his own name and exploit commercially the patented process. The Committee is of opinion that all discoveries, inventions and processes developed as a

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result of the researches conducted in a Government institute should be the property of the nation. The Committee recommends that all discoveries and processes made at the Institute, in future, should be patented in the name of Government and that no single person working in Government Institutions should be allowed to exploit commercially the fruits of the researches which in a large number of cases are results of a collective effort. Authors of researches of outstanding merit may, however, be given due recognition but such cases should be exceptional.

STATISTICAL ORGANISATIONS

I. DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS

The Directorate of Economics and Statistics is responsible for the collection, compilation and dissemination of agro-economic intelligence. It was constituted as a separate office in 1948, by the amalgamation of the Economics and Statistics Section of the former Ministry of Agriculture, Statistics Section of the former Ministry of Food, the Central Agricultural Marketing Department and the Agricultural Section of the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics at Calcutta.

Functions

40. The functions of the Directorate are four-fold: (i) to prepare memoranda on current issues of agro-economic policy arising out of the work of the Ministry and to advise it on those issues; (ii) to prepare special periodical statements and reports either for the use of the Ministry or for submission to the U.N. Bodies; (iii) to collect, compile, maintain and improve economic intelligence and statistics in the sphere of food and agriculture and (iv) to publicise through the medium of brochures, pamphlets, etc. the information collected on agro-economic matters.

Staff

41. The staff—gazetted and non-gazetted—in the Directorate of Economics and Statistics is as follows:

<i>Gazetted :</i>	1 Economic and Statistical Adviser
	2 Deputy Economic and Statistical Advisers
	3 Assistant Economic and Statistical Advisers
	1 Administrative Officer
	8 Research Officers
	1 Statistical Superintendent
	3 Section Officers

<i>Non-gazetted :</i>	127 Class III staff
	32 Class IV staff

Of the total of 178 posts which have been sanctioned, 78 are permanent and 100 temporary. The Budget Estimate for 1953-54 is Rs. 5,99,400. The Directorate functions through 14 Branches.

Recommendations

42. (i) On an examination of the functions and organisation of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, the Committee feels that there is considerable scope for reduction in staff by decentralisation of some of the activities, elimination of work of routine nature and avoidance of work of doubtful value. Inasmuch as the main function of the Directorate is to render economic advice to the Ministry and to assist it in the formulation of agro-economic policies, there is need for expert advice to assist the Ministry. The Committee, however, is not convinced of the necessity of as many as six Officers with various designations for rendering economic advice to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. Accordingly, it recommends a reduction of three posts in the strength of such Officers.

(ii) Now that the Central Statistical Organisation has started functioning, the Committee suggests that the question of transferring all work relating to publication of bulletins, pamphlets, etc. of a statistical nature to this Organisation be considered. The Committee was however informed that as the information is collected by this Organisation it will be cheaper if the publications are produced by the Organisation itself.

(iii) The Committee recommends that a Committee should be appointed to undertake a detailed review of the functions and staff of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics with a view to examining what functions of the Directorate could be taken over by the C.S.O. without detracting from the efficiency of the Ministry. The minimum staff that will be required for the Directorate should be determined by the Committee.

II. INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

43. Besides the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, there is a separate statistical organisation under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, which is an Attached Office of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

Functions

44. The functions of the statistical organisation of the I.C.A.R. are two-fold: (i) Advisory and (ii) Training.

Advisory: The Council, the premier organisation in the country for guiding and co-ordinating agricultural research, sponsors a large number of schemes of agricultural and animal husbandry in different States. There are over 300 schemes running at any time. The Statistical Organisation of the Council scrutinises the technical programmes and progress reports of these schemes in order to ensure that the experiments are designed properly and the resulting data interpreted correctly. Agricultural and animal husbandry research workers in India are given guidance in the proper use of statistical technique in their work.

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Training: Since 1945, the Statistical Wing of the I.C.A.R. has been imparting training in Agricultural Statistics. The courses of training meet the needs of (i) research workers in agriculture, animal husbandry and allied sciences whose primary interest is not statistics but for whom a correct use of statistical methods is important in their research and (ii) persons with the necessary academic background, who wish to study statistical science in its application to Agriculture with a view to acquiring competence as Agricultural Statisticians.

Staff

45. Consequent on the setting up of the National Sample Survey, the I.C.A.R. transferred some staff who were engaged on crop cutting surveys to this new organisation with effect from the 1st January, 1953. The existing strength of the statistical staff in the I.C.A.R. is as follows:

- 1 Statistical Adviser.
- 2 Professors of Statistics.
- 1 Assistant Professor of Statistics.
- 2 Statisticians.
- 1 Assistant statistician.
- 1 Assistant Superintendent.
- 1 Research Officer (Statistics).
- 7 Research/Statistical Investigators.
- 7 Statistical Assistants.
- 2 Assistants.
- 3 Stenographers.
- 1 Inspector.
- 2 Research Fellows.
- 10 Senior Computers.
- 3 Junior Computers.
- 3 Clerks.

Budget

46. The expenditure on the Statistical Section in the Council is estimated at Rs. 1,06,928 (Rs. 36,672 paid from the Central Revenues and Rs. 70,256 from the Research Funds of the Council).

No Central Contribution

47. The Committee feels that there is necessity for maintaining a small statistical unit in the I.C.A.R. not for administrative or operational work but for promoting various schemes of agricultural research and their development. The Committee, however, does not see why Government should continue to meet the expenditure on

Statistical Organisations

staff meant for scrutinising and supervising the schemes sponsored by the Council from its own funds.

The Committee recommends that the entire expenditure on account of the statistical organisation of the Council should be met by the Council from its own Research Funds.

Research and Training

48. The Committee feels that there is much scope for rationalising the existing statistical organisations. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is primarily concerned with financing schemes relating to agricultural and animal husbandry research; it co-ordinates research work but is not a Research Institute as such. The Committee considers that training work in statistics should be done in a Central Institute where facilities exist for such work. In their opinion, the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi is best suited to undertake training in applied agricultural statistics. It has well-equipped laboratories and possesses a scientific library.

With this objective in view, the Committee has elsewhere recommended the adoption of the following measures, which would tone up the efficiency of training and research in agricultural statistics:

- (i) The statistical staff of the I.C.A.R. should impart training in statistics to the students in the I.A.R.I.
- (ii) The statistical staff of the I.C.A.R. should also carry on statistical research and scrutiny in respect of the various schemes sponsored by the I.C.A.R.
- (iii) The statistical staff should also coordinate the statistical data of the various Central Institutes and Commodity Committees.

Coordination between the Directorate of Economics and Statistics and the I.C.A.R.

49. The Committee feels that though the spheres of activities of the two organisations, *viz.*, Directorate of Economics and Statistics and the Statistical Wing of the I.C.A.R., are well-marked, there is still a certain amount of avoidable duplication between them in the matter of collection and compilation of statistics relating to food and cash crops. It should, therefore, be critically examined as to how far the two bodies could be coordinated in order to avoid all overlapping and duplication. The Committee further recommends that Government should critically examine the need for maintaining two separate posts of Economic and Statistical Advisers—one in the Directorate of Economics and Statistics and the other in I.C.A.R.

CENTRAL FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTES

THE plan for increasing fish production in the country has two distinct aspects, *viz.*

- (i) Undertaking research, pilot experiments and training.
- (ii) Subsidising under Grow More Food Campaign approved schemes of States designed to increase fish production.

The first aspect is fundamental and of lasting benefit to the development of fisheries and is the direct responsibility and immediate concern of the Central Government.

The research work on fisheries is carried out through

- I. Central Inland Fisheries Research Station, Barrackpore;
- II. Central Marine Fisheries Research Station, Mandapam; and
- III. Deep-sea fishing Station, Bombay.

A brief outline of the organisation, functions, etc. of each of the three research stations is given hereunder.

1. CENTRAL INLAND FISHERIES RESEARCH STATION, BARRACKPORE

Functions

51. The main function of the Central Inland Fisheries Research Station is to carry out research on various aspects of Inland Fisheries in order to increase the production of fish from inland and estuarine waters. The work is broadly divided into three sections, *viz.*, Estuarine, Pond Culture and Riverine and Lacustrine. Investigations are stated to be in progress on the rearing and transport of fish seed, food, habits, growth, maturity, breeding habits and on many other problems of fresh water and estuarine fishes of commercial importance. The Cuttack Sub-station is specially engaged on investigations in connection with the unduly high rate of mortality of fry, fingerlings and stocked fish in the State of Orissa.

Organisation

52. This institute was started in 1947 in Calcutta proper and subsequently shifted to its permanent headquarters at Pulta (Barrackpore) in February, 1949.

Central Fisheries Research Institutes

The staff attached to this Institute consists of:

Chief Research Officer	1
Research Officer (Senior Scale)	1
Research Officers (Junior Scale)	2
Assistant Research Officers	8
Research Assistants	11
Assistant Fisheries Training Superintendent	1
Ministerial Staff	6
Class IV Staff	13
Miscellaneous Staff (Engine Drivers etc.)	6

In addition to the main Station at Barrackpore there is a Sub-station at Cuttack (Orissa State) to deal with

- (a) fish seed distribution;
- (b) location of spawn collecting centres;
- (c) river valley surveys;
- (d) fish migration studies; and
- (e) mortality investigations.

Budget Estimates for the year 1953-54

Recurring Expenditure—Fisheries:

	Rs.
Pay of Officers	71,200
Pay of Establishment	57,000
Allowances, Honoraria etc.	50,000
Other Charges	46,800
Lump Sum Provision	80,000
TOTAL	3,05,000

Capital Outlay :

Building	35,000	
Lump Sum Provision	87,000	1,22,000
	GRAND TOTAL	4,27,000

53. Due to lack of adequate equipment and trained personnel, recruitment of the full complement of staff was considerably delayed resulting in delay in the implementation of the programme of work according to schedule. Nevertheless, the Research Station claims to have made substantial contribution to the development of Indian Fisheries. The research work is confined to fish seed investigation and studies on feeding, growth, maturity, breeding, fish conserva-

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tion, fish migration in relation to dams, mortality and control, fish condition, stream pollution and weed control. Since 1948 57 candidates have been trained or are receiving training at the Station*.

II. CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH STATION, MANDAPAM

Functions

54. The main function of this Research Station is to carry out research on the biological, physico-chemical and other aspects of Sea Fisheries of India ultimately aimed at obtaining the maximum annual yield.

Organisation

55. The Central Marine Fisheries Research Station was started in February, 1947 with its temporary headquarters in the Zoological Laboratory of the Madras University for carrying out research in Marine fisheries. Subsequently, it shifted to its permanent headquarters at Mandapam in September, 1949.

In addition to the main Station at Mandapam, there is a Sub-station at Calicut (Madras State) to deal with the major fisheries of the West Coast of India, a Research Unit for mackerel research at Karwar (Bombay State) and a Unit for prawn research at Cochin.

The staff attached to this Institute consists of :

Chief Research Officer	1
Research Officers (Class I)	4
Assistant Research Officers (Class II)	15
Research Assistants (Class III)	12
Survey Assistants (Class III)	12
Ministerial Staff (Class III)	12
Miscellaneous Staff (Class IV)	41

Budget Estimates for the year 1953-54

	Rs
(i) Pay of Officers	1,00,000
(ii) Pay of Establishment	90,000
(iii) Allowances and Honoraria	1,06,000
(iv) Other Charges	51,700
(v) Lump Sum Provision	1,20,000
TOTAL	4,67,700

* The total number of candidates already trained since the inception of the course under the aegis of the Government of West Bengal and then under the direct supervision of the Station is 129.

Central Fisheries Research Institutes

Capital Outlay :

Building	88,000	
Lump Sum Provision	4 ,000	1,33,000
GRAND TOTAL		6,00,700

From the material furnished to the Committee it appeared that the limitations of finance and equipment and the non-existence of a sufficiently large organisation restricted the scope of the programmes mainly to the essential survey of resources along with the biological and ancillary investigations. This Station claims to have trained 17 candidates.

III. DEEP-SEA FISHING STATION, BOMBAY

Functions

56. The functions of this Station are to determine suitable types of power craft and gear for working in Indian waters, fishing seasons, the equipment best suited for the preservation, storage and distribution of fish and for charting of fishing grounds and training of personnel for working on mechanised fishing vessels.

The information furnished to the Committee revealed that there are four fishing vessels working at present at the station, viz. 2 Dutch Motor Cutters M.T. "Ashok" and M.T. "Pratap" and 2 Reekie Boats M.F.V. "Bumili" and M.F.V. "Champa". These vessels started operations during 1949-50 and in addition to charting fishing grounds off the Bombay Coast and doing other exploratory work, landed over 207 tons of fish. During 1950-51 and 1951-52 these vessels landed over 202 tons and 217 tons of fish respectively.

In November, 1951, a quick Freezing Cold Storage Plant and Ice Factory was put into operation at Sassoon Dock, Bombay. This plant is designed to

- (1) produce 20 tons of ice in 24 hours;
- (2) store 50 tons of fresh fish at 28: :F;
- (3) quick freeze by "Chill blast" method 15 tons of fish* per day; and
- (4) stores 250 tons of frozen fish at 0° F.

Organisation

57. The staff attached to this Station mainly consist of.

Superintendent Engineer	1
Head Clerk—Accountant	1
Senior Clerk	1
Stor.-Keeper.	1
Stenographer.	1

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Junior Clerk (Cashier)	1
Junior Clerk	1
Peons	3
Night watchman	1

Skilled personnel

Officers & Crew of M.T. <i>Ashok</i>	12
Officers & Crew of M.T. <i>Pratap</i>	12
Officers & Crew of M.F.V. <i>Bumili</i>	6
Officers & Crew of M.F.V. <i>Champa</i>	6

58. *Budget Estimates for the year 1953-54*

Recurring Expenditure—

	Rs.
Pay of Officers	25,300
Pay of Establishment	1,16,200
Allowances, Honoraria, etc.	90,000
Other Charges	5,83,000
TOTAL	8,14,500
Lump sum provision (Deep-sea Fishing Station and Cold Storage Plant and Ice Factory)	
	2,50,000
GRAND TOTAL	10,64,500
Charges in England (Stores)	
	35,000
Other Charges	
	17,000
TOTAL	52,000

I. DEEP-SEA FISHING STATION, BOMBAY

Review

59. The method of fishing and type of fishing craft in use in Indian sea are best suited so far as fishing in the shore belt of seven to ten miles is concerned. There is practically no off-shore or deep-sea fishing in the true sense of the term or in any scale of commercial importance. Necessity of extending the field of fishing operation has been felt in view of the shortage of food to meet the basic requirement of the people in the region. There have been attempts on Indian coasts to have power vessels for conducting survey and fishing on a commercial scale an large size trawlers were mostly used.

Central Fisheries Research Institutes

Experimental trawling has been tried in the Indian seas since 1902. Most of these exploratory attempts have been failures so far in the economic sense. The effective nature of some of the types of vessels had been established but commercially they did not prove successful because of the high cost of maintenance, lack of adequate knowledge of the fishing grounds, lack of trained personnel, necessity to combine exploration and investigation on virgin grounds, with practically no oceanographical data available, loss of and damage to gear, lack of information on the suitability of the different types of vessels to Indian conditions, lack of harbour facilities and the difficulties met with in the handling and disposal of the different kinds of fish from time of capture to market. During the preliminary fishing surveys, important fishing grounds were located in the coasts of India. Based on the experience of these attempts at power fishing, the Government of India launched fresh efforts to conduct exploratory fishing through power vessels. A pilot Deep-Sea Fishing Station was established in Bombay in 1946 and the fishing operations by S.T. 'Meena' commenced in January 1948. She was a single screw vessel with a registered net tonnage of 159.85 tons and a length of 153 ft. 5 in. and had a cold storage plant. She was in commission for only 513 days and due to berthing difficulties she was at sea only for 212 days. During this period she landed about 165 tons of fish. In view of the high cost of maintenance and operation of the coal burning, she was de-commissioned in June 1949. Besides S. T. "Meena", two Dutch Cutters M.T. 'Ashok' and M.T. 'Pratap', two Reekie boats, M.F.V. 'Bumili' and M.F.V. 'Champa' were also operating off Bombay. The two Dutch cutters were fishing in 1949 and 1950 in the areas chartered during the earlier surveys in addition to charting and fishing new areas and they landed about 184 tons pounds of fish.

60. A scheme for exploring the possibility of deep-sea fishing in the Bay of Bengal was launched in 1950 by the Government of West Bengal to determine the location of the bases of fishing grounds, the proper fishing seasons, the types of fish surface, mid-water or bottom, types of gear and nets most suitable for working in these waters. The Danish trawlers 'Sagarika' and 'Baruna' commenced fishing at the banks of Bay of Bengal on the 26th December, 1950, Till the end of October 1951 the vessels made 13 voyages and fished in 11 banks. They operated four types of trawls. The vessels 'Sagarika' and 'Baruna' were actually fishing for 86 and 87.5 days respectively and their catches amounted to 241.7 tons giving an average of one ton per day's absence from the port.

61. It was explained before the Committee by the Director of Zoological Survey who was formerly connected with fisheries that deep-sea fishing in India was neither economical nor practical under the present circumstances. His view was that a comparison between

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North Sea and Indian waters was fallacious. The following may be quoted from his evidence:

"We in this country go by what is being done in the North Sea. As compared to our seas, the North Sea is a pool. There is no place where it is more than ten or twelve fathoms deep. After 50 miles, it is 100 fathoms deep here. We are in warmer waters. By the time these planktonic organisms settle at the bottom to form fisheries, there is no food material left there. Only shells are found. In the North Sea, the whole thing is preserved in cold waters and at a depth of ten or twelve fathoms, they form good fish-food. Then, we have got 3000 kinds of marine fish in our seas and about 2000 varieties of fresh water fish. In the North Sea, you have got half a dozen varieties. If one wants to catch haddocks or herrings, he takes his trawler and the special gear catches nothing but herrings and he gets them in millions. Here, you get 200 or 300 varieties. The problem is either you keep the net in a place and take advantage of the movement of the fish or we intercept the movement of the fish and catch them. When you know the movement of one kind of fish you can evolve means of catching it in great quantities, but here we have to study the movements of three or four or five hundred kinds of fish, and that is why it cannot be developed as an industry here. Each variety of fish has got a separate temperature, pressure, etc., for canning purposes. If you have got one variety then you can start canneries because you are dealing with one kind of fish and one process by which the fish has to be treated. If your catch contains two or three hundred kinds of fish, naturally you cannot have an industry of canning built on it. It is due to these that the trawling industry in the tropical waters has failed everywhere. It is not India's experience alone. It is the experience of Indonesia, Ceylon and other countries in the Tropical World. The latest opinion from the Technical Officer who came under the Technical Assistance Programme is that they are very sorry that they pressed their scheme and that they now realise what they have been advocating is not suitable for tropical and sub-tropical countries".

Recommendations

62. The Committee has not been able to get the evidence of other persons from Bombay and has not, therefore, completely covered the ground especially in regard to the economic aspect of the deep-sea fishing in this country, though Dr. Hora, Director, Zoological Survey of India is definitely against the continuance of carrying on research in this direction. The Committee hesitates to come to the conclusion that deep-sea fishing should be abandoned altogether. Judging from the results of the experiments made over a long period it should be possible to determine whether the deep-sea fishing can be tapped as a fruitful source of food. As the experiments carried out so far are not encouraging, the Committee suggests that a different procedure may be tried, viz. handing over the Experimental Research Station to the Bombay Government or to any other maritime State willing to take it over and it may be provided with necessary funds by the Centre. To what extent and on what terms the State Government may take over is a matter for negotiation. The Committee hopes that the Central Government will consider the desirability of giving the subsidy for a few years to the State or States which take over this work.

63. The Committee also recommends that the trawlers may be handed over free of charge to the State Government which takes over this Research Station. It may be stated that the trawlers can

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also be utilised for catching surface fish and thus be put to the maximum advantage as a commercial proposition.

64. The Committee further considers that having regard to the slow progress made in the matter of research in deep-sea fishing and the poor results obtained so far, greater attention may be paid towards such practical research as opposed to fundamental research and a higher place may be assigned in the order of priority to the former.

COLD STORAGE PLANT

65. The Committee understands that a Cold Storage Plant was installed in Bombay in connection with deep-sea fishing research. It was the idea of the Government then that it would be possible to catch a huge quantity of fish as a result of deep-sea fishing and in order to make the scheme a commercial proposition, it was necessary to have refrigeration arrangement to preserve the fish. Subsequently, it has turned out that this cold storage plant has not been made use of as originally intended as the quantity of fish which was caught in the deep sea was not so much as to enable the Institute to make full use of the plant. Consequently, it is running at a loss. It is understood that from November, 1951 to May, 1953 there has been a total loss of Rs. 45,517 on this plant. The Committee considers that it is no use continuing to maintain this plant at a loss. The Committee recommends that the plant should be handed over to the Bombay State 'at a no profit no loss' basis and it is possible that that State may make use of the plant also for purposes other than deep-sea fishing.

In case that State is not agreeable to take over the plant, then it should be used as a cold storage plant for purposes other than deep-sea fishing as well or leased to private parties or be run as a commercial concern for the benefit of both Government and private parties. It is time that some steps are taken to avoid recurring losses on the maintenance and upkeep of the plant.

II. CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH STATION, MANDAPAM

Need for continuance

66. A careful study of the working of this Research Institute reveals that the researches now carried out at this Institute are purely fundamental. The Committee is, however, of the opinion that as this Research Station is useful to the whole of India, the Centre should continue to administer it and that the research must not be purely fundamental but must be directed towards the solution of day-to-day practical problems referred to it by the maritime States. Indeed, the latter aspect of research should be given precedence over purely fundamental research.

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Fisheries Advisory Board

67. The Committee gathered from the evidence tendered before it that at present there is no co-ordinating authority in the country on fishery matters resulting thereby in considerable duplication of work between the Central and States Research Stations as also among the Universities conducting research on marine fisheries so much so that if the Research Station at Madras is doing the life-history of a particular fish, Bengal Station is also engaged in doing the life-history of the same fish. Although it is realised that on a fundamental problem it may be necessary to have investigations at two Stations due to difference in the ecological conditions, duplication should be avoided in all routine matters. The Committee feels that the remedy for avoiding such a wastage of energies lies in the formation of a Fisheries Advisory Board which should control all activities on fisheries development and research, co-ordinate the activities of the fisheries research stations, both Central and States and help in allocating fields of research as between these various Stations. In doing so, a considerable overlapping will be avoided.

The Board should consist of the representatives of the Centre as well as various States and should meet from time to time (at least once in a quarter) to exchange views chalk out programmes and discuss fields of research that ought to be undertaken during a year.

Mobile Stations

68. The Committee is further of the opinion that the staff attached to the Central Marine Fisheries Research Station, Mandapam, should not only undertake research on one kind of fish at any particular place, but they should move about and see different kinds of fish living under different climatic conditions in other places as well thus obviating the need for a net work of stations all over the country.

The Committee accordingly recommends that instead of establishing permanent stations at a number of places with permanent staff, Government should explore the possibility of creating Mobile Units consisting of a certain number of staff, who should travel from place to place and carry on research. They may stay in any particular place for a period of five or six months or for any longer period as may be necessary and after they have done research on all kinds of fish, that are available there, they should proceed to another place and carry on their work. Thus excepting the main Research Station, the Sub-stations should, as far as possible, be in the nature of mobile stations which should be provided with laboratory facilities.

III. CENTRAL INLAND FISHERIES RESEARCH STATION, BARRACKPORE

Recommendations

69. (i) The Committee is glad to learn that the experiments in pond fishing conducted by the Research Station in Orissa have been

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fruitful and results are encouraging. Since pond fishing presents an all-India problem which needs to be probed further, the Government should consider the desirability of asking the staff engaged in research work in Orissa to finish their work there and then move on to other places in the country to make similar experiments. In other words, the Orissa Station may be converted into a Mobile Unit.

(ii) The unit relating to ponds may also be utilised for tackling problems of fisheries in reservoirs or dams.

(iii) In regard to Riverine Fisheries, the Committee recommends that Government should explore the desirability of having another unit, similar to the one proposed for Allahabad, for finding out how far it is desirable to expand riverine fisheries.

(iv) The Committee has further learnt that the Research Station at Barrackpore which is intended primarily for doing research work for pond, riverine and estuarine fish is merely engaged in packing fish fries and sending them to other places, as in the absence of a nursery in the Station, any research on pond fisheries could not be effectively done. Indeed, there has been *no* water in the experimental ponds at Barrackpore for quite a long time. This is stated to be due to the sub-soil condition of that locality which is so sandy that no pond can contain water. It is distressing to note that in the absence of full research facilities, the technical staff attached to it are largely doing administrative work besides some training work and thus the money meant for conducting research work is being diverted towards administration. The Committee feels that the Barrackpore Station has not proved useful. It, therefore, recommends that the Research Station together with the Library attached to it should be handed over to the West Bengal Government and that the Central Government should no longer maintain the Barrackpore Station. Problems of an all-India character relating to Inland Fisheries can be carried out at the Cuttack Unit.

CENTRAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, CUTTACK

The Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack was established in September, 1946 on a plot of land 155 acres in area obtained from the Orissa Government. Since then an additional area of 98 acres has been acquired for the Institute but due to the necessity for continued economy it had not been possible to build new laboratories and residential quarters. Funds for this purpose have, however, been provided during the current financial year.

Function

71. The main function of the Institute is to undertake fundamental research on all aspects of this important food crop on an all-India basis with a view to increasing its production. The research work is carried out by six divisions *viz.*, Botany, Agronomy, Mycology, Entomology, Chemistry and Farm under the co-ordinated direction and supervision of the Director.

Estimates

72. During 1953-54 Budget provision has been made for a sum of Rs. 3,39,000 as indicated under:

	Rs.
Pay of Officers	87,500
Pay of Establishment	59,700
Allowances & Honoraria	59,800
Other Charges	1,32,000

TOTAL	3,39,000

In addition a provision of Rs. 1,64,000 has been made for meeting capital expenditure on land development, Laboratory buildings, residential accommodation, etc.

Need for a Central Institute

73. As regards the need for a Central Institute for rice crop, it was explained to the Committee that no individual State could be expected to do the work on such an extensive scale on one crop alone as is being attempted at Cuttack by the Central Institute. They have collected about 3,000 types or varieties of rice from all over the

world for the purpose of breeding new varieties suitable for rice growing tracts all over India. Real work was started about five years ago and 15 varieties of rice have already been selected which have been sent to about 20 centres in India for trial. Apart from collection and breeding of new varieties, the staff is also engaged in evolving a new breeding technique. While varieties evolved and found suitable at Cuttack would certainly be suitable for areas possessing similar climatic, rainfall and soil conditions, etc. they may not be suitable for other rice tracts possessing different conditions. The idea is to evolve a large number of varieties (possessing desirable characters, *i.e.* heavy yield, superior quality, resistance to diseases or drought or non-lodging characters, etc.) and to send them for trial to the experimental farms in different parts of India, growing rice. The Committee thinks that this is a very useful line of work and an all-India Institute for Rice can be justified on this score at least for intensive and extensive work on the breeding of new varieties, for evolving better breeding technique, to carry out experiments of complicated nature and to serve as a co-ordinating link between the State Research Stations in different parts of India engaged in research on rice.

Need for Review of Existing Sections

74. While the all-India character or importance of the research work done in the Botanical Section, may be justified, it may not be possible to do so with equal force in regard to the experimental and research work being conducted in other Sections, as the results obtained would, in most cases, be more or less of local applicability. For instance, in the case of the Agronomist, the results of cultural, manurial (including green manure), irrigational or varietal trials, etc. conducted at Cuttack would be applicable to limited areas, with conditions similar to those obtaining in Cuttack, but may not be applicable even to other parts of Orissa, and much less to rice tracts of India as a whole, possessing different conditions. Likewise, the Entomologist and Mycologist would be dealing with insect-pests and fungal diseases prevalent in this locality and not with those prevalent elsewhere. So while it is true that the Botanical Section cannot exist in isolation, and existence of other sections is a natural corollary, the Committee recommends that the whole question be looked into as to:

- (a) what should be the relative strength of the Sections *vis-a-vis* Botanical Section;
- (b) whether the Heads of all Sections should be in the same grade; and
- (c) how far the usefulness of Sections other than Botanical can be maximised to serve the largest area possible.

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Coordination between Central Rice Research Institute and Orissa State Agricultural Department

75. The Committee feels that there is an absolute necessity to bring about coordination between the Specialists of Central Rice Institute and their counterparts in the State Department of Agriculture, so that varietal, manurial, cultural, rotational experiments, etc. (instead of being confined to the Central Rice Research Institute alone) are planned and laid out by joint consultation and efforts of both the State and the Central Government staff on the widest possible scale on all the State experimental and demonstration farms scattered all over Orissa. Likewise, the land at Cuttack (in possession of the Rice Research Institute) with all its irrigational and other facilities, can be utilised for crops other than rice, at the time the land is not under rice, since rice must be grown in rotation with other crops. At present the land remains idle after the removal of paddy.

Similarly in regard to research work in the Mycological, Entomological and Chemical Sections, coordination should be brought about between the Specialist Officers of the Central Rice Research Institute and their counterparts in the State Agricultural Department, so that they do not work in isolation or water-tight compartments, as is the case at present. It was distressing to note that even though some State Research Officers were stationed near the Rice Research Institute, there was not the slightest liaison between them, so much so, that the State Departmental Specialists did not even know what work was being done and what technique was being employed by their counterparts at the Central Rice Research Institute. If coordination is brought about, it should be possible for them to chalk out jointly the whole programme, divide the work and investigate some problems at the Central Rice Research Institute and some problems at State Stations outside Cuttack, thereby utilising the staff and research facilities of both the Central and State Governments to the maximum.

Coordination between Central Rice Research Institute and other States

76. Not only is coordination essential between the staff of the Central Rice Research Institute and the State Agriculture Department, but it is imperative that coordination should also be brought about, where it does not already exist, between the Central Rice Research Institute and experimental stations of all States interested in rice. The Central Institute should serve as a connecting or coordinating link and source of guidance, annually collecting and compiling the results obtained at different places, without in any way interfering with the existing administrative set-up or machinery of the State Stations.

Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack

In fact, the possibility of using the Central Commodity Stations for research work also on crops other than the crop for which they are primarily established, should also be explored. By this method, it will be possible to utilise the Central Stations for intensive research work on their respective crops and at the same time for general research on other crops which come in rotation, thereby utilising the technical and non-technical staff, land, and all other research facilities available at each place to the maximum extent. This will also meet the usual objections generally raised against the Central Commodity Institutes, *i.e.*, by doing intensive work on one crop only, to the exclusion of all other crops, full advantage is not being taken of the staff, land and other facilities available there.

By adopting this course, the Commodity Research Stations can, to a very great extent, be made to serve the purpose of Regional Stations; their administrative control being vested in a Board consisting of the representatives of the Central Government and of the State or States concerned. This will induce the States to take greater interest in the Central or Commodity Stations than at present. This will also accord with the spirit of the Constitution which recognises Agriculture as essentially a State responsibility. The State or the States benefiting from the researches and sharing control in the Institute can be legitimately asked to share the expenses to a certain extent.

Mobile Units

77. In order that (a) the rice experts of this Institute may have a comprehensive idea of the country as a whole, and (b) all the rice-growing tracts get the maximum advantage of the experience and technical knowledge of the experts, the Committee recommends that the possibility of the expert staff devoting some time at other important research stations of rice in the country may also be examined.

Disparity in Scales of Pay

78. The Committee observed a great deal of disparity in the emoluments of States employees *vis-a-vis* the Central Government staff engaged in research work, especially when they were working in the same place and tackling more or less similar problems and possessing equivalent academic qualifications. The Committee suggests that this aspect of the matter may be looked into by Government.

Residential Accommodation for Staff

79. The Committee feels that the Institute is inadequately equipped in many respects. The condition of the residential quarters especially of subordinate staff (*i.e.*, Field Assistants and some Research Assistants) is far from satisfactory. There is insufficient accommodation and rooms are not adequately ventilated. In fact

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they were mere godowns before they were converted into residential quarters.

Mr. Stanley Clarke who was deputed by the Australian Government in 1952, under an agreement with the Government of India, to investigate the question of supply of technical equipment from Australia under Technical Co-operation Scheme visited a number of Research Institutes and submitted a report which was forwarded by the Australian High Commission to the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. In this report the following remarks occur about the Central Rice Research Institute:

“There is a strong bias towards higher University education and large and imposing institutions, irrespective of whether they are the most important needs of the country. On the one hand there was the contrast of the new National Physics Laboratory costing £9,00,000 including an auditorium capable of seating 850 people. This Laboratory has been designed and staffed largely for fundamental work. On the other hand, there is the Central Rice Research Institute at Cuttack completely starved for funds working in old farm buildings with most inadequate equipment.”

Until new residential quarters are built the Committee recommends that the International Hostel built for the International Training Course from the Colombo Plan Funds which is lying at present unoccupied may be utilised to ease the present unhappy position and the staff may be charged a reasonable rent for the same. This will bring some income to the Institute and at the same time afford at least a partial and temporary relief to the staff.

The Committee noticed that while a percolation well was provided for every two quarters, there was no water in any one of them at the time of its visit nor was there any arrangement for the supply of water to Research Laboratories, etc. This is a rather wasteful method of dealing with the water problem. Not only would it have been more satisfactory but also more economical to have a central tube-well, with a storage tank, to supply water to all the residential quarters, laboratories and other places in the Institute.

Administrative Staff

80. The present strength of the administrative staff is one Superintendent, one Head Clerk, one Accountant, one Stenographer and three Clerks besides a Librarian, a Daftry, a Jamadar and two Peons. The Superintendent at present draws Rs. 640 p.m. in the grade of Rs. 600-40-800. The Committee feels that the Institute need not have the Office Superintendent in such a high scale of pay. In fact the present Head Clerk had, for all practical purposes, been doing the work of the Office Superintendent until the new incumbent took over the charge. The Committee suggests that a Superintendent in the grade of Rs. 250-15-400 may be provided with a starting pay of at least Rs. 280, given a gazetted status and authorised to sign pay bills, service books and vouchers, thereby relieving the Director of the Institute from routine matters which take a great deal of his time at present. The present post of Head Clerk should be abolished.

VI
PUBLICITY AND PUBLICATIONS
I. PUBLICITY

PUBLICITY for the Ministry of Food and Agriculture is done through the Special Publicity Unit, the staff of which is now borne on the cadre of the Press Information Bureau, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Prior to 1st June, 1951 the staff was attached to the Ministry itself.

Functions of the Publicity Unit

82. This unit is responsible for publicity through feature articles, brochures, folders, posters, films and radio. Feature articles are released by this unit once a week in English and Indian languages which endeavour to show the useful work done by the Ministry, Commodity Committees under its control and various Institutes. This unit drafts pamphlets on the work of the Ministry and advises the advertising Consultant on the preparation of posters. It has produced four 16mm films on Land Army, Vanamahotsava, Potato Cultivation and Agricultural Extension Seminar which are exhibited at the Seminar, Agricultural Conferences etc. It has also started a special feature called 'Farm Forum' for the benefit of cultivators for dissemination of improved farming practices amongst them. These broadcasts are made thrice a week in six regional languages (*viz.*, Hindi, Marathi, Kannada, Gujerati, Tamil and Telugu) from certain stations of the All India Radio.

The Publicity unit also acts as a clearing house for information from State Governments on Grow More Food, consolidates fortnightly reports received from them for circulation to all States and handles requests for information from individuals and organisations in the country as well as from abroad on matters pertaining to the activities of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

Budget Estimates

83. The expenditure on the Publicity Staff attached to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture is met out of the grant sanctioned for the Press Information Bureau of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. During the period from 1st April 1952 to 31st March, 1953, the following expenditure had been incurred by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on the Food Publicity Unit:—

	Rs.
1. Pay of Officers	23,542-3-0
2. Pay of Establishment	13,116-1-0
3. Allowances, Honoraria, etc.	14,970-15-0
4. Other Charges	2,334-8-0
Total	53,963-11-0

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In order to meet incidental expenses on publicity work on **Grow More Food** a sum of Rs. 10,000 had been provided under the head 'Other Charges' in the Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture for the year 1952-53. Of this amount, Rs. 5,000 are stated to have been spent on the radio, Rs. 2,000 on films and balance of Rs. 3,000 on publication of pamphlets, etc.

Centralisation of Publicity Work

84. The Committee feels that in pursuance of the policy of centralising all publicity work of the Government of India in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting it should be called upon to bear the entire incidental expenses on publicity work out of its own funds instead of each Ministry making a separate provision for it, so that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting may be answerable to Parliament for all matters pertaining to publicity.

Public Relations Officer

85. There is at present a post of Public Relations Officer in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture which has for the time being been kept in abeyance. Since the functions of this Officer, if appointed, would overlap with those discharged by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the Committee recommends that this post should be abolished and need not be revived*.

II. PUBLICATIONS

86. The Ministry of Food and Agriculture publishes quite a large number of publications in respect of the Ministry and its attached and subordinate offices. The details of the pamphlets issued by the Publicity unit are given in the Annexure to this report. Besides, there are various Commodity Committees which finance monthly and quarterly journals and cater to particular classes of readers.

Publications issued by the Ministry

87. The main publications with which the Ministry is concerned are:—

- (i) Annual Reports
- (ii) 'Tad Gur Khabar'.

Tad Gur Khabar.—The Committee has recommended elsewhere in this report that all work in connection with development and propaganda on Palm Gur should be taken over by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The Council should as well take over the publicity work and give the required publicity through its own publications instead of issuing a separate journal for this purpose.

Publications of the I.C.A.R.

88. The publication activities of the Council are considerable. Some of the Journals are financed from the Research Funds of the

* It is understood that the post of the Public Relations Officer has since been abolished.

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Council and others from Central Revenues. The Journals which the Council publishes are as follows:

(i) Indian Farming (Monthly)	}	Financed from Research Funds of the Council.
(ii) Kheti (Monthly) (in Hindi)	}	
(iii) Indian Journal of Agricultural Science (Quarterly)		Financed from Central Revenues.
(iv) Indian Journal of Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandry (Quarterly)		Financed from Central Revenues
(v) Statistical Newsletter (Quarterly)		Financed from Research Funds of the Council.
(vi) Rice News Teller (Bilingual English and Hindi)		Do.
(vii) Dharti-Ka-Lal (in Hindi)		Do.

It has been noticed that the expenditure on the staff employed for publication work during 1952-53 amounted to Rs. 1,04,500 though part of this expenditure is met from the research funds of the Council. The expenditure on printing alone of some of these Journals at private presses amounted to Rs. 1,03,814 during 1952-53. Out of the above, Rs. 58,984 were realised from the sale of the publications printed privately. There was, thus, a deficit of Rs. 44,830 which had to be borne by the Council.

89. In respect of the two Journals alone, *viz.* *Indian Farming* and *Kheti*, which are essentially for popular consumption, it has been observed that the cost of production far exceeded the sale proceeds resulting in a heavy deficit. In order to minimise the extent of loss the Committee recommends that the cost of production of the two Journals should be reduced. Attempts should also be made to increase the sales of these Journals by:—

- (1) using cheaper quality of paper *instead* of Art paper;
- (2) reducing the sale price;
- (3) securing more advertisements;
- (4) persuading the State Governments to utilise the material appearing in *Indian Farming* and *Kheti* by disseminating in regional languages so that farmers secure the fullest advantage.

The Committee also recommends that all publications should be made remunerative or as self-sufficient as possible and that their sales should be enhanced by improving the materials, etc.

90. The Committee has been informed that a new publication named *Dharti-Ka-Lal* is in the process of being brought out. The Committee understands that the object of this publication is to

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educate the masses and it is expected to benefit the actual cultivator. The Committee expects that this publication will meet a long-felt need.

The Committee also feels that the publication of the Journal *Rice News Teller* will be useful.

Plant Protection Bulletin

91. This Directorate started a monthly bulletin entitled *Plant Protection Bulletin* in September, 1949. The cost of Production has not been stated inasmuch as printing is done through the Controller of Printing and Stationery. Prior to the publication of the Bulletin the publicity activities of the Directorate were being carried on through the journals of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, viz. *Indian Farming* and *Indian Journal of Agricultural Science*. In addition to articles on entomology published in these journals the Miscellaneous bulletins of the I.C.A.R. also gave publicity to the activities of the Directorate. The publication of a separate journal is therefore, not necessary. The previous arrangement should be resumed.

Publications of Commodity Committees

92. Almost all the Commodity Committees have their own journals published monthly or quarterly. Some of the monthly journals are published in English as well as in some regional languages. The Committee feels that the monthly bulletins published in English in addition to quarterly Journals are redundant and should be discontinued.

Restriction on Printing

93. The Committee has observed that besides the regular periodicals quite a large number of occasional publications are being printed by various attached and subordinate offices which entails a heavy strain on the resources of the Controller of Printing and Stationery. In order to regulate expenditure on printing *ad hoc* publications and to avoid wasteful expenditure the Committee suggests that all matters intended for printing should be scrutinised by a senior Officer in the Ministry not below the rank of Deputy Secretary to see that only such matters as are essential are sent to the press for printing. To achieve this objective each requisition for printing should be supported by a certificate of essentiality signed by a Deputy Secretary before being sent to the Press.

The Committee also recommends that Government should consider the need for publishing the Agricultural Statistics by the I.C.A.R. every month and that a quarterly or half yearly publication thereof would suffice.

Publicity and Publications

ANNEXURE

The details of pamphlets drafted, etc. by the Publicity Unit during the year 1951-52

S. No.	Name of Publication	Language in which published	No. of copies printed	Cost of Production	Sale Price
				Rs. a. p.	
1951—					
1	Why this Ration Cut .	English	2,000	68 8 0	Free of cost.
2	Why this Ration Cut .	Hindi	2,000	49 12 3	Free of cost.
3	Back to 12 Ozs. .	English	10,000	} 264 0 0	Free of cost.
4	Back to 12 Ozs. . .	Hindi	10,000		
5	Towards Self-sufficiency	English	2,000	1000 0 0	Free of cost.
6	Towards Self-sufficiency	Hindi	2,000	1000 0 0	Free of cost.
7	Towards land Transformation (Part I.)	English	1,019	} 810 7 6	Free of cost.
8	Towards land Transformation (Part II.)	English	700		
9	Land Transformation— A Philosophy and a Faith	English	1,250	805 0 0	Free of cost.
10	Gospel of the Dirty Hand	English	*111	277 8 0	Cost 2/8/- per copy.
1952—					
11	From Laboratory to field	English.	1,000	Printed by C. P. & S. free of cost.	Free of cost

*The pamphlet "Gospel of the Dirty Hand" was printed by the Publications Division, Information & Broadcasting Ministry. This Unit purchased 111 copies at a cost of Rs. 277/8/- for free distribution.

VII

IMPORT, CLEARANCE AND STORAGE OF FOODGRAINS- I. IMPORTS

IN consequence of the serious food shortage in the country due to war, Government of India resorted to imports of foodgrains since November, 1943 to supplement indigenous production. The foodgrains imported comprise mainly wheat, rice, barley and maize together with some quantities of milo and millets. The bulk of the imports is made from Australia, Canada, the U.S.A., Argentine, Pakistan, Burma, Siam, Egypt, and the U.S.S.R. The quantity and value of foodgrains imported during the past three years are:

Year	Quantity (In thousand tons)	Value (In lakhs of rupees)
1949-50	2,860.5	10,789.0
1950-51	2,720.1	10,395.2
1951-52	5,231.9	25,444.4
1952-53	2,938.0	15,452.0

During the year 1952-53, a provision of Rs. 226.92 crores had been made in the Budget Estimates for the import of about 3.825 million tons of foodgrains. As against this, 2.451 million tons of foodgrains have actually been imported up to the end of December, 1952.

Purchases Abroad

95. Foodgrains are purchased from abroad mainly on a cash basis. Sometimes negotiations for these purchases are made at a diplomatic level with foreign governments or agencies. In some cases purchases are made on barter basis, in exchange for various Indian goods. Besides, supplies are also received under International Trade Agreements. Sometimes purchases are made in the open market of foreign countries.

Wheat.—Wheat constitutes the bulk of the imported foodgrains. The following statement shows the quantity of wheat imports during the years 1949—53:

Country	Quantity in thousand tons			1952-53
	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	
U.S.A.	214	152.2	2700.8	1014.0
Canada	210	184.8	237.7	542.0
Australia	898	649.6	153.5	142.0
Argentina	89	606.8	370.5	54.0
Russia	294	..	98.9	..
Pakistan	21	..	..	..
Uruguay.	19.3	9.7	..
	<hr/>			
	1726	1612.7	3571.1	1752.0
(Wheat flour Australia)	172.5	73.7	42.3	54.0

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The bulk of the wheat purchases is made under the International Wheat Agreement, which came into operation from 1st August, 1949. India's quota under the Agreement was originally 10,42,000 M. Tons of wheat (or equivalent of wheat products). This quota in the second year of Agreement was raised to 1.5 million Metric tons. Further the carrying charge of six cents over the maximum price of 1.80 per bushel was levied from August, 1951.

Under the terms of the I.W.A., the floor and ceiling prices are fixed from year to year. The maximum and minimum prices per bushel for the year 1952-53 were fixed at \$1.80 and \$1.20 respectively and those for the year 1953-54 at \$2.05 and \$1.55 per bushel respectively. These are exclusive of the carrying and marketing charges.

It was stated before the Committee that the free market price in America was very high and that no purchases were made from the farmers direct. The purchases under the I.W.A. are spread throughout the year according to the availability of shipping space and the market conditions in that country. So far as the U.S.A. is concerned, the I.W.A. prices are fixed on the basis of supplies in store Fort William/Port Arthur for Manitoba No. 1 quality of wheat.

The Committee suggests that Government should explore the possibilities of entering into barter agreements with foreign countries, whereby wheat could be purchased in exchange for our commodities which are in demand in those countries (*e.g.*, wheat from Australia in exchange for Indian coal). The Committee notes that there have been some attempts at barter trading with Argentine during the years 1947-52, jute being exchanged for wheat.

96. *Rice*.—The following statement shows the quantities of rice imported into this country during the years 1949-53:

Country	Quantity in thousand tons			
	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53
Egypt	72	57.1	1.9	..
Italy	19.7	..	—	..
Burma	189.4	279.1	302.2	293.0
Thailand	190.5	136.8	183.3	162.0
China . . . . .	..	22	43.8	148.0
Pakistan . . . . .	..	2.8	155.0	30.0
	471.6	497.8	686.2	633.0

It will be seen from the above figures that our rice imports are mostly from Burma and Thailand. But there is no agreement between the rice-importing and exporting countries on lines similar

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to those of the I.W.A. Almost all purchases are made on Government-to-Government basis. So far as Burma is concerned, its Government enjoys almost a monopoly of all the rice sales. Two-thirds of the Burma rice surplus can be bought on Government-to-Government basis, and the remaining one-third in the open market at a higher price. The open market price is £5 to £10 higher than the Governmental price. The Government of India has entered into a three-year agreement with Burma (which is due to expire in 1955) under which the latter will supply 2,30,000 tons of rice on Government-to-Government account basis and 1,20,000 tons through trade. The price is liable to half-yearly revisions. The price that has been fixed for 1953 is £60 per ton of 'S.M.S.' quality rice.

It was stated that an abortive attempt had been made by some of the rice-importing countries jointly with a view to bring pressure on the exporting countries to sell rice at a lower price. The Committee regrets to note that the Government did not collect sufficient data regarding the internal production costs of rice in Burma before deciding on the justifiability or otherwise of having to pay such arbitrarily high prices.

The purchases from Thailand are made on the basis of trade agreements renewable every year on a Government-to-Government account. However, unlike Burma where rice is sold on f.o.b. basis, in Thailand it is obtained *ex-godown* or *ex-rice mills*. During 1952, 1,50,000 tons of rice were purchased from China at a cost of Rs. 611 per metric ton initially and at Rs. 740 in the later stages.

Inspection Arrangements

97. The Committee observed that the inspection arrangements made in the exporting countries have not worked satisfactorily inasmuch as in a good many cases the grains imported do not conform to the specifications on the basis of which these imports are contracted and paid for by the Government of India. It was informed by the representative of the Ministry that in the U.S.A., wherefrom wheat is imported under the International Wheat Agreement, an independent inspection of the quality of foodgrains is conducted by an Inspector licensed by the United States Government. Further checking is done at the Indian Ports by the Inspection Organisation and the Central Food Ministry. The information furnished to the Committee, however, reveals that no claim is ordinarily preferable, if as a result of the checking done in India the difference is found to be within the permissible limit of refraction, as recorded in the certificates issued in America. The matter is pursued with the India Supply Mission only when the analysis conducted in the Regional Laboratories at Madras, Calcutta and Bombay and the Central Foodgrains Laboratory show that the percentage of refraction is much higher than that shown in the Inspection Certificate issued in America.

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In fact, the International Wheat Agreement itself makes no specific provision for inspection of wheat, and so arrangements in respect of wheat purchased under the I.W.A. from each exporting member country, *viz.*, U.S.A. Canada, Australia and France are those agreed upon mutually between the exporting and the importing countries. The Committee noted that 47 samples of rice imported from China are listed as such by the Regional Directorate of Food, Bombay.

In Canada and Australia, sales are made by their respective Governments on their own certificates *which the Government of India have to accept*. As stated above, the arrangement is apparently not working satisfactorily, as the wheat imported from these countries has often been found on arrival in India to be of uncertain quality. From the information furnished, it is noticed that as against the total quantity of 68,311 tons of damaged foodgrains received in Bombay godowns during 1951, 1,141 tons of foodgrains were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

In view of the fact that a large quantity of foodgrains unmatched to the specification is supplied to this country, the Government should strive to arrive at a settlement with the exporting countries for the inspection of foodgrains at the loading ports through its own Officers or agents. Government should also make adequate arrangements for the inspection of the quality of foodgrains at the unloading centres in Indian Ports.

The Committee is also of the opinion that at least a part of the requirements should be secured through the normal trade channels by import permits etc. with the obligation to make inspection themselves (the trade) and guarantee the quality in order to enable the Government to decide for the future which of the two methods of purchases *viz.*, governmental and private will be economical.

Shipment

98. At present a considerable amount of foreign shipping is employed every year for importing foodgrains into India, entailing payment of huge freights. The following statement will show the tonnage carried by Indian and foreign ships and freights paid on this account during the years 1949-52:

Year	Tonnage carried	Tonnage carried	Freight paid	
	in Indian vessels	in foreign flag vessels	Indian owned vessels	Foreign flag vessels
	(,000 tons)	(,000 tons)	(In lakhs of rupees)	
1949	160.3	3545.7	69.7	1432.3
1950	178.5	1946.5	49.5	783.5
1951	387.7	4336.3	164.5	3847.5
1952	328.6	3535.4	159.0	3629.0

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99. The Committee understands that most of the tonnage required for import from U.S.A. and other Western countries is chartered through the Baltic Exchange Chartering Committee, which acts as the chartering Agent for the Government of India. The Baltic Exchange receives no commission from the Government of India, but it receives and retains a commission of 1 per cent. on freight from the owners of the vessels. Sometimes, American flag ships are also chartered by the India Supply Mission, Washington. Rice imports from Burma and Thailand are carried by the Burma-India Conference Lines and the local steamers respectively. It was represented to the Committee that the Conference Lines were almost monopolising the Burma-India route and charging excessive rates, the freight to Cochin from Rangoon being as high as Rs. 39 per ton in 1952. In 1953 the rate was reduced to Rs. 30 per ton.

100. The Committee notes that the determination of shipping freights is arbitrary and one sided. No adequate and energetic attempt seems to have been made to find return cargoes from India which would reduce these freights. It has been contended by the Ministry that the proposition of providing outward cargoes for incoming ships carrying foodgrains had been examined thread-bare and that Government had come to the conclusion that it was likely to lead to complications and that the proposal was not a practical proposition. It is stated that Government are exploring the possibilities of arranging on an experimental basis the coordinated chartering of a few ships for import of foodgrains from the U.S.A. and export of coal to Japan and Manganese ore to the U.S.A. in co-operation with the importers and exporters of these commodities under the present system of trade.

The Committee, however, is not fully convinced by the arguments advanced by the Ministry. It recommends that Government should undertake a more energetic drive to induce private trade to agree to carry outward cargoes of exportable commodities in their ships carrying foodgrains to India. Government should also explore the possibility of entrusting private parties with the task of chartering ships for carrying imported foodgrains.

101. In view of the fact that Government is required to spend an enormous amount every year on foreign shipping companies by way of freight due to the limited tonnage of Indian steamers, the Committee recommends that Government should take early steps for the development of the existing shipping corporation in such a manner that it is able to shoulder a part of the burden of importing foodgrains from foreign countries. The Committee understands that the question of forming Shipping Corporations was discussed in detail by the Government of India in 1948 with the Shipping Companies and that it was decided to form three Shipping Corporations to be

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managed by the following three Indian Shipping concerns which has experience of overseas trade:

1. The Scindia Steam Navigation Co. Ltd.,
2. The Indian Steamship Company Ltd., and
3. The Bharat Lines Limited.

The first Corporation was registered in Bombay in 1950 under the name of the Eastern Shipping Corporation, with the Scindias as their Managing Agents. The other two Corporations could not be formed mainly due to the financial difficulties which the other two Shipping Companies were experiencing in finding their share of the capital.

In view of the fact that the two Shipping Companies, with which the Government had originally agreed to form two separate Corporations have failed to raise the necessary finances, the Committee recommends that the existing corporation should be sufficiently strengthened so that it is in a position to handle the work relating to chartering of steamers, which work at present is done in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture by an Officer without the requisite shipping experience.

The Corporation should also be in a position to provide outward cargo for ships chartered to bring foodgrains to India.

Consequent on the transfer of shipping work to the Corporation, the work dealt with by the Shipping Section of the Ministry will be considerably lessened, and the staff of this Section may thus be reduced proportionately.

II. CLEARANCE AT THE PORTS

Installation of Mechanical Plant at Bombay

102. For the clearance of foodgrains imported in bulk or in bags, a considerable labour force is at present employed at the ports. The labour cost at Bombay works out roughly to Rs. 25,000 per ship of about 8,000 tons. The Committee has noted that the Foodgrains Clearance Committee in their report observed as follows:

"It is needless to say that the faster the rate of discharge the greater the benefit to the country, inasmuch as more despatch money is earned and the port's capacity is increased."

It is understood that scheme is already before the Government of India for more than 3 years for the installation of a complete mechanical plant at a cost of about Rs. 3,75,000 which will ensure not only quick turn-round of shipment in the Bombay Port area, but will result in a saving of about Rs. 10,000 per ship. Estimating on the basis of present rate of imports, there would be about 70 ships discharging foodgrains in the Bombay Port annually. This would result in a saving of Rs. 7,00,000 a year. Apart from the monetary saving,

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the installation of the mechanical equipment would lead to a considerable increase in the capacity of the Port in the handling of ships, leading obviously to further savings. The Committee was informed that under the present arrangements for the discharge of foodgrains by manual labour something like 176 hours are required to handle a ship of the type referred to above, whereas under the scheme for the installation of mechanical equipment, it would take only 100 hours per ship.

It is expected that the Capital Outlay on the mechanical discharging plant of Rs. 3,75,000 can be recovered in 6 months on the present basis of arrival of ships and costs of their discharge by manual labour in the Bombay Port. Taking all these factors into consideration, the Committee feels that it would be in the national interest, both as regards economy in expenditure and increased efficiency in the handling of food imports, if the scheme for the installation of mechanical plant could be implemented.

Care should, however, be taken that the installation of mechanical plant does not cause undue hardship to the workers who are engaged in the clearance of foodgrains.

The Committee further recommends that foodgrains on unloading should, as far as possible, be loaded directly into wagons and despatched to their destinations.

Short-landing Losses

103. The Committee was given to understand that at the ports of discharge in India, no facilities exist for the weighing of the cargo simultaneously with discharge. The shipowners do not accept any responsibility for any loss in weight in transit and safeguard themselves by including various clauses in the Bills of Lading to this effect. In these circumstances, claims for short-landings in the case of bulk cargo are not tenable and losses on this account have to be invariably "written-off". In the case of bagged cargo, the shipowners are responsible for delivering the number of bag as stated in the Bill of Lading, and when there is a discrepancy in the number of bags delivered, a claim is tenable and is lodged and pursued with the Steamer Agents. However, no responsibility regarding their weight lies with the shipowners and so in the event of a shortage in weight no claim is tenable, provided the number of bags discharged is equal to the number stated in the Bill of Landing. But claims for torn and slack bags are tenable and are lodged with the Steamer Agents. In the Committee's opinion, the present state of affairs in the matter of lodging claims for short-landing losses is unsatisfactory. Government should consider the feasibility of amending Clause 6 of the Indian Carriage of Goods by Sea Act, 1925 so as to make shipowners responsible for losses due to short-landings which are at present not tenable under the existing law. About Rs. 225.01 lakhs had been lost on account of short-landings in

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foodgrains during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51. The Committee has been informed, however, that claims amounting to Rs. 29.5 lakhs only in respect of the period 1949-50 and 1950-51 have been preferred against shipowners for losses on account of shortage and damage. As the amount involved is considerable and the claims are pending for a long period, and are likely to be rejected by the shipowners on the ground that they have become time-barred, more vigorous and effective efforts should, therefore, be made to recover the dues from them.

III. STORAGE OF FOODGRAINS

Godowns

104. For the storage of foodgrains pending their distribution to the States, Government have constructed or purchased storage godowns to the capacity of 14,800 tons in Bombay and Manmad, 27,000 tons in Madras State and 10,000 tons in Cochin. In addition, storage godowns have been taken on lease from the Ministry of Defence, Port Authorities and private parties to the capacity of 38,000 tons at Bombay, 1,31,000 tons at Calcutta, 51,000 tons at Madras and 29,000 tons at Cochin.

105. In the course of their visit, some members of the Committee noticed that some of the godowns at Sewri which were taken over by the Ministry of Defence are old ramshackle hutments (once used as cattle sheds) where a considerable damage to stored foodgrains took place in 1952. The Committee feels that attempts to repair these hutments by patches as has been recently attempted will not serve the purpose in view and, will eventually be uneconomic. The Committee recommends that Government must make some other arrangements for the safe storage of foodgrains.

106. It has been noticed that out of a total number of 493 godowns at the disposal of Government as many as 424 godowns have been obtained on lease either from private parties or Port Authorities for which rent to the tune of Rs. 27 lakhs in a year is being paid.

As the amount spent on rent appears to be out of all proportion to the number of godowns rented, the Committee recommends that early steps should be taken to get the present rents properly assessed by referring the matter to the Rent Controller appointed by the State Government concerned.

107. The Committee further recommends that the Central Government should retain godowns only at the ports and should hand over the inland godowns to the respective States. It also recommends that the Central Government should take early steps to create a "Grain Bank" for storing the surplus grains in their godowns so that emergency needs could be easily met. Godowns should, as a rule,

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be utilised for this purpose and not for storing foodgrains pending the issue of orders for their despatch to the various States.

The Committee was informed that during the war foodgrains were loaded into railway wagons straight from the ships to the respective States after landing instead of storing them in the godowns in ports but now the States were not taking their quota of foodgrains immediately on landing from ships owing to inability to pay the price there and then. As the payment of price is a matter of adjustment of accounts between the Centre and the States, every effort should be made to despatch to the States their respective quotas from the ports immediately on landing from ships as during the war time and the incidental charges on account of storage, rents, maintenance of establishment and wastage in godowns at the various ports of landing in India may be avoided.

VIII

CENTRAL PALM GUR TRAINING SCHOOL, CUDDALORE

THE Central Palm Gur Training School was first started in June, 1948 at Moodbidri (District South Kanara) and later shifted to Cuddalore N.T., (District South Arcot) Madras in August, 1949.

Functions

109. The main functions of the school are (i) to impart training in the manufacture of palm gur and development of the Palm Gur Industry generally, (ii) to train a certain number of organisers and instructors deputed by various State Governments, social service and private institutions and (iii) to conduct research work on the problems connected with the Palm Gur Industry.

Organisation

110. The total number of posts sanctioned for the period 1952-53 was 30. Out of this 16 posts were vacant and were not filled up as per the recommendations of the Reorganisation Committee of the Ministries of Finance and Home Affairs. The savings are however being utilised to purchase equipment, apparatus, chemicals, etc. The following filled up posts are being continued:

<i>Designation</i>	<i>No. of posts</i>
1 Chemist	.. 1
2 Assistant Chemists	.. 1
3 Senior Instructor	.. 1
4 Instructors	.. 3
5 Laboratory Attendant	.. 1
6 Stenographer	.. 1
7 Accountant-cum-Typist	.. 1
8 Hostel Superintendent	.. 1
9 Clerk	.. 1
10 Peons	.. 2
11 Chowkidar	.. 1
TOTAL	14

The Budget Estimate for the School for the year 1953-54 is Ra. 76,000.

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Training at the School

111. The training imparted at the Central Palm Gur Training School, the life of which is extended from year to year, covers a four months' course thus enabling the School to have three sessions in a year. During 1951-52, 74 Instructors deputed by different State Governments were trained. In addition, 52 Instructors of Jaggery Manufacturing Co-operative Societies deputed by Madras State received special training for a period of one month. Seven Instructors out of 74 received training in "Aerial Ropeways System".

A Palm Gur Organisers' Refresher Training Course was held at Martandom (Travancore-Cochin State) where about 25 organisers and tappers received training in the art of tapping and manufacture of Palm Gur by improved methods.

Besides training and research, the School also gives technical guidance to the States on problems connected with the Palm Gur Industry.

Recommendations

112. The Committee feels that the running of this Institution by the Centre is not justified, inasmuch as a large number of students who come for training are sponsored by the Madras State which should legitimately be called upon to bear the expenses. In the interest of efficiency and economy the Committee strongly recommends that the Central Palm Gur Training School should be transferred to the administrative control of the Madras State. Should that State be reluctant to take over the Institution on grounds of lack of finance, the Committee recommends that the expenses may be shared equally between the Centre and Madras for a period of 3 years. The position should be reviewed at the end of the period.

All work in connection with development and propaganda on palm gur should be taken over by the I.C.A.R. The Committee understands that the All-India Village Industries Association, Wardha is engaged in small-scale manufacture and development of palm gur. The question of financing schemes sponsored by the Association may be considered.

IX

INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

INTRODUCTION

THE Indian Council of Agricultural Research was established in 1929 as an autonomous corporate body in pursuance of the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Agriculture and was charged with the work of promoting, guiding and co-ordinating agricultural research throughout the country. The Council is registered under the Registration of Societies Act, 1860. At a meeting of the Society held on the 12th March, 1947 developmental research work was included within the scope of the Council's activities. Recently the Council has been entrusted with the organisation and coordination of extension work throughout India in close cooperation with the States.

How the Council Functions

114. Under the revised rules of the Council which were approved by the Society at its meeting held on the 1st November, 1950 the Council consist of:

- (i) the Governing Body which is responsible for the management of the affairs and funds of the Council and is composed of the representatives of the Central and the State Governments (at the Ministerial level), Members of Parliament and of Commerce;
- (ii) the Standing Committee which has been constituted to give relief to the Governing Body in the discharge of its executive functions;
- (iii) the Advisory Board which consists of among others Directors of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry of all States and non-officials who are noted for their interest in and service to agriculture and animal husbandry;
- (iv) Board of Research which guides the Advisory Board in respect of general policy of research in the spheres of agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry, fisheries and allied subjects and in initiating, guiding and supervising research projects and examining and coordinating schemes of research;
- (v) the Board of Extension which guides the Advisory Board on matters of general policy with regard to the working of pilot schemes for trying out the results of research in the sphere of agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry, fisheries, etc., and for utilising these results in actual practice throughout the country;

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- (vi) the Standing Finance Committee, which is responsible for scrutinising the annual statement of income and expenditure, examining the estimates of research schemes and scrutinising proposals for the creation of Class I posts and for amendment of the bye-laws of the Council affecting delegation of financial powers and determining the order of priority in which the schemes should be financed by the Council. There is a representative of the Ministry of Finance on the Standing Finance Committee; and
- (vii) Scientific Committees (9 in number) which examine in the first instance all schemes, reports and papers which are intended for the Advisory Board.

115. When schemes are approved by the Advisory Board they are placed before the Standing Committee and the Governing Body for sanction. When sanction is accorded by these two bodies a formal grant is made by the Council to the Government/University/authority concerned. The terms and conditions governing grants provide for the audit of the accounts being made by the State Accountant-General and as such grants generally merge in State Revenues. It is also ordinarily laid down that the State concerned should meet 50 per cent. of the recurring expenditure and also meet the whole of the non-recurring expenditure.

116. The Council has a Secretariat which is an Attached Office of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The Principal Administrative Officer of the Council is the Vice-President, I.C.A.R. who has the status of an *ex-officio* Additional Secretary to the Government of India. He is assisted by a Secretary who has also got the *ex-officio* status of a Deputy Secretary to the Government of India. For the performance of technical duties, *viz.*, scrutiny of schemes and advising State Governments the Council has expert technical staff who are paid from Central Revenues. In one respect the set-up of the Secretariat of the Council is peculiar. There is an intermingling of staff officers and Ministerial—who are paid from two different sources—Government and non-Government.

Funds

117. The Council being a Society has no Research Institutions under it. It influences research by financing research schemes on agriculture and animal husbandry in conjunction with the States, Central and State Research Institutions, and Universities. The funds required for financing research schemes are derived mainly from the proceeds of the cess levied under the Agriculture Produce Cess Act, 1940. Special grants are also given to it by the Government of India from time to time for financing *ad hoc* long term schemes. In an average year, the Council's annual income from the cess is expected to amount to about Rs. 15 lakhs.

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118. The Budget Estimates of the I.C.A.R. for 1953-54 (Demand No. 45—H., I. and J.) were as given below:

H. ADMINISTRATION

	Rs.
Pay of Officers ..	3,73,600
Pay of Establishment	2,81,700
Allowances and Honoraria	2,82,000
Other Charges	60,500
	9,77,800
	9,97,800
I. Payment of net proceeds of Cess on Agriculture	
Produce to I.C.A.R.	34,00,000
J. Grant to the I.C.A.R. ..	25,14,000
	59,14,000
	69,11,800

119. The cost of the administration staff of the Council is from the very inception met from the Central Revenues. In view of the prevailing financial stringency the Government of India suggested that the expenditure on the administrative staff of the Council for the year 1951-52 might be debited to the Research Funds. The Governing Body of the Council agreed to the suggestion to help the Government to tide over the financial stringency. During 1952-53, however the Council agreed to meet only the expenditure of Part II (fresh charges) of the administration part of the budget from the Research Funds.

The amount of the grant given to the Council varies from year to year according to the requirements of schemes which are financed out of these grants.

Scope for reorganisation

120. In a review of the organisation of the Council the questions that arise are whether the existing machinery is adequate to ensure coordination of research activities at present undertaken by the different agencies, *viz.*, (i) the Council, (ii) Central Commodity Committees, (iii) Central Research Institutes and (iv) State Research Stations and (v) Universities and whether a reorientation of the existing machinery of the Council is necessary. Alongside the reorganisation of the Council (as a Society) a review of the existing set-up of the Secretariat is also called for.

121. Although the I.C.A.R. is the premier organisation in the country for coordination of agricultural research, in actual practice its control does not extend over the whole field of research. It reviews only those schemes which are directly financed by it. It has no control over the schemes which are operated by either the States

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or the Central Institutes from their own funds. This is also true of the researches undertaken by the Commodity Committees. By amendments to the Rules of the Council made by the Society at its Special General Meeting held on the 1st November, 1950 additional representation has been given to the Central Commodity Committees.

There is, however, no provision anywhere that the Commodity Committees or the State Governments are to submit their programmes or research either to the I.C.A.R. or the I.A.R.I. The Committee considers that the I.A.R.I., well-equipped as it is with good laboratories and other facilities and staffed as it is by experts in the various branches of agriculture, is eminently fitted to undertake the scrutiny of the new lines of research schemes sponsored by the Commodity Committees and the States from a scientific and technical point of view. The Committee is, therefore, of the opinion that a convention should be established whereby the I.C.A.R. should, in the first instance, be enabled to review all the research schemes sponsored either by the various Commodity Committees or the Central and State Research Institutes and, thereafter, refer the matter to the I.A.R.I. for expert scrutiny etc.

122. For coordination of agricultural research the Planning Commission in their Report has observed that:

"In order that the I.C.A.R. may be enabled to discharge its statutory duty of co-ordinating all agricultural research in the country, it should be in a position:

- (a) to review all research work done in the country. All research programmes, whether of the Commodity Committees, States Governments, or Central Institutes, should be sent to this body for scrutiny and approval. * * * *"

The Planning Commission has not, however, specified the directions in which this objective can be achieved by the I.C.A.R. The Committee considers that it is essential that a definite procedure should be laid down whereby this important task of the I.C.A.R. is fulfilled in the most efficient manner. The Committee accordingly recommends that—

- (a) As soon as a new scheme is initiated whether by the Centre, State or University it should be examined in the first instance on an All-India basis by an expert body consisting of Scientists of Central Institutes and Commodity Committees interested in the subject;
- (b) this expert body should recommend which schemes ought to be undertaken for research during the ensuing year and in which institution. The research should be on subject basis and not necessarily on commodity basis;
- (c) in case there is an institute on any particular commodity then the scheme relating to that commodity must, in the first instance, be sent to that institute for vetting before being sent to the I.A.R.I. for further scrutiny. In case there is no such Institute the scheme should be sent direct to the I.A.R.I. for scrutiny;
- (d) each Commodity Committee should have a research station of its own; where it does not exist, the I.C.A.R. should provide it out of its cess fund;

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- (e) after a scheme has been vetted by the I.A.R.I. it should be examined in detail by the Scientific Committee of the I.C.A.R.;
- (f) the Indian Council of Agricultural Research should periodically review the progress of work of all Research Institutes with a view to assessing whether the nation's money is being well laid out and the schemes are yielding satisfactory results. For this purpose the I.A.R.I. and experienced scientists working in the various research institutes should do the follow-up work and watch the progress of these researches; and
- (g) a register of names of Agricultural Research Scientists should be maintained so that they can be sent to various places according to their experience.

123. The agencies in the I.C.A.R. responsible for laying down policy of agricultural research including animal husbandry, forestry, fisheries and allied subjects and also for initiating, guiding, supervising and coordinating extension schemes are the Boards of Research and Extension—the two subordinate bodies of the Advisory Board. All schemes of research or extension are submitted to these Boards which after indicating the broad policies underlying the schemes refer them to the Scientific Committees for detailed examination. The Scientific Committees examine the schemes and after satisfying themselves as to their technical soundness pass them back to the respective Boards with their recommendations. The Boards thereafter consider the recommendations and arrive at their conclusions which are then placed before the Advisory Board. The Advisory Board being an unwieldy body representing, as it does, the State Departments of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Universities, Commodity Committees, Cooperative Movements, etc., it was considered expedient to refer the Schemes of research to the Boards of Research and Extension in the first instance.

124. The present procedure for scrutinising and sanctioning schemes has certain defects which need rectification if satisfactory results are to be achieved. The Scientific Committees which are primarily responsible for detailed examination of the schemes submitted to the Council and also for reviewing Progress Reports of schemes meet for ten to fifteen days just before the annual meeting of the Advisory Board and the Governing Body. Within the limited time at their disposal these Committees can hardly do full justice to the schemes by conducting a detailed examination.

The Committee recommends that the Boards of Research and Extension as also the Scientific Committees should meet more frequently to scrutinise schemes and also to assess the results achieved. It should be the function of the Scientific Committees to bring to the notice of the Boards of Research and Extension whenever they come across instances of wastage or are convinced of the unproductive nature of the schemes so that the Boards could make early recommendation to the Advisory Board for the discontinuance of schemes of doubtful value. The Committee suggests that there should be stricter control over schemes from the time they are sanc-

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tioned till their expiry. Progress Reports should be called for periodically from the Officers, incharge of schemes financed by the Council and submitted to the Scientific Committees for examination.

Coordination of Research

125. At present there is no proper coordination in the research work conducted at the Central and States Institutes and Universities. The I.C.A.R. merely watches progress of such schemes as are financed by it. In respect of schemes *not* financed by the Council, it has issued instructions to all Research Institutions and the Commodity Committees to send their programmes of research. Such programmes, as are received, are placed before the Scientific Committees of the Council and any suggestions made by them are communicated to the institutions concerned. It is not incumbent on the institutions, however, to accept the suggestions.

With a view, therefore, to avoiding overlapping and ensuring effective coordination of research work the Committee further recommends that:

- (i) Extracts of all agricultural and animal husbandry researches that are being carried on all over the country—whether by the Centre, States or Universities—should be published half-yearly in popular language in consultation with the Technical Officers and other Experts. These reports should be on the lines published in other countries.
- (ii) There should be a quinquennial assessment of scientific work by a Committee of Experts. This Committee should review the work not only of the Central Institutes but also of the I.C.A.R. with a view to seeing that grants are being distributed properly and the Council is working satisfactorily. This Committee should also make suggestions as to the manner in which the I.C.A.R. must function in future in the matter of distribution of grants.

Location of the I.C.A.R.

126. At present the I.C.A.R. is situated at a distance from the I.A.R.I. In order, however, to have a closer liaison it would be desirable to locate the I.C.A.R. near the I.A.R.I., as the various experts who come to attend the meetings of the Scientific Committees would have opportunities to come into closer contact with the men working in the I.A.R.I. and it would create a proper scientific atmosphere.

A building for accommodating the I.C.A.R. and F.A.O. Offices should be provided adjacent to the Pusa Institute with such additions to the existing buildings as may be necessary. It is understood that Government has sanctioned the construction by I.C.A.R. of a building in New Delhi for housing its Offices. The Committee recommends that the construction of a building in New Delhi should not be proceeded with.

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Regional Committees

127. There are at present five Regional Committees which have been constituted for the purpose of classifying agricultural and animal husbandry research as (1) Local, (2) Regional and (3) All-India, on the basis of soil-climate complex. These Committees are responsible for:

- (a) effecting preliminary scrutiny of schemes in order to avoid, as far as possible, over-lapping and duplication of research;
- (b) determining the centres in a particular region at which a scheme can advantageously be conducted;
- (c) referring schemes to State Governments etc., for revision, wherever considered necessary;
- (d) recommending co-ordinated schemes instead of isolated schemes for the region as a whole.

The meetings of these Committees are held for two or three days in a year and during this period they cannot be expected to discharge their functions properly.

In order to make them more effective the Committee recommends that:

- (i) the Regional Committees should meet more frequently and watch the day to day progress of research work being conducted within their region;
- (ii) they should select personnel for conducting inspections of the various Research Institutes located in the region and assign duties to them;
- (iii) if any further work is assigned to the I.C.A.R. on an All-India basis, the Regional Committees should be entrusted with the work of supervising the same on behalf of the I.C.A.R.;
- (iv) each Regional Committee should provide some sort of a nucleus staff to its Chairman who will go from place to place and supervise the activities both of the State as well as Regional institutions;
- (v) to start with the researches for the entire region may be entrusted to a State institution which may in course of four or five years be converted into a regional institution. This arrangement will in due course of time enable the I.C.A.R. to be incharge of not only the Central Research Institutes but also to have a general supervision over all research work conducted in the country.

Agricultural Statistics

128. Formerly the Agricultural Statistics for the estimation of crops were collected by the Statistical Organisation of the I.C.A.R. on crop cutting basis, but subsequently when this work was transferred to the National Sample Survey the latter favoured collection of the data on consumption basis through personal enquiry. The Committee is not in a position to determine the suitability or otherwise of the two methods of collecting statistics regarding crop yields, but it feels that the I.C.A.R. should have been allowed to complete the work for the purpose of assessing its true results.

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In order to ensure better results it recommends that a Committee of Statistical Experts may be appointed which should examine this question and decide the efficacy of the two methods of collecting statistics.

The Committee further recommends that—

- (a) The Statistical wing of the I.C.A.R. should teach Statistics to the Students in the I.A.R.I.
- (b) It should carry on Statistical research in respect of the various schemes sponsored by the IC.A.R.
- (c) It should co-ordinate Agricultural statistics of the various Central Institutes and Commodity Committees.

Extension Service

129. The Board of Extension under the I.C.A.R. is primarily concerned with:

- (a) devising measures of effectively translating the results of re-Students in the I.A.R.I.
- (b) co-ordination and supervision of such pilot schemes as may be referred to it; and
- (c) preparation of a unified programme of extension work for the country as a whole.

Boards of Extension have also been set up in some of the States and it has been suggested to the remaining States to set up similar Boards.

Further, under an agreement entered into with the authorities of the Ford Foundation, a scheme of economic co-operation* over five years in the case of extension projects and over three/four years in the case of extension training centres has been launched. *Thirty-four* such extension training centres have been set up all over the country where the supervisory staff and village level workers required to man the Community Projects are being trained up.

The idea of this extension service was mooted before the Community Projects Administration whose ostensible purpose is the development of the agricultural, animal husbandry and other resources of blocks of villages, came into being. It is, therefore, proper that the Community Projects Administration should undertake the training of its workers as well. At present, the I.C.A.R. which is essentially a research organisation, has been saddled with the responsibility of supervising the training centres as well. Further, due to this arrangement, there is bound to be overlapping in many fields between the I.C.A.R. and the Community Projects Administration. In order to avoid the drawbacks of the existing set-up, the Committee recommends that:

- (i) The I.C.A.R. should concentrate on research and not dissipate its energies on extraneous functions thrust on them. The responsibility of training, the supervisory staff and other personnel

*The three year period applies to the original five training centres, while the remaining training centres sanctioned subsequently are for four years.

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to man the Community Projects should be taken over by the Community Projects Administration themselves. The I.C.A.R. should continue to study, analyse and carry on research into the fundamentals of extension including the contents, character and method of extension programmes as also methods of assessments of the results and working of programmes.

- (ii) The extension Training Centres may be handled over to the respective State Governments with the overall supervision of the Community Projects Administration.
- (iii) The Additional Administration work relating to Extension Service that has been entrusted to the I.C.A.R. should be taken away from it.
- (iv) Consequent on the transfer of supervision of extension training centres to the Community Projects Administration the staff attached to the Extension Section of the I.C.A.R. would become surplus and should be abolished.

Animal Husbandry

130. (i) *Cattle Breeding*: One of the important activities of the I.C.A.R. is financing schemes of research aimed at evolution of better and stronger breeds of cattle. This work is mainly carried out at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, the Indian Dairy Research Institute, Bangalore and the Cattle-cum-Dairy Farm, Karnal. The I.C.A.R. has evolved a 'key village' plan which, it is stated will help in rapid multiplication of superior types of breeding bulls and provide for calf-rearing farms in rural areas and the use of artificial insemination method. These schemes have been initiated in almost all States in the country.

Though the efforts of the I.C.A.R. in the direction of enriching the cattle wealth of this country are in the right direction, much leeway has yet to be made.

The Committee recommends that as a short-term measure, the owners of private farms (animal husbandry) should be given some sort of a subsidy which might serve as an inducement to them to come into the field for the evolution of newer and stronger breeds.

(ii) *Milk Supply Scheme*: The I.C.A.R. is at present running a scheme for milk supply to Delhi since February, 1951 though this function is beyond its legitimate scope. It is stated that the scheme is expected to be run on a 'no-less no-profit' basis. The Committee has no objection to the scheme being continued till the expiry of the present term. It recommends, however, that the milk supply scheme should be handed over at the end of the stipulated period to a Co-operative Society which should be constituted sufficiently in time so that the change-over may be smooth and quick.

I.C.A.R. and the Five Year Plan

131. The Government should endeavour to implement as soon as possible all the short and long-term measures for co-ordination of agricultural research envisaged in the Five Year Plan.

General Recommendations

132. The Committee recommends the adoption of the following measures which would go a long way to tone up the efficiency of the Council of Agricultural Research:

- (i) Since the I.C.A.R. is primarily intended for the distribution of funds for research—which is fundamental and of an all-India importance—not merely local—and as it has to deal with a number of Scientific Committees, it is desirable that its Vice-President should be an agricultural scientist;
- (ii) To create an incentive in the research workers prizes should be awarded for the best research work done in the fields of agricultural and animal husbandry.

APPENDIX

statement showing summary of the conclusions recommendations of the Estimates Committee relating to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture

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SECRETARIAT (AGRICULTURE WING)

- 2 3(i) *Palm Gur Section*.—The Committee has elsewhere haphazardly on an irrational basis and there is considerable duplication of work and overlapping of functions. There is a possibility of reduction in the existing size and number of Sections by a redistribution of work and by amalgamation of two or more sections into one Section.
- 2 3(i) *Palm Gur Section*.—The Committee has elsewhere recommended the transference of the Central Palm Gur Training School to the State of Madras. If this proposal is accepted there will not be any need of a Central direction over the Institution. The Committee recommends the abolition of the Palm Gur Section of the Ministry.
(Minus 1 Section Officer, 3 Assistants and 4 Clerks.)
- 3 3(ii) *Land Reclamation Section*.—The cases requiring the orders of Govt. are transmitted to this Section by the C.T.O. where they are handled by the Assistants in the first instance. The Committee considers it to be waste of energy and time that proposals emanating from the Heads of Subordinate Offices are subjected to the scrutiny of Secretariat Assistants. The Committee recommends that the existing Land Reclamation Section of the Ministry should be wound up.
(Minus 1 Section Officer, 5 Assistants and 3 Clerks.)
- 4 3(iii) *Sugar and Vanaspati Section*.—A Joint Secretary of the Ministry holds charge of the Office of the Vegetable Oil Products Controller of India which is an Attached Office of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The Sugar and Vanaspati Section which is under the same Joint Secretary looks
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after the administration of the Office of the Vegetable Oil Products Controller and also deals with policy matters regarding import, export, etc. The Committee thinks that this duplicate set-up is unnecessary and wasteful. The office of the Vegetable oil Products Controller should be able to take over the functions of the Sugar and Vanaspati Section without any additional staff. The Sugar and Vanaspati Section should be wound up.

(Minus 2 Section Officers, 6 Assistants and 5 Clerks.)

- 5 3(iv) *Commodity Sections*.—The Committee feels that the volume of work in the two Commodity Sections is not more than what can be handled in a normal section and accordingly recommends that the two commodity Sections should be amalgamated into one Section and the staff of one Section reduced.

(Minus 1 Section Officer, 3 Assistants and 4 Clerks.)

- 6 3(v) *Establishment Sections*.—There two Establishment Section at present. Taking the volume of work into consideration there does not appear to be any justification for having two Sections for performing identical functions. These two Sections should be amalgamated into one and the staff of one Section surrendered.

(Minus 1 Section Officer, 3 Assistants and 6 Clerks.)

- 7 3(vi) *Institutes Sections*.—There are three Institutes Sections dealing with the work emanating from the Research Institutes manned by three Section Officers, sixteen Assistants, eight clerks and one Collator. The Committee does not think that references from the Research Institutes are of such a nature as to require handling at lower levels. The Institutes have their own administrative Officers and schemes submitted by them are duly vetted by experts. The work of the three Institutes Sections should be concentrated in two sections and the staff of one Section surrendered.

(Minus 1 Section Officer, 5 Assistants and 4 Clerks.)

- 8 3(vii) *Supply Coord. and Machinery Section*.—As the supply position of the controlled raw materials

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like iron, steel, etc. has improved, and the State Governments may not be experiencing much difficulty in getting their requirements from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry there is no justification for co-ordination work. The Committee recommends that the residual work, if any, should be taken over by some other Section. The existing Section should be wound up.

(Minus 1 Section Officer, 5 Assistants, 1 Statistical Assistant and 4 Clerks.)

- 9 3(viii) *Policy Co-ordination Section.*—As the Director of Economics and Statistics has the status of an *ex-officio* Deputy Secretary the functions of the Policy Coordination Section III can as well be performed by the Directorate. This Section should be abolished.

(Minus 1 Section Officer, 6 Assistants and 4 Clerks.)

- 10 3(ix) *Grow More Food (Schemes) Section and Production Section.*—Since the functions of these two Sections are more or less identical the Committee recommends that these two Sections should be amalgamated into one Section and the staff of one section surrendered.

(Minus 1 Section Officer, 5 Assistants and 4 Clerks.)

- 11 3(x) *Special Section.*—As the proper upkeep of files of secret nature is the responsibility of senior Officers the Committee sees no justification for retaining four clerks for the purpose. The Section should be reduced.

(Minus 2 Clerks.)

- 12 3(xi) *Directorate Sections.*—There should be greater decentralisation of functions with a view to effecting quicker despatch of work. The Heads of the Directorates should be given greater administrative powers so that the number of references from the Directorates to the Secretariat is considerably reduced. The two Directorate Sections should be amalgamated into one Section and the staff of the one Section surrendered.

(Minus 1 Section Officer, 5 Assistants and 4 Clerks.)

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13	4	<p><i>Officers (Secretariat).</i>—Consequent on the reduction in the number of Sections the Committee recommends the abolition of three posts of Under Secretary out of the seven posts at present sanctioned for the Agriculture Wing of the Ministry.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Minus 3 Under Secretaries.)</p>
14	6(i)	<p><i>Palm Gur Advisers.</i>—The Committee does not see any necessity for the continuance of the post of Palm Gur Advisers and recommends that these posts should be abolished.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Minus 1 Palm Gur Adviser, 1 Deputy Palm Gur Adviser and 1 Assistant Palm Gur Adviser.)</p>
15	6(ii)	<p><i>Assistant Livestock Officer.</i>—The Committee considers that the functions of the Assistant Livestock Officer can be taken over by the Assistant Cattle Utilisation Adviser. The continuance of the post of Assistant Livestock Adviser in the Ministry is not necessary.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Minus 1 Assistant Livestock Officer.)</p>
16	6(iii)	<p><i>Bone Meal Adviser.</i>—The functions of the Bone Meal Adviser should be taken over by the Animal Husbandry Commissioner in the I.C.A.R. The post should be abolished.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Minus 1 Bone Meal Adviser.)</p>
17	6(iv)	<p><i>Technical Officer (Dairy Development).</i>—The Committee is not convinced of the necessity of an additional Officer to assist the Deputy Dairy Development Adviser. This post should be abolished.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Minus 1 Technical Officer Dairy Development.)</p>
18	7	<p><i>Stenographers and Personal Assistants.</i>—The Committee considers that the number of Stenographers and Personal Assistants is rather high and there is scope for reduction. The Committee recommends a strength of 17 Stenographers and 6 Personal Assistants.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Minus 6 Stenographers and 1 Personal Assistant).</p>

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- 19 8 *Class IV Staff.*—The Committee has not examined the requirements of Class IV Staff for the Secretariat as a whole, but thinks that consequent on the reduction in the number of certain sections and diminution of staff there will be corresponding reduction in the strength of Class IV Staff.

FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND COLLEGES

- 20 15 There should be a drastic reduction in the expenditure being incurred on economically unproductive activities and there has to be a complete change or reorientation in the mental outlook of research workers. Full attention should be directed to researches that are of primary, immediate and practical economic importance and such researches should be continued to their developmental or pilot project stage.
- 21 16 Government should create a "Research Utilisation Fund" for giving trial as to whether the researches of applied nature are commercially exploitable by means of pilot plants or otherwise before recommending the exploitation of such results on a big scale.
- 22 17 The responsibility for delay in the erection of the costly paper manufacturing plants, which were imported in 1949, and still unused should be fixed and the persons concerned should be punished. Expert opinion should be taken for utilising the plant and determining any additional machinery required for paper manufacture.
- 23 19 Pilot plants should be put to commercial use to the maximum extent when they are not being used for experimental purposes, as their continued use would yield a substantial income to the Institute and provide intensive training to students and apprentices. At the end of each year, the extent of operation of the plants for experimental purposes and for commercial purposes should be indicated to justify the heavy expenditure, both capital and recurring, incurred on them. The income and expenditure pertaining to these pilot plants should be shown separately.

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24	20	As the work of the F.A.O. expert is reported to be hampered by lack of staff, tools and implements, the requisite expenditure should be sanctioned so that the services of the expert are fully utilised.
25	21	Facilities and assistance provided by Government to social/recreational clubs catering at present only to a particular class of employees should be extended to all classes.
26	22	The President of the Institute should preferably be a technical man with requisite qualifications as a technical Head alone could assess the research results.
27	23	The Head of the Institute should be styled as 'Director of Forest Education and Research'.
28	24	The industries concerned with manufacture of forest products should be associated with the Institute and the Institute should charge reasonable fees for assisting the industry.
29	25	The recommendation made by the Reorganisation Committee in respect of the levy of cess on all sales of timber and other forest produce should be implemented.
30	26	Steps should be taken to appoint a Board of eminent Scientists and representatives of the industry to conduct periodically, say every 3 or 5 years, an Achievement Audit.
31	29	The First Year Class for Rangers' Course, which is at present in Dehra Dun City, should be shifted to the Forest Research Institute and additional hostel accommodation, if necessary, may be provided for; this will lead to having both classes at one place and consequently greater efficiency in the training, better supervision and considerable economy.
32	30	The Rangers' College should be amalgamated with the Indian Forest College so that substantial economy in expenditure on account of reduction in supervisory, teaching staff and in ministerial establishment shall accrue.

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33	33	The training expenses (excluding excursion expenses) in the Indian Forest College should be reduced and brought to the level of those in other professional colleges, and if possible, to that of science colleges so as to be within the reach of persons of average means.
34	34	After bringing down training costs as suggested above, students should be admitted by open competition and, if necessary, seats may be reserved for various States with competition for admission confined to students of respective States. The trainees will have to compete for appointment in Forest Department. The advisability of affiliating the college with some University may also be considered to enable judgment of the standard of education by some independent body.
35	35	It is desirable that only such students should be admitted as possess educational qualifications fitting them up for studies in Forestry e.g., a degree in Agriculture, so that the course can either be reduced in duration by one half or made more efficient and comprehensive.
36	36	There should be only one person to be designated as Director of Forest Education and Research in charge of the whole Institute (including Colleges) and who should be assisted by the Principal of the Forest College at Dehra Dun. The posts of the Director of Forest Education and the Principal of the Rangers' College may be abolished with consequential reduction in staff as a result of amalgamation. Under the arrangements proposed, the Professors-in-Charge of various subjects in the Forest College will also be responsible for the teaching of their respective subjects to the Rangers' class. Similarly Research Officers will also continue to give lectures to the students as heretofore.
37	37	Requisite facilities which are at present confined only to the regular staff of the Institute may be provided for other scholars also who may be desirous of conducting post-graduate research for higher degrees. On completion of the courses of

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Research, the successful students may be awarded diplomas, which should be recognised as equivalent to post-graduate degrees.

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| 38 | 38 | All discoveries and processes made at the Institute, in future, should be patented in the name of the Government and no single person working in a Government institution should be allowed to exploit commercially the fruits of the researches, which in a large number of cases are the results of a collective effort. In exceptional cases, however, due recognition may be given to authors of outstanding researches. |
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STATISTICAL ORGANISATIONS

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| 39 | 42 | The Committee is not convinced as to the necessity of as many as six Officers with various designations for rendering economic advice to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. Accordingly it recommends a reduction of three posts in the strength of such Officers. |
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The Committee suggests that the question of transferring all work relating to publication of bulletins, pamphlets, etc., of a statistical nature to the Central Statistical Organisation be considered.

A Committee should be appointed to undertake a detailed review of the functions and staff of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics with a view to examining what functions of the Directorate could be taken over by the C. S. O. without detracting from the efficiency of the Ministry. The minimum staff that will be required should be determined by the Committee.

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| 40 | 47 | The entire expenditure on account of the statistical Wing of the I.C.A.R. should be borne by the Council itself from its Research Funds. |
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| 41 | 48 | (i) The statistical staff of the I.C.A.R. should impart training in statistics to the students in the I.A.R.I. |
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(ii) The statistical staff of the I.C.A.R. should also carry on statistical research and scrutiny in respect of the various schemes sponsored by the I.C.A.R.

(iii) It should also co-ordinate the statistical data of the various Central Institutes and Commodity Committees.

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42	49	Government should critically examine the need for two separate posts of Economic and Statistical Advisers, one in the Directorate of Economics and Statistics and the other in the I.C.A.R. Government should also examine how far the two bodies could be co-ordinated in order to avoid all overlapping and duplication.
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CENTRAL FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTES

43	62	Judging from the results of the experiments made over a long period it should be possible to determine whether the deep-sea fishing can be tapped as a fruitful source of food. As the experiments carried out so far are not encouraging, the Committee suggests that a different procedure may be tried, viz., handing over the Experimental Research Station to the Bombay Government or to any other maritime State willing to take it over and it may be provided with necessary funds by the Centre. To what extent and on what terms the State Government may take over is a matter for negotiation. The Committee hopes that the Central Government will consider the desirability of giving the subsidy for a few years to the State or States which take over this work.
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44	63	The Committee recommends that the trawlers may be handed over free of charge to the State Government which takes over the Deep-sea, the Fishing Station.
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45	64	Having regard to the slow progress made in the matter of research in deep-sea fishing and the poor results obtained so far, greater attention may be paid towards practical research as opposed to fundamental research; a higher place may be assigned in the order of priority to the former.
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46	65	The Committee considers that it is no use continuing to maintain the Cold Storage Plant at a loss. The Committee recommends that the Plant should be handed over to the Bombay State at a 'no profit no loss' basis and it is possible that that State may make use of the Plant also for the purposes other than deep-sea fishing.
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- In case that State is not agreeable to take over the Plant, then it should be used as a cold-storage plant for purposes other than deep-sea fishing as well or leased to private parties or be run as a commercial concern for the benefit of both Government and private parties.
- 47 66 The Committee is, however, of the opinion that as the Central Fisheries Research Station is useful to the whole of India, the Centre should continue to administer it and that the research must not be purely fundamental but must be directed towards the solution of day-to-day practical problems referred to it by the maritime States.
- 48 67 There should be a Fisheries Advisory Board which, should control all activities on fisheries development and research, co-ordinate the activities of the fisheries research stations—both Central and States—and help in allocating fields of research as between these various Stations.
- The Board should consist of the representatives of the Centre as well as various States and should meet from time to time (at least once in a quarter) to exchange views, chalk out programmes and discuss, fields of research that ought to be undertaken during a year.
- 49 68 The Committee recommends that instead of establishing permanent stations at a number of places with permanent staff, Government should explore the possibility of creating 'Mobile Units' consisting of a certain number of staff, who should travel from place to place and carry on research.
- 50 69 Government should consider the desirability of asking the staff engaged in research work in Orissa to finish their work there and then move on to other places in the country to make similar experiments. In other words, the Orissa Station may be converted into a Mobile Unit.
- The unit relating to ponds may also be utilised for tackling problems of fisheries in reservoirs or dams.
- The Committee recommends that Government should explore the desirability of having another unit, similar to the one proposed for Allahabad, for finding out how far it is desirable to expand riverine fisheries.

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The Committee feels that the Barrackpore Station has not proved useful. It, therefore, recommends that the Research Station together with the Library attached to it should be handed over to the West Bengal Government and that the Central Government should no longer maintain the Barrackpore Station. Problems of an all-India character relating to Inland Fisheries can be carried out at the Cuttack Unit.

CENTRAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, CUTTACK

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| 51 | 74 | <p>The Committee recommends that the whole question of the Organization of research work in the Botanical, Entomological and Mycological Sections should be looked into as to—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) what should be the relative strength of the Sections <i>vis-a-vis</i> Botanical Section; (b) whether the Heads of all Sections should be on the same grade; and (c) how far the usefulness of Sections other than Botanical can be maximised to serve the largest area possible. |
| 52 | 75 | Co-ordination should be brought about between the specialists of Central Rice Research Institute and their counterparts in the State Department of Agriculture. |
| 53 | 76 | <p>Co-ordination is essential between the Central Rice Research Institute and experimental Stations of all States interested in rice. The possibility of using the Central Commodity Stations for research work on crops other than for which they are primarily established should be explored.</p> <p>The Commodity Research Stations can be made to serve the purpose of Regional Stations, their administrative control being vested in a Board consisting of the representatives of the Central Government and of the State or States concerned.</p> |
| 54 | 74 | The possibility of the expert staff devoting some time to other important research stations of rice in the country may also be examined. |
| 55 | 78 | Government should look into the aspect of disparity in the emoluments of States employees <i>vis-a-vis</i> the Central Government staff engaged in research work. |

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56	79	Owing to inadequate equipment in many respects, especially in residential accommodation, the International Hostel built from the 'Colombo Plan Funds' which is lying vacant at present, may be utilised as staff quarters temporarily. A central tube-well, with a storage tank, should be provided for supplying water to all the residential quarters, laboratories and other places in the Institute.
57	80	In place of the existing gazetted Superintendent in the grade of Rs. 600—40—800, a gazetted Superintendent in the grade of Rs. 250—15—400 may be provided, with a starting pay of at least Rs. 280/-. The present post of Head Clerk should be abolished.

PUBLICITY AND PUBLICATIONS

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| 58 | 84 | In pursuance of the policy of centralizing all publicity work of the Government of India, in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the entire incidental expenses on publicity work should be borne out of the funds of that Ministry alone and not by making a separate provision for each Ministry, so that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting may be answerable to Parliament for all matters pertaining to Publicity. |
| 59 | 85 | The post of Public Relations Officer, which has for the time being been kept in abeyance, should be abolished and not be revived, to avoid overlapping with similar functions discharged by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. |
| 60 | 87 | As recommended elsewhere, publicity work in connection with Palm Gur should be taken over by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research which should give publicity through its publications. The issue of separate journals like "Tad Gur Khabar" should be dispensed with. |
| 61 | 89 | In view of the cost of production exceeding sale proceeds, the cost of production of the journals "Indian Farming" and "Kheti" should be reduced by—
(i) using cheaper quality of paper instead of Art Paper,
(ii) reducing the sale price, |

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		(iii) securing more advertisements, and (iv) persuading the State Governments to utilise the material appearing in "Indian Farming" and "Kheti" by disseminating in regional languages, so that farmers secure the fullest advantage.
		All publications should be made remunerative or as self-sufficient as possible and their sales should be enhanced by improving the materials, etc.
62	90	The new publication "Dharti-ka-Lal" may be continued, as it is expected to educate the masses and benefit the actual cultivator. The journal "Rice News Teller" also will be useful.
63	91	The publication of a separate journal which was started from September, 1949 by the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage is not necessary. The previous arrangements whereby I.C.A.R. gave publicity through its journals to the activities of the Directorate should be resumed.
64	92	The monthly bulletins which are published in addition to quarterly journals, in English and some regional languages, by the Commodity Committees should be discontinued.
65	93	In order to regulate expenditure on printing <i>ad hoc</i> publications by various Attached and Subordinate Offices all matters intended for printing should be scrutinised by a Senior Officer in the Ministry not below the rank of Deputy Secretary and each requisition for printing should be supported by a certificate of essentiality signed by a Deputy Secretary before being sent to the Press. The Committee also recommends that Government should consider the need for publishing the Agricultural Statistics by the I.C.A.R. every month and that a quarterly or half yearly publication thereof would suffice.
		IMPORT, CLEARANCE AND STORAGE OF FOODGRAINS
66	95	Government should explore the possibilities of entering into barter agreements with foreign countries whereby wheat could be purchased in exchange for our commodities in demand in those countries.

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67	97	Since a large quantity of foodgrains unmatched to the specification is supplied to this country, Government should strive to arrive at a settlement with the exporting countries for the inspection of foodgrains at the loading ports through its own officers or agents. Government shall also make adequate arrangements for the inspection of the quality of foodgrains at the unloading Centres in Indian ports. At least a part of the requirements should be secured through the normal trade channels, in order to enable the Government to decide for the future which of the two methods of purchases, viz., governmental and private, will be economical.
68	100	Government should undertake a more energetic drive to induce private trade to agree to take outward cargoes of exportable commodities in their ships carrying foodgrains to India. Government should explore the possibility of entrusting private parties with the task of chartering ships for carrying imported foodgrains.
69	101	In view of the enormous amount in freight spent every year on foreign shipping companies due to the limited tonnage of Indian Steamers, Government should take early steps for the development of the existing Shipping Corporation in such a manner that it is able to shoulder a part of the burden of importing foodgrains from foreign countries. The existing Corporation should be sufficiently strengthened so that it is in a position to handle the work relating to chartering of steamers, which work at present is done in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture by an Officer without the requisite shipping experience and should also be able to provide outward cargo for ships chartered to bring foodgrains to India. This would reduce the work done in the Shipping Section of the Ministry and the staff of this Section may thus be reduced proportionately.
70	102	It would be in the national interest, both as regards economy in expenditure and increased efficiency in the handling of food imports, if the scheme for the installation of a mechanical plant for unloading foodgrains could be implemented. Care should, however, be taken that undue hardship is not

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caused to workers engaged on the clearance of foodgrains. Foodgrains after unloading should as far as possible be loaded directly into wagons and despatched to their destinations.

- 71 108 As the present state of affairs in the matter of lodging claims for short landing losses is unsatisfactory, Government should consider the feasibility of amending Clause 6 of the Indian Carriage of Goods by Sea Act 1925, so as to make shipowners responsible for losses due to short landings. In respect of the claims amounting to Rs. 29.5 lakhs for 1949-50 and 1950-51 preferred against shipowners for such losses, vigorous and effective steps should be made to recover the dues from them.
- 72 105 Government should make some other arrangements for the safe storage of foodgrains instead of attempting to repair from time to time the ramshackle hutments used as Godowns at Sewri.
- 73 106 As the amount spent on rent in respect of Godowns obtained on lease by Government from private parties or Port authorities is high, early steps should be taken to get the present rents properly assessed by referring the matter to the Rent Controllers concerned.
- 74 107 The Central Government should retain Godowns only at the ports and should hand over the inland Godowns to the respective States. The Central Government should take early steps to create a "Grain Bank" for storing the surplus grains in their godowns so that emergency needs could be easily met. Godowns should as a rule be utilised only for this purpose and not for storing foodgrains pending issue of orders for their despatch to various States.

Every effort should be made to despatch to the States their respective quotas from the ports immediately on landing from ships as during the war-time and the incidental charges on account of storage, rents, maintenance of establishment and wastage in godowns at the various ports of landing in India may be avoided.

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CENTRAL PALM GUR TRAINING SCHOOL, CUDDALORE

- 75 112 (i) In the interest of efficiency and economy, the Committee recommends that the Central Palm Gur Training School, Cuddalore should be transferred under the administrative control of Madras State.
- (ii) Should Madras State be reluctant to take over the Palm Gur School on ground of lack of finance, the Committee recommends that the expenses may be shared equally between the Centre and Madras for a period of three years. The position should be reviewed at the end of the period.
- (iii) Development and propoganda work relating to palm gur should be taken over by the I.C.A.R. The question of financing palm gur schemes sponsord by the All India Village Industries Association, Wardha may be considered.

INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

- 76 121 The Committee considers that the I.A.R.I., well-equipped as it is with good laboratories and other facilities and staffed as it is by experts in the branches of agriculture, is eminently fitted to undertake the scrutiny of the new lines of research schemes sponsored by the Commodity Committees and the States from a scientific and technical point of view. The Committee is, therefore, of the opinion that a convention should be established whereby the I.C.A.R. should, in the first instance, be enabled to review all the research schemes sponsored either by the various Commodity Committees or the Central and State Research Institutes and, thereafter, refer the matter to the I.A.R.I. for expert scrutiny, etc.
- 77 122 The Committee recommends:
- (a) as soon as a new scheme is initiated whether by the Centre, State or University it should be examined in the first instance on an All-India basis by an expert body consisting of Scientists of Central Institutes and Commodity Committees interested in the subject;

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- (b) this expert body should recommend which schemes ought to be undertaken for research during the ensuing year and in which institution. The research should be on subject basis and not necessarily on commodity basis;
- (c) in case there is an institute on any particular commodity then the scheme relating to that commodity must, in the first instance, be sent to that institute for vetting before being sent to the I.A.R.I. for further scrutiny. In case there is no such institute the scheme should be sent direct to the I.A.R.I. for scrutiny;
- (d) each Commodity Committee should have a research station of its own; where it does not exist, the I.C.A.R. should provide it out of its cess fund;
- (e) after a scheme has been vetted by the I.A.R.I. it should be examined in detail by the Scientific Committee of the I.C.A.R.;
- (f) the Indian Council of Agricultural Research should periodically review the progress of work of all Research Institutes with a view to assessing whether the nation's money is being well laid-out and the schemes are yielding satisfactory results. For this purpose the I.A.R.I. and experienced scientists working in the various research institutes should do the follow-up work and watch the progress of these researches; and
- (g) a register of names of Agricultural Research Scientists should be maintained so that they can be sent to various places accordingly to their experience.

78 124 The Committee recommends that the Boards of Research and Extension as also the Scientific Committees should meet more frequently to scrutinise schemes and also to assess the results achieved. It should be the function of the Scientific Committees to bring to the notice of the Boards of

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Research and Extension whenever they come across instances of wastage or are convinced of the unproductive nature of the schemes so that the Boards should make early recommendation to the Advisory Board for the discontinuance of schemes of doubtful value. The Committee suggests that there should be stricter control over schemes from the time they are sanctioned till their expiry. Progress Reports should be called for periodically from the Officers in charge of schemes financed by the Council and submitted to the Scientific Committees for examination.

79 **125** With a view, therefore, to avoiding overlapping and ensuring effective co-ordination of research work the Committee further recommends that:

(i) Extracts of all agricultural and animal husbandry researches that are being carried on all over the country—whether by the Centre, States or Universities—should be published half-yearly in popular language in consultation with the Technical Officers and other Experts. These reports should be on the lines published in other countries.

(ii) There should be a quinquennial assessment of scientific work by a Committee of Experts. This Committee should review the work not only of the Central Institutes but also of the I.C.A.R. with a view to seeing that grants are being distributed properly and the Council is working satisfactorily. This Committee should also make suggestions as to the manner in which the I.C.A.R. must function in future in the matter of distribution of grants.

80 **126** A building for accommodating the I.C.A.R. and F.A.O. Offices should be provided adjacent to the Pusa Institute with such additions to the existing buildings as may be necessary. The construction of a building in New Delhi should not be proceeded with.

81 **127** In order to make the Regional Committees more effective the Committee recommends that:

(i) the Regional Committees should meet more frequently and watch the day to day progress of research work being conducted within their region;

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">(ii) they should select personnel for conducting inspections of the various Research Institutes located in the region and assign duties to them;(iii) if any further work is assigned to the I.C.A.R. on an All India basis, the Regional Committees should be entrusted with the work of supervising the same on behalf of the I.C.A.R.;(iv) each Regional Committee should provide some sort of a nucleus staff to its Chairman who will go from place to place and supervise the activities both of the State as well as Regional institutions;(v) to start with, the researches for the entire region may be entrusted to a State institution which may in course of four or five years be converted into a regional institution. This arrangement will in due course of time enable the I.C.A.R. to be incharge of not only the Central Research Institutes but also to have a general supervision over all research work conducted in the country.
82	128	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) The Committee recommends that a Committee of Statistical Experts may be appointed which should examine and decide the efficacy of the two methods of collecting statistics, viz., on crop cutting basis and on consumption basis.(ii) The Statistical Wing of the I.C.A.R. should teach Statistics to the Students in the I.A.R.I.(iii) It should carry on Statistical research in respect of the various schemes sponsored by the I.C.A.R.(iv) It should coordinate Agricultural statistics of the various Central Institutes and Commodity Committees.
83	129	<p>The Committee recommends that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) the I.C.A.R. should concentrate on research and not dissipate its energies on extraneous functions thrust on them. The responsibility of training the supervisory staff and other personnel to man the Community Projects should be taken over by the Community Projects Administration themselves. The I.C.A.R. should continue

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		to study, analyse and carry on research into the fundamentals of extension including the contents, character and method of extension programmes as also method of assessments of the results and working of programmes;
		(ii) the Extension Training Centres may be handed over to the respective State Governments with the overall supervision of the Community Projects Administration;
		(iii) the Additional Administration work relating to Extension Service that has been entrusted to the I.C.A.R. should be taken away from it;
		(iv) consequent on the transfer of supervision of extension training centres to the Community Projects Administration the staff attached to the Extension Section of I.C.A.R. would become surplus and should be abolished.
82	128	(i) The Committee recommends that a Committee term measure, the owners of private farms (animal husbandry) should be given some sort of a subsidy which might serve as an inducement to them to come into the field for the evolution of newer and stronger breeds.
		(ii) The Committee recommends, however, that the Milk Supply Scheme should be handed over at the end of the stipulated period to a Co-operative Society which should be constituted sufficiently in time so that the change over may be smooth and quick.
85	131	The Government should endeavour to implement as soon as possible all the short and long-term measures for coordination of agricultural research envisaged in the Five Year Plan.
86	132	(i) Since the I.C.A.R. is primarily intended for the distribution of funds for research—which is fundamental and of an all-India importance not merely local—and as it has to deal with a number of Scientific Committees, it is desirable that its Vice-President should be an agricultural scientist.
		(ii) To create an incentive in the research workers prizes should be awarded for the best research work done in the fields of agricultural and animal husbandry.