

**ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
(1968-69)**

FIFTY-NINTH REPORT

(FOURTH LOK SABHA)

**MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND
REHABILITATION**

(DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION)

**Action taken by Government on the recommendations
contained in the Seventy-second Report of the
Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha) on
the erstwhile Ministry of Rehabilitation—
Dandakaranya Project.**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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CORRIGENDA

to
Fifty-Ninth Report of the Estimates
Committee (Fourth Lok Sabha) regarding
action taken by Government on the
recommendations contained in the 72nd
Report of the Estimates Committee (Third
Lok Sabha) on the erstwhile Ministry of
Rehabilitation - Dandakaranya Project.

- Page 1, Para 1, line 11, for '1954' read '1964'
Page 7, last line, for '28.6.1967' read '(tion) D.O.
15(3)/66 DNK dated 28-6-1967'.
Page 9, line 13, for 'showkidars' read 'chawkidars'.
Page 14, line 2, for 'is' read 'it'.
Page 15, line 6 from below, for 'Bas' read 'Base'.
Page 26, line 22, for 'unfavourable' read 'unfavourably'.
Page 40, line 1, for 'would' read 'should'.
Page 42, line 9, omit 'a'.
Page 49, line 23, for 'irrigation' read 'Irrigating'.
Page 59, line 24, for 'seletced' read 'selected'.
Page 61, line 17, for 'an' read 'and'.
Page 70, line 17, for 'group-up' read 'grown-up'.
Page 95, line 21, for 'contended' read 'contented'.
Page 110, line 2 from below, for 'night' read 'might'.

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(1968-69)

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(iv)

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1967-68

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Shri G. D. Sharma—*Under Secretary.*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Estimates Committee having been authorised by the Committee, present this Fifty-ninth Report of the Estimates Committee on the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventy-second Report of the Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha) on the erstwhile Ministry of Rehabilitation—Dandakaranya Project.

2. The Seventy-second Report was presented to the Lok Sabha on the 7th April, 1965. Government furnished their replies indicating the action taken on the recommendations contained in this Report between 7th February, 1966 and 16th October, 1967. The replies were examined by the Study Group 'E' of the Estimates Committee (1967-68) at their sitting held on the 28th March, 1968. The draft Report was adopted by the Estimates Committee (1968-69) on the 19th July, 1968.

3. The Report has been divided into the following chapters:—

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

4. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventy-second Report of the Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix. It would be observed therefrom that out of 156 recommendations made in the Report, 133 recommendations i.e., 85 per cent., have been accepted by Government and the Committee do not desire to pursue 16 recommendations, i.e., 10 per cent., in view of Government's reply. Replies of Government in respect of the remaining 7 recommendations, i.e., 5 per cent., have not been accepted by the Committee.

P. VENKATASUBBAIAH,

NEW DELHI;
August 19, 1968

Chairman,
Estimates Committee.

Sravana 28, 1890 (S)

CHAPTER I

REPORT

Economy in Staff

(Serial No. 8, Para No. 21).

The Committee had, in para 21 of their Seventy-second Report on the erstwhile Ministry of Rehabilitation—Dandakaranya Project, noted that the number of regular staff of the Dandakaranya Development Authority in position had increased from 3,388 on the 1st April, 1961 to 4,615 on the 1st April, 1963 and 5,204 on the 31st July, 1964—an increase of 1,816 or 53.6 per cent over the 1961 figures. Similarly, work charged staff employed by the Engineering Organisation of the Dandakaranya Development Authority had been increasing from year to year, the number having gone up from 972 in 1962 to 1,453 in 1963 (i.e. an increase of 49.5 per cent.) and to 1,980 in 1964 (i.e. an increase of 103.7 per cent, over the 1962 figures). As against 4,863 and 6,063 persons employed by Dandakaranya Development Authority in April, 1962 and April, 1963 respectively, the Dandakaranya Development Authority had on hand the work of resettling a total of 5,262 and 6,660 displaced persons' families in position in Dandakaranya in June, 1962 and June, 1963 respectively.

2. Explaining the reasons therefor, Government have stated that the increase in staff in earlier years was due to the increase in the activities of different organisations like Industries, Agriculture and Medical Departments and also due to the opening of an additional zone and new villages. They have further stated that the staff requirements of the Project are reviewed every year in consultation with the Financial Adviser keeping in view the estimated work-load of each organisation during a particular working season.

3. Indicating the staff actually in position, Government have stated that, "excluding the Reclamation Organisation, 4,276 employees were in position on 1st April, 1964, but this number had been reduced to 4,032 by April 1, 1965, partly because of vacancies in some organisations remaining unfilled."

4. As against this, the responsibilities of the D.D.A. had, the Government maintain, increased. According to them, "during the field season of 1964-65, 36 new settler villages were set up and 2,362 new families were moved to village sites. As it was not possible to 'disengage' from any of the zones, the Project had to look after a cumulative total of 181 settler villages by the end of the season, apart from

the Work Centres." The cumulative total of displaced persons' families moved into the Project area by the end of June, 1965 is stated to be 11,445.

5. The Committee feel that the details of the staff in position and the work in hand still leaves an impression that the staff employed by the D.D.A. is excessive. The Committee recommend that D.D.A. should scrutinise the proposals for increases in staff more precisely. Delay in preparation of Master Plan for the Dandakaranya Area

(Serial No. 28, para No. 47).

6. The Committee had, in para 47, strongly criticised the vacillating policy of the Government in regard to the preparation of a Master Plan for the development of the Dandakaranya Area and had urged that the formulation of the Plan should be urgently taken in hand and not delayed any longer.

7. Government have in reply stated that "after discussion with the Chairman, D.D.A., it has been decided that, on the basis of the material already available, the Chief Administrator, Dandakaranya Project should prepare a Master Plan."

8. The Committee regret that although they had, in their Report on Dandakaranya Project, underlined the need of formulating the Master Plan for the Dandakaranya area, 'with all possible expedition', Government have, after a lapse of more than two years, nothing concrete to report except the fact that 'it has been decided that, on the basis of the material already available, the Chief Administrator, Dandakaranya Project, should prepare a Master Plan'. The Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation and urge that no further time should be lost in formulating a Master Plan for the area so that development work in the area could be undertaken in an integrated, orderly and planned manner.

Unified Soil Survey Organisation

(Serial No. 54, Para No. 88).

9. The Committee had, in para 88, recommended that the desirability of having a single soil survey organisation headed by an expert in soil survey work for conducting surveys of land at different stages may be examined.

10. In reply, Government have denied that there is a separate soil survey organisation as such. According to them, this work is a part of the work of Agriculture Directorate which has a subject matter specialist in the class I senior cadre which the Government regard as "enough for the quantity and quality of work involved." At

the zonal level, according to them, all soil survey work is now controlled and coordinated by the Zonal Agriculture Officer who, it is stated, is a senior officer in the line.

11. The Committee had made the recommendation in the context of their observation that two organisations of the D.D.A. were concerned with survey work at different stages, namely, Land Organisation which was responsible for reconnaissance survey and the soil conservation organisation which was concerned with the advanced and detailed soil survey.

The Committee reiterate their recommendation that the desirability of concentrating the survey work at different stages in a single organisation, headed by an expert in soil survey work, may be examined.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Serial No. 3, Para No. 17)

The Committee note that the Chief Secretaries of the States represented on the Dandakaranya Development Authority do not attend the meetings of the Dandakaranya Development Authority regularly. Out of 18 meetings held between March, 1960 (when the Dandakaranya Development Authority was reconstituted) and September, 1964, the Chief Secretary of Madhya Pradesh attended no meeting while the Chief Secretary, Orissa attended only 8 meetings. The Committee suggest that in view of the important role of the Dandakaranya Development Authority it should be impressed upon the State Governments concerned that the Chief Secretaries should attend the meetings of the Dandakaranya Development Authority regularly, unless they are unable to do so for unavoidable circumstances.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation of the Committee has been brought to the notice of the State Governments concerned in its 32nd meeting held at Bhopal on the 11th December, 1966.

[*Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 9-2-1967*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 4, Para No. 17)

The Committee suggest that meetings of the Dandakaranya Development Authority should be held as far as possible, within the project area in different constituent States by rotation.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The suggestion of the Committee has been accepted.

[*Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 24-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 5, Para No. 17)

The Committee suggest that there should be closer co-ordination between the Zonal Administrators of the Dandakaranya Development Authority and the Collectors and other State authorities of the

adjoining districts, particularly in the fields of education, agriculture and health services.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation will be implemented and the contacts already being maintained will be intensified.

[*Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 17-12-1966*]

Recommendation (Serial No. 10, Para No. 23)

The committee feel unhappy that the Report of the Staff Review Committee have not been followed up by detailed job analysis which would have ensured fixation of strength on rational basis and obviated scope for extravagance.

The Committee would urge that job analysis should be undertaken without any delay. They would suggest that the Staff Inspection Unit of the Government may be asked to carry out immediately a detailed study of the staff position of the Dandakaranya Development Authority, particularly the Headquarters establishment, with a view to rationalising it and effecting economy. If, however, for any administrative reasons, the Staff Inspection Unit cannot immediately undertake the study, the Chief Administrator and the Financial Adviser of the Dandakaranya Development Authority may be asked to jointly review the matter at an early date in association with one officer well-versed in work study.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Department of Administrative Reforms have now intimated that the training courses in work study were revived in April, 1965 and have asked the Dandakaranya Project Administration to nominate an officer for training. It is proposed to have a Work Study of the Dandakaranya Project done by the Study Unit of the Ministry. It is felt that this would be more useful than a Study by the Staff Inspection Unit.

[*Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 7-2-1966*].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee may be informed of the result of the work study made by the Study Unit of the Ministry and the action taken to fix the strength on rational basis.

[*Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5/23(1)ES I/65 dated 13-12-1966*].

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance has recently carried out a study of some of the establishments of the Project. While their formal report is awaited informally we have accepted their tentative recommendations and undertaken to implement them.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) D.O. No. 15(3)-DNK/66 dated 30-3-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 12, Para No. 24)

While the Committee can accept that some difficulties might have been faced by the D.D.A. in filling up the technical posts, they feel that there is scant justification for keeping over thousand posts unfilled for inordinately long time. They also feel that sanctions for these posts were given without a proper assessment of work load and that the Government/D.D.A. should have exercised greater control and check in sanctioning them.

The Committee do not see any advantage or justification in continuing such unfilled posts year after year which itself shows that there is no immediate need to fill them up. The Committee suggest that after proper assessment has been made of the staff requirements of the D.D.A. by the Staff Inspection Unit referred to in para 23, all such posts as are found surplus to the requirements should be abolished.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Staff sanctions are issued only after proper assessment of workload. The fact that certain categories of technical staff could not be recruited cannot give rise to the inference that there was no genuine need for them. Performance in the field would have been better or more expeditious if the staff could have been positioned and the necessary efforts could continue only if the posts were in existence. In respect of some technical posts even the Union Public Service Commission take months, sometimes even years to comply with requisitions and sometimes even thereafter replies in negative are received. However, the observation of the Committee will be kept in view and the position re-checked to the extent possible when staff sanctions issue for the ensuing season of 1965-66.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 24-2-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee may be informed of the posts which have been found surplus to requirement and abolished.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5/23(1)ECI/65 dated 13-12-1966].

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

As a result of the review conducted by the Project Administration, the number of technical posts class-wise abolished *w.e.f.* 1-3-1967 were as follows:

Class I	..					
Class II	1					
Class III	70					
Class IV						
Total	71					

2. (i) In continuation of our reply to Serial No. 10, Para 23 of the recommendations (our letter No. 48/118/66-D dated the 5th January, 1967 refers) and in accordance with Serial No. 12, Para 24 the Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance reviewed in November, 1966 the staffing of three Zonal Offices at Kondagaon, Umerkote and Paralkote during the first phase of their inspection. Their recommendations were accepted by the Project Administration in toto. The staff sanction based on the recommendations of the Unit was issued giving effect from 1st January, 1967, but some of the persons rendered surplus due to reduction of posts could not be adjusted elsewhere and the posts held by them had to be continued upto 28th February, 1967. Hence the recommendations were fully implemented with effect from 1-3-1967.

(ii) The reduction effected on the recommendations of the Unit from 1-1-1967 and 1-3-1967 is indicated below:—

Sl. No.	Name of post	(No. of posts reduced) from 1-1-1967)			No. of post reduced from 1-3-1967		
		(K'goan	Ukote'	P'kote	K'gaon	P'kote	P'kor
1.	UDC/UDC Acctt.	..	..	..	1	5	2
2.	Store-keeper	..	..	..	..	1	1
3.	Sewak	15	2	1	3	3	..
4.	L. D. Clerk	1	1	..	2	1	2
5.	Inspectors	..	..	..	..	1	1
6.	Assistant Store-keeper	..	1	..	..	..	..
7.	Salesman	..	..	..	..	..	1
8.	Peon	..	..	..	..	1	..
9.	Assistant Cook	2	..	..	..	..	..
10.	Chowkidar	13	..	..	..	..	..
11.	Weightman	..	..	..	..	..	1

[Ministry of Labour and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation-28-6-1967)].

Recommendation (Serial No. 13, Para No. 25)

The Committee feel that since employment in Public services should make its due contribution as a means of rehabilitation of displaced persons, the Dandakaranya Development Authority should have provided top priority to the displaced persons and the local tribals for employment under their own organisation. They are of the view that this aspect has not been given due attention and that there is larger scope for employment of displaced persons and tribals particularly in Class III and Class IV establishments of the Dandakaranya Development Authority where the qualifications for recruitment are not very exacting and the employment potential is large. They suggest that in employing persons against semi-skilled and unskilled posts, both in the regular and workcharged establishments, preference should be given to the displaced persons and tribal people.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

As required by rules, all vacancies under Dandakaranya Project Administration are notified to the local Employment Exchanges. In addition, with a view to attracting displaced persons from outside, vacancies are also notified to the Employment Exchange at Calcutta. Further even for clerks, the minimum qualification is Matriculation. Since the vast majority of refugees in Dandakaranya were agriculturists and came for permanent resettlement on land, qualified persons willing to be employed in offices were not available among the displaced persons.

2. At the instance of the Ministry of Rehabilitation, Ministry of Home Affairs have issued orders giving over-riding preference in Priority III to displaced persons from East Pakistan for employment in Central Government Offices in Eastern Zone. These orders apply to Dandakaranya Project also.

Instruction have since been issued by Dandakaranya Project Administration for giving top priority to the displaced persons and local tribals for employment to Class IV posts in the Dandakaranya Project. All such posts are to be filled by selection out of settlers (including tagged members of settler families) and local tribals. Subject to availability, the proportion of settlers to tribals has been fixed as 3 : 1 in filling future vacancies.

Preference is also being given to settlers in the matter of recruitment to Class III posts.

It may, however, be added that the employment of settlers in the Project has to be undertaken with caution. From experience it is

seen that if a head of a family is given employment by the Project he is liable to neglect his agriculture, though there are a few cases where such settler employees have utilised their income from Government employment in improving the land. Such cases are few and generally employment leads to a type of absent land-lordism without exploitation of the land. Therefore, normally it is proposed to encourage employment only in the case of families with more than two able-bodied male members. In their cases also preference will be given to their employment in technical posts like mechanics, so that even when the Project activities are over they can stand on their legs. In view of the temporary nature of the Project it is not considered advisable to employ them in Class IV posts like peons and showkidars without ensuring that they will not give up their ties with land.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 14, Para No. 25)

The Committee suggest that rules and regulations regarding recruitment of personnel in general for the Dandakaranya Development Authority may be suitably modified, if necessary to subserve the object of employment of larger number of displaced persons and tribals.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Instructions have since been issued for giving top priority to the displaced persons and local tribals for employment to Class IV posts in the Dandakaranya Project. All such posts are to be filled by selection out of settlers (including tagged members of settler families) and local tribals. Subject to availability, the proportion of settlers to tribals has been fixed as 3:1 in filling future vacancies.

Preference is also being given to settlers in the matter of recruitment to Class III posts.

It may, however, be added that the employment of settlers in the project has to be undertaken with caution. From experience it is seen that if a head of a family is given employment by the Project he is liable to neglect his agriculture, though there are a few cases where such settler employees have utilized their income from Government employment in improving the land. Such cases are few and generally employment leads to a type of absent land-lordism without exploitation of the land. Therefore normally it is proposed to encourage employment only in the case of families with more than two able-bodied male members. In their cases also preference will be given

to their employment in technical posts like mechanics, so that even when the project activities are over they can stand on their own legs. In view of the temporary nature of the Project it is not considered advisable to employ them in Class IV posts like peons and chowkidars without ensuring that they will not give up their ties with land.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 15, Para No. 25)

The Committee hope that the Dandakaranya Development Authority will also persuade the contractors engaged by them to employ as large a number of displaced persons and tribals as possible.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Settler groups consisting either exclusively of settlers or tribals or a combination of the two have been formed in all the zones for undertaking different items of construction and other works of the project. Instructions have been issued to the field officers that only such work should be awarded to outside contractors which cannot be tackled by the settler groups where specialised labour having aptitude for particular kind of work is required. Employment of settlers and tribals by contractors is one of the clauses of the agreement drawn up between the contractors and the Engineers and instructions have been issued for strict enforcement of this clause.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 16, Para No. 26)

The Committee are constrained to note that the travelling allowance has risen from Rs. 4.26 lakhs in 1961-62 to Rs. 6.98 lakhs in 1963-64. It has been represented to the Committee that some of the tours undertaken by the officers and staff of Dandakaranya are not strictly necessary for discharging official duties.

The Committee consider that now that most of the development work is concentrated in Malkangiri Zone it should be possible to effect sizeable reduction in expenditure on travelling allowance. The Committee would suggest that the position may be reviewed in detail by the Chief Administrator and the Financial Adviser of the Dandakaranya Development Authority and necessary measures taken to eliminate infructuous travelling.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Due to the release of new areas and induction of new families and the taking up of new schemes like Minor and Medium irrigation works, development work is still dispersed among all the zones.

Strict instructions have been issued to the various controlling officers to ensure that journeys on tour are undertaken only where absolutely necessary in the public interest.

The expenditure on travelling allowance during 1965-66 has recorded a decrease by about Rs. 1 lakh from that of the previous year. The position is constantly under review and additional measures are being adopted from time to time for securing further economy.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 17-12-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 17, Para No. 26)

The Committee feel that the location of Headquarters of different departments of the Dandakaranya Development Authority at different places may not be conducive to good administration and recommend that Government may examine whether without incurring much capital expenditure, the Headquarters of the various departments of the Dandakaranya Development Authority can be located at one or even two central places.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The important organisations of the Project are located at the following places:

Koraput	Project Headquarters including Stores Purchase and Publicity Section. Financial Adviser.
Jagdalpur	Engineering (Roads & Buildings) Engineering (Irrigation) Minor Irrigation & Tanks Division of the Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Organisation Forests. Pay & Accounts Branch.
Kondagaon	Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Organisation Medical & Health Education.
Jeypore	Land Organisation.
Ambaguda	Transport & Workshop Organisation.

2. The headquarters of the Land Organisation are being shifted to Koraput. In order to achieve some more centralisation, it is pro-

posed to acquire the Jagdalpur College Building at Jagdalpur which has been offered for sale provided the cost is reasonable.

3. As regards Transport and Workshop Organisation at Ambaguda it is not possible to bring about any change as the Central workshop is located there, which is responsible for the repairs and maintenance of vehicles.

4. Any decision to further centralise the location of offices has to take into consideration the need to construct additional staff quarters which is a deterrent factor.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 19, Para No. 29)

The Committee feel that the settlers are likely to need most the assistance provided by the Sewaks during the third year of their settlement when the subsidy available to them is completely stopped. The Committee, therefore, suggest that things are so arranged that every village gets proper attention by a Sewak in the third year, and the Extension work performed by the Sewaks should also be intensified.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The services of the Sewaks are required more or less from the moment the families arrive at the new village site. Their extension activities are intensified over the years and according to the present practice extend well beyond the third year.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 20, Para No. 30)

The Committee would suggest that suitable methods of recruitment of Sewaks should be evolved so that persons of the right type are appointed.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The suggestion of the Committee has been noted. Dandakaranya Project Administration have already recruited about 20 teachers from amongst people trained by the Gandhi Samarak Nidhi. Persons doing good work from them are proposed to be absorbed as Sewaks/Teachers.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 21, Para No. 31)

The Committee would suggest that early steps should be taken to organise the training scheme for Sewaks with special reference to agricultural operations including poultry and animal husbandry so that they can play a significant part in increasing agricultural production.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

A scheme for imparting training to Sewaks in Agriculture, Soil Conservation, Horticulture, Minor Irrigation, Animal Husbandry and Public Health has been implemented in 1965. Courses were organised for two batches of trainees consisting of 28 Sewaks in the Mixed Farms of Umerkote and Paralkote.

The scheme will be continued in the coming programme year also.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 22, Para No. 31)

The Committee would also suggest the appointment of one suitable officer for a group of villages who may guide and help them in setting up cottage and small scale industries.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

This has been partially implemented already by the appointment of assistant Executive Officers Industry for each zone and that the suggestion would be kept in view for further implementation in building up the Industries Organisation which is currently in the process.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 23, Para No. 32)

The Committee note that during a period of about 4 years between 6-7-1959 when the post of Security-cum-Vigilance Officer was created for the first time and 30-6-1963 when it was abolished in view of the Emergency, the post was actually held by an officer for a period of only 1½ years.

The Committee do not quite appreciate why this important post of the Security-cum-Vigilance Officer should have been selected for abolition on the grounds of Emergency when his services were more particularly needed because of the Emergency.

The Committee regret that though the post was revived as far back as 16-6-1964, is still remains unfilled. They strongly urge that speedy action should be taken by the Dandakaranya Development Authority to fill up the post.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

An officer of the Bihar Provincial Service Cadre who is on deputation with Dandakaranya Project Administration as Senior Executive Officer has been appointed to discharge the duties of the Vigilance Officer.

[*Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department or Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 24, Para No. 34)

The Committee would suggest that the operational strength of the Security and Vigilance Organisation for Dandakaranya may be reviewed in consultation with the Central Bureau of Investigation so that it can play an effective part as an agency for vigilance and investigation.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Arising out of the recommendation of the Committee on Prevention of Corruption, proposal for creation of certain posts for investigation purposes is under consideration of Dandakaranya Project Administration.

[*Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15(3)/66-DNK dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 25, Para No. 36)

The Committee learn that the decentralisation of purchase procedure has been made on the recommendation of the Staff Review Committee to facilitate quicker procurement of stores which was a commendable object. They, however, suggest that the working of the revised procedure may be got reviewed by the D.G.S.&D. to ensure that there are no loopholes which would give rise to abuse and that at the same time the procurement of stores keeps pace with the requirements of development and rehabilitation.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The observations of the Committee have been noted. As mentioned under Serial No. 26, D.G.S.&D. is being asked to review the decentralised system of purchase. They are also being asked to examine the present mode of purchase by Dandakaranya Develop-

ment Authority with a view to suggesting improvement in it subject to the basic principle of Dandakaranya Development Authority exercising the delegated powers for the direct purchase of stores.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 18-8-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 26, Para No. 37)

The review suggested by D.G.S.&D. in the preceding paragraph should also cover the mode of purchase of stores by the Dandakaranya Development Authority. In general the Committee feel that purchases should be made by open tenders in preference to limited tenders as the former ensures wider competition and more competitive rates.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Committee's recommendation has been noted. D.G.S.&D. is being asked to undertake a review of the decentralised system of purchase as suggested by the Committee.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation). O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 27, Para No. 38)

The Committee are of the opinion that the functions of the Supply Base, Mana namely to take delivery of the goods at the Railway siding and to arrange for their transportation to the various sites in Dandakaranya area, do not warrant the maintenance of a full fledged Supply Base with an establishment headed by a Class I Officer at an annual expense of nearly Rs. 68,000. The Committee also do not see any need for maintaining Base Warehouses at Mana and feel that it should be possible to arrange for the transport of goods to their destinations in the Dandakaranya area direct from the railway siding. Apart from avoiding delay in transit of goods, this would save the unnecessary expense in transport of goods from the railway siding to the warehouses at the supply Base.

The Committee suggest that the question of retaining the Supply Bas at Mana with the present load of work may be examined very early with a view to effect economy.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Dandakaranya Project Administration are considering alternatives with regard to the Supply Base at Mana in the context of the plans for the functioning of the D.B.K. Railway from this year.

Some of the posts have been reduced and some downgraded out of the total number sanctioned originally for the Supply Base. Further reduction will be undertaken after a study, which is being undertaken shortly.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation). O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 30, Para No. 52)

The Committee recommend that the position of issue of sanctions of expenditure should be reviewed from time to time with a view to control expenditure and revise the ceilings of expenditure, if necessary.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

As a result of a review undertaken (*vide* item 4 of the Agenda in the 30th meeting of the D.D.A.) the question of reviewing the ceilings of expenditure for the Project has been taken up and is under consideration by Government.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 18-8-1966].

Recommendations (Serial Nos. 32 and 33, Para No. 54)

The Committee are unhappy to find that temporary advances to the tune of Rs. 10.55 lakhs made to various departments of Dandakaranya Development Authority are outstanding for more than one year. The Committee would suggest that the Chief Administrator and the Financial Adviser and the Chief Accounts Officer may jointly go into the matter and bring down as much as possible the outstanding temporary advance balances.

The Committee recommend that the procedure for grant of advances to the various departments of Dandakaranya Development Authority may be reviewed so as to ensure that large amounts do not remain unaccounted for for long periods of time.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The question of bringing down as much as possible the outstanding temporary advance balances has been jointly gone into by the Chief Administrator and the Financial Adviser and Chief Accounts Officer.

2. The procedure for the grant of temporary advances has also been reviewed and instructions to this effect have since been issued *vide* Dandakaranya Project Administration's Memorandum No. 3 (64)/64/B&A dated the 5th July, 1965 (Annexure I).

3. A statement showing the progress in the clearance of the outstanding advances is enclosed (Annexure II).

ANNEXURE I

*Dandakaranya Development Authority Memo No. 3 (64) 64/B&A,
dated July 5, 1965.*

Sub.—Drawal and Adjustment of temporary advances—procedure of:

On a review of the outstanding balances under 'Temporary advances' upto the end of April, 1965 (as brought out in this office Memorandum of even number dated the 21st/25th June, 1965), it is seen that considerable amounts of advances drawn by the different officers in earlier years, from 1960-61 onwards, have not yet been cleared, despite reminders from the Financial Adviser & Chief Accounts Officer and this office. It has already been brought to the notice of the different officers time and again that it is highly objectionable not to adjust the temporary advances in the same month in which it is drawn, but for reasons not known to this office, there is hardly any improvement in the position. This has of late been severely criticised by the Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee of Parliament.

2. With a view to bringing down the balance of outstanding temporary advances it has been decided by the Chief Administrator that the officers drawing temporary advances in future should follow the procedure outlined below in the matter of drawal and adjustment thereof. In case any deviation is necessary prior approval of the Chief Administrator must be obtained in advance by referring the case to Headquarters well in time.

- (a) No second temporary advance for a scheme or against a sanction would be granted to an officer unless he renders accounts of the first advance, the only exception being made in emergent cases like paddy purchase, bullock purchase etc.
- (b) All Disbursing Officers drawing an advance should render accounts after a fortnight of the drawal of the advance. If there is no satisfactory response in this regard, the Drawing & Disbursing Officers will be held responsible.
- (c) Temporary advances drawn for one purpose should not be diverted for another; such cases will be viewed seriously in future.

- (d) On all bills presented for drawal of temporary advances, the Drawing Officer should indicate the nature of urgency for drawing the temporary advance, the probable period by which the advance would be spent and the probable date of submission of adjustment bills.
- (e) Every bill for temporary advance should enclose a statement indicating the total amount of temporary advance outstanding against the drawing officer on the date of drawal and the reasons for non-submission of adjustment bills in respect of each different item.
- (f) All unspent balances drawn earlier should be refunded forthwith.

3. The receipt of this letter may please be acknowledged.

ANNEXURE II

**Progressive Clearance of Temporary Advance
(Dandakaranya Development Authority)**

Opening Balance as on 1-10-1964	Additions during six months (1-10-1964 to 31-3-1965)	Clearance during six months (1-10-1964 to 31-3-1965)	Closing Balance as on 31-3-1965
Rs. 68.46 lakhs	Rs. 17.85 lakhs	Rs. 24.69 lakhs	Rs. 61.62 lakhs
Opening Balance as on 1-4-1965	Additions during six months (1-4-1965 to 30-9-1965)	Clearance during six months (1-4-1965 to 30-9-1965)	Closing Balance as on 30-9-1965
Rs. 61.62 lakhs	Rs. 43.84 lakhs	Rs. 66.29 lakhs	Rs. 39.17 lakhs

Net clearance during last one year is about 43%.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65—DNK dated 7-2-1966*].

Unadjusted temporary advances which had come to the notice of the Committee have been substantially reduced as would be seen from the Statement given below. The adjustment of this amount also is being vigorously pursued with the departmental officers and a further reduction is expected by the end of the current year.

(Dandakaranya Development Authority)

1959-60	. . . . .	Rs. Nil
1960-61	. . . . .	4,311
1961-62	. . . . .	94,859
1962-63	. . . . .	2,42,207
		Rs. 3,41,377

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK dated 18-8-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 34, Para No. 60)

The Committee commend the idea behind the grant of 'subsidiary income loan' which is likely to prove beneficial to the settler fami-

lies as it will enable them to supplement their income from agriculture, besides helping in the development of cottage industries in the area. They recommend that the proposal to allocate adequate funds under this scheme so as to cover as large a number of agriculturist families in the villages as possible should receive the urgent consideration of Government.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

A proposal for provision of funds for subsidiary income loan to cover 50 per cent of the families has been under consideration. In the meantime, a certain pattern of rehabilitation assistance for new migrants has been sanctioned in which provision has been made for a subsidiary income loan of Rs. 300 per family without any restriction in regard to the proportion of families to whom this loan may be given. The question of extension of this pattern of assistance including the provision for subsidiary income loan to new migrant families in Dandakaranya will be considered at the next meeting of the Dandakaranya Development Authority.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 37, Para No. 65)

The Committee regret that considerable infructuous expenditure has been incurred in constructing the work centres far in excess of the requirements. They feel that a proper phasing of the programme for construction of work centres on the basis of actual requirements could have saved a substantial expenditure on this account. They recommend that a survey be made of the existing work centres with a view to their proper utilisation.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

There is no fixed yard stick by which the number of work centres can be determined with any amount of accuracy. This number is entirely dependent on the migration from the East Pakistan and the arrival of the families in the Project area. The existing Work Centres are however, being fully utilised.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 24-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 39, Para No. 66)

The Committee would stress that the existing work centres should not be dismantled unless it is conclusively proved that they are surplus to requirements and that they would not be required in the foreseeable future for housing displaced persons.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The views of the Committee have been noted for guidance.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 24-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 40, Para No. 66)

As most of the work centres are on road side, the Committee feel that these could have been put to good use as centres for non-agricultural rehabilitation schemes particularly when the Dandakaranya Development Authority has not been able to provide any such schemes which are so much needed.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Even though most of the Work Centres are on the road-sides, many of them are away from towns, in the midst of jungles, where there is water scarcity in summer and where it is difficult to provide educational and medical facilities on a permanent basis. To set up even cottage industries and crafts, vicinity of a market to procure raw materials and to sell finished products and for credit facilities in business is required. As such work centres near towns and villages having established markets have been selected for non-agricultural rehabilitation centres viz. Keskhal, Pharasgoan, Narainpur, Dharampura, Urna, Ambaguda, Sanakaudi and Majurmunda. Schemes suitable to the locations are being formulated and will be implemented.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 24-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 41, Para No. 69)

The Committee would suggest that the stay of the families in the work centres should be put to effective use by imparting them training in improved methods of agriculture suited to Dandakaranya area. Practical demonstration would go a long way in bringing home to the displaced persons the need for adopting suitable agricultural practices to get optimum return from the lands to be allotted to them in Dandakaranya. The Committee would also suggest that the families may be imparted training in cottage industries and subsidiary occupations such as poultry, bee keeping, beedi making weaving etc. which can play a significant part in augmenting their meagre resources. Instructions may also be given to the families in such matters of national importance as family planning, cooperatives, sanitary conditions of living etc.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The stay of the families in the work centres is of a very short duration and in rainy season, when it is time to take up agriculture, their number dwindles to the minimum. It is difficult to undertake even short term training schemes for such fluctuating population. All efforts are however, made to impart to them training in horticulture, and every family in work centres is required to plant a kitchen garden. Better type of agricultural implements are sent to them and improved seeds and seedlings are provided at subsidised prices. 72 agricultural families of work centres were kept in the Pakhanjore mixed farm for a full agricultural season to provide them not only employment but training. Settlers of other work centres were also provided work in Umerkote mixed farm and the State Government farm near Kanker. The occupants of work centres near Boregaon, Narainpur, Jagdalpur and Ambaguda are imparted training in weaving, carpentry and blacksmithy, during their stay in the work centres.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee may be informed of the arrangements made in the Work Centres for imparting instructions to resident families in such matters as family planning, co-operatives, sanitary conditions of living etc.

[*L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23(1) ECI/65, dated 13-12-1966*].

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Families are stationed in work centres only for brief periods. With the coming up of Mana, agriculturist families are no longer kept in our work centres for any length of time, but are being drawn only when required for actual movement to villages. The work centres now are largely only transit centres. It is difficult to undertake even short-term training schemes for such floating population. However in a small way, training in horticulture is imparted by encouraging kitchen gardens, providing improved agricultural implements, and seeds, seedlings at subsidized prices. To provide employment as well as training in agriculture and small industrial trades, settlers of nearby transit centres are engaged in Project and State Farms and Industrial/Weaving Centres.

The project health staff and publicity units impart instructions covering family planning, sanitary conditions of living etc.

[Ministry of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/66-DNK, dated 30-3-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 42, Para No. 73)

The Committee have been informed that 50 per cent of the land released by the Madhya Pradesh Government in north Bastar have been found to be unsuitable; so they feel that the authorities should try to persuade the Madhya Pradesh Government to release some more suitable land for the rehabilitation schemes. The Committee learn that attempts to secure land in south Bastar were opposed by the Madhya Pradesh Government on the three reasons viz. (a) land has to be released for families who may be displaced in the wake of Ichapali and Bhopalpatnam Projects; (b) the area is a teak growing region; and (c) according to the National Forest Policy Resolution, 60 per cent of the area has to be reserved as forests. The Committee feel that it may not be difficult for the Dandakaranya Development Authority/Ministry to take precautionary steps regarding these 3 points even if land in that area is released for rehabilitation, particularly the interest of teak wood and provisions of the National Forest Policy Resolution. It is, however, for the Union Government to take up the issue with Madhya Pradesh Government for the release of more suitable land in Bastar district, in the background of their experience of some lands released earlier being not found suitable.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Expansion of Paralkote is in progress and more land was released in that area by the State Government in the last working season as well as the current one.

As regards Mingachal, owing to the non-availability of protected forest areas there the question of establishing a zone there has been dropped.

The question of the release of land in Konta Bheji (M.P.) has been discussed further with the representative of the Government of Madhya Pradesh. The matter would be considered further after the survey of South Paralkote was over and the land available there was known.

[Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65—DNK, dated 24-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 43, Para No. 73)

The Committee suggest that the possibility of further releases of land in the Paralkote and Mingachal areas of Madhya Pradesh may also be explored by Government.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Expansion of Paralkote is in progress and more land was released in that area by the State Government in the last working season as well as the current one.

As regards Mingachal, owing to the non-availability of protected forest areas there the question of establishing a zone there has been dropped.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65—DNK, dated 24-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 44, Para No. 75)

The Committee note that the Dandakaranya Development Authority selects the land for the Dandakaranya Project and negotiates with the concerned States for its release. The Committee feel that in such cases where the land is not released by the State Governments within a reasonable time, the Ministry of Rehabilitation should take up the matter with the concerned State Governments.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Noted. This is in fact the procedure now being followed.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65—DNK, dated 24-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 45, Para No. 75)

The Committee suggest that the whole procedure for release of land should be streamlined in consultation with the concerned State Governments to eliminate avoidable delays.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Noted.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65—DNK, dated 24-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 46, Para No. 78)

The Committee recommend that the desirability of locating the headquarters of the Lands Organisation of the Dandakaranya Development Authority at Koraput may be examined.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

It is intended to shift the headquarters of the Land Organisation to Koraput and merge it in the Headquarters Office with effect from 1st October, 1965.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 47, Para No. 79)

The Committee note that in the case of Malkangiri Zone, application was perferred for release of land without any reconnaissance, survey. After the completion of the survey, land comprised in 58 villages was found to be not suitable and was not pressed for release. In order to avoid such a situation, the Committee suggest that release of land should be applied for only after a reconnaissance survey of land has been undertaken.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Noted. This is being done at present.

[Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65—DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial Nos. 48 & 49, Para No. 81)

The Committee are of the view that the high percentage of rejections (39 per cent) out of released lands by State Governments, as a result of advance soil survey reflects unfavourable on the performance of the Land Organisation of the Dandakaranya Development Authority which is responsible for reconnaissance survey on the basis of which proposals for release of land are framed and land is got released.

The Committee would suggest that a small expert team may be constituted to suggest ways and means of putting to use large areas of reclaimed or even released land rejected as unsuitable for agriculture.

The Committee also suggest that it may be examined whether such areas can be utilised for setting up small scale and cottage industries.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The procedure of conducting reconnaissance survey was started only in the year 1963-64 for the first time in the Malkangiri Zone. This was taken up to minimise rejections and to make it possible for the Administration to ask the State Government for the release of

only such land as was *prima facie* suitable for cultivation. The reconnaissance survey was conducted immediately after the close of the field season 1962-63 i.e. during the rains when it becomes very difficult to distinguish the quality of land. Secondly, when the reconnaissance survey parties declared the suitable areas in any particular village, the percentage of the reserve which is being kept by the State authorities for future expansion of the village or for gochar etc. were not taken into consideration. Thirdly, when the State Survey Parties demarcate the lands for release on the field they were mainly guided by the instructions of the State Authorities i.e. to keep the village forests which are lying adjacent to the village sites and not to demarcate any land for release adjacent to the village sites and the cultivated land etc. As such suitable lands which were lying adjacent to the village sites and the gochar land etc. were not released according to the decided principles of the State Authorities. Further, the staff of the Land Organisation are purely non-technical so far as the soil quality is concerned and their reports were based on the visual examination of the soil.

2. The above facts are the main reasons for which where there is a big discrepancy between the suitability of the land as found by the reconnaissance survey and as found by the advance soil survey.

3. Since last year technical personnel of the Agricultural Organisation are also being attached to the reconnaissance parties.

4. The Dandakaranya Project Administration are being asked to constitute a small expert team to suggest ways and means of putting to use areas of reclaimed or even released land rejected as unsuitable for agriculture. The team will consist of Director, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Conservator of Forest and the Zonal Administrator concerned.

5. It may be possible to grow plantation crops such as cashew, Agave etc. in some of the areas reclaimed but not yet utilised. The possibility of developing these areas for pasture development is being studied on a small scale in a village at Paralkote. On the basis of the result, further steps would be taken to develop these areas as far as practicable. In the current season some afforestation also is being tried as an experimental measure by growing valuable trees like eucalyptus.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 24-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 50, Para No. 85)

The Committee stress that the instance of Kondagaon where areas of land were reclaimed without advance soil survey and displaced persons resettled on land without assessing before hand its potentialities for cultivation should not be repeated and proper soil survey should be made before the land is reclaimed and distributed among the displaced persons.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Noted. At present no reclamation is being done prior to soil survey.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65—DNK, dated 17-12-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 51, Para No. 85)

The Committee cannot emphasise too strongly the importance of the advance soil survey on the results of which the reclamation of land and in fact the success of the resettlement programme of the Dandakaranya Development Authority entirely depends. Improper soil survey at that stage could render the entire expense on reclamation of land and setting up of villages thereon infructuous, besides causing hardships and misery to the families settled on land of poor quality. The Committee recommend that with a view to achieve higher standards of performance, the desirability of reorganising the Soil Conservation Organisation engaged on advance soil survey work should be examined in consultation with the Chief Soil Survey Officer of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Dandakaranya Project Administration are being asked to consult the Chief Soil Survey Officer of the Min. of Food and Agriculture, to see whether any improvement in methods is necessary.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65—DNK, dated 17-12-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 52, Para No. 85)

The Committee are of the opinion that the rejections out of released lands can be minimised if in addition to reconnaissance survey, advance soil survey of prospective land sites is also made so that the most promising land suitable for agriculture, is applied for release.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Noted.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65—DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 53, Para No. 85)

The Committee feel that as large areas of land of good quality may not be available, it may be necessary to take steps for developing marginal and submarginal lands also by providing fertilizers, irrigation, bunding etc.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

A scheme is being formulated to utilise the marginal and submarginal lands, which are usually rejected from agricultural point of view, for the cultivation of fodder crops and development of pasture and range-land. One such trial has already been taken up in Paralkote in the current season. If the result is found satisfactory; steps would be taken to utilise the rejected submarginal lands in the same way to the extent possible.

[*Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 17-12-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 55, Para No. 89)

The Committee hope that in pursuance of the recommendations of the Chief Soil Survey officer of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, detailed soil survey of the different areas in Dandakaranya would be completed at an early date.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Detailed Soil survey has been completed in Umarkote and Kondagaon Zones. In Paralkote more than 2/3rd of the area has been covered and the remaining area will be taken up during the next season along with areas of Malkangiri Zone provided qualified staff are available.

[*Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 56, Para No. 89)

The Committee would stress that the "Feeler Tests", as suggested by the Chief Soil Survey Officer, should be carried out to find out whether the soil lacks any of the essential trace elements which affect the yield of the crops and take necessary remedial measures to make good the deficiency.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Feeler tests have been conducted in a few plots in the Mixed Farm, Umarkote but the results are not conclusive. Further trials will be conducted during this season.

[*Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 58, Para No. 93)

As regards the second reason advanced by the Ministry for not achieving the reclamation target for 1962-63, namely, "slow progress in soil survey", the Committee find from another note submitted by the Ministry on the Revised Project Report that out of 1.19 lakh acres of land soil surveyed from inception till the 30th June, 1963, only 81,075 acres were actually reclaimed leaving a balance of 11,533 acres of suitable land.

As regards the third reason for not achieving the reclamation target for 1962-63, namely, "delay in extraction of valuable timber from the released areas by the State Forest Department", the Committee find that according to the prescribed procedure the State Forest Department is required to remove all valuable timber before the area is released to the Dandakaranya Development Authority. It is, therefore, obvious that if the prescribed procedure was followed there could be no occasion for delay on this account after the land was released.

The Committee are also not convinced that the shortfall in the reclamation target for 1962-63 could be attributed to "retention of some old C.T.O. units in Umerkote" in view of the fact that the Dandakaranya Development Authority have stated in reply to another question that during 1962-63, "80 machines out of 153 could not be deployed throughout the season primarily for want of land."

This leaves only two reasons from amongst those advanced by the Government for the shortfall in the achievement as compared to the reclamation target for 1962-63, namely, delay in starting the reclamation operations and the delay in sinking the tube-wells which are the responsibilities of the Dandakaranya Development Authority.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

There was a dry spell of weather in October, 1962. It was, therefore, possible to start reclamation in the last week of October, 1962, in the Paralkote Zone. However, since there was some delay in carrying out soil survey, the reclamation operations could actually be started only during the last week of November, 1962. This position does not affect the progressive figures of soil survey and reclamation for the period ending 30th June, 1963.

2. The word 'released' used by the Committee with reference to the prescribed procedure obviously refers to handing over possession for purposes of reclamation. This is done after the removal of valuable timber by the State Forest Department. The removal of valu-

able timber is undertaken by the State Forest Department and not by the Dandakaranya Development Authority after an application for the release of land has been made to the State Government on the basis of the soil survey and after the State Government has issued orders for the release of the land. There is a necessary time-lag between the issue of such orders and actual handing over of possession to the Reclamation Organisation for reclamation of the area. In this case the time-lag was long.

3. Retention of old C.T.O. units in Umerkote is relevant to the explanation for shortfall in achievement with reference to the failure on the part of the State Government to release land in the Umerkote Zone. It is strictly not relevant to a shortfall in the reclamation of released areas, as a whole. Tractors were deployed unitwise in the various zones. If in any particular zone land was not forthcoming, then the tractors deployed in that zone would be idle, and this would affect the output, irrespective of the fact that in some other zone, here might be a surplus of land.

[*Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 59, Para No. 95)

The Committee cannot help observing that the performance of the Dandakaranya Development Authority in regard to reclamation of land has been singularly unsatisfactory. Except during the year 1961-62 when the target was fulfilled, the achievements have been falling far behind the targets in diminishing proportions year after year. The Committee recommend that reclamation operations in Dandakaranya should be properly planned and annual targets fixed after taking into consideration factors which have been impeding progress in the past. Once the targets are fixed, no effort should be spared to achieve them.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The disparity between reclamation targets and the actual area reclaimed has to be considered against the background of the procedure relating to the release and reclamation of land in Dandakaranya. The Dandakaranya Development Authority is entirely dependent on the State Government, both as to the extent of land released and the rate at which such land is released. The D.D.A. is, therefore, quite unable, because of factors outside its control, to adjust its targets in such a way as to reduce the disparity between the areas released and the areas reclaimed.

The targets are based on the D.D.A. estimate of the land available in the area of operation. The actual area applied for, depends on the findings of preliminary and reconnaissance surveys. The actual release depends on the amount of land which the State Government is prepared to release after it has made whatever reservations are necessary for its own purposes and for the growth of existing villages. The requirements of the Forest Department are also considered. Thereafter, the actual area of land suitable for agriculture is determined by a soil survey and the State Government is requested to release the area found suitable. This land is not actually released to the D.D.A. until the Forest Department of the State Government has extracted all valuable timber from it. It would be evident, therefore, that there are sound reasons for the disparity, on paper, between the areas which were estimated by the D.D.A. and the areas which are actually handed over to the D.D.A. for reclamation.

In 1958-59, against the expected 11,100 acres in Bastar, only 2,000 acres were released and all this area was reclaimed. Apart from this, tractors were also deployed in other construction works and the out-turn was 3,71,650 cft. of earth work on tanks, 2,840 acres of contour bunding, 209 acres of site clearance, 34,500 cft. of earth work in the Bhaskal Dam and 72 miles roads and 1,529 acres of reharrowing work for State Governments. In 1960-61, against a target of 26,500 acres, 14,370 acres were reclaimed. However, this was in addition to 6,000 acres of land reharrowed, 5,629 acres of land contour banded, 325 miles of road and 26,000 cft. of earth work. Even with this additional work, the area reclaimed would have been larger but for the premature failure of the Komatsu tractors and the consequent breakdown of operation. Even after reclamation, the tractors could be worked only for 7 hours per day in single shift against the normal 12 hours in double shift on the basis of which the targets were fixed.

In 1962-63, the original target of 36,000 acres were reduced to 30,000 acres because of the heavy rejections of land in Paralkote zone. Against this 24,007 acres were reclaimed. In addition, 306 miles of roads were made, 2,476 acres of village sites and tank sites were cleared and 2.1 lakhs cft. of earth work was done. Because of the shortfall of land in Paralkote area, the tractors were marched across 250 miles to Malkangiri. Had the State Government been able to release more land for reclamation, the targets would have been reached. As it was, most of tractors remained idle for want of land. Even in Umerkote the land, which was promised, was eventually not given and more than one unit of tractors remained idle in this area also.

In 1963-64, the original target was 42,000 acres. While only 24,614 acres of land were made available in Malkangiri, 12,166 acres of land

were reclaimed. All this area would have been reclaimed except when the operations in the area were discontinued because all the energies of the Project were directed to dealing with the massive influx of new migrants to the Project area early in 1964. Because of the influx, new villages could not be set up and reclamation operations were suspended in the middle of the season. However, even so, 50 per cent of the target, viz., 12,166 acres of land were reclaimed, 6,908 acres of land were reharrowed, 840 acres of village and tank sites were cleared. In addition, 258 miles of road were made and 9.70 lakhs cft. of earth work was done. It would be seen, therefore, that the total output was impressive.

The total achievements of the D.D.A. in the Department of Reclamation over a period of 40 working months from 1959 to 1964 in spite of the failure of machinery were as follows:

1,07,062 acres of tree-felling 98,171 acres of harrowing 75,745
acres of contour bunding 15,328 acres of reharrowing 5,364
acres of tank sites 1,329 miles of roads 32,00,000 cft. of
earth work.

In the light of the Committee's observations, it is proposed to review the procedure for the release of land and other processes in consultation with the State Governments.

[Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 60, Para No. 97)

The Committee regret that due to inadequate arrangements for repairs and lack of spare parts of Komatsu tractors, supplied by the Army Ordnance Factories, nearly one-fifth of the Komatsu tractor fleet had to remain idle throughout the 1962-63 season. A fleet of 30 tractors also remained idle during 1963-64 season due to lack of proper planning and coordination. The Committee recommend that in order to avoid situation as happened in 1962-63; urgent steps should be taken by the Ministry of Rehabilitation in consultation with the Ministry of Defence to build up a buffer stock of spare parts of tractors of different make held by the Reclamation Organisation and to improve the arrangements for repairs of tractors so that the reclamation programme is not held up for want of repairs to tractors.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

A bank of spare parts for Komatsu tractors has now been created by D.G.O.F. Efforts are being made to induce D.G.O.F. to expand this bank to an adequate extent, though they have their own difficulties of foreign exchange.

2. There are adequate arrangements for repairs of the tractors at the mobile workshops as well as the static workshop at Ambaguda.

3. The special problems relating to the Komatsu tractors have recently been discussed with the D.G.O.F. and certain measures for rectifying the defects in the tractors to the extent feasible have been agreed upon.

4. As stated in reply to para 95, it is proposed to review the present position and methods for release of land and reclamation in consultation with the State Governments with a view to improving them.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 61, Para No. 97)

The Committee hope that reclamation and other ancillary operations would be properly planned so as to ensure optimum use of the tractors in hand.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Committees recommendations have been noted.

[Ministry of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 27-1-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 62, Para No. 98)

The Committee cannot help concluding that the reason for not fully utilising the tractors during 1963-64 season was not so much the delay in the release of land as the slow progress in advance soil survey and extraction of valuable timber. The Committee would urge that the various processes which have to precede reclamation operation should be properly planned and the Soil Survey, Forest and Reclamation Organisation should so coordinate their work that reclamation operations are not hampered and the tractors available for reclamation purposes do not remain unutilised on account of the tardy performance of one organisation or the other.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

It will be noticed that about 50% of the area given in the Table in this para was released in March, April, May and June. This was too late to enable soil survey and extraction of valuable timber and reclamation to be completed in time and subsequent withdrawal of units to headquarters before the onset of monsoon, even if these operations had been carried out expeditiously.

2. As indicated in reply to para 95 above, the whole procedure and method for the release and reclamation of land is proposed to be reviewed in consultation with the State Governments.

[Ministry of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 63, Para No. 101)

The Committee would suggest that detailed reasons for the steep increase in the cost of reclamation per acre of land through Komatsu tractors and the increase in their cost of operation and maintenance may be enquired into in detail and remedial measures taken to bring down the cost of operation.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In considering the comparative cost of reclamation, it seems necessary to keep separate accounts of idle tractors and tractors actually utilised and make a comparison only between tractors actually deployed. Subject to this remark, the Committee's suggestion has been noted for further action.

[Ministry of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 64, Para No. 102)

Now that large areas of land, not only in Dandakaranaya but also in several States, have to be reclaimed in pursuance of the programme for the resettlement of new migrants, the Committee recommend that the question of scrapping the remaining old C.T.O. tractors may be re-examined by an independent expert team which may also be taken into consideration the maintenance, operation and reclamation costs of these tractors.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

74 tractors comprising 29 Caterpillar, 30 International harvester TD-24 and 15 Allis Chalmers were taken over by the Dandakarnaya Project at its inception, from the erstwhile Central Tractor Organisation. 32 tractors were progressively scrapped by the Dandakarnaya Development Authority during the period 1958—62 as they had outlived their useful life. Thus at the end of the working season 1961-62, only 42 tractors were left with the Dandakarnaya Development Authority out of the lot of 74 tractors, the break up of which is given below:—

TD—24 International Harvester	—15 Nos.
TD—8 Caterpillars	—25 Nos.
Allis Chalmers HD-19	—2 Nos.

Total	—42 Nos.

The Dandakaranya Development Authority, in their 27th Meeting held on 4th April, 1963, decided to scrap the remaining 42 tractors also and dispose of them either by sale or by transfer to other Department/Projects of the Government of India|States as they had also outlived their economic life. 22 tractors were, therefore, sold/transferred to other departments as per details given below:

- 6 Nos. D-8 Caterpillars—Sold to Government of Orissa.
- 8 Nos. D-8 Caterpillars—Transferred to Irrigation Department of Dandakaranya Project.
- 5 Nos. D-8 Caterpillars—transferred to Chief Conservator of Forests Andamans.
- 3 Nos. TD-24 International Harvesters—Transferred to Irrigation Department of Dandakaranya Project.

Total: 22 Nos.

The Rehabilitation Reclamation Organisation was thus left with only 20 tractors comprising 6 Nos. D-8 Caterpillars, 12 Nos. TD-24 International Harvesters and 2 Nos. HD-19 Allis Chalmers which were required to be scrapped. Before the decision to scrap these tractors (42 Nos.) was taken by the Dandakaranya Development Authority in the 27th meeting referred to above, their detailed technical examination had been carried out by the Engineers of Reclamation Organisation and survey reports showing the total number of hours worked, condition of engines and various parts, oil pressure, engine oil consumption, repairs carried out and spare parts used and further requirements of parts etc., were prepared. All these 20 machines had outlived their useful life and were of lower horse power as compared to new D-8 and D-120 tractors and took much more time to reclaim an acre of land. The difficulties which could be experienced in the continued use of these tractors are given below for each make separately.

ALLIS CHALMERS HD-19 MODEL

The two tractors of this model that were left with Rehabilitation Reclamation Organisation were beyond economical repairs. It was nearly impossible model to get any spare parts for these machines because this model had become obsolete.

TD-24 INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER

These tractors were also obsolete as they had been superseded by TD-25. These were purchased in the year 1949-50 by the Central Tractor Organisation and were the first lot of this model. Enormous difficulties were experienced by Central Tractor Organisation in maintaining and servicing them. More than 100% of their cost was:

spent on spares while they were in Central Tractor Organisation. After transfer to the Dandakaranya Project most of them remained idle for a long time for want of spare parts as the manufacturers' agents in this country took considerable time to make special arrangements for the import and supply of the parts.

D—8 CATERPILLARS

They had outlived their life and required large quantities of spare parts for their further use which involved considerable amount of foreign exchange. In view of the tight foreign exchange position in the country, it was not considered worthwhile to spend any amount on them.

Taking all the factors mentioned in the foregoing paragraphs into consideration, the question of scrapping all these tractors was taken up with the Associated Finance of this Department who have since agreed to these tractors being scrapped and disposed of through the Director General, Supplies and Disposals, to the best advantage of the Government. In view, however of the recommendation of the Committee with regard to re-examination of the question of scrapping of the old Central Tractor Organisation tractors by an independent expert team which may also take into consideration, the maintenance operation and reclamation cost of these tractors, the Director, Rehabilitation Reclamation Organisation has been requested to undertake a review so as to make a fresh attempt at cannibalization of the parts to ensure that whatever parts could be usefully retrieved have actually been retrieved and as many tractors as possible are salvaged by interchanging the parts or portions thereof wherever expedient and possible in the overall interest of the Government. As soon as a report in the matter is received from the Director Rehabilitation Reclamation Organisation, an expert team as envisaged in the recommendation of the Committee, would be set up and further action taken about the scrapping of these tractors in the light of their report.

[*Miny. of L.E. and R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK dated 4-7-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 66, Para No. 103)

The Committee consider that even if the depreciated 'book value of the tractors was "almost nil" at the time they were scrapped ordinary prudence would have indicated that such of the parts of the tractors which were not required for cannibalization or for spares should be disposed of by following the normal procedure of Public Auction through the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals. The Committee would like Government to fully investigate the

matter to make sure that the scrapped tractors have been properly accounted for and that as much amount as was possible has been realised.

The Committee would also suggest that in case it is finally decided to scrap the remaining old Central Tractor Organisation tractors, no effort should be spared to dispose of these tractors by transfer or sale to such Central or State agencies or Public bodies or by Public Auction through the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals, so that adequate scrap value may be obtained.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Out of 74 tractors taken over from the erstwhile Central Tractor Organisation, 22 tractors have since been transferred/sold to various departments as per details given below:—

- 6 Nos. D-8 Caterpillars—Sold to Government of Orissa.
- 8 Nos. D-8 Caterpillars—Transferred to Irrigation Department of Dandakarnaya Project.
- 5 Nos. D-8 Caterpillars—Transferred to Chief Conservator of Forests, Andamans.
- 3 Nos. TD-24 International Harvesters.—Transferred to Irrigation Department of Dandakarnaya Project.

With regard to the remaining 52 tractors it is proposed to dispose of them through the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals to the best advantage of the Government subject to the recommendations of the expert team, as advised by the Estimates Committee in Serial No. 64 Para No. 102.

Pending appointment of this team, the Director Rehabilitation Reclamation Organisation has been requested to undertake a review in order to make a fresh attempt at cannibalization of the parts to ensure that whatever parts could be usefully retrieved have actually been retrieved and as many tractors as can be salvaged by interchanging the parts or portions thereof, wherever expedient or possible in the overall interest of the Government, have been salvaged.

[*Miny. of L.E. and R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK dated 4-7-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 68, Para No. 108)

The Committee note that during 1961-62, it was possible for the Reclamation Organisation of the Dandakaranya Development Authority to reclaim 34,259 acres of land by working only 240 tractors (of which a good number were old) in single shift with 22 of them working at less than 75 per cent of their capacity. They hope that

the need to purchase additional number of tractors will be reviewed with reference to the prospects of timely availability of land and the possibility of working the existing machinery in double shift.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Recommendation of the Committee has been noted and will be kept in view while planning for the import of additional units of tractors.

The Rehabilitation Reclamation Organisation at present has a fleet of 13 F.M. Units consisting of 9 Komatsu units, 3 Caterpillar Units and one unit of Allis Chalmer Tractors. The total number of tractors in all the 13 units mentioned above, is 193. The Komatsu units are not being worked on double shift due to the rigid and comprehensive servicing schedule to be followed for the smooth running of the machines to ensure minimum break-downs. The 3 Caterpillar and one unit of Allis Chalmer Tractor are capable of working in double shifts. The capacity of a Komatsu unit per season is 2,500 acres and that of Caterpillar and Allis Chalmer units is 5000 acres on a double shift basis. The present working capacity of the Rehabilitation Reclamation Organisation is therefore, 42,500 acres per season. According to the target laid down in the 4th Five Year Plan 50,000 acres were proposed to be reclaimed every year. Keeping in view, however, the frequent breakdown of the Komatsu Units for lack of spare parts etc., it was originally planned to import 3 more units,—one from France, one from United States of America and one from Japan through Director General Ordnance Factories. Due to the difficult Foreign Exchange position, import of only one unit from France could be finalised. Action with regard to the procurement of the remaining two units is not being pursued in view of the recommendation of the Committee.

As regards the timely availability of land, the Chief Administrator, Dandakaranya and the State Governments of Mādhyā Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra have been requested to draw up a phased programme for the release of land duly cleared of valuable timber and after the completion of pre-reclamation survey operations one or two years in advance.

[*Miny. of L.E. and R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK dated 4-7-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 69, Para No. 109)

Now that the Rehabilitation Reclamation Organisation has been entrusted with the responsibility for reclamation of land at a much larger scale in and outside Dandakaranya Project area, the Committee

recommend that the Ministry of Rehabilitation would make a thorough examination of the Reclamation Organisation in regard to its capacity, procedures and performance with a view to exercise a closer watch on the future performance of the Organisation.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Recommendation of the Committee has been noted. The Rehabilitation Reclamation Organisation has been asked to undertake a detailed study in regard to the capacity, procedure and performance of the tractors before the matter is looked into further by this Department.

[*Miny. of L.E. and R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK dated 17-5-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 70, Para No. 110)

The Committee note that the percentage of displaced persons and Scheduled Tribes/Castes employed in the Reclamation Organisation were only 8.51 and 5.53 respectively. They feel that that efforts should have been made to provide employment to more displaced persons and those from Scheduled Tribes/Castes in the Reclamation Organisation particularly in the skilled and semi-skilled jobs and if necessary proper training should have been arranged for them.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Reclamation Organisation of Dandakarnaya Project came into being on the 1st November, 1958 when Dandakarnaya Development Authority acquired five F.M. Units from the erstwhile C.T.O. These units came along with the staff. Out of 561 class III personnel on the rolls of this Organisation as on September, 1964 more than 200 were those who have had come from C.T.O. along with 5 Fully Mechanised Units and none of them was a Displaced Person from East Pakistan.

Consequent on the expansion of the activities of Dandakarnaya Development Authority, 133 Komatsu and 45 Caterpillar Tractors were purchased. Recruitment of more staff, therefore, became necessary to man the additional units. In the various Advertisements and requisitions placed on the Employment Exchanges for recruitment of staff, preference for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Displaced Persons was invariably indicated. However, sufficient nominations of such categories of candidates were not received from Employment Exchange nor the response to advertisements in Newspapers for various posts was encouraging. But as and when such candidates with requisite qualifications came forward and were found fit to hold

the particular posts, they were appointed. Substantial proportion of the candidates selected for the posts were ex-C.T.O. men who had the requisite qualifications and specialised experience in the line for many years. Despite preferential treatment being given to the Schedule Caste, Scheduled Tribes/Displaced Persons to the extent possible and permissible in accordance with relevant instructions issued from time to time by competent authorities, the requisite number of qualified candidates belonging to these categories was not forthcoming. Consequently their percentage on the establishment of Rehabilitation Reclamation Organisation has been low.

As regards the suggestion of the Committee about imparting training to the persons of the above category, Rehabilitation Reclamation Organisation has a scheme to train Adivasi/settlers in tractor driving. The duration of the training is 6 months. The trainees are given learner's wages at the rate of Rs. 45 per month. So far 27 boys have successfully completed this training. All of them were offered employment as tractor drivers/mates. One declined the offer and one resigned the job. A batch of another 15 settlers is under training at the moment. They are likely to complete the training at the end of September, 1965. A proposal to have another batch of 40 settlers/Adivasis to be trained in the next operational season which will commence sometime in November, 1965 is under consideration.

The recommendation of the Committee has been noted and every opportunity is taken and preference given to employ displaced persons or Scheduled Castes/Tribes possessing minimum qualifications and experience required, other things being equal.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 24-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 71, Para No. 115)

The Committee feel that the areas of land reclaimed but not allotted to the settlers at the end of the working season 1962-63 and 63-64 have been rather large. They recommend that the various organisations concerned with land after it is reclaimed should work in close coordination so that the reclaimed area remaining unallotted is kept to the minimum thereby helping quicker rehabilitation and saving avoidable expense on reharrowing of land before allotment in the next season.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In 1962-63 the reasons for the time-lag in settlement of families on reclaimed land were two fold viz. the sinking of tube wells could not

keep pace and adequate number of settlers was not available in the work centres for movement to the villages.

During 1963-64 the rigs of the Drilling Department were kept engaged at Mana on account of the unexpected influx of refugees from January 1964.

The allotment of land and settlement of villagers thereon depends on co-ordination of many factors viz., finalisation of village sites on completion of reclamation, sinking tube-wells, construction of link-roads, availability of adequate quantum of foodgrains, and a availability of adequate number and right type of families. Efforts are being made to effect this coordination more closely.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 4-7-1966].

COMMENTS OF COMMITTEE

The Committee suggest that Government may consider the feasibility of getting the reclaimed land cultivated departmentally until it is finally distributed among the settlers.

Recommendation (Serial No. 72, Para No. 116)

The Committee feel that the progress of construction of village houses has been slow. They recommend that the work of construction of village houses should be expedited during the current working season. They also recommend that while drawing up the programme of work for the next working season, special attention should be given to this aspect of resettlement which has lagged far behind.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

As on 30-6-65 the number of houses completed as against the number of settlers in position in the four zones in the working season 1964-65 is furnished below:

Name of Zone	No. of families moved during 1964-65	No. of families in position	No. of houses constructed	No. of houses under construction
Kondagaon	..	250	278	24
Umerkote	497	2595	2873	257
Paralkote	359	2596	2229	29
Malkangiri	1506	3165	351	1586
	2362	8874	5731	1896

For their temporary accommodation, the settlers construct small huts. The house building programme was spaced out to enable them

to apply themselves fully to agricultural work. Priority is accorded to agricultural work in view of the need to complete it before the monsoon for sowing crops.

The approved programme for the working season from 1-10-1965 to 30-9-1966 is as follows: Families moved into village sites in Malkangiri Zone upto June, 1964 will complete their houses by March, 1966. Any deficiency in the supply of building materials to these families will be made up by October, 1965. Families moved upto June, 1965 will complete their houses by December, 1966 and families moving to village sites during the field season ending June, 1966 will construct their houses between November, 1966 and March, 1967.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |65-DNK, dated 17-5-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 73, Para No. 117)

The Committee regret to note that the arrangements made to provide water supply to the villages for drinking and other purposes have been inadequate and the progress in this regard is rather halting. They recommend that the work on excavation of tanks and digging of wells should be speeded up.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Tubewells have been provided in every village (at the ratio of 25/30 families per tubewell) for purposes of supplying drinking water.

So far as the construction of village tanks is concerned practically all the tanks in Umerkote and Paralkote zones have been completed. In Malkangiri 19 tanks are being completed by the end of this season and they are expected to retain water during the next summer. Construction of further tanks in Malkangiri will be taken up during the next working season. Action has also been taken to deepen the tanks which had dried up during this season.

Regarding masonry wells, 186 wells have been completed in all four zones as given below:—

Kondagaon	10
Umerkote	86
Paralkote	86
Malkangiri	4

186

In Malkangiri 19 wells have been taken up and are in various stages of construction. Wells in the Malkangiri zone are rather a difficult proposition on account of the very low water table intervened by rocky strata.

Apart from the masonry wells, the settlers have been provided a loan of Rs. 150 each for homestead wells in their own gardens, 780 homestead wells have so far been dug in the two zones of Paralkote and Umarkote.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 74, Para No. 119)

The Committee regret to note that quite a number of tanks go dry completely or partially, in the pre-monsoon months. They feel that more care should have been taken while ex-cavating the tanks.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Steps have been taken to deepen the tanks which had gone dry during summer. New constructions are being planned in such a way that they will retain water even in summer months. To some extent till silt formation in the tank beds takes place, some of the tanks with porous beds are liable to go dry. Steps are also being taken to construct bigger tanks with some irrigation potential and it is expected that there will be enough water in the dead storage of such tanks to meet the water requirements of the villagers.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 75, Para No. 119)

The Committee note that follow-up action was initiated by the Dandakaranya Development Authority and by the end of September, 1964, 19 disused tanks were put back into use. The Committee recommend that survey work in the remaining villages which had to be stopped due to the onset of monsoon should be completed expeditiously and the tanks and wells which are found to have gone dry or partially dry should be re-excavated or deepened, as may be necessary, before the onset of the next monsoon.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Necessary action has already been taken in this context. Tanks and wells wherever found to be going dry have been further deepened or re-excavated.

Survey work to cover such wells or tanks which have not been attended to as yet is in progress.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 18-8-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 76, Para No. 20)

The Committee regret that it has not been possible for the Dandakaranya Development Authority to collect information regarding tubewells in working condition in the villages. They recommend that a survey should be made of the condition of tubewells in the villages set up by the Dandakaranya Development Authority and those tubewells that are not found in working order should be repaired without undue delay.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The survey recommended by the Estimates Committee is being undertaken and steps will be taken to repair any tubewells that may be found to be out of order.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 77, Para No. 120)

The Committee recommend that, in view of the general shortage of water in the villages in Dandakaranya, Government may assess the necessity or having the tubewells in the villages even after masonry wells are constructed in these villages and also devise measures for maintaining the tubewells in working order.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Dandakaranya Development Authority in its 31st meeting had decided that the tubewells should be allowed to remain in settler villages even after the masonry wells are completed and the Project would continue to maintain them. In regard to provide for their maintenance after the Project Administration withdraws from these villages a scheme has been started to train settler boys in tubewells maintenance.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 78, Para No. 121)

The Committee recommend that the buildings for the village schools and community centres should be constructed on a priority basis.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation that village schools should be constructed on a priority basis is accepted and steps will be taken to complete the school building within a year of the establishment of a village.

In regard to community buildings whatever buildings have been taken up will be completed. For the future, however, it is proposed that no separate building for community centre be put up but the place of the school building be modified to provide for community activities in the evenings when the schools will not be in session. This proposal provides for economy and practicability.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 17-12-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 79, Para No. 123)

The Committee are constrained to note that although the pioneer batch of 119 non-agriculturist displaced families of non-camp category arrived in Dandakaranya Project in 1959, it has not yet been possible for the Dandakaranya Development Authority to find homestead plot for their resettlement in the Project area. The Committee recommend that urgent steps should be taken to provide rehabilitation assistance including homestead plots to all non-agriculturist displaced families of non-camp category who have been moved to Dandakaranya Project, if they have not already received rehabilitation benefits elsewhere and if they want to settle in Dandakaranya area.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Homestead plots have been chosen for the 119 non-agriculturist families at Aghanpur-Kangoli near Jagdalpur. A site of 59 acres has been taken over from the Madhya Pradesh Government. Layout has been prepared for the homestead plots for these and other non-agriculturist families at 250 sq. yds. per plot. Jungle clearance of this area is in progress. Other sites for homestead plots for non-agriculturists selected are at Boregaon, Kondagaon, Narainpur, Ambaguda and Sankaudi. In Boregaon and Kondagaon individual allotments of plots has been made to the non-agriculturist families. In Sankaudi and Rondapalli layouts have been prepared. Shopping centres have been constructed in Ambaguda, Umerkote and Boregaon. Individual Shopping places have been allotted at Jagdalpur to 6 non-agriculturist families.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (5)/65-DNK, dated 24-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 80, Para No. 123)

The Committee recommend that the Government may examine the working of the Navijiban Cooperative Transport Society Ltd., Kondagaon operating in the Dandakaranya area in which the pioneer batch of displaced persons (truck operators) are engaged and assist the society in overcoming the difficulties which have of late hampered its proper and economic functioning.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In August, 1964, Dandakaranya Development Authority had requested the Madhya Pradesh authorities to transfer 23.87 acres of 'nazul' land at Kondagaon to the Dandakaranya Development Authority for allotment to the pioneer batch of non-agriculturist families who are members of the Navijiban Cooperative Transport Society. The Survey and Settlement Department have transferred the land to the Commerce and Industries Department for being granted to the Navijiban Cooperative Transport Society on such terms and conditions as may be decided by the Department. Further, site clearance has been taken up at Aghanpur-Kangoli near Jagdalpur, for the allotment of home-steads to such of the members of the Navijiban Cooperative Transport Society as would like to take up residence there.

The Project has advanced the share capital of Rs. 1,000 per family to the 101 non-agriculturist families. It has also provided office and garage accommodation to the society and has been giving it work from time to time. It has assisted the society in obtaining a permit from the Regional Transport authorities of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa State for operation of the inter-state bus service from Kondagaon to Umerkote and Raigarh. Another permit for operation of a bus service from Kanker to Pakhanjore has also been recently secured.

The main office bearers of the Society (President, Vice President, Secretary) are officers of the Project. The Superintendent, Transport and Workshops is a member of the managing committee and guides the society in the technical aspects of its working. The main reason for the economic difficulties of the Society is traceable to the repairs and maintenance required on the 10 Bedford trucks originally purchased for them and lack of proper maintenance and repair facilities.

This matter was considered at the recent meeting of the Dandakaranya Development Authority and it was decided that the Project would offer its servicing and repair facilities free to the society for thorough overhaul of its Bedford trucks the Society having to pay only the charges for spare parts used in the repairs.

The Society has now been permitted to expand its activities in the field of agricultural marketing and an additional loan is contemplated to be given to such of the members who desire it for being utilised for this purpose.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |65-DNK, dated 17-5-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 81, Para No. 124)

The percentage of non-agriculturist displaced persons rehabilitated in Dandakaranya by the end of September, 1964 works out to one per cent, as against 10 per cent accepted by Government. The Committee would therefore strongly urge that concrete measures should be taken by Government to induct as large a number of non-agriculturists in Dandakaranya as possible to make for balanced development of the area. This matter deserves to be given the highest priority as there are a large number of non-agriculturists among the new migrants awaiting rehabilitation.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

A programme for rehabilitation of 1,000 non-agriculturist families in industry has been drawn up for the coming working season. About 100 weaver families amongst the new migrants from Mana have already been brought to work in the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Weaving Centre, Jagdalpur. About 50 families have been kept at Dharampur work site camps for work in the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Saw Mill. About 25 other non-agriculturist families at Dharampura and Urna are also earning their living as artisans in Jagdalpur town. These families along with 300 other non-agriculturist new migrant families now in wayside work centres will be rehabilitated in the contemplated industrial schemes next season.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 82, Para No. 128)

The Committee regret to note that Bhaskal Dam Project involving a crore of rupees was sanctioned without proper consultation with

the Orissa Government in whose area it is located. The total estimated acreage of land belonging to displaced persons and newly resettled Advisai land to be irrigated which is only 19.7 per cent of the total irrigable area, is a poor recompense for the investment when viewed in the perspective of the overall requirements of the settlers. The Committee are distressed to note that due care was not taken in assessing the advantages of the scheme before according it sanction.

The Committee recommend that the execution of development schemes in the area should not be undertaken without proper consultation with the State Governments concerned and unless the benefits flowing from the schemes to the displaced persons and the tribals resettled in the area are of reasonable proportions.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Committee's recommendations are noted and will be kept in view in formulating new schemes.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3) 65-DNK, dated 7-2-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 83, Para. No. 128)

As the acreage of land of the displaced persons and the newly settled tribals to be irrigated by Bhaskal Dam is small the Committee suggest that attempts should be made to utilise the surplus water for irrigation the lands of other people. They hope that it will be ensured by Government that the water of the dam will not be allowed to go waste in any case.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Bhaskal Dam is almost fully complete and it will irrigate about 1,100 acres of settlers' land and 9,900 acres of non-settlers land. Of the water-courses required for the settler's land, 7 are complete. The execution of the rest of the water-courses for the settlers land is in progress. The question of execution of water-courses on the non-settlers land was recently discussed with the State Government and, as per the agreement arrived, the construction of the water-courses for the non-settlers land has also been undertaken. It is expected that the work will be completed before the coming rains and the irrigation benefits can be utilized with effect from the 'khariff' season of 1966.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3) 65-DNK, dated 17-2-1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 84, Para No. 129)

The Committee regret to note that although administrative approval for the Bhaskal Dam was given in May, 1960, work started in full swing "with Shovel and Dumpers" as late as in March, 1964. The Committee are unhappy that the execution of the project has been delayed on account of administrative lapses and lack of proper coordination with various agencies of the Government concerned with finance and supplies. The Committee hope that the revised target of June, 1965 for completion of the project would be adhered to and the work completed according to schedule.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

97 per cent of the earth work on the Dam has been completed. Water is being stored now and the present level of water in the reservoir is 2030 RL (about 35 feet). Canals are being excavated and Kharif irrigation through the left canal is expected by September 1965 end.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state the latest position in regard to completion of the Bhaskal Dam.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23 (1) ECI/65, dated 13-12-1966].

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The dam is complete. 93 per cent of the canals also is complete. Some structures on canals, water-courses, falls thereon and field channels are under execution and nearing completion. Water from the Bhaskal Dam was utilised for Rabi cultivation in 1965-66, in the Kharif of 1966 and is being utilised currently for Rabi cultivation.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |65-DNK, dated 30-3-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 87, Para No. 131)

The Committee are distressed to note that expenditure on construction of permanent buildings, roads etc. at the Malkangiri Dam site is being incurred despite the fact that an alternative scheme is under consideration. The Committee feel that further work on the construction of buildings etc. should be taken up only after the final decision on the construction of the Malkangiri Dam is arrived at.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

No new buildings are being taken up pending a firm decision on the construction of the Dam. In the meantime whatever buildings are completed will be utilised to house the medical staff attached to the 25 bedded hospital recently set up at Malkangiri.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65—DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 88, Para No. 132)

The Committee recommend that the economics of the proposed medium irrigation schemes may be carefully examined with special reference to benefits likely to accrue to settlers and adivasis in the project area before any expenditure is incurred on building quarters, roads etc. in anticipation of sanction.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

This recommendation has been noted for guidance and has been actually implemented while considering the proposal for the construction of the Paralkote Dam on the Deodha river.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65—DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 89, Para No. 135)

The Committee regret that no consideration was given in the initial stages to the preparation of minor irrigation schemes which could be completed within a shorter time and at less cost. Even after the report of the Agricultural Expert Team on Dandakaranya project was received in April, 1963, steps were not taken until recently of preparing schemes for minor irrigation and for survey and investigation of those schemes.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The steps have been taken to expedite the investigations and execution of minor irrigation schemes though staff shortage is still proving an obstacle.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65—DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 90, Para No. 135)

The Committee would stress the need for ensuring that the requisite number of engineers and supervisors are made available to

the Dandakaranya Project for undertaking expeditious survey, investigation and execution of minor irrigation schemes. If engineering personnel from the neighbouring States of West Bengal, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh are not forthcoming, the Union Government should make the requisite number available from Central Public Works Department and Central Water & Power Commission so that the work in this crucial sector does not suffer.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In order to have expeditious survey, investigation and execution of minor irrigation schemes, a separate division known as Minor Irrigation and Tanks Division under the charge of an Executive Engineer, with 3 sub-divisions, has been attached to the Directorate of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. It has a sanctioned strength of 7 Assistant Engineers and 24 Supervisors besides the Executive Engineer. The table below will show the staff sanctioned and in position.

Designation of posts and scale of pay	No. of posts sanctioned	No. of posts filled up
Executive Engineer (Rs. 700—1250)	1	1
Assistant Engineer/Acctt. Surveyor of Works (Rs. 350—900)	7	6
Supervisors (Rs. 180—380)	24	12

Efforts are being made to fill up the vacancies by obtaining personnel on deputation and by direct recruitment, as may be available.

Dandakaranya Project Administration are already in touch with the C.W.P.C. and assistance in the matter of personnel is expected [Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65—DNK, dated 17-5-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state the result of the efforts made to secure engineering personnel from the C.W.P.C. for carrying out minor irrigation schemes in Dandakaranya Project.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23 (1) ECF/65, dated 13-12-1966].

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

One post of Executive Engineer, seven posts of Assistant Engineers/Assistant Surveyors of Works and twenty-four posts of Section

Officers are sanctioned in the Minor Irrigation & Tanks Division. At the time of submission of reply, one post of Assistant Engineer and twelve posts of Section Officers were lying vacant. These vacant posts have since been filled up with suitable persons rendered surplus in our other Organisations. Although the C.W.P.C. could not give us any new hands they have been good enough to allow us retain for the present the staff of that organisation that were being recalled.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3) 66-DNK, dated 30-3-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 91, Para No. 137)

The Committee hope that the technical feasibility and prospective advantage of a 25-30 feet deep well of 3-5 feet diameter will be fully gone into by experts before the scheme to subsidise digging of wells for horticultural purposes by the settlers is put into operation.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

No subsidy is proposed to be given for the digging of homestead wells. Only a loan of Rs. 150/- has been sanctioned per family for taking up the construction of such a well. So far 780 wells have been dug under the scheme in the Project and 150 settlers given the benefits of the loan after examination of the suitability of the wells by Project officials.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 92, Para No. 138)

The Committee would stress that the irrigation schemes suggested by the Agricultural Expert Team should have been thoroughly investigated. The Committee hope that even now expeditious action will be taken to implement such of them as are likely to prove beneficial to displaced persons and tribals.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

(1) Noted.

(2) Following is the progress of investigation and execution of the minor irrigation schemes in the various zones:—

UMERKOTE ZONE: Fourteen petty irrigation schemes have been completed during the last working season. A bigger scheme for Dumrimunda village has been investigated. Three more schemes are under investigations.

PARALKOTE ZONE: Pakhanjore Dam has been completed and the work on the canals is in progress. Two schemes are being executed in village PV. 32 and PV. 27. Three bigger schemes have been investigated and the estimates are under examination. Schemes in village PV. 47 and PV. 52 are under investigation.

MALKANGIRI ZONE: Two schemes have been investigated, and one sanctioned. Five more are under investigation. 49 Head Water Tanks have been completed in all the Zones and work on 15 more is in progress.

[Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3) | 65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 93, Para No. 143)

The Committee regret to note that agriculture which is the principal occupation and the primary means of livelihood of most of the families settled in Dandakaranya has not kept pace with the requirements so as to enable an average family of 4 to 5 persons the minimum amount of paddy and other grains necessary for its annual consumption, seeds and for meeting incidental cash expenses. The Committee recommend that a careful analysis should be made of the causes of low yield in the different zones of the Project and an integrated programme drawn up to tackle the major obstacles in the way of increased production of paddy and other grains in the Project area.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In order to undertake a scientific study of the climate and soil of Dandakaranya and suggest suitable measures for minimising agricultural production, the Ministry of Rehabilitation arranged for a Team consisting of agricultural and animal husbandry experts to visit Dandakaranya. The Team submitted a report in July, 1965. A Working Group was constituted to draw up detailed programmes for seeds and fertilisers. The Group made specific recommendations of soil management and cropping practices and indicated the requirements of the varieties and quantities of seeds and fertilizers for various crops in the Resettlement Zones. As a result of the distribution of varieties of seeds and fertilizers as recommended by the Working Group, the average income from agriculture during the current season is expected to be a little over Rs. 1,100 per family. Good results have also been obtained in the growing of Taichung Native-1 in Dandakaranya, Mexican variety of wheat and mustard. A production programme based on the experience of the current agricultural season is now being drawn up for 1967 Kharif.

2. A large scale Cattle Development and Dairy Scheme, covering about 1,000 families depending mainly on cattle farming, is also being planned for the Paralkote Zone of Dandakaranya.

3. As regards irrigation, apart from the Umerkote Dam which has been completed, work has been started on the Paralkote and Malkangiri Dams. 35 minor irrigation works have been completed. 23 minor irrigation schemes are under execution and 8 such schemes are under investigation.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 94, Para No. 143)

The Committee feel distressed that a systematic annual crop survey on the basis of Random Sampling Method devised by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has not yet been organised with a view to compile statistics in regard to agricultural yield in the different areas of the Project for use in framing suitable farm policies. They however, hope this will be done from the next year.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Statistical Adviser, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi has been requested to let us have his instructions about the method to be adopted for crop assessment for the condition of land and holdings existing in the Project area at present. Random sampling methods as devised by ICAR and adopted by different states can be given effect to only if the plots are fully numbered and mapped. Whereas in some older villages of Umerkote and Paralkote these conditions are available, in the newly resettled villages land has not been parcelled out individually and as a result there are no numbered plots. The maps show only big chunks of land which have been reclaimed on the basis of soil survey. In the entire Malkangiri Zone no individual allotment has been made, and as such no individual holding exists.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 17-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 95, Para No. 144)

The Committee consider that any programme which is not adopted by the Settlers in their individual holdings, through lack of resource or through lack of conviction is bound to be ineffective for accelerating either the pace of rehabilitation or augmenting the food resources of the farmers. The Committee, therefore, feel that there is

an imperative need for a vigorous campaign among the settlers for bringing home to them the advantages of soil and water conservation measures.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Intensive efforts have been made to educate the settlers to adopt water and soil conservation measures. An extensive programme is in progress for development of individual holdings by construction of contour bunds, fields bunds of adequate dimensions, level terracing, use of manure including composts and green manure. Revised cropping patterns suiting the soils are being introduced and increased quantity of fertilisers supplied. A scheme has been introduced for having as much compost made by the settlers as possible. The Agricultural Extension staff in the villages are having regular talks both with individuals and groups in villages. They explain the utility of these measures to persuade the settlers to take up these works on a bigger scale. Demonstration Centres for a group of villages and demonstration plots in every village have also been taken up. The settlers are now showing increased awareness of management and soil conservation measures.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 96, Para No. 145)

The Committee consider that there is considerable scope for mixed cropping in Dandakaranya as an insurance against partial failure of any single crop and that exclusive preference for paddy should be discarded in favour of a new cropping pattern in which the cultivation, of maize, arhar, niger, mesta, tobacco, etc., all have a place. Leguminous crops like 'Dhanicha' could be grown either as a cash crop or as a source of green manure. The Committee feel that as the displaced persons are used to traditional methods and patterns of agriculture and are not familiar with new cropping patterns, it is necessary that they should be guided and encouraged to adopt mixed cropping and not left to themselves to develop agriculture on their traditional lines. The Committee would also urge that the evolving of suitable cropping patterns for sustaining an agricultural economy at a reasonable level of subsistence should receive the urgent attention of the Government.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The cropping pattern which has been suggested to be adopted for different zones include both the items suggested namely mixed crop-

ping as well as diversified cropping instead of growing paddy exclusively. Growing of leguminous crops like Dhanicha has been included in the cropping pattern for the purpose of having entire holdings green manured once in every 3 or 4 years.

2. The new cropping pattern of diversification of crops is being explained to the settlers by the extension staff and they are being educated in agricultural operations suited to the soil conditions of Dandakaranya.

3. In the current kharif season, settlers have cultivated the following crops in addition to paddy:—

Mesta, Niger, Til, Hybrid, Maize, Arhar, Dhanicha, Turmeric etc.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3) | 65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 91, Para No. 146)

The Committee note that as yet no attempt has been made to encourage the use of fertilizers inspite of the poor quality of land. They hope that concerted action will be taken in implementing the Outline Programme of Agriculture for Working Season 1964-65.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Under the demonstration centre scheme 29 whole farm demonstrations and 144 result demonstrations on fertilisers have been included for implementation in the current season. These will serve the purpose of the demonstrating and educating the settlers in the use of fertilisers in their lands.

The following quantities of fertilisers have been procured during the current kharif season for distribution among settlers in the different zones:—

Name of Zone	CAN	Super Phosphate	Muriate of Potash
	M.T.	M.T.	MT.
1. Paralkote	100.25	99.95	5.0
2. Kondagaon	8.00	2.50	..
4. Umerkote	81.95	37.75	7.3
4. Malkangiri	71.60	42.60	7.0
	261.80	182.80	19.3

A total quantity of 464 tonnes of fertiliser has been supplied to settlers this season.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 99, Para No. 146)

The Committee feel that, considering the limited resources of the settlers, the cost of fertilisers should be reduced so as to encourage farmers to use fertilisers to make up the deficiency in soil to the largest extent possible.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Dandakaranya Project Administration are placing a proposal for grant of subsidy for fertilisers before the next meeting of the Dandakaranya Development Authority. The proposal will be processed further in the light of the recommendations of the Dandakaranya Development Authority.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK dated 1/2-3-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 100, Para No. 147)

The Committee are in agreement with the views of the Agricultural Expert Team that the quantum of loan now admissible to settlers does not leave sufficient margin for meeting the cost of seeds and fertilisers. The Committee would, therefore, recommend that the requirements of the settlers should be re-assessed and the quantum of loan fixed on a realistic basis.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Since the visit of the Committee, the agricultural loan amount has been increased by Rs. 165 primarily for seeds and fertilisers. However, this amount also is somewhat inadequate to meet the cost of required fertilisers and that an increase of Rs. 350 would have been more appropriate.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 101, Para No. 147)

The Committee would like to point out that seeds and fertiliser loans should be considered as seasonal agricultural loans to be recovered at the end of the harvesting season while other loans may have to be carried over for some years.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Committee's suggestion has been noted.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK dated 4-4-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 102, Para No. 151)

The Committee note that out of a total of 4,338 mds. of Paddy, Hybrid Maize and Castor seed supplied to the settlers in Dandakaranya during the 1964 agricultural season only 2,483 mds. or 46.5 per cent came from the Mixed Farms set up by the Dandakaranya Development Authority and the rest were procured from settlers (1521 mds.) and open market (1334 mds.).

The Outline Programme for Agriculture drawn up for the working season 1964-65 inter alia states:—

“Detailed schemes for procurement, treatment and distribution of seeds will be drawn up making the maximum use possible of the potential of the Mixed Farms and selected settlers”.

The Committee hope that while making maximum use possible of the potentialities of the Mixed Farms for seed production, which incidentally are running at a loss, efforts would be made to make good the deficiency by encouraging selected settlers to grow seeds on the lines suggested by the Agricultural Expert Team.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In the Programme Content for the current working season the following item has been included:—

“Detailed schemes for procurement, treatment and distribution of seeds will be drawn up making the maximum use possible of the potentials of the Mixed Farms and selected settlers at admissible rates of subsidy. Paddy seeds, however, will not normally be supplied to families for more than two seasons”.

Efforts are being made to implement the recommendations of the Committee in this respect. Due to widespread failure of crops and prevalent scarcity conditions created thereby it is doubtful how far it would be possible for even selected settlers to have any sizeable surplus of paddy seeds. Experience shows that only large scale farmers can become registered growers for certified seeds for which the growers should undertake not only intensive weeding, but also roughing of crops, harvesting, thrashing, drying, storing, winnowing separately so that admixture does not take place in any of these operational stages.

Steps are also being taken to improve the financial returns of the Mixed Farms, by reduction of their areas and by diversification of crops. Since the Mixed Farms are established mostly for experimentation and conducting research, which would be useful for the settlers in the area, it may not be possible for them to run at profit. The maximum use of the potentialities of the Mixed Farms is being made for seed production. Out of 5574.725 quintals of different variety of seeds distributed to the settlers during the current crop season 2045.912 quintals were produced in the Mixed Farms.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |65-DNK, dated 4-4-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 103, Para No. 152)

The Committee are glad to note that in pursuance of the recommendations of the Agriculture Expert Team, the Project authorities have drawn up a scheme for setting up Demonstration Centres for the benefit of the settlers. They would recommend expeditious implementation of the scheme so that the economics of the improved farm practices can be brought home to the cultivators without loss of time and reflected in the production of food and cash crops. The working of the scheme may be reviewed after one to two years by an expert team so as to take further measures, if any, in the light of experience to achieve the underlying objective.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

This scheme was implemented during 1964 and the results have been very satisfactory. The scheme was further reviewed in February, 1965 by the Agricultural Expert Team headed by Dr. Mehta and recommended for intensification in this line of work which has been attended to. The scheme for the working season 1965-66 has been drawn to establish 29 whole farm demonstrations and 298 result demonstrations on manure, different crops and lime.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |65-DNK, dated 4-4-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 104, Para No. 152)

The Committee would suggest that demonstration centres should be treated as an integral part of new villages to be opened in Dandakaranya for the settlement of displaced persons so that guidance in correct farm practices is available right from the beginning.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Demonstration centres comprising of normal agricultural holdings of settlers were established during the last working season on a scale of one for 5 villages. Demonstration plots were also established on a scale of 2 per village. Important agricultural practices, mixed cropping, soil mulching etc. were given adequate attention.

During this working season it has been planned to lay out "whole farm demonstrations" comprising of normal agricultural holdings one for a group of 3 villages in the new areas and one for 5 villages in the old areas. "Result demonstrations" are proposed to be laid out one each for fertilisers, new crops and lime in every village."

[Minw. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No: 15(3)/65-DNK
Dated 4-4-1966]

Recommendation (Serial No. 105, Para No. 153)

The Committee are constrained to observe that the Project authorities have paid scant attention to the question of training agricultural settlers in agricultural practices and their only achievement in this regard is the training of Malis for horticulture only, which too has been a partial success. They are convinced that if the agricultural development programme has to be accelerated, the farmers have to be trained to apply scientific and improved methods of cultivation of recommended crops. The Committee would urge that a comprehensive scheme for training in farming techniques should be introduced in the Mixed Farms and the Demonstration Centres proposed to be set up in consultation with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Apart from Mali Training, a training course was arranged for the village Sevaks from the different zones in the Farms at Umerkote and Paralkote. This course dealt with agricultural practices including animal husbandry and poultry. It is proposed to continue this scheme during the current season also.

2. The following training programmes are also proposed to be taken up during the current season:—

- (a) One year course in agriculture and animal husbandry for d.p. boys to be taken up in the two Zonal Farms.

- (b) A training course of running and maintenance of agricultural tractors to be organised at Malkangiri for selected settler boys.
- (c) In service training of departmental staff on various agricultural and animal husbandry aspects to be arranged within and outside the project area.
- (d) A scheme has been prepared for demonstration of important methods of poultry keeping.

3. Apart from the above training programmes "whole farm demonstration" and "result demonstrations" on crops, fertilisers and lime have been taken up for implementation as indicated in the reply to the earlier recommendation.

4. The Zonal Agricultural extension staff arranged group meetings in the villages and group visits to the demonstration centres and Mixed Farms during the last working season. Whole farm demonstration were conducted one each in the Mixed Farm. This is being repeated this year also.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3) |65-DNK, dated 4-4-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 106, Para No. 133)

The Committee suggest that the existing 'Mali' Scheme should be reviewed with a view to see to what extent the settlers have been benefited by it.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The settler have been benefited by such training. As a result of further review;—

- (i) the name "Mali Training Scheme" has been given up as it was clearly a misnomer, and
- (ii) the programme of training had been reoriented somewhat and made more comprehensive.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3) |65-DNK, dated 4-4-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 107, Para No. 154)

The Committee need hardly stress that improved implements should be supplied to the old settlers without delay and that the new settlers should be invariably supplied with the improved implements from the very beginning.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Procurement of improved agricultural implements from different agencies is being undertaken. Ordinary agricultural implements are being manufactured in the existing Industrial Units in the zones. The demonstration of the practical use of the implements is being conducted. So far, 383 improved agricultural implements have been supplied for the use of the settlers. A provision has been made to allow the settlers to purchase some of these implements at concessional rates.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 17-5-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 108, Para No. 154)

The Committee hope that in undertaking the manufacture of improved implements in the industrial centres of the Project, the authorities would ensure that the cost is kept at reasonable level and that necessary measures are also taken to provide facilities for quick repair to the implements.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Noted for implementation.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 109, Para No. 155)

The Committee hope that the plant protection measures for application in the Dandakaranya Project area would be devised in consultation with the Plant Protection Organisation of the Union Ministry of Food and Agriculture so as to get the best results.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Plant protection measures are continued on adequate scale as a free service for the first three years after the families reach the village and at subsidised rates thereafter. New weedicides are being tested. Insecticides and plant protection equipment have been placed in the zones and each group of villages.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 4-4-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 111, Para No. 157)

The Committee recommend that the possibility of extending the benefits of the various agricultural incentive schemes of the Central and State Governments to the settlers in Dandakaranya may be explored by Government.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The following agricultural incentive schemes have already been adopted:—

- (1) Result demonstration and whole farm demonstration scheme.
- (2) Distribution of fertilisers at rates fixed by Centre or State Governments.
- (3) Distribution of seeds at subsidised cost of transport and handling.
- (4) Distribution of grafts, gooties and seedlings at subsidised cost of transport and handling.
- (5) Distribution of insecticides free of cost for the first three years of the rehabilitation.
- (6) Demonstration of the use of improved agricultural implements, free of cost in the settlers holding.
- (7) Giving monetary facilities in the form of loan for excavation of wells in the kitchen garden at the rate of Rs. 150 per well.
- (8) Scheme for excavation or construction of tanks having as one of the objectives the provision of getting facilities for fibre crops. In its present form the scheme is called Head Water Tanks scheme.
- (9) Scheme with regard to helping the settlers to conserve the soil and water by contour bunding and field bunding.
- (10) Facilities for soil testing free of cost.
- (11) Elaborate agricultural extension programme at State cost.
- (12) Agriculture and crop competitions are held periodically and Prizes awarded for the Best Farmers in each village, zone for the Best Farmer in the Project.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK, dated 4-4-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 112, Para No. 161)

The Committee are glad to note that steps are being taken for the induction of some settler families to work in the Mixed Farms. They would suggest that the Scheme should be finalised and expeditiously implemented. They would also stress that while preparing

the scheme, care may be taken to see that a nucleus farm is maintained for ensuring supply of improved seeds to the farmers in the zone and for continuing research to determine the best cropping pattern.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Fifty settler families have been inducted this season to apportion of the Mixed Farm, Umerkote, for rehabilitation purpose. The rest of the area remains for experiments on different crops and seed multiplication.

No displaced families have been inducted to the Paralkote Farm for resettlement purposes, as a part of this Farm is to be utilised for fodder development in the context of the Dairy Development Scheme recently formulated for the area.

A large number of settlers are given seasonal employment in both the Farms.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 7.2.1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 113, Para No. 162)

The Committee would suggest that early decision may be taken regarding the setting up of a mixed farm in Malkangiri. The Committee have no doubt that the Dandakarnya Development Authority, profiting from their experience of the existing farms at Umerkote and Paralkote, would so decide the location, nature and the size of the farm at Malkangiri as to render it of maximum practical use to the settlers in the zone and to obviate losses on its operations.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The question of establishment of an agricultural farm at Malkangiri for rendering maximum benefit to the settlers without incurring loss in its operation is under active consideration. A site for a large farm was selected at Kalimela with the expectation that the land will come under the command of the present Balimela scheme. But now it appears that there is no chance for the Balimela Project, in its present shape, to command this area. Another suitable area with irrigation facilities is being looked for for the establishment of a smaller farm.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 17-5-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 114 Para No. 163)

The Committee regret that despite the staff Review Committee's recommendation first made in 1961 for a reconsideration of the utility of maintaining a separate farm for horticultural purposes at Dumriput, no decision one way or the other was taken either by the Dandakaranya Development Authority or the Government. A second staff Review Committee had to urge for a review of the recommendation a year later but the question still remains undecided. The Committee suggest that early decision may be taken on the proposal to convert the Dumriput Horticultural Farm into a State Farm for the rehabilitation of settler families on an agriculture-cum-dairy-cum-poultry basis.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

As per the recommendation of the Committee it has been decided to develop the Dumriput Farm for the rehabilitation of selected settlers on agriculture-cum-dairy-cum-poultry basis. This, however, is subject to the consent of the Government of Orissa to whom the farm belonged earlier.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 4-4-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 115, Para No. 164)

The Committee regret that although the report of the Agricultural Expert Team was in the hands of the Government as early as in April, 1963, it has not been possible for the Dandakaranya Development Authority to implement many of the recommendations made in the report and in particular the marketing Scheme. The Committee suggest that the Dandakaranya Development Authority may draw up early a scheme for developing suitable marketing facilities for agricultural produce in the area. The Project Authorities may, in particular consult the Director of Marketing and Inspection (of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture), who is responsible for developing regulated markets in the country for devising a suitable scheme and the Department of Cooperation (of the Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation) for developing co-operative marketing societies to facilitate disposal of agricultural produce.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Most of the recommendations of the Agricultural Expert Team have been implemented.

2. In order to assist the settlers in obtaining reasonable prices for their marketable surplus, a Marketable Cell has been set up. A Co-

co-operative-cum-Marketing Officer has been appointed. As a preliminary to the formation of a co-operative marketing society, 8 Collection Centres' have been organised as under:—

Zone	No. of Centres.
Kondagaon	1
Umarkote	2
Paralkote	2
Malkangiri	3

Weekly markets have also been established. With the assistance of the officials of the Dandakaranya Project Administration, settlers have been enabled to sell their produce at reasonable prices, either at nearby markets by transporting them by bullock carts or other markets by trucks of Transport Co-operative Society or by sale of surplus paddy and other produce to the Project's Consumer Goods Organisation.

A larger number of settlers have been given loans for purchase of bullock carts for transport of their produce. The Project Administration also assist the settlers by providing transportation facilities for selling vegetables, fruits and poultry produce outside the Zones.

As a result of these efforts, monopoly on the part of traders buying the produce and other undesirable practices in the area are being curbed.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 18-8-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 116, Para No. 174)

From a study of the performances of the Industrial Centres set up by the Dandakaranya Development Authority the Committee are led to the conclusion that the industrial centres of the Dandakaranya Development Authority, which have an important role to play in bringing about an economic rehabilitation of the settlers and tribals and ushering a composite society where agriculturists and non-agriculturists can have an equal share of prosperity, have failed to achieve the objectives for which they were set up. Established at a considerable cost, the industrial centres have neither created appreciable employment opportunities nor provided adequate facilities for vocational training to the settlers and tribals in the area.

The Committee recommend that the industrial units set up by the D.D.A. may be examined by an Expert Team with a view to streamline their working. The Committee would suggest that in any future plan of reorganisation of the industrial centres emphasis should be placed on the appointment of competent persons possessing both technical managerial ability of a high order, introduction of modern methods of production, costing and commercial accounting.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

At its 31st meeting the D.D.A. set up an Industrial Advisory Committee for setting up of new Industrial units under a priority programme in the Dandakaranya area and also for undertaking a review of the existing Industrial Units. The Committee at its first meeting held in Koraput on the 10th June, 1965 has asked for information on a number of points which would enable it to examine the working of these units and lay down a policy regarding the measures to be taken for streamlining their working. As suggested by the Estimates Committee; a Director of Industries has been appointed and the appointment of Dy. Directors who are technically qualified persons in different trades is also being vigorously pursued in consultation with the State Governments.

The Employment potential in the Industrial Centres has increased consequent on the introduction of new products. At present about 825 persons are working in these centres. Training units are being established for imparting training in Weaving and Other trades such as Hosiery Umbrella-making, Ceramics, Bricks and Tiles and Lime burning.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 4.4.1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 117, Para No. 177)

Considering that Dandakaranya is one of the most backward areas of the country where subsistence farming is the only economic occupation of the majority of the people, the Committee cannot too strongly emphasise the need for giving an agro-industrial character to the economy of the project area. The Committee note that except for the few small workshops like carpentry, blacksmithy, weaving and sheet metal which have been set up in the Industrial Centres managed by the Dandakaranya Development Authority, no serious effort has so far been made to establish small scale and cottage industries in the area. The Committee stress the urgent need for the setting up of small scale and cottage industries in the Project area so as to provide to the settlers and tribals a supplementary source of income, particularly in view of the generally unsatisfactory state

of agriculture in the Project area. The Committee suggest that the Report of the Study Team sent by the Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries, New Delhi, should be finalised without further delay so that in the light of their recommendations detailed schemes may be drawn up for establishing small scale industries in the area.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

A Priority Programme of small scale Industries covering 52 industries has been drawn up. These include most of the industries which were recommended by the Study Team of the Small Industries Service Institute.

2. The list and the recommendations of the Small Industries Service Institute were placed before the Industrial Advisory Committee of the Project for consideration. The Committee selected 19 Industries from the list out of which (i) brick making (ii) lime burning and (iii) training and production in weaving have been taken up. In addition, ordinary agricultural implements are being manufactured in the Industrial Units in the Zones. Other products of the Zonal Industrial Centres are: tent pegs, truck-body building, furniture, sawing of timber, carpentry and black-smithy tools, carpets and durries dhoties, towels, napkins; mosquito curtains; bed sheets, hospital linen, trunks, suit-cases, water drums, buckets; spikes; 'L' hooks; doors and windows; agricultural implements, drawing room sets; slates, tubular furniture, playground implements, cart-wheels and toys.

3. Hosiery Unit and Umbrella Manufacturing Unit are in the process of being set up.

4. A few industries like improved agricultural implements, general engineering workshop, builders' hardware unit, anodizing and electroplating units and manufacture of drilling rigs are proposed to be taken up.

5. There is scope for the establishment of wood based industries in the Dandakaranya area e.g. seasoning and treatment of timber, production of constructional timber, packing cases etc. Action is afoot to assess their possibilities.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) [65-DNK, dated 18-8-1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 118, Para No. 178)

The Committee understand that sanction for the procurement of 1,000 cows and heifers from Delhi under the Stray and Wild Cattle Catching Scheme during the working season 1964-65 (October, 1964 to

September, 1965) has been issued. The Committee would suggest that Government should explore the possibilities of increasing the number of cows and heifers supplied under the Stray and Wild Cattle Catching Scheme, from 1,000 to 2,000 a year, keeping in view the urgent requirements of Dandakaranya. The Committee would, however, like to stress that in selecting the stray animals, care should be taken that only productive animals are supplied to the settlers.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation of the Estimates Committee has been noted. The Project has deputed a Veterinary Officer for intensifying the procurement of cows and heifers, under the Wild and Stray Cattle Catching Scheme. He has already despatched 444 animals (cows and heifers) so far from February, 1965 and as per his assessment more animals will be available to make up the quota of 1,000 by March, 1966. This number would have been increased to 2,000 as recommended by the Committee: but productive milch cows and group-up heifers are not easily available as per our requirement. However, attempts are being made to intensify the procurement to raise our quota from 1,000 to 2,000 and the Officer Incharge of the Stray Cattle Catching Scheme has agreed to do his best in this respect.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 119, Para No. 179)

The Committee consider that the Dandakaranya Project authorities should have made arrangements for selection and branding of the animals from the very inception of the scheme to avoid any suspicion of malpractices. The Committee would suggest that the arrangements envisaged for the current season may be reviewed to see whether there are still any loop-holes in the operation of the scheme and necessary remedial action taken to ensure that animals despatched to Dandakaranya are not substituted on the way.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendations of the Estimate Committee have been noted and at present a Vety. Officer has been stationed at Delhi for selection and despatch of animals to the Dandakaranya Project. Each animal is individual branding number by him before despatch for proper identification. The animals are being despatched with an attendant appointed by the Department together with a list indicating the number of animals despatched, branding numbers, description, teeth, length colour and height of individual animals to be

handed over to the receiving Officer at Mana to enable him verify the animals with the list of particulars, as such there is no scope now for any malpractice enroute.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |65-DNK, dated 17-2-1966].

Recommendation Serial No. 120, Para No. 180)

The Committee recommend that as far as possible heifers which are too young should not be supplied to the settlers, so that they are not burdened for a long period with the maintenance of the cattle which may even turn out to be unproductive.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation of the Estimates Committee has been noted and in the initial stage of despatch from Delhi itself we are eliminating animals that are too young. This is one of the tasks entrusted to the Veterinary Officer of the Project now stationed at Delhi.

Proposals for a calf-rearing Farm in Paralkote is also under consideration. The heifers will be reared in this farm and supplied as mature cows to settlers at a seasonable price.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial Nos. 121 & 122, Para No. 181)

The Committee would suggest that the necessity of making departmental arrangements for the supply and transport of cattle instead of through contractors may be re-examined by Government.

The Committee feel that the price of milch cows fixed F.O.R. Mana at Rs. 70.00 per seer of milk production appears to be on the high side and recommend that it may be reviewed, particularly after the review of the transport charges recommended in para 182.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

121. The recommendations of the Estimates Committee have been brought into effect. In fact, during this season the transportation of stray cattle is being done departmentally.

122. All India tenders for the purchase of milch cows were opened during 1964-65 and the lowest rate was found to be Rs. 75 per seer of milk production F.O.R., Raipur indicating an increase by Rs. 5/- from the rate of the previous year. Even at the above rate of Rs. 75/- per seer of milk, the tenderer failed to honour his tender.

when he was called upon to finalise his agreement and start supply. No purchase of milch cows could therefore, be made during the year 1964-65.

[Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. 15(3)/65—DNK dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 123, Para No. 182)

In the light of the estimates given in the paragraph, it appears to the Committee that rates for transportation approved by the Dandakaranya Development Authority are on the high side and that there is scope for their reduction. The Committee recommend that actual cost of transportation and feeding of cattle to different zones may be carefully worked out and maximum rates laid down in consultation with the Financial Adviser and Chief Accounts Officer of the Project.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In the 1965-66 working season, the entire work of transportation of animals secured under the Stray and Wild Cattle Catching Scheme is being done departmentally and no part of the work has been entrusted to contractors.

The costs incurred and the experience gained will provide valuable guidance for the future in the matter of fixation of rates etc. [Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 124, Para No. 182)

The Committee suggest that Government may examine whether the cattle received at Raipur by rail could not be despatched to the project site by trucks of the Dandakaranya Development Authority so as to reduce the overall cost of transportation.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The question of reducing the overall cost of transportation has been duly examined. It is observed that the cost of transportation of animals by Project trucks will be slightly on the higher side than that of the transportation cost by hired trucks, since in the case of departmental trucks, the cost both ways will have to be borne by the department concerned unless there is load for the return journey. However, in the interest of work and in accordance with the policy of the Project, the departmental trucks are being utilised for the transportation of animals instead of private trucks.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 125, Para No. 183)

The Committee suggest that the possibility of improving the breed of cows in Dandakaranya Project area by means of artificial insemination may be examined.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Possibilities of establishing artificial insemination centres in the zones are being explored. According the existing Key village scheme is being revised to bring it in conformity with that of the Key village scheme of Government of India. The scheme includes an artificial insemination centre in the Headquarters of each zone. The revised Key village scheme is proposed to be taken up in the programme year 1965-66.

[Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 4.4.1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 126, Para No. 184)

The Committee suggest that the establishment of a Bull rearing farm in Dandakaranya as envisaged in the report of the Agricultural Expert Team may be expedited in consultation with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In the light of further discussions with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, a scheme for a cattle development farm and a dairy in the Paralkote Zone has been drawn up. This will consist of a cattle farm with the foundation herd of 300 cattle and settlement of 1000 dairy farmers around the cattle farm and a dairy in processing of cheese. The scheme is being implemented by the Dandakaranya Project in suitable phases.

[Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 4-4-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 127, Para No. 185)

The Committee have already recommended in para 145 that the cropping pattern in Dandakaranya should be so designed as to provide for a variety of crops. They further recommend that the settlers should be supplied with a good variety of fodder seeds and roots and demonstrations of their use should be arranged in the villages.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Suitable cropping patterns for the different Zones have been formulated and given effect to. Fodder development on a fairly large scale has been taken up in the Paralkote zone in the settlers' fields during the last Kharif season. In view of the proposal for the establishment of a dairy pocket in Paralkote, schemes for promoting cattle breeding and fodder development are concentrated in that zone.

In the other Zones schemes are being worked out for fodder conservation and demonstration in 10 villages in each zone. Adequate provision has also been made for demonstration of silopits and Chaff cutters.

[Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK, dated 4-4-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 128, Para No. 186)

The Committee recommend that a scheme for rearing sheep, particularly that of mutton grade in Dandakaranya may be finalised early in consultation with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Establishment of a Sheep breeding unit in Umerkote Zone has been approved during 1964-65. Accordingly a sheep multiplication farms has been established in the Umerkote Mixed Farm with 50 ewes and 3 rams of Mandia breed (bannote) in the month of June, 1965, with a view to supply this breed of sheep to the settlers for rearing. The result of this establishment is under close watch and after observation of the results, further action will be taken for popularising this breed of sheep among the settlers if found suitable.

[Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 129, Para No. 189)

The Committee consider that while it may have been necessary to start the hatchery at Mana in October, 1960 because of lack of electricity and other facilities in Dandakaranya area they consider that it should have been shifted to a more central place like Kondagaon. The Committee hope that the hatchery would now be shifted without further delay and that action would also be taken to increase the rate of production of eggs, minimise rate of mortality

amongst birds, reduce transportation charges and in general effect economy on the Poultry Farms so as to cut down the losses.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

After careful consideration, it has been decided now to build up a poultry pocket in the Umerkote zone to be linked up with markets at the Aero-Engine Factory site at Sunabeda and at Raipur. As a part of this development the hatchery will be shifted from Mana to Umerkote or Kondagaon as early as possible, depending on the availability of electricity.

The steps mentioned above are expected to yield appreciable economy in the running and maintenance of poultry farms by the Project. In the meantime, the poultry schemes in operation previously are being recast with a view to achieve more substantial results.

[Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial Nos. 130 & 131, Paras No. 189 & 190)

The Committee would suggest that a Poultry Expert from the Ministry of Food & Agriculture may be asked to examine the possibility of reorganising the Poultry Scheme of the Dandakaranya Development Authority on economic lines so as to operate it at least on no-profit-no-loss basis.

The Committee suggest that the Poultry Expert referred to in paragraph 189, while considering the reorganisation of the poultry scheme of the Dandakaranya Development Authority, may also examine the desirability of restricting the scope of scheme mostly to raising poultry stock for supply to settler for breeding purposes.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Electricity has since become available at Kondagaon and it is proposed to shift the hatchery at Mana to this place. Necessary structures are under construction at Kondagaon and it is hoped that during the monsoon season the shifting will be completed.

For increase in the rate of production of eggs and minimising the rate of mortality, scientific management is being adopted. For example, it is proposed to introduce new strains of high yielding birds during the current programme season. Trained managerial staff is proposed to be recruited and the existing staff is proposed to be given in service training.

Orders have been placed for the installation of feed grinders and feed mixing plant. This will enable the supply of balanced feed to the birds.

Transport charges will be reduced as the Central Poultry Farm will shift to Kondagaon, since Kondagaon is centrally situated.

Two poultry experts namely Shri G. N. Panda, the then Poultry Expert to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Food and Agriculture and Shri F. N. Chatterji, Deputy Director, Animal Husbandry Services (Poultry), West Bengal visited the Project. The poultry schemes have been reoriented with their advice.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 17-5-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 132, Para No. 191)

The Committee recommend that poultry extension work should be intensified amongst the settlers so as to educate and help them, in poultry keeping on modern lines and reduce the mortality rate in the birds.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Steps are being taken accordingly. For example, at present the coverage is one Stockman for every 20 villages. This Stockman looks after poultry and veterinary work. It is proposed to increase the coverage by the adoption of the pattern one Stockman for every 12 villages.

Three poultry inspectors will be appointed for the three zones to look after poultry work exclusively. Veterinary Assistant Surgeon and Veterinary Officers in the zones, who are in position, are to supervise the work of the poultry inspector.

It is intended to secure the services of one Poultry Development Officer to look after the overall poultry programme exclusively. The State Government of West Bengal, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh have been addressed for sparing a Poultry Development Officer.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 17-5-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 133, Para No. 191)

In view of the need for developing poultry as a subsidiary source of income for the settlers in Dandakaranya and also of the fact that Dandakaranya Development Authority have established

poultry farms in the project area, the Committee suggest that Government may consider the desirability of appointing a poultry expert under the Director of Animal Husbandry.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The post of a Poultry Officer has already been created by the Project. It will be filled as soon as a suitable person becomes available.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3) |65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].*

Recommendation (Serial No. 134, Para No. 192)

The Committee recommend that the possibility of introducing Duckery in Dandakaranya may also be examined by the poultry expert suggested in para 189.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The scheme for introducing duckery in the Project was included in the programme content of 1964-65. In this connection, the Agricultural Expert Team had recommended the introduction of Khaki campbell breed of ducks in the project area. But unfortunately, due to non-availability of this variety of ducks from any source, the scheme could not materialise so far. However, during the programme year 1965-66, a scheme has been prepared to supply 250 khaki campbell ducks and drakes to the settlers on receiving assurance of supply from the Director of Animal Husbandry Services. Andhra Pradesh. Similarly, a scheme has also been prepared for establishing a Khaki campbell duck multiplication farm in the project area after getting assurance from the Government of West Bengal for supply of the required number of ducks and drakes for the purpose. Action is being taken to procure the ducks for implementation of the Scheme.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3) /65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].*

Recommendation (Serial No. 135, Para No. 195)

The Committee note that the scheme of pisciculture on a departmental basis in tanks taken on lease by the Dandakaranya Development Authority is hardly serving the interests of the settlers in the area. Apart from the fact that no fisherman family settled in Dandakaranya, has been engaged on fish rearing in these tanks, it is doubtful whether in view of the tanks being situated at distant places outside the settlement zones, the advantage of the scheme in

providing cheap source of supplementary nourishment to the settlers is really reaching them in substantial measure.

The Committee recommend that the Government should review, in consultation with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the advisability of pisciculture on a departmental basis in tanks 40 to 70 miles away from the settlement zones and also wide apart from each other, which besides being costly, causes problems of supervision, without any commensurate advantage to the settlers.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

At present 88 families have been set up on the periphery of Pakhanjore reservoir and among the occupations provided to them are horticulture, duckery and fishery. About 18,000 finger-lings have been stocked in the Pakhanjore reservoir.

Initially, there were practically no tanks in displaced villages in the settlement zones on account of which pisciculture had to be taken up on departmental basis in tanks taken on lease by the Project mostly on National Highway 43. The position has now changed in as much as a number of village tanks have been constructed in the zones. So far 48 such tanks have been taken up and they have been stocked with 1,20,000 finger-lings. Pisciculture has been taken up in these by villagers themselves through the institution of village samities, who are supplied fingerlings on 75 per cent subsidy basis. Necessary help by way of technical advice and equipment like nets and boats is provided.

The tanks taken on lease from the State Governments have been gradually released and the number now in possession is 11 only. It is proposed to release all the tanks on lease before long with the establishment of the projected fish farms and the development of village tanks.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No 15 (3) /65—DNK dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 136, Para No. 196)

The Committee are unhappy to note that fish was being sold by the Dandakaranya Development Authority at almost half the market rate without any regard to the economy of the Scheme, or the losses being incurred.

The Committee are not aware whether the sale price of fish has since been refixed in relation to the prevailing market rates. The Committee recommend that the sale price of fish should be so fixed that the scheme does not perpetually incur losses.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In accordance with the recommendation of the Estimates Committee the rate of sale of fish was revised keeping in view the market rate. The recommendations have also been noted for future guidance.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No 15(3)/65—DNK dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 137, Para No. 196)

The Committee recommend that the Government may examine whether any portion of the fish available can be set apart for supply to the settlers at subsidised rates consistent with the economy of the Scheme.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

At present there are only 11 tanks on lease by the Project and these are situated on National High-way 43. As per the agreement, 25 per cent of the fish caught from these tanks is being sold to the local population. The remaining quantity of fish is supplied to the Work Centres and d.p. villages which are situated on N. H. 43. Since the villages in the zone are far, it is not possible to make a regular supply to them on account of heavy transport cost involved. The sale rate is Rs. 2 per kg. as against the market rate of Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 per kg.

The d.p. fishermen families have been allowed the facility of netting fish from the tanks taken on lease on payment of Rs. 1.50 per kg. of fish caught.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No 15(3)/65—DNK dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 138, Para No. 197)

The Committee feel that the performance of the Dandakaranya Development Authority in encouraging pisciculture in the tanks in villages so as to provide a source of supplementary income as well as a cheap source of nourishment to the settlers, has been disappointing. The Committee feel that special efforts are called for from the Dandakaranya Development Authority in this regard.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Pisciculture was tried in 39 tanks. Since the tank beds were strewn with tree-trunks, vegetation and rock, these prevented suc-

cessful netting. Provision has been made during the current programme year for Rs. 17,500 for the clearance of the beds.

No tanks suitable for pisciculture existed in the zones. Hence, their excavation had to be taken up. During the current year 48 suitable village tanks have been stocked with 1,20,000 fingerlings through the agency of Village Samities, who have been supplied fish seeds on 75 per cent subsidized rates. Nettings have been done in some of these tanks and settlers have been the main beneficiaries. The surplus fish has been sold outside the village.

It was planned to stock each village tank having 3 ft. depth of water in summer with fish and distribute 2,50,000 fingerlings during the 1965-66 working season. But on account of the drought conditions, the requisite water depth does not exist. With the return of normal conditions in the ensuing monsoon, it is expected that pisciculture will be taken up on a more extensive scale.

It is intended to establish zonal fish farms shortly. Supply of fish seeds and fingerlings is to be made from these farms.

Soil and water analysis of all the 24 nurseries was completed this year before releasing spawns and fries therein.

It is hoped that with adoption of the above measures, pisciculture will develop well in Dandakaranya.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |65-DNK, dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 139, Para No. 198)

The Committte fail to understand why the value of fish in the tanks maintained by the Dandakaranya Development Authority has been taken into account while determining the income accruing out of the Pisciculture Scheme of the Dandakaranya Development Authority. Considering the fact that the fish in the tanks will be available for sale only after some time and until then direct and indirect charges would necessarily have to be incurred, the Committee feel that the method of accounting adopted is defective and needs to be suitably modified to indicate the correct state of accounts in regard to the Scheme.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Despite the fact that the fisheries scheme is treated as a non-commercial scheme, a financial review of the scheme was made by the Financial Adviser and Chief Accounts Officer in consultation

with the Deputy Accountant General and the head of the Department for assessment of the revenue and expenditure. After examination of the various factors, it was accepted that the closing stock should be taken at four times of the quantity netted during the year under review and its value calculated at the average rate of sale. However, in view of the observations of the Committee, the matter is being referred to the Financial Adviser and Chief Accounts Officer and Deputy Accountant General for evolving a revised procedure for the future.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No 15(3)/65—DNK dated 17-5-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 140, Para No. 198)

The Committee feel that even though the Fishery scheme of the Dandakaranya Development Authority is not treated as a commercial venture, it should not be allowed to run into heavy losses.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Fishery scheme is not a commercial venture but this is only a developmental and extension scheme providing subsidiary income and employment to the displaced persons and also supplying highly nutritious protein diet. As per the financial review of the proforma Accounts on Fishery scheme prepared by the Financial Adviser and Chief Accounts Officer of the Project for the period 1960-63 and 1963-64 *vide* appendix—25—the result revealed is reproduced below which is self-exploratory.

The proforma accounts of the Fishery scheme to end of 31-3-1963 reveal an excess of income over expenditure of Rs. 22,428 and during 1963-64 an excess of expenditure over income of Rs. 1,26,797.

The subsidiary accounts appended to the proforma accounts indicate how the subsidised sale of fish to settlers, tribals and others in the Dandakaranya area has affected the economics of the scheme. As indicated therein, but for the subsidised sale there would have been a profit of Rs. 3.52 lakhs in the Fishery scheme as on 31-3-1963 and only an excess of expenditure over income of Rs. 32,357 during 1963-64, in other words, to end of March, 1964 net profit of Rs. 3.20 lakhs.

From the above observation of the Financial Adviser and Chief Accounts Officer of the Project, it may be seen that the scheme is not running at loss.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No 15(3)/65—DNK dated 17-5-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 141, Para No. 198)

The Committee note that in spite of the recommendations of the Agricultural Expert Team, the Dandakaranya Development Authority have not been making full use of the advisory services in pisciculture provided by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. In view of the fact that Dandakaranya Development Authority do not employ experts in each of the specialised branches of animal husbandry, the Committee recommend that Dandakaranya Development Authority should make full use of the advisory services provided by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and by the State Governments in planning and execution of various Schemes of animal husbandry particularly poultry and pisciculture in the Dandakaranya Area.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendations of the Committee are noted.

The Director of Fisheries, Orissa and the Fishery Officer of Madhya Pradesh have visited the Project and rendered necessary help. With the assistance of the District Fishery Officer, Jaypore (Orissa) and the Assistant Director of Fisheries, Raipur Division, (Madhya Pradesh), soil and water analysis of departmental nurseries and rearing ponds have been carried out. The stocking programme has been chalked out in consultation with them. The then Fishery Adviser to the Government of India, Shri G. N. Mitra visited the Project during July, 1965 and recommended the establishment of Zonal fish farms. These Farms will not only supply fish seeds to the Bhaskal and Pakhanjore reservoirs and the proposed Paralkote reservoir, but also to the village tanks, on cheap rates. The recommendation is in the process of implementation.

Shri G. N. Panda, the then Poultry Expert to the Government of India, Ministry of Food and Agriculture and Shri F. N. Chatterji, Deputy Director Animal Husbandry (Poultry) visited the Project to suggest ways and means for putting development programme on modern and economic line. Their recommendations are awaited. Shri B. S. Joshi, Deputy Director of Veterinary Services (Poultry), Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal paid a visit to the Project and assisted in the formulation of the scheme for the establishment of the Central Poultry Farm at Kondagaon and other poultry programmes in the Project. Recently, the Poultry Project Officer under the District Package Programme, Raipur visited Kondagaon and assisted in the formulation of the poultry extension programme.

Two Agricultural Expert Committees headed by Dr. Mathur and Dr. Mehta, having Animal husbandry experts on them, visited the

Project and suggested measures for bringing about improvement in animal husbandry practices. Action is in progress for implementation of the recommendations.

Thus, full advantage is being taken of the services of the appropriate experts of the State Governments and Government of India.

[Min. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 154(3)/65-DNK dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 142, Para No. 201)

The Committee recommend that the programme of constructing buildings for the schools in Dandakaranya may be speeded up.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Noted. Up to date statistics showing the number of school buildings already constructed, or under construction, are furnished below:—

	Progress up to 30-9-64	Progress from 1-10-64 to 10-7-65	Total progress
Construction of Primary School buildings:—			
Construction completed	57	13	70
Under constructor	35	32 (No under construction now)	
Construction of Middle School buildings :—			
Construction completed	5	2	7
Under construction	1	2 (No under construction now)	
Construction of High School buildings:—			
Construction completed	1	—	
Under construction	1	1	do.

It would be evident from the above figures that the rate of construction of school buildings has now been stepped up.

[Min. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 154(3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 143, Para No. 201)

The Committee recommend that suitable hostel accommodation as necessary may be provided in the Middle and High Schools as the students attending them come from far away villages in the Zones.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

There is now a High or Middle School, with hostel facilities attached to it, in each zone of the Project. The details are furnished below:—

Name of the School which has hostel attached to it	Zone in which it is situated	Accommodation available in hostel for No. of boarders	type of hostel building
Boregaon Middle School	Kondagaon	60	Basha type structure and Nissen huts.
Chhotekapsi Middle School	Paralkote	50	Kutchha temporary type.
Umerkote Sukumar Sen Memorial High School	Umerkote	80	Pucca permanent type.
MV-9 Middle School	Malkangiri	60	Kutchha temporary type.

In order to obviate the necessity of maintaining several hostels and spending large amounts of money by way of stipends and grants, it has been decided to open Middle Schools for groups of villages, so that students from neighbouring villages may attend them as day scholars. Seven Middle Schools are now functioning in the Project area and a few more will be opened in the ensuing school session. It has also been decided that there will be a High School, with hostel facilities attached to it, in each Zone.

There is at present no girls' hostel in the Project. Steps have been taken to construct a girls' hostel at Umerkote.

[Min. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 154(3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 144, Para No. 202)

In view of the fact that schools set up by the Dandakaranya Development Authority would ultimately have to be handed over to the State Governments, the Committee recommend that early steps should be taken by the Dandakaranya Development Authority to reorient the courses in the schools according to the curriculum prescribed by the State Government concerned.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

New settler families are still coming into the Project. These families contain school students from the highest to the lowest classes. It is not possible for the students of the higher classes to change over to the State syllabus except by losing several years of study. The State syllabus of studies are, therefore, being introduced in the lower class from the current schools session. The upper classes will gradually adopt the State syllabi as the students from the lower forms are promoted to the higher forms. This system of gradual conversion was adopted in those territories which were merged with other States at the time of the last re-organisation of States.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK, dated 7.2.1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 145, Para No. 202)

The Committee note that the syllabus prescribed for the schools in Dandakaranya has been completely academic as in other schools and the authorities have ignored the fact that most of these boys have come from agricultural families and will have to go back to agricultural fields unless the fields are allowed to remain fallow. In order that education in the schools may be suitable for the boys coming from the agricultural families, the Committee recommend that the educational pattern in the schools in Dandakaranya may be reviewed with a view to introduce agricultural and technical bias in the curriculum. They also recommend that each school should have either a small plot of land for agricultural practices or some sort of workshop to give the boys some practical training in crafts.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Project has already decided to make education in its schools progressively more agriculture and craft oriented.

Each Project school has attached to it one or more acres of open land. Agricultural implements and packets of assorted vegetable,

fruit and flower seeds have now been supplied to the schools. The teachers, students and villagers, have fenced manageable portions of the school lands and started raising gardens therein.

Provision has been made for introducing practical training in the craft of carpentry in the secondary schools. Carpentry sheds have been constructed for a few of the school buildings and carpentry tools have also been procured. Steps have also been taken to appoint craft teachers for the schools. Training in craft will start from the current school session.

[*Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65—DNK dated 7.2.1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 147, Para No. 204)

The Committee note that there has been no consistency as to the number of boys sent up for technical training in different batches in as much as while the first and second batches consisted of 31 and 63 boys respectively, the third and fourth batches consisted of only 7 and 5 boys respectively. Further, the Project authorities failed to make satisfactory arrangements for in-plant training of their boys who successfully completed training at the Industrial Training Institutes as a result of which even those in the first batch who had completed their training as far back as 1963 were not able to get their diplomas.

The Committee recommend that adequate arrangements should be made in consultation with the State Governments concerned for the in-plant training of the boys deputed by the Dandakaranya Development Authority after they successfully complete the courses in the Industrial Training Institutes either in the work-shops maintained by the Dandakaranya Development Authority or elsewhere.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The third batch of trainees joined the short-term course of six months under an emergency scheme conducted by the Defence Department. As many as 90 boys were presented before the Selection Committee, but only 7 could pass the medical and physical tests.

Dandakaranya Development Authority did not get timely information as to when the course would start for the fourth other batch or as to when the selection would be made. Hence the low number.

For the fifth and sixth batches, Dandakaranya Development Authority sent 83 and 63 boys respectively for training.

In regard to the in-plant training, the Principles of the Industrial Training Institutes gave Dandakaranya Development Authority to understand that they would arrange for the in-plant training of the boys under their charge. It transpired later that these Institutions had meagre arrangements for vocational guidance. The boys were not guided into the trades according to the demand outside. A few boys took up trades for which there was no scope in the Project.

Arrangements were made through the Principal, ITI Bhilai with the Bhilai Steel Project for the in-plant training of a large number of settler boys, who were subsequently absorbed in the Steel Plant in regular cadres. A few boys were also absorbed in the Industrial and Transport Organisations of the Project.

The boys are now being guided into such trades at the ITI Ambaguda in which they can be given in-plant training in the Project organisations such as Central and Zonal Workshops, Transport Depots, Industrial Centres etc., so that they can be finally absorbed in the different Industrial Centres and Workshops of the Project.

[Min. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 148, Para No. 204)

The Committee regret that the Dandakaranya Development Authority have not prepared any definite programme for imparting technical training to the displaced persons resettled in Dandakaranya. They recommend that programme for imparting suitable training in technical trades to the boys from displaced families resettled in Dandakaranya should be drawn up and an appreciable number of boys should be sent up for training every year

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Programmes for imparting technical training to the displaced persons resettled in Dandakaranya are being implemented.

2. An Industrial Training Institute under the Project Administration was started at Ambaguda in February, 1965. The first batch of trainees consisted of 57 boys, the second batch of 62 boys. The first batch will pass out in October, 1966.

3. Settler boys are also being trained in the Industrial Training Institutes outside the Project i.e. in Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. 116 settler boys have passed out of these institutes and 20 are at present undergoing training.

4. Some Industrial Training Institute passed boys are being given further training at the Central Training Institute, Calcutta.

5. At the Central Workshop, Ambaguda courses for drivers, cleaners and other trades for settler as well as tribal boys have been started. Automobile and tractor training courses have been organised in the Zonal Workshops.

6. General nursing, auxiliary nurse-cum-midwife and Dai training courses have been organised at the R.N.T. Hospital, Kondagaon. The number of persons trained at these courses is 7, 4 and 22 respectively, while the number under training are 14, 1 and 34 respectively.

7. A large number of settlers are being trained at the different production-cum-Training Centres in the Zones.

[Min. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 18-8-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 149, Para No. 204)

The Committee suggest that the Government of West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa should also be approached to examine the possibility of expanding the capacity of the existing Industrial Training Institutes in these States in order to accommodate a large number of displaced persons from Dandakaranya in their respective institutes.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

As mentioned in reply to Sl. No. 148—para 204, various facilities for industrial training exist in the Project, including an Industrial Training Institute at Ambaguda. The capacity of the Institute and other training courses will be expanded, should the need arise. The question of asking the State Governments for increasing the capacity of their Institutes for the purpose of accommodating a large number of settler boys will be taken up if and when it is found that the facilities existing and proposed under the Project are inadequate.

[Min. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 150, Para No. 204)

The Committee would like to suggest that, as within the next one or two generations, the land allotted to the settlers would no

longer remain an adequate source of livelihood, Government may from now prepare a perspective plan for developing adequate industrial potential as an alternative source of livelihood.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The suggestion of the Committee has been noted.

Having regard to the mineral and forest resources of the areas, it has been decided to take up a programme of industrial development of the Dandakaranya and the surrounding region (roughly Indravati-Sabri basins). It is envisaged that the area can sustain an industrial complex of considerable magnitude and can generate employment of about half a million person in the primary, secondary and tertiary sections and thus accelerate the rehabilitation of displaced persons.

2. In order to co-ordinate the framing of a development programme and to supervise its implementation, a high level Steering Committee consisting of Secretaries of Ministries/Departments concerned has been set up.

3. An expert team consisting of representatives of Planning Commission, Central Water & Power Commission and the Government of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa have already studied the hydro-electric and irrigation potentials of the Indravati-Sabri basin and have recommended a number of Projects. Detailed investigations in regard to some of these have already been made or are in progress and investigations about other projects will be taken in hand.

4. Another Expert Inter-Departmental Team has conducted a techno-economic survey of the Indravati-Sabri basin and have recommended the establishment of a number of industries to the area.

5. Further investigations or surveys in regard to various aspects of development, including the quantity and quality of mineral deposits and their suitability for particular industries, the utilisation of forest resources, the expansion of road communications, locations for townships and industrial estates, and feasibility studies for specific industrial units will be undertaken shortly.

6. In the meantime, a Priority Programme of small scale industrial units that can be established has been drawn up and is being implemented in a phased manner. It is proposed to have an Industrial Township at Jagdalpur and an Industrial Estate at Ambaguda.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK Dated 18-8-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 151, Para No. 205)

Committee recommend that a departmental committee may review the existing quantum and conditions for the grant of stipends by the Dandakaranya Development Authority to the displaced person students from the point of view of their adequacy and uniformity.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

A departmental Committee consisting of Chief Administrator, the Financial Adviser and the Deputy Chief Administrator reviewed the position at the beginning of the programme season 1964-65.

The following changes have been either effected or are being processed as a result of the review:—

(A) Stipend to settler trainees of Industrial Training Institutes.

Rs. 45/- per month per student staying in hostels and Rs. 15/- per month for students staying with their families.

(Trainees who are awarded stipends by the State Government get the difference between Rs. 45/- and the amount of stipend received from the State Government).

(B) Stipends to settler students studying in the Project Secondary Schools.

Rs. 25/- per month per student studying in Middle/High Schools living villages beyond a radius of 3 miles from the School.

It is also proposed to consider the alternative of giving a bicycle to students coming from a distance of 3 to 5 miles instead of a stipend.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK Dated 18-8-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 152, Para No. 205)

The Committee recommend that the feasibility of introducing an educational assistance programme in the form of loan scholarships repayable in easy instalments after the completion of training and subsequent employment may also be examined by the departmental committee mentioned in paragraph 205.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Talent hunting out of settler boys and girls is already a set programme of the Project and the question of loan scholarship will be considered when any really promising pupil comes to notice.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK Dated 17-12-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 153, Para No. 205)

The Committee recommend that consideration of the proposal for giving an extra amount of Rs. 10 per month to the displaced person students whose families are not in receipt of subsidy/maintenance should be expedited.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

As per the revised orders of the Ministry, trainees are awarded stipends at the rate of Rs. 45 per month as against Rs. 35 previously subject to the condition that those who are in receipt of stipends from the State Government get the difference between Rs. 45/- and the amount received from the State Government, irrespective of whether the family is in receipt of subsidy/maintenance grant.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK Dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 154, Para No. 205)

The Committee would like to mention that certain shortcomings in the working of the Education Department of the Dandakaranya Development Authority were brought to the notice of the Study Group during their visit to the Dandakaranya Project. The Committee feel that the working of the Education Department of the Dandakaranya Development Authority calls for a review to make changes in its administrative machinery and to reorientate its outlook.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

An Education Advisory Committee is being constituted for the Project with the following members:—

Chairman

1. Chairman, Dandakaranya Development Authority.

Members

2. Chief Administrator/Deputy Chief Administrator.
3. District Education Officer, Jagdalpur (Bastar District).
4. District Inspector of Schools, Koraput.

Member-Secretary

5. Education Officer of the Project.

It will advise the Project in the following matters:—

1. Drawing up syllabi for the various classes.
2. Helping to make education craft and agriculture oriented.
3. Equipment for the schools; and
4. Recruitment of trained personnel etc.

The Committee is expected to meet shortly.

In the meantime the following significant changes have recently been made in the administrative machinery of the Education Organisation:—

- (a) the posts of Sub-Inspectors of Schools in the scale 170—380 have been upgraded to the posts of Zonal Inspectors in the scale of 210—425.
- (b) four posts of Youth Welfare Organisers have been sanctioned.
- (c) A cadre of Sewak-teachers has been set up.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) 65-DNK, Dated 7-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 155, Para No. 209)

The Committee suggest that the working of the medical and public health organisation may be reviewed early in consultation with the Ministry of Health, so as to eliminate complaints of the nature mentioned in the paragraph.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The circumstances in which certain time expired medicines were supplied to the settlers have already been explained to the Committee. The supply was arranged by the Director of Health Services after satisfying himself in consultation with the manufacturers that the medicines would still be effective.

Pay scales of compounders and nurses have been in accordance with the Ministry of Finance Notification No. 50.2911. A dated 30th

November, 1960. According to this Notification the pay scales are divergent. There is no question of Dandakaranya Project Administration having taken any action of their own in this regard. As regards improper purchases, all purchases are now being made in accordance with the existing rules and regulations.

It may be added that the person who held the post of Chief Medical Officer from 12th January, 1959 to 31st December, 1964 A.N. on the expiry of his term of deputation has been reverted to his parent Cadre and a new Chief Medical Officer has been appointed from 1st February, 1965.

Ministry of Health are being sounded about the review of the Medical and Public Health Organisation suggested by the Committee.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK, Dated 7-2-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee may be informed of the result of the review of the Medical and Public Health Organisation of the Dandakaranya Development Authority, if since made by the Union Ministry of Health.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23 (1) ECI/65, dated 13th December, 1966].

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

With the adoption of measures enumerated in our earlier reply, the system seems to have got fairly toned up. Moreover review is undertaken by us from time to time. Now there are no complaints of this nature at all. Further, our posts in the medical organisation have been got included in the Central Health Scheme of the Health Ministry.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK, Dated 30th March, 1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 156, Para No. 211)

The Committee suggest that Government may consider whether it would not be desirable in the interest of better coordination and administrative convenience to transfer the educational and medical organisations of Dandakaranya Development Authority to the State Government concerned in consultation with them

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation of the Committee has been noted for compliance. The matter is being pursued with the State Governments concerned.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) |66-DNK, Dated 17th December, 1966*].

CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENTS REPLY

Recommendation (Serial No. 1, Para No. 14)

The Committee feel that the real cause of controversy was inherent in the pattern of organisation of the Dandakaranya Development Authority as laid down in the aforesaid Resolutions of the 20th June and 13th September, 1960 and regret that the consequences of not specifying clearly the functions of both the Chairman and the Chief Administrator in the constitution of the Dandakaranya Development Authority itself were not foreseen. It is usually the privilege of the authority creating an autonomous body to define the demarcation of powers between its top officials as an ample safeguard against internal bickerings. In the absence of such clear definition, there is apt to be a scramble for power leading to friction and disharmonious working. This would be evident from the fact that the internal bickerings and dissensions between different functionaries of the Dandakaranya Development Authority have persisted since its inception. The Committee are not happy that the Ministry should have contended themselves by taking the position that in their anxiety to retain the autonomy of the Dandakaranya Development Authority they left it to the Dandakaranya Development Authority to decide as to what powers should be exercised by the Chairman and the Chief Administrator, The Committee consider that the powers and functions of both the Chairman and the Chief Administrator should have been clearly defined by the Government particularly at the time they replaced the part-time Chairman by a whole-time Chairman. The Committee need hardly stress that if the whole-time Chairman of the Dandakaranya Development Authority, who should be a mature and experienced person is to prove equal to his responsibility 'to plan and direct its activities' and 'be responsible to the Ministry for the functioning of the Dandakaranya Project', he should be equipped with the necessary powers.

The Committee are alive to the problem created by the presence of two very senior whole-time officers in the field in Dandakaranya.

They, therefore, recommend that in the event of the powers of the Chairman, Dandakaranya Development Authority being enhanced, it might be appropriate to appoint a comparatively junior officer as Chief Administrator of the Authority.

The Committee have gathered the impression that despite the declared anxiety of the Government to retain the autonomous character of Dandakaranya Development Authority, in actual practice the latter acts somewhat like a subordinate office of Ministry of Rehabilitation. As the Dandakaranya Development Authority has to discharge heavy responsibility in tackling the complex problem of the resettlement of displaced persons from East Pakistan in this virgin area, it should be encouraged, as originally envisaged, to exercise its powers expeditiously and without undue fetters.

The Committee would like to mention that after the resignation of the last Chairman, Government have made a temporary arrangement under which the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Rehabilitation functions as the Chairman of the Dandakaranya Development Authority. The Committee feel that the arrangement is not satisfactory as it is not in conformity with the letter and spirit of the Resolution constituting the Authority or consistent with its autonomy. They suggest that the question of appointment of a whole-time Chairman of the Authority may be urgently considered.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Action is being initiated to define the functions and powers of the Chairman and the Chief Administrator in the light of the views expressed by the Committee. The Chairman of the Dandakaranya Development Authority is being asked to prepare draft schedules of functions and powers for further discussion and decision.

2. Having regard to the executive responsibilities involved in a Project like Dandakaranya, Government do not consider it advisable to downgrade the post of Chief Administrator. As regards the post of Chairman, in view of the special interest the people of West Bengal and the interest of Parliament in the Dandakaranya Development Scheme, it is felt that, at this stage, there are advantages in having a non-official Chairman. Accordingly, a proposal for the appointment of a non-official as a whole-time Chairman of Dandakaranya Development Authority, without prejudice to his activities as a public man is being processed.

3. Though the office of the Dandakaranya Development Authority is, in the organisational pattern, a subordinate office of the

Department of Rehabilitation, the Department does not interfere in the day-to-day working of the Dandakaranya Development Authority. Naturally, it would be necessary for the Department to have reports on various matters and also to keep a watch on the progress of work, in order to fulfil its own duties and to help the Government in discharging its responsibilities to the Parliament. In certain matters, the Department, in view of its status and wider contacts, is in a position to obtain technical advice and assistance from various authorities in India and abroad and the Department forwards the suggestions based on such advice and offer of assistance to the Dandakaranya Development Authority for their consideration. Subject to what has been stated above, the fullest possible autonomy is given to the Dandakaranya Development Authority to formulate programmes and have them executed.

[*Miny. of L. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) D.O. No. 15(3) |66—DNK, dated 7/10th July, 1967*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 6, Para No. 19)

The Committee consider that as Dandakaranya Project is vitally concerned with agriculture, it would be helpful if the Union Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture) is represented on the Dandakaranya Development Authority so that expert advice and assistance is available to it regarding programmes for development of agriculture, horticulture, minor irrigation, animal husbandry, forestry etc.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

With the scope for further land in Dandakaranya area becoming limited, the emphasis is now being laid more on industry. The Dandakaranya Development Authority will become unwieldy if representations are given on the Authority to all the Ministries concerned with various aspects of development in Dandakaranya. This would now include Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Transport and Shipping, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Mines and Metals. The Department of Rehabilitation has an Agricultural Adviser deputed from the Ministry of Food and Agriculture who gives the necessary expert advice and assistance to the Dandakaranya Project Administration in consultation with the various experts of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The experts in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture are also associated in the formulation of agricultural programmes in Dandakaranya through Study Teams, Committees also.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, Dated 7th February, 1967*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 7, Para No. 20)

The Committee regret that in spite of the clear recommendations of the Estimates Committee made in their two previous Reports (97th and 53rd) to associate non-officials with the Dandakaranya Development Authority, Government have not seen it fit to implement the same. The Committee would reiterate that association of non-officials with the Dandakaranya Development Authority would be a distinct help in a proper social orientation of the programme and policies of the Dandakaranya Development Authority. The Committee would also suggest that Government may examine the possibility of constituting an advisory body consisting of representatives of leading non-official organisation in Dandakaranya and in West Bengal who have been consistently taking interest in the welfare and rehabilitation of displaced persons.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Dandakaranya Development Authority has been constituted as a joint body consisting of representatives of the Ministries and State Governments concerned with the rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan and the welfare of the local tribal population. This is not a policy making body but is concerned generally with giving directions in regard to the programme within the policy enunciated by the Government and in coordinating and harnessing the activities of the Central Government and State Government Departments concerned.

2. For performing their functions, various financial powers have been delegated to the Authority, including powers for sanctioning schemes and purchasing tools, plants and equipment, write off of losses, regularisation of purchases in deviation of normal rules, approval of appointments, re-employment etc.

3. If the non-officials have to be added to this body, they will have to be chosen necessarily from Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal. Government feel that not only would it make the Authority unwieldy, but the present character of an official body coordinating the activities of various Central and State Government Departments by full and uninhibited discussion of difficulties and problems will be affected.

4. Presumably, what the Committee have in mind is the association of non-officials at the local level to ensure that the interests and welfare of displaced persons and tribals are duly taken into account in the formulation and implementation of programmes. A Committee has now been constituted to advise the Chief Administrator

in regard to these matters. It consists of a local M.L.A. and leaders of the communities of displaced persons and Adivasis. Apart from this, the Chairman of the Dandakaranya Development Authority is also, at present, a former Member of Parliament, namely, Dr. M. M. Das.

[*Miny. of L. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) D.O. No. 15(3) |66-VII|DNK, dated 16th October, 1967*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 9, Para No. 22)

The Committee note that the expenditure under the head "B-2 Establishment" has risen from Rs. 84.69 lakhs in 1960-61 to 1.10 crores in 1963-64 while the final grant for the year 1964-65 under that head was Rs. 1.19 crores—an increase of 41 per cent over the 1960-61 figures. They also find that the expenditure on 'Headquarters Establishment' has risen from Rs. 14.73 lakhs in 1960-61 to Rs. 25.04 lakhs in 1963-64 representing an increase of 70 per cent.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

A broad break-up of the expenditure of Rs. 5.29 crores incurred on B-2 Establishment upto the end of March, 1965 is indicated below:—

(i) Staff employed on Machines	Rs. 148 lakhs
(ii) Other technical staff	Rs. 197 lakhs
(iii) Administrative staff, non-technical staff and Class IV staff	Rs. 184 lakhs

The increase in expenditure under B-2 Establishment, including Headquarter's Establishment was due to all round increase in the activities of the Project, as indicated below:—

- (i) More influx of displaced persons and consequent opening of the new zones and strengthening of the Zonal Administration/Headquarters to gear up the working of the Project.
- (ii) Implementation of the various new schemes and works in connection with resettlement of displaced persons.
- (iii) Expansion in agricultural and industrial activities of the Project.
- (iv) Usual increase in emoluments on account of periodical increment and filling up of the vacant posts and recruitment of technical personnel to man the works and schemes.

The increase in expenditure of 'Headquarters Establishment' is due to the fact mentioned below:—

The expenditure on Headquarters Establishment also includes expenditure on the establishment of Zonal Administrators and there was opening of new zones and strengthening of Zonal Administration to gear up the activities of the Project as stated earlier.

[Min. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 18th August, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 18, Para No. 27)

The Committee consider that as Zonal Leaders properly selected, are better acquainted with the social conditions of the displaced persons, they would be in a better position to enthuse confidence in the settlers and be of significant help in developing harmonious relations between the authorities and the settlers. The Committee suggest that the feasibility of reviving the posts of Zonal Leaders for all the zones of the Dandakaranya Project may be considered.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Four persons were recruited on 5 November, 1958 to work as Zonal Leaders. Their names, the period of employment and the kind of work done are mentioned below:—

(1) *Shri B. K. Rakshit Roy:*

He was in the Project upto 30th September, 1964. His services were utilised mostly for editing the periodical known as "Dandakaranya Katha". He used to visit the zones and other areas occasionally for collecting material for publication in the Katha.

(2) *Shri B. K. Sen Gupta:*

He was in the Project upto 30th September, 1962. He had been placed incharge of the Consumer Goods Organisation under the Resettlement Wing. Subsequently he was deputed for organizing urban and semi-urban resettlement of small traders, artisans and non-campers but little was achieved.

(3) *Shri P. B. Das Gupta:*

He was in the Project upto 30th September, 1962. Initially he worked as a member of the Screening Board in West Bengal. On his posting to the Project area he was put incharge of the manual reclamation of village sites by settlers. It cannot be said that anything substantial was achieved.

(4) *Shri K. C. Roy:*

He was in the Project upto 2nd January, 1962. As he had some experience of engineering and building works he had been placed incharge of the procurement of building materials by settlers for the construction of village houses.

2. Placements as indicated above had been carried out according to the inclination and aptitude of the individual Zonal Leaders. It would be seen that not much was done in their legitimate role to build up the morale of the settlers and create a healthy atmosphere in the villages.

3. The posts of Zonal Leaders were abolished on the recommendation of the first Staff Review Committee which stated as follows in para 80 of their report:—

“There does not appear to be any need for these posts which should be abolished except one which is being utilised for work in West Bengal camps on behalf of the DDA. His utility may be examined after three months and the post continued or abolished as may be necessary.”

4. On the whole, our experience with the institution of Zonal Leaders was not happy. It was found that the kind of work they were doing could be done equally well if not better by administrative personnel on whom a stricter code of discipline in various respects could be enforced.

5. In the opinion of Government it would not be prudent to revive the posts of the Zonal Leaders.

[*Min. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3) /65-DNK, dated 4th April, 1966.*]

Recommendation (Serial No. 29, Para No. 31)

The Committee note that while the original allotment of funds of Rs. 17.70 crores for the Dandakaranya Project was made on the basis of the Preliminary Project Report for Phase I of the Project ending in March, 1961 and different schemes under which expenditure was to be incurred were specifically laid down, funds totalling Rs. 3.82 crores were allotted subsequently Rs. 1.00 crores for general development, Rs. 2.02 crores for Malkangiri Dam and Rs. 0.80 crores for expenditure on Malkangiri Zone.

The Committee are unhappy over the allotment of large funds on ad hoc basis to Dandakaranya Development Authority without specifying in detail the schemes under which expenditure is required to

be made and suggest that Government should take an early opportunity to review the position of the scheme-wise allotment of funds in terms of the total allotments made so far and keep a strict watch on the progress of expenditure under the various schemes.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The reference to allotment of large funds on an *ad hoc* basis is not clear. After the preliminary project report, allotment was made on the basis of certain definite programme, further allotments have been made for specific schemes.

Draft Fourth Plan for Dandakaranya Development Authority has been drawn up and allotment of funds during the Fourth Plan period will be made in accordance with the finally approved Plan.

[Min. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 31, Para No. 53)

The Committee would suggest that early action may be taken to open a sub-accounts office in the Malkangiri Zone of Dandakaranya project so as to expedite payment of bills.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The question of opening a Pay Office at Malkangiri has been considered carefully by the Administration in consultation with the Financial Adviser. No branch office of the State Bank of India has yet been opened at Malkangiri. In the absence of a State Bank branch the opening of a Pay Office in the Zone will not help achieve fully the objects aimed at.

2. The Financial Adviser has introduced weekly cash courier system in the Zone for making cash payment to the Zonal Officers on the spot through Field Cashier. He has also made necessary arrangements to ensure that no bill is unduly held up in the Pay Office at Jagdalpur. The Zonal Officers have also been given sufficient advances to make emergency payments.

3. With these arrangements the Zonal Officers have no serious complaints about delay in payment.

[Min. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 18th August, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 36, Para No. 62)

The Committee are of the view that the present policy in regard to 'tagged' persons, if allowed to continue for long, is likely to have

far-reaching social consequence for settlers in Dandakaranya inasmuch as economic pressure occasioned by the rigid policy of the Government in this regard may eventually cause disintegration of families, and create difficulties in inheritance of properties. In view of the magnitude of the problem which affects the welfare of 1,137 families (out of a total of 8,244 families moved to Dandakaranya upto the end of September, 1964) and in view of the fact that financial implications of providing subsidy or maintenance allowance to only 1,611 persons may not be very large, the Committee suggest that the policy of the Government in regard to 'tagged' persons may be reviewed, and the Dandakaranya Development Authority may be empowered to grant relaxation from the general policy in case of genuine hardship.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Persons tagged to the ex-Camp families from West Bengal have been accepted as 'Integral members' of the respective families vide letter No. 7(83) |DNK|63 dated 16th November, 1962 from the Ministry of Works, Housing & Rehabilitation and subsidy and maintenance allowance has been paid to such persons with effect from 16th November, 1962. The tagged persons being thus integrated with the families, there may, perhaps, be no reasonable ground to apprehend distress of the families. The tagged members are given employment in the Industrial Centres and Project services without distinguishing them from regular members of the settler families. To reopen and examine their cases to give additional benefits like separate houses or holdings may create complications. Nor on merit do they all deserve such separate rehabilitation assistance. They came mostly as dependents of families selected for rehabilitation and all the benefits as dependent members have been accorded to them.

[Min. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 17-12-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 38, Para No. 66)

The Committee consider it unfortunate that these work centres were dismantled without making proper provision for such contingencies which have arisen in the wake of exodus of migrants from East Pakistan in January, 1964.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The new influx of 1964 could not be anticipated. As movement of families to the Project area was coming to a close in 1963 and the budgetary position had become tight, economy had to be enforced in

various directions. One of these was the dismantling of the surplus Work Centres and disposal of the salvaged material; the upkeep of such Work Centres was costing a fair amount by way of staff, materials and labour charges.

[*Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, Dated 24-2-1966*].

Recommendation (Serial No. 57, Para No. 90

The Committee are unhappy to note that the land harrowed during Phase I of the Dandakaranya Project ending in 1960-61, was actually 27,739 acres against the target of 70,620 acres, representing a shortfall of 61 per cent. The Committee have already commented on this aspect in paras 58—60 of their earlier report on Dandakaranya Project (1960).

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The areas of land indicated under the column 'target of reclamation' in para 90 do not represent land actually available for reclamation. The target of reclamation of 70,620 acres for the period 1958 to 1960-61 was based on the following assumptions—

- (i) Reclamation operations would be carried on in five Zones, namely, Pharasgaon, Amaraoti, Narainpur, Umerkote and Malkangiri.
- (ii) Three methods would be employed, namely—
 - (a) fully mechanised units,
 - (b) combination of man power and machinery,
 - (c) man-power with the assistance of hand-tools.
- (iii) The number of families to be moved to the Project area would be 35,000, out of which the number of agriculturist families for whom land had to be reclaimed would be roughly 26,000. In addition, land would be required for tribals
- (iv) Since the Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa had conveyed their approval to delegate the necessary powers to the Central Government and through it to the Dandakaranya Development Authority, there would be no difficulty in obtaining as much land as necessary in the Dandakaranya area.

2.1. Subsequently, the position changed in respect of some of these assumptions. Owing to the reluctance of camp families in **West**

Bengal to move to Dandakaranya, the actual number of families moved into the Project area during the period 1958-59 to 1960-61 was only 2,472 families.

2.2. The State Governments were chary of delegating any powers to the D.D.A. The D.D.A. had, therefore, to go to the State Governments even for an acre of land. Nor was there any understanding that the D.D.A. could choose any plot or any site in the area. They were entirely dependent on the goodwill and the discretion of the State Governments.

2.3. After an initial experiment, the idea of manual reclamation was given up in January, 1960.

2.4. Originally, it was planned to have settlements of displaced persons along the National Highway. It was later found that the tribals had settled along the National Highway and it was impossible to get any sizeable area of land there. Reclamation work had to be undertaken in the interior and in far flung and disconnected areas.

2.5. In 1959-60, there was a protracted delay in the supply of Komastu tractors and unexpected technical difficulties in the working of the tractors developed in that year and in the subsequent year.

3. The figures of actual reclamation have to be compared with the targets indicated in the Preliminary Project Report against the above background. The land actually available for reclamation after soil Survey Organisation of D.D.A. and extraction of valuable timber by the State Forest Department in the period of 1958-59 to 1960-61 was 31,763 acres. If this is taken into account, the achievement of the Rehabilitation Reclamation Organisation can be regarded as satisfactory.

[Ministry of L.E. and R. (Deptt. of Reh.) D.O. No. 15 (3)/66—DNK, dated, 7th July, 1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 65, Para No. 103)

The Committee are constrained to note such discrepancies in figures. They would urge that such discrepancies would show defective accounting and should not be allowed to occur.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The eighty-one tractors mentioned in the Revised Project Report include seven light tractors which are not fit for jungle clearance work but which can be used for ancillary operations such as filling up of fox-holes, carrying water tanks etc. The seventy-four tractors in the Ministry's reply is the number of tractors fit for jungle clearance work.

[Ministry of L.E. and R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65—DNK, dated, 17-5-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 85, Para No. 130)

The Committee suggest that the reasons for the steep rise in the cost per acre of the culturable command area from Rs. 543.40 estimated in 1959 to the present estimate of Rs. 720.20 in respect of the Bhaskal Dam Project should be investigated by an expert team and necessary steps should be taken to reduce the cost as much as possible.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In the preliminary report for Bhaskal Dam the irrigable area was anticipated as 16,000 acres out of 17,000 acres of culturable command area at a cost of Rs. 92.38 lakhs i.e. Rs. 548.40 per acre.

The scheme was sent to the C.W. & P.C., for technical scrutiny and according to their advice, the acreage of irrigable area was reduced to 11,000 acres and culturable command area to 13,750 acres. The estimated cost was not put at Rs. 99.92 lakhs .e. Rs. 720.00 per acre.

Thus it can be seen that no change in the cost as such has occurred.

[Ministry of L.E. and R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65—DNK, dated, 18th August, 1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 86, Para No. 130)

The Committee fail to understand why the estimated cost of the Bhaskal Dam Project should be shown as Rs. 99.99 lakhs instead of rounding it off to Rs. one crore. The Committee would like that the reason for keeping the estimated cost of the Dam Project slightly under the one crore should be fully inquired into.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Originally Bhaskal Dam Scheme was estimated to cost Rs. 92.38 lakhs. Later the estimates were revised to Rs. 81.91 lakhs. However, in the light of final comments of the C.W. & P.C., the estimates had to be revised again. After taking into account the views of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power, Ministry of Finance etc. and scrutiny by all concerned, the expenditure sanction issued for Rs. 99,92,300/-. This figure was arrived at by deduction of Rs. 8,27,700 from the estimate of Rs. 99.99 lakhs on account of provision for establishment, separate audit and ordinary Tools and Plant and addition thereto of Rs. 8,21,000/- on account of Special Tools and Plant. The estimate was based on the Dandakaranya Schedule of Rates and for other items which did not find place in

the Dandakaranya Schedule of Rates, the Schedule of Rates of Hirakud Dam Project were adopted.

[Ministry of L.E. and R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65—DNK, dated, 18-8-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 98, Para No. 146)

On the analogy of the subsidy which is given on the transport cost of fertilisers in hilly and inaccessible areas by the Union Department of Agriculture, the Committee would suggest that the question of extending the benefit of the concession to the settlers in the entire Dandakaranya area may be examined.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The fertilisers are being supplied by the State Co-operative Marketing Societies of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. The cost of transportation is borne by them and the prices have been fixed for each kind of fertiliser keeping in view the overall transportation charges within the State.

[Ministry of L.E. and R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/66-DNK, dated, 7-2-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee may be informed whether Government have examined the suggestion of the Committee that subsidy on the transport cost of fertilisers available in the hilly and inaccessible area may be extended to settlers in the Dandakaranya area.

[L.S.S. O.M. No. 5/23(1) ECI/65 dated 13-12-1966].

FURTHER REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

As the Project is not undertaking the procurement of fertilisers directly, the question of securing a concession on transportation cost does not perhaps arise.

[Ministry of L.E. and R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/66-DNK, dated, 30-3-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 110, Para No. 156)

The Committee regret that though the broad outline of the scheme for Co-operative Farming Societies were prepared as far back as 1962, the scheme has not made any headway even after a lapse of 3 years. They are also unhappy to note that the measures so far taken to follow up the scheme are slow and halting. In order to enable the settler farmers in Dandakaranya to derive the full benefits of farming on large scale, the Committee suggest that urgent steps should be taken to draw up a scheme for setting up Co-operative Farming Societies in Dandakaranya in consultation with

the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Department of Co-operation) and give it a practical shape without any further delay.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

It is felt that the rural economy of Dandakaranya has not yet reached a stage of development which would enable Co-operative Farming Societies to be formed. It will be difficult at this stage to form financially viable co-operative farming societies with the normal pattern of assistance from Co-operative Banks. Assistance from Co-operative Banks can also be obtained only after *pattas* have been issued by the respective State Governments to the settlers for which action has been initiated by the Dandakaranya Project Administration.

2. It is also felt that before co-operative farming societies are formed Service Co-operatives particularly Marketing Co-operative Societies should be organised. As a prelude to the formation of such Marketing Co-operative Societies Produce Collection Centres have been started with the assistance and guidance of the Dandakaranya Project Administration to disseminate market intelligence, to contact traders and merchants in the terminal markets to ensure fair price of the produce, to arrange temporary accommodation for assortment and assembling the agricultural produce and to keep vigilance over market practices. 8 Collection Centres have been organised as indicated below:—

Kondagaon	1
Umerkote	2
Paralkote	2
Malkangiri	3
	8

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, Dated 29-6-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 146, Para No. 203)

The Committee suggest that the proposal for imparting short-term training to the untrained teachers in schools in Dandakaranya by the Government of West Bengal may be finalised early. They would further suggest that Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa be also approached for affording similar training facilities.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

There are at present no short-term training courses in West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh or Orissa for untrained teachers. There are only short-term refresher courses for teachers who have already been trained. Short-term training is also not departmentally recognised as regular training. Teachers who undergo these short-term courses are not considered as trained teachers and not given scales of pay accordingly.

Any training to be undertaken has to be imparted for the full term which lasts for about a year. The medium of instruction in the training institutions in the two States is the regional language i.e. Oriya or Hindi. The training schools in the States are post-Matric institutions and the standard of the regional language used in them is too high for the settler teachers to achieve. No settler teacher has been able to reach the standard or is likely to reach it through his voluntary efforts. The scheme for the training of teachers could not, therefore, make much head-way.

A scheme for training of teachers in West Bengal is being drawn up. However, during the programme planning for the ensuing season the Project will again apply its mind to this matter and see what best can be done for the training of teachers.

[Ministry of L.E. and R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65—DNK, dated 7-2-1966].

CHAPTER IV

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

Recommendation (Serial No. 2, Para No. 16)

The Committee feel that time has come when the Project should be extended to Andhra Pradesh by including adjacent areas offered by that State for rehabilitation of new migrants. If that is agreed, then the Committee would like to reiterate the recommendation made in their earlier Report (1960) that it would be desirable to have Andhra Pradesh also represented on the Dandakaranya Development Authority for having an integrated plan for development of the area.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Adilabad District, where land has been released by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the rehabilitation of new migrants, is not adjacent to the Dandakaranya area. Only if Chanda District is included can a contiguous area be obtained. The procedure that have been adopted for Chanda is to have a Committee of Direction with the Chief Secretary as the Chairman and representatives of the Government of India and the State administration as members, to give overall guidance to the Project Officer. In the case of Adilabad, a senior I.A.S. Officer has been appointed as the Rehabilitation Commissioner to look after the rehabilitation programmes in the State. The arrangements are working satisfactorily and it may not be desirable from the administrative point of view to disturb them at this stage. The time is not opportune for initiating any attempts to bring Chanda or Adilabad under the purview of the Dandakaranya Development Authority.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee would like to reiterate their recommendation that, in the interest of integrated development of the area, Government should make every effort to secure the consent of the Government of Andhra Pradesh for inclusion in the Dandakaranya Project such of the adjacent areas of Andhra Pradesh as have already been offered, or might in future be offered, by that State for rehabilitation of new migrants from East Pakistan. In case any areas of

Andhra Pradesh are included in the Dandakaranya Project, it would be only reasonable that the Government of Andhra Pradesh should be represented on the Dandakaranya Development Authority.

Recommendation (Serial No. 8, Para No. 21)

The Committee note that the number of regular staff of the Dandakaranya Development Authority in position has increased 3,388 on the 1st April, 1961 to 4,615 on the 1st April, 1963 and 5,204 on the 31st July, 1964—an increase of 1,816 or 53.6 per cent over the 1961 figures. Similarly, work charged staff employed by the Engineering Organisation of the Dandakaranya Development Authority has been increasing from year to year, the number having gone up from 972 in 1962 to 1,453 in 1963 (i.e. an increase of 49.5 per cent; and to 1980 in 1964 (i.e. an increase of 103.7 per cent, over the 1962 figures). As against 4868 and 6068 persons employed by Dandakaranya Development Authority in April, 1962 and April, 1963 respectively, the Dandakaranya Development Authority had on hand the work of resettling a total of 5,262 and 6,660 displaced persons' families in position in Dandakaranya in June, 1962 and June, 1963 respectively.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The staff requirements of the Project are reviewed every year in consultation with the Financial Adviser keeping in view the estimated work load of each Organisation a particular working season.

2. The increase in staff referred in earlier years was due to the increase in the activities of different Organisations like Industries, Agriculture and Medical Departments and also due to the opening an additional zone and new villages.

3. Excluding the Reclamation Organisation, 4,276 employees were in position on 1st April, 1964, but this number had been reduced to 4,032 by 1st April, 1965, partly because of vacancies in some Organisations remaining unfilled.

4. During the field season of 1964-65, 36 new settler villages were set up and 2,362 new families were moved to village sites. As it was not possible as yet to "disengage" from any of the zones, the Project had to look after a cumulative total of 181 settler villages by the end of the season, apart from the Work-Centres. This cumulative total of d.p. families moved in to the Project area by the end of June, 1965 was 11,445.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated 7-2-1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of Government. Please see comments in paras 1—5 of Chapter I of the Report.

Recommendation (Serial No. 11, Para No. 23)

The Committee would recommend that arrangements may be made to impart training to the existing officers of the Dandakaranya Development Authority in work study.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Arrangements are being made to depute an Assistant-in-Charge in Project Headquarters for training in Work Study in the training course starting in July, 1967. Another officer will be sent for training in a subsequent course.

2. A Team of the Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance has been deputed to Dardakaranya and they are now engaged in Work Study of the Project Establishment.

[Ministry of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65-DNK, dated 27-1-1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee do not consider that the object of training in work-study methods would be achieved by training a junior level employee such as an Assistant-in-charge. They are of the opinion that if such training is to serve any useful purpose, at least two officers of higher rank should be provided the requisite training and thereafter entrusted with work where they could use the technique of work study with advantage to the project administration.

[Ministry of L.E. and R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65—DNK, Dated 7-2-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 28, Para No. 47)

The Committee are distressed to note that even after a lapse of nearly five years of their recommendations for preparation of a Master Plan for Dandakaranya, Government have not yet been able to finalise a Master Plan for the area. Initially, Government pleaded lack of suitable personnel and adequate data. Two years were allowed to lapse when it was thought fit to take up a revision of the Project report which was supposed to furnish a basis for the Master Plan. But simultaneously, it was given out that more thorough surveys of the industrial potentialities of the area would have to be done as a pre-requisite for the formulation of a Master Plan. It

seems, however, that it took some time to appoint a study team to undertake this survey. An Agricultural Team was also appointed. When their reports were received, Government set up a high-powered team to consider all these reports and make recommendations. But even this team was not called upon to formulate a Master Plan. Sometime later, another team, called the Techno-Economic Team, was appointed, evidently in supersession of the previous high-powered team, which was to undertake a fresh review of the entire position, considered necessary on the ground that in the meanwhile the whole country was overwhelmed by the new influx of migrants. It was argued that it would be premature to prepare a Master Plan without taking into account the full extent of this influx. So Government are as near or as remote from the formulation of the Master Plan as they were when the Estimates Committees stressed the need of such a Plan in 1960.

After nearly five years of vacillation, it has been stated that it is premature to think of a Master Plan, until the full impact of the fresh influx of displaced persons which started early last year is fully taken into account. The Committee cannot help feeling that this fresh wave of displaced persons should spur the Government to expedite the formulation of the Master Plan rather than make it an excuse for postponing it. It is not known when the present influx will end and whether this influx is the last of its kind. So to postpone the Master Plan until the full impact of this influx is known, will be to postpone it indefinitely. In view of all these considerations, the Committee would urge that the formulation of the Master Plan should be urgently taken in hand, and not delayed any longer.

It is not clear to the Committee as to what role is now to be performed by the High-powered Team which was set up under the Chairmanship of the Additional Secretary, Planning Commission, in January, 1964 to advise the Government on further lines of development in Dandakaranya. They would suggest that Government may review the entire position and if there are any aspects which are not covered in the Techno-Economic Appraisal, these may be gone into urgently by an expert team. But what is essential is that such an expert team must be charged with the responsibility to formulate with all possible expedition the Master Plan in conjunction with the Dandakarnaya Development Authority so that the lines of development for the Fourth Plan as laid down and adequate provision made therefore in the Plan.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Apart from the techno-economic appraisal already carried out which was based on the existing data in regard to the mineral and

forest resources, the Ministry of Mines and Metals have asked the Geological Survey of India to carry out further investigations of mineral deposits. The Ministry of Food and Agriculture have also organised a pre-investment survey of the forest resources which includes a large part of the Dandakaranya area. The Central Water and Power Commission have set up a Cell to draw up a basin plan for investigations in connection with the development of irrigation and power potential of the Indravati-Sabri basin. Ministry of Transport and Shipping are also formulating a plan for road communications in the light of the industrial possibilities indicated by the Techno-Economic Appraisal. The Ministry of Railways have already completed a cost-cum-feasibility study of a railway line from Dantewara to Bhadrachalam and have sanctioned further cost-cum-feasibility studies of railway lines from Jagdalpur to Dalli-Rajhora and Dantewara to Lonjigarh.

2. After discussion with the Chairman Dandakaranya Development Authority, it has been decided that, on the basis of the material already available, the Chief Administrator, Dandakaranya Project, should prepare a Master Plan.

3. In the meantime, a provision of Rs. 27 crores has been included in the Draft Fourth Plan for rehabilitation and general development in Dandakaranya.

[Miny. of L. E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65—D.N.K. dated 30-5-1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of Government. Please see comments in paras 6—8 of Chapter I of the Report.

Recommendation (Serial No. 35, Para No. 61)

The Committee note that after the lapse of a certain period following the commencement of the resettlement phase, the displaced families cease to be entitled to maintenance subsidy. The Committee suggest that a survey should be made of the economic conditions of those families who have, as a result of efflux of time, ceased to be entitled to maintenance subsidy and necessary measures taken to make self-sufficient such families as are found to be in distressed economic condition, on account of poor agricultural yield.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

A constant watch is kept over the economic conditions of the settlers through the field staff. Crop yield and other income of the settlers are ascertained and in cases of distress loans and gratuitous help is rendered by obtaining special sanctions and funds.

Employment is provided as far as practicable to settler families off subsidy, receiving poor yield to enable them to maintain themselves and carry on their agricultural work. In special cases assistance is also given in the form of paddy or rice loans which is recovered after the harvest. Agricultural operations are guided properly to enable settlers to get better yields.

After the commencement of the resettlement phase, the displaced persons continue to get what is known as 'Maintenance Assistance' during the initial period of their resettlement. The scales of maintenance assistance admissible to various categories of displaced persons are given in the following table.

Maintenance Assistance during the initial period of Settlement

Sl. No.	Particulars of Assistance	Agriculturalist families	Non-Agriculturist Rural Families	Non-Agriculturist Urban and Semi-Urban Families
1	2	3	4	5
1	Maintenance subsidy equal to the subsistence level indicated in para (a) of the rules given in Para 58 of this Report.	For the first agricultural season of 7 months after land has been allotted.	For a period of 3 months from the commencement of their resettlement phase. To be treated as a grant.	For a period of 3 months from the date on which the business loan is given.
2.	Assistance as during work period mentioned in paras (b) and (c) of the rules given in Para 58 of this Report.	During off season of 5 months immediately succeeding the first agricultural season mentioned above.	—	—
3.	Maintenance subsidy at half the rate mentioned at Serial No. 1 above.	During the Second agricultural season of 7 months immediately following the off season mentioned above.	—	—
4.	Sickness Insurance in the form of payment for the days of sickness certified by a Project Doctor	—	For a period of 18 months from the date of allotment of land.	

As an alternative, the payment of full maintenance grant may be made to the settlers after land has been allotted with effect from a

date following that on which land in particular village was harrowed or re-harrowed with tractors. In that case, in the second agricultural season the duration of the maintenance grant should be reduced so as to make good the extra payment made under the scheme during the first agricultural season in excess of the prescribed seven months period to ensure that the maintenance grant is not paid to any settler for more than 10½ months at the full rate.]

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated, 7-2-1966].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee note the statement of the Government that they keep a "constant watch" over the economic conditions of the settlers through the field staff and that "in cases of distress, loans and gratuitous help is rendered by obtaining special sanctions and funds". They however, reiterate their recommendation that a survey should be made of economic conditions of the families who are not receiving any maintenance assistance so as to ascertain the incidence of distress and take concerted steps to ameliorate the same.

Recommendation (Serial No. 54, Para No. 88)

The Committee recommend that the desirability of having a single Soil Survey Organisation headed by an expert in soil survey work for conducting surveys of land at different stages may be examined.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

There is no separate soil survey organisation as such. This is a part of the work of Agriculture Directorate which has a subject matter specialist in Class I Senior Cadre, which should be enough for the quantity and quality of work involved. At the Zonal level all soil survey work is now controlled and co-ordinated by the Zonal Agriculture Officer who is a senior officer in the line.

[Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15 (3)/65-DNK, dated, 7-2-1966].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of Government. Please see comments in paras 9—11 of Chapter I of the Report.

Recommendation (Serial No. 67, Para No. 107)

The Committee note that additional machinery from abroad costing nearly Rs. 1.16 crores in foreign exchange was purchased on the basis of a programme for the reclamation of 75,000 acres for the working season 1960-61. While the reclamation targets for that year

was drastically reduced from 75,000 acres to 26,560 acres, the orders for additional machinery from abroad were allowed to stand and the machinery was delivered by May, 1961. Even with the additional machines procured, the area actually reclaimed was 14,370 acres in 1960-61, 34,259 acres in 1961-62, 24,007 acres in 1962-63 and 9,594 acres in 1963-64.

The Committee regret to note that the decision in 1960 to purchase additional machinery from abroad was not considered in the light of targets of reclamation revised subsequently and foreign exchange worth nearly Rs. 1.16 crores was spent on the purchase of additional machinery when there was no pressing need for the same

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The requirements for 75,000 acres were calculated before the Komatsu tractors were received, and it was assumed at that time that Komatsu tractors could also be worked in double shift. However, some time after the Komatsu tractors were received, it became clear that because of the rigid servicing schedule prescribed for prevention of breakdowns in respect of these machines, they could not work in double shift. The target of land was not reduced to 26,000 acres on a long term basis but only for a single season. It will be seen from the Revised Project Report that land was expected to be available in Konta-Bheji, and that on this assumption the targets for subsequent years were as follows:—

1961-62—34,000 (Actuals).

1962-63—36,000 (Actuals).

1963-64—42,000 (Actuals).

1964-65—42,000 (Actuals).

1965-66—42,000 (Actuals).

For the reclamation of 42,000 acres, it was necessary to obtain the three imported units which could be worked in double shift, in addition to the 9 Komatsu units which could be worked only in single shift. The question of cancelling the order did not, therefore, arise [Miny. of L.E. & R. (Deptt. of Reh.) O.M. No. 15(3)/65—DNK, dated, 17-5-1966].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee have already pointed out in para 91 of their original Report that the area reclaimed in 1962-63 was only 24,007 acres

and in 1963-64, 9,594 acres. The Committee have also noted that the target of 42,000 acres indicated for 1963-64 was later revised to 28,000 acres. The Committee, therefore, cannot help feeling that before incurring the huge expenditure of Rs. 1.16 crores in foreign exchange for the import of tractors, Government should have taken into account more appropriately the actual achievements rather than the paper targets for reclamation of land, so as to conserve as much of foreign exchange as possible.

The Committee would like to be informed of the annual targets for reclamation of land fixed for the next three years i.e. 1968-69, 1969-70 and 1970-71. They also desire to be furnished annually a report indicating the area actually reclaimed during the year under report for the next three years i.e. 1968-69, 1969-70 and 1970-71.

NEW DELHI;

August 19, 1968

Sravana 28, 1890 (S).

P. VENKATASUBBAIAH,

Chairman,

Estimates Committee.

APPENDIX

(*Vide* Introduction)

Analysis of the action taken by the Government on the 72nd Report of the Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha)

I. Total Number of Recommendations	156
II. Recommendations which have been accepted by Government (<i>Vide</i> recommendations at St. Nos. 3—5, 10, 12—17, 19—27, 30, 32—34, 37, 39—53, 55, 56, 58—64, 66, 68—84, 87—97, 99—109, 111—145, 147—156)	
Number	133
Percentage to total	85·3%
III. Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's reply (<i>Vide</i> recommendations at S. Nos. 1, 6, 7, 9, 18, 29, 31, 36, 38, 57, 65, 85, 86, 98, 110 and 146)	
Number	16
Percentage to total	10·2%
IV. Recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the committee (<i>vide</i> recommendations at S. Nos. 2, 8, 11, 28, 35, 54 and 67)	
Number	7
Percentage to total	4·5%