

**ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
1961-62**

**HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THIRD REPORT
(SECOND LOK SABHA)**

MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION

Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Ninety-seventh Report (Second Lok Sabha) of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Rehabilitation—Dandakaranya Project.



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

March, 1962/Phalguna, 1883 (Saka)

Price : 0.55 nP.

LIST OF AUTHORISED AGENTS OF LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

ANDHRA PRADESH

1. G. R. Lakshmipathy Chetty & Sons, General Merchants & News Agents, Newpet, Chandragiri, Chittoor District (Andhra Pradesh).
2. Hindustan Diary Publishers, Market Street, Secunderabad.
3. Hyderabad Book Depot, Abid Road (Gun Foundry), Hyderabad.
4. International Consultants Corporation, 48-C, Marredpally (East), Secunderabad-3.
5. K. J. Asservadam and Sons, Cloughpet, P. O. Ongole, Guntur District (Andhra Pradesh).
6. M. S. R. Murthy & Company, Visakhapatnam.
7. People's Book House, B. 2-829/1, Nizam Shahi Road, Hyderabad-1.
8. The Triveni Publishers, Masulipatnam.

BIHAR

9. Amar Kitab Ghar, Diagonal Road, Jamshedpur-1.
10. Book Centre, Opposite Patna College, Patna.
11. 'Jagriti', Bhagalpur-2.

GUJARAT

12. Chanderkant Chiman Lal Vora, Law Publishers and Law Book Sellers, P.B. No. 163, 57/2, Gandhi Road, Ahmedabad.
13. Gandhi Samiriti Trust, Bhavnagar.
14. Lok Milap, District Court Road, Bhavnagar.

15. The New Order Book Company, Ellis Bridge, Ahmedabad-6.

16. Swadeshi Vastu Bhandar, Booksellers etc., Jamnagar.

KERALA

17. C. V. Venkitachala Iyer, Near Railway Station, Chalakudi.

18. International Book House, Main Road, Trivandrum.

18a. M. Mukanda Krishna Nayak, Manjeshwar S. K. Cannore Distt., Kerala State.

MADHYA PRADESH

19. Modern Book House, 286, Jawahar Ganj, Jabalpur-1.

20. The National Law House, Near Indore Library, Opposite Old High Court Building, Indore.

MADRAS

21. E. M. Gopalkrishna Kone, (Shri Gopal Mahal), North Chitrai Street, Madura.

22. The Kalpana Publishers, Booksellers, Trichinopoly-3.

23. The Presidency Book Supplies, 8-C, Pycroft's Rd., Triplicane, Madras-5.

24. S. Krishnaswami & Company, P. O. Teppakulam, Tiruchirapalli-2.

25. (Vacant)

MAHARASHTRA

26. Charles Lambert & Company, 101, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Opposite Clock Tower, Fort, Bombay.

27. The Current Book House, Maruti Lane, Raghunath Dadaji Street, Bombay-1.

28. D. B. Taraporevala & Sons, Co., (P) Limited, 210, Dr. Naoroji Road, Bombay-1.

29. Deccan Book Stall, Ferguson College Road, Poona-4.

30. The Good Companions, Raspura, Baroda.

31. The Imperial Book Depot, 266, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Poona.

32. The International Book House, Private Ltd., 9, Ash Lane, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bombay-1.

33. The International Book Service, Deccan Gymkhana, Poona-4.

34. Minerva Book Shop, Shop No. 1/80, Netaji Subhash Road, Marine Drive, Bombay-2.

35. The New Book Company (P), Limited, Kitab Mahal, 188-90, Dr. Dadabhai Naoroji Road, Bombay.

36. The New Book Depot, Modi No. 3, Nagpur.

37. The Popular Book Depot (Registered), Lamington Road, Bombay-7.

38. Sahitya Sangam, Booksellers, 44, Lok Manya Vastu Bhandar, Dadar, Bombay-28.

MYSORE

39. H. Venkataramiah & Sons, Vidyanidhi Book Depot, New Statue Circle, Mysore.

40. Makkalapustaka Press, Balamandira, Gandhi Nagar, Bangalore-9.

41. People's Book House, Opp. Jaganmohan Palace, Mysore-1.

42. Pervaje's Book House, Koppikar Road, Hubli.

Corrigenda

to

Hundred and Fifty-third Report on the Ministry of Rehabilitation - Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 97th Report (2nd Lok Sabha) of the Estimates Committee on the Dandakaranya Project.

Page S.No. Col.No. line

13	20	3	3	<u>delete</u> ', ' <u>after</u> the word 'further'
15	24	3	4	<u>for</u> 'recommended' <u>read</u> 'recommend'
15	25	3	4	<u>for</u> 'Railwa' <u>read</u> 'Railway'
16	26	3	1	<u>delete</u> ', ' <u>before</u> and <u>after</u> 'cultivation'
28	7	4	7	<u>for</u> 'worker' <u>read</u> 'workers'

CONTENTS

	PAGES
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE	iii
INTRODUCTION	v
CHAPTER I—Report	I
CHAPTER II—Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government.	2—5
CHAPTER III—Replies of the Government that have been accepted by the Committee.	6—27
CHAPTER IV—Replies of the Government that have not been finally accepted by the Committee	28—33
APPENDIX—Analysis of the Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Ninety-seventh Report of the Estimates Committee (Second Lok Sabha).	34

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

(1961-62)

CHAIRMAN

1. Shri H. C. Dasappa

MEMBERS

2. Shri Pramathanath Banerjee
3. Shri Chandra Shankar
4. Shri V. Eacharan
5. Shri Ansar Harvani
6. Shri H. C. Heda
7. Shri M. R. Krishna
8. Rani Manjula Devi
9. Shri Bibhuti Mishra
10. Shri J. G. More
11. Shri G. S. Musafir
12. Shri Padam Dev
13. Shri Jagan Nath Prasad Pahadia
14. Shri Chintamani Panigrahi
15. Shri Panna Lal
16. Shri Karsandas Parmar
17. Shri P. T. Thanu Pillai
18. Shri P. T. Punnoose
19. Shri Rajendar Singh
20. Shri K. S. Ramaswamy
21. Shri Satis Chandra Samanta
22. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla
23. Shri Kailash Pati Sinha
24. Shri M. S. Sugandhi
25. Shri Motisinh Bahadursinh Thakore
26. Shri Mahavir Tyagi
27. Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay
28. Shri Ramsingh Bhai Varma
29. Shri Balkrishna Wasnik
30. Shri K. G. Wodeyar

SECRETARIAT

Shri Avtar Singh Rikhy—Deputy Secretary.

Shri K. Ranganadham—Under Secretary.

(iii)

INTRODUCTION

1. The Chairman of the Estimates Committee, having been authorised by the Committee, present this Hundred & Fifty-third Report on the action taken by government on the recommendations contained in the Ninety-seventh Report of the Estimates Committee (Second Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Rehabilitation—Dandakaranya Project.

2. The Ninety-seventh Report of the Estimates Committee was presented to Lok Sabha on the 29th April, 1960. Government furnished replies to recommendations contained in the Report between 22nd September and 26th October 1960. These replies were considered by the Study Group 'G' of the Estimates Committee (1961-62) on the 8th September, 1961.

3. Government were asked to furnish further information on points arising out of their replies to certain recommendations. Information with regard to these recommendations was furnished by the Government on the 30th September 1961, which was considered by the Study Group 'G' on the 1st November, 1961.

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

I. Report.

II. Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government.

III. Replies to Government that have been accepted by the Committee.

IV. Replies of Government that have not been finally accepted by the Committee.

5. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Ninety-seventh Report (Second Lok Sabha) of the Estimates Committee is given in Appendix. It would be observed therefrom that out of 55 recommendations made in the report, 11 recommendations *i.e.* 20% have been fully accepted by Government, while 32 recommendations *i.e.* 58·2% have been accepted partly. Of the rest replies of Government in respect of 8 recommendations *i.e.* 14·5% have been accepted by the Committee while those in respect of 4 recommendations *i.e.* 7·3% have not been accepted by the Committee.

NEW DELHI-1;
March 7, 1962/Phalguna 16, 1883 (Saka).

H. C. DASAPPA,
Chairman,
Estimates Committee.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

In para 17 of their 97th Report (Second Lok Sabha) the Committee had observed that it would be in the interests of the Dandakaranya Project if some well-known social workers had been included in Dandakaranya Development Authority. They also felt that the addition of a few such non-officials in place of the two Members of Agriculture and Engineering, who instead of being Members of the Authority be made departmental heads, would not make the body too unwieldy. They had, therefore, suggested that the feasibility of appointing a few non-officials as part time Members might be considered.

The Ministry of Rehabilitation have not accepted the above suggestion. They have stated as follows in their reply:

“The number of Members of the Dandakaranya Development Authority, after re-constitution on the lines recommended by the Estimates Committee, is 8. The appointment of non-official social workers as part time members of the Authority would necessitate representation being given to each of the three States, viz., Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal. Any such additions are likely to make the Authority unwieldy and to detract from the expeditious implementation of the scheme. There are already a large number of social workers, most of whom are displaced persons from East Pakistan, employed under the Authority to assist in the welfare activities of the displaced persons in Dandakaranya and there is also an expert on Tribal Affairs to advise the Authority with regard to schemes of tribal welfare and advancement. Any further addition is not necessary at present.”

The Committee feel that since the Dandakaranya Project had been conceived to solve the problem which was socio-economic in character it is essential to recognise the importance of this aspect in dealing with the matter. They are of the view that the association of a few individuals, who are well known in the field of social work and have also knowledge of social drawbacks from which the displaced persons are suffering, on the Dandakaranya Development Authority is necessary and the same purpose cannot be fully achieved by the subordinate social workers. While the number of such persons to be added to the Authority is a matter that may be decided by the Government, the Committee do not agree that it will make the body unwieldy. They, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Sl. No. of the recommendation	Reference to Paragraph No. of the Report	Summary of recommendations/conclusions	Reply of the Government
-------------------------------	--	--	-------------------------

3

4

Noted.

1 6 The Committee are glad that the Government were able to project a plan of this nature and magnitude and are glad also that the States of Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra came forward to have the area developed for the dual purpose of rehabilitating the displaced persons of East Pakistan and of resettlement of local adivasis.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960].

2 9 The Committee feel that for speedier and better implementation of the Project it would be better if a full time Chairman with Headquarters in Dandakaranya is appointed. The presence of the Chairman in the Project area itself is bound to exercise a salutary effect in every way.

On the basis of past experience and the recommendations of the Estimates Committee, the matter was examined and the Dandakaranya Development Authority was reconstituted in June, 1960, with a wholetime Chairman with headquarters in the Project area.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960].

- 4 Even as things are, the utility of having departmental heads—as of Engineering and Agriculture— as members of the Authority is open to doubt. The Committee would desire that the matter may be examined.
- 13 The suggestion was examined and the conclusion arrived at was that the departmental heads of Engineering and Agriculture should not be members of the Authority. In the reconstituted Dandakaranya Development Authority the two heads have been dropped from membership.
[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960*].
- 11 There appears to be room for improvement in giving publicity to the vacancies adequately in the open market through newspapers. The Committee suggest that the vacancies may be advertised more extensively in local and other leading outside newspapers.
- 19 Though the decision of the Government regarding the Dandakaranya Project was communicated in October, 1958, the reclamation work did not start till November, 1959. Time is no doubt required for settlement of the essential preliminaries prior to release of land. But it appears that in preparing the time schedule for the reclamation operations due account was not taken of this fact or that time lag had been more than what was anticipated.
- 23 The Committee also suggest that the survey organisation of the Dandakaranya Development Authority may suitably be strengthened so that the mistakes of the kind that happened in Pharasgaon may be avoided.
[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960*].
- 30 The recommendation is being conveyed to the Dandakaranya Development Authority.
[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960*].
- 59-60 Noted.
[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960*].
- 66 This has been done.
[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960*].

- 33 111 The Committee welcome the decision of constructing two room tenements in villages instead of one room tenements which was the original idea.
- 39 121 It was brought to the notice of the Study Group of the Committee, that in some cases no agricultural loans had been paid to the displaced persons for the purchase of bullocks and agricultural equipments, with the result that they had not been able to prepare their lands for the next crop. The Committee suggest that this complaint may be looked into urgently.
- 47 139 The Committee were informed that truck drivers employed by the D.D.A. were not being paid their allowances regularly. They suggest that in view of the special circumstances in which the people have to work the procedure with regard to the payment of allowances, etc., may be suitably simplified to ensure timely and regular payments. The possibility of providing the drivers with halting accommodation and clothing may also be examined.
- 49 141 The Committee hope that the publicity vans now in use would be properly utilised and
- Noted.
- [*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960.*]
- Arrangements have been made for the systematic supply of implements and bullocks to settlers who have been allotted land.
- [*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960.*]
- Appropriate action is being taken in the matter.
- [*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 3rd October, 1960.*]
- The Chief Administrator has been directed to take action accordingly.

would help in popularising the new venture among the people.

52

144

Dandakaranya can bring out the best in every section of people, official and non-official. The settlement of tribal people needs, as stated already, a psychological approach which can win their confidence and goodwill. Hence the need for not merely the routine administrative approach but for missionary zeal and passion. That is the reason for the suggestion made for the association of some tried constructive workers in the organisation.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60,
dated 24th September, 1960].

This is already being done.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60,
dated 3rd October, 1960].

CHAPTER III

REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

Sl. No. of the recommendation	Reference to Paragraph No. of the Report	Summary of recommendations/ conclusions	Reply of the Government
-------------------------------	--	---	-------------------------

1

2

3

4

3 . . . 12 . . . The Committee understand that the crisis which developed in the Dandakaranya Development Authority was of a serious nature. The resulting deadlock brought the work in the administration practically to a standstill. The crisis was inherent in the pattern of organisation prescribed for the Dandakaranya Development Authority which did not provide for either a full time Chairman with overriding powers, or invest the Chief Administrator with such powers. The Committee regret that in

In the resolution setting up the Dandakaranya Development Authority, it was clearly provided that the Chief Administrator would be the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority. There was no inherent defect in the Constitution of the Authority and the crisis which developed was due to differences between the senior officers of the project.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. R.S. 6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960].

setting up an organisation like the Dandakaranya Development Authority sufficient care was not taken to eliminate an inherent defect of this nature.

5

15

The Committee feel that as the Dandakaranya Project is an integrated one it would be desirable to associate all the three States *viz.* Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, and Andhra, from the beginning in order to work out an integrated plan. For otherwise there is just a possibility of some of the schemes now taken up not fitting into what might have to be taken up later in the Andhra part of the Dandakaranya.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960.*]

6

16

The Committee consider it desirable to associate West Bengal in some practical manner in the Project, so that the interests of the displaced persons who are to move out of West Bengal to the new area may be properly and adequately represented.

The recommendation has been accepted and the Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal, is now a member of the Dandakaranya Development Authority.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960.*]

8

20

Dandakaranya is a new experiment in so far as the Centre is developing areas belonging to two or three Units of the Union with powers delegated by the Units to the Authority created for

The Dandakaranya Development Authority was reconstituted in June, 1960. The Authority is being given a considerable measure of autonomy and has been asked to prepare a general five year

the purpose. There is also the question of moving the displaced persons of East Pakistan from West Bengal and possibly of other areas to Dandakaranya. These various factors naturally necessitate a closer relationship between the Ministry and the authority. While in the matter of external relations of the Dandakaranya Development Authority with the State Governments concerned the Central Ministry would play a more direct part, the Committee feel that so far as its internal working is concerned it must be left with sufficient autonomy to proceed expeditiously with its various schemes.

plan and a more specific plan for the year. It will prepare its own budget. After the budget has been approved by the Government of India, the Authority may make minor adjustments within the allocation made in the budget. Major changes in the budget will, however, require the prior approval of the Government of India.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960.*]

24 The work of the Dandakaranya Development Authority impinges on the powers of the local Governments at several points. It is needless to say that unless the powers of the Dandakaranya Development Authority in relation to those of the State Governments are properly defined and the Dandakaranya Development Authority is vested with powers adequate for its performance, the progress of the project is bound to be slow and halting. The Committee feel that in view of the clear statement that there was no intention to create a Centrally administered area in Dandakaranya,

The question of the delegation of powers by the State Governments to the Dandakaranya Development Authority was discussed at some length with the State Governments concerned. The only major power which might have been asked for by the Dandakaranya Development Authority was the power to acquire land. Experience has shown that the acquisition of land raises so many local administrative problems that it was felt that land acquisition for the Dandakaranya Development Authority should continue to be done through the Land Acquisition Authorities of the Districts concerned. However, a special Land

the Ministry of Rehabilitation would now be able to persuade the State Governments to delegate to the Dandakaranya Development Authority whatever powers are necessary for the successful implementation of the Project. Such a delegation of powers should have been obtained much earlier. They suggest, that the powers of State Governments, delegation of which to the Dandakaranya Development Authority is necessary for prompt execution of the Project may be worked out in fair detail and early steps taken for their delegation to the Dandakaranya Development Authority through the Central Government.

10

The Committee consider that it would be desirable to associate the permanent Ministry which would ultimately take over the Project intimately with the Dandakaranya Development Authority from now on. They recommend that a final decision may be taken without delay with regard to the Ministry to which the work relating to Dandakaranya would be transferred.

26

The policy for the early liquidation of camps in West Bengal has been re-affirmed and it is expected that the major part of the work of the Ministry of Rehabilitation will be over within a period of 12 months or so, after the Ministry of Rehabilitation is wound up. The administrative control of the Dandakaranya Development Authority will be passed on to the Ministry to be entrusted with the residuary functions of the Ministry of Rehabilitation. A decision in that regard will be taken well in time to ensure a smooth change over.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960.]

12

From the figures supplied to the Committee they notice that out of 109 Class I and Class II posts

31

The position has since improved. Efforts continue to be made to procure suitable officers from the

Officer has been appointed to coordinate land acquisition matters.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960.]

1

filled so far, only 32 persons have been taken from the State Governments. They feel that adequate efforts may not have been made to secure the services of experienced and qualified staff from the State Governments. They consider that it may be more advantageous to obtain on deputation some of the officers of the State Governments concerned with the Project. They suggest this possibility may be urgently explored in consultation with the Governments concerned.

State Governments to fill existing vacancies in the Project.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960.*]

35 The percentage of displaced persons, local people and tribals employed in this Project is about 20% for Class III and 50% of Class IV. The Committee feel that as the project is intended as an integrated scheme for development of the area for the particular benefit of displaced persons from East Pakistan and the local people and in particular the tribals, preference should be given as far as possible to such people for filling the posts in the Project. They further suggest that after giving due consideration on these interests preference should also be given to retrenched employees of the Ministry of Rehabilitation

As will be seen from the statement contained in paragraph 33, the percentage of displaced persons, local people and tribals in the Project is about 50 in the case of Class III posts, and 84 in the case of Class IV posts and not 20 and 50 respectively as stated against serial No. 13 of Appendix V, Summary of Conclusions/Recommendations. It will thus be agreed that these categories of persons are adequately represented. Retrenched employees of the Ministry are already given preference subject to their suitability.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960.*]

45 From the Statement given at Para 44 it would be evident that while the Ministry of Rehabilitation planned to close the camps in West Bengal by July, 1959, by transferring 20,000 families to Dandakaranya, the project did not visualise the intake of more than 12,000 families upto end of 1960-61. Such unrealistic assumptions are perhaps responsible for a considerable portion of the unfavourable criticism recently levelled against the project.

Further information called for by the Committee.

Please state the number of refugee families settled in Dandakaranya area out of 12,000 families planned by end of 1960-61. In case the intake was less, the reasons therefor may also be furnished.

(L.S.S. O.M. No. 33-EC. 1/60 dated 3-7-1961).

Noted.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. R.S. 6(6)/60 dated 22nd September, 1960].

Upto the end of 1960-61, only 2448 families had arrived in Dandakaranya for resettlement. In spite of the preparedness of the Dandakaranya authorities and the best efforts of the Government of West Bengal to send settlers in large numbers from camps in West Bengal, the camp families refused to move. The main reason appears to have been that most of these camp families had grown roots in West Bengal and were not interested in resettlement in Dandakaranya.

All the agriculturist families in camps in West Bengal have been served with notices to move to Dandakaranya for rehabilitation failing which their doles shall be stopped. Doles of all those families in the case of which the period of notice has expired, and they have not moved to Dandakaranya, has been stopped.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(36)DNK/61, dated 30th September, 1961]

16 The Committee apprehend that while the target of reclamation of land may be completed by 1960-61, many of the ancillary schemes such as irrigation works and roads, vocational centres, schools, drinking water etc. may not make sufficient progress *pari passu* with that of

Steps are being taken to ensure proper synchronization.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. R.S-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960.]

reclamation. The Committee would emphasise that there must be proper synchronisation of the various schemes without which mere reclamation of land will not go far in rehabilitating the displaced persons.

17

52

The Committee wish to emphasise the importance of co-ordination between the development project of the Dandakaranya Development Authority and the regional development plans of the State Governments, both for economic and efficient implementation and with a view to avoid duplication. In the areas where the Dandakaranya Development Authority is to operate, its plans should be drawn up in full co-ordination with original plans of the State Governments, particularly those relating to communications, education and medical facilities and irrigation. On the other hand, where the State Governments have got their own Schemes, it may be useful to develop them by providing additional facilities for the benefit of displaced persons.

18

57

The Committee understand that sites selected for development in Dandakaranya are far flung and disconnected. It requires large field organisation for the development of all sites at one time. They doubt whether it was necessary to have taken up work on all sites at the same time. They feel that from

Discussions have been held with the District and State Government authorities in regard to the integration of the plans of the Dandakaranya Project with the development plans of the respective State Governments. The finalised plans of the Project have, to the extent possible, been related to the development plans of the State Governments for the area.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960].

It has since been decided that for the present efforts should be concentrated in the Umarkote Zone in Orissa and the Paralkote Zone in Madhya Pradesh.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960.]

the point of view of organisation and systematic progress it might have been better to have progressed from site to site preferably by expansion of the same sites. They suggest that even now this procedure may be kept in view while taking up new sites for development.

20

61—62

After reclamation of about 1,200 acres the State Government pointed out that the area contained valuable 'Sal' forests and stopped further, reclamation. The stoppage of the work at that stage naturally hampered progress and put the reclamation unit out of gear. The Committee are surprised that when the survey was done before selecting the site the fact that the area contained valuable 'Sal' forests was not noticed. It indicates that the survey was not done properly and due care was not exercised in selecting the site.

The system which is being followed in Dandakaranya is that the State Government releases land for reclamation to the Dandakaranya Development Authority and out of this land, the experts of the Dandakaranya Development Authority select areas which are suitable for reclamation. In the case of Pharsgaon, about 5,000 acres of forest along the National Highway was offered for reclamation by the Government of Madhya Pradesh in the early stages of the Scheme. Although from the point of view of the Dandakaranya Development Authorities, the land was suitable for reclamation, the State Government withdrew the offer of land after about 2,000 acres of land had been reclaimed by the Project Authorities. The reason stated by the State Government for this action was that the area contained valuable 'Sal' forest and the State Government did not feel that these forests should be cut down.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60,
dated 22nd September, 1960.]

21

65

Doubts were expressed to the Study Group of the Committee regarding the availability

About 50,000 acres of land was promised to the Dandakaranya Development Authority by the

of the area for cultivation in Paralokote area. The Committee hope that in view of the doubts expressed to the Study Group, the Government will carefully examine the usefulness of the area before proceeding with reclamation work in the area.

Further information called for by the Committee. Please state the proportion of the reclaimed land which would be available for agricultural purposes.

(L.S.S. O.M. No. 33-EC. I/60 dated 3-7-1962).

Madhya Pradesh Government in Paralokote area. Out of this, 35,000 acres have already been handed over. Roughly 50 per cent of the area was found suitable for reclamation. A further 50,000 acre area is being released by the Government and it is expected that 50 per cent of this area will also be suitable for reclamation. The soil in the area has been examined and found to be good for cultivation.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960.*]

All the reclaimed land is being brought under cultivation. Only that portion of the released land is being reclaimed which after examination is found suitable for cultivation.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(36)DNK/61, dated 30th September, 1961.*]

The Committee are concerned to note the failure of some of tractors purchased from the Ministry of Defence by the D.D.A. They suggest that the reasons for their failure may be investigated and steps taken to ensure that similar tractors to be produced in future may be free from such defects.

73

23

Action is being taken in accordance with the suggestions of the Estimates Committee. [*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960.*]

The matter has been carefully looked into by a TCM Expert. His recommendations have been

Further information called for by the Committee.
The latest position in the matter may please be stated.

(L.S.S. O.M. No. 33-EC. I/60 dated 3-7-1961).

24

77 In view of the imperative necessity of proper communications to connect the far flung settlements with the rest of the World, the Committee recommended that a programme of development of communications, co-ordinated with the work of reclamation, may be drawn up and speedily implemented.

Further information called for by the Committee.
Please state if the work is proceeding according to schedule.

(L.S.S. O.M. No. 33-EC. I/60 dated 3-7-1961).

25

78-81 The progress achieved in respect of rail construction programme in Dandakaranya area was not made known to the Committee. Secretary Rehabilitation, however, stated that the Railwa Board was doing the survey of the area. The Committee suggest that the work may be expedited so that the area is opened up by railway as early as possible.

accepted. Those in respect of maintenance and servicing of the machines have been passed on to the Chairman, DDA, and those concerning improvements, additions and alterations to the machinery have been forwarded to the D.G.O.F., for implementation by them respectively.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(36)DNK/61, dated 30th September, 1961.*]

Special emphasis to open up the areas now re-claimed is being given by the D.D.A. A net-work of roads linking the new tribal villages and the new displaced persons' settlements is also being created.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960.*]

The work is progressing according to schedule.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(36)DNK/61, dated 30th September, 1961.*]

Upto the end of June 1960, reconnaissance survey for 328 miles, preliminary survey for 221 miles and final location survey for 151 miles had been completed. Field work is expected to be completed by June, 1961 and estimates and Report are expected to be ready by December, 1961. The Project has been included in the Third Five Year Plan.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960.*]

26

Without irrigation, cultivation, in the area will depend mainly on the monsoons. This can generally give a single crop of paddy. Without irrigation facilities therefore it is doubtful whether even the otherwise fairly adequate area of 7 acres of land to be given to each displaced person can provide them with economic sustenance. The Committee, therefore, urge that special efforts may be made to provide adequate irrigation facilities for the reclaimed land. The Committee also feel that provision of tanks both for water supply and irrigation in each village may be very useful.

In addition to minor schemes for bunding nullahs, two fairly big schemes for construction of earthen dams—one across Bhaskal river in Umartokte and the other across Satiguda river in Malkangiri have already been finalised in consultation with the Central Water and Power Commission. The estimated cost of the two schemes is about Rs. 3 crores. These dams, when completed, will irrigate an area of 46,000 acres in Kharif and half of that area in Rabi. Survey and investigation for the construction of an earthen dam across Deodha Nallah in Paralkote are in progress. This scheme alone is estimated to cost about Rs. 3 crores.

16

It has also been decided to construct a surface tank in each new village settlement for irrigation and water for domestic use.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS-6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960.*]

27

The Committee feel that it would make for the success of the Scheme if the displaced persons are taken to and settled in Dandakaranya in composite groups consisting of not only agriculturists but also men in the complementary

91

Although the majority of families who are coming to Dandakaranya at present consist of agriculturists steps are being taken to induct upto 10% of non-agriculturists into the new villages, so that the traditional pattern of community life to which the

professions so that their group and family affiliations are kept intact and their traditional pattern of community life is reproduced in the new environments. They suggest that for this purpose before the selection is made of the persons to be moved to Dandakaranya their group and family affiliation may be ascertained and due regard given thereto in making selections.

28

The camp inmates have to be no doubt given priority for settlement in Dandakaranya. But in the Committee's opinion the project should also have room for taking camp inmates proposed to be rehabilitated in West Bengal in case there is any difficulty in settling them there. In addition, non-camp displaced persons from East Pakistan, not yet fully rehabilitated, should have also full opportunity to go there if they so desire. In fact a due admixture of non-campers who have shown some initiative and enterprise with campers who are taken to Dandakaranya may be very helpful in the work of settlement and exercise a healthy influence.

29

The Study Group of the Committee during their visit to two transit camps found that adequate facilities had not been provided for the inmates. The Committee feel that as the incoming displaced persons have their first glimpse of life they are going to lead in their new homes, in these camps, it is necessary

settlers are accustomed, can be reproduced in Dandakaranya.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS. 6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960.]

The first priority in Dandakaranya is the rehabilitation of displaced persons in camps in West Bengal. In order to build up an integrated community, skilled workers, artisans etc. may also be taken from amongst non-camp displaced persons, if not available from amongst the camp families, upto the extent of 10% of the total displaced persons moved to Dandakaranya. At a later stage under schemes for the general development of the area, other people may also come to Dandakaranya.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS. 6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960].

Although the Work Centres which are being set up are of a temporary nature, all essential amenities such as drinking water, medical care, education, etc. are provided.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS. 6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960.]

that proper arrangements should be made for their stay in the transit camps so that they may feel encouraged from the outset about their future prospects of life in Dandakaranya.

30 104-105

The Committee trust that the complaints and defects regarding the worksite camps (referred to in para 104) would be looked into by Government and steps taken to remove them.

Noted. Steps are being taken to remove the defects pointed out.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. R.S. 6(6)/60, dated the 24th September, 1960.*]

31

108

The Committee suggest that while constructing new worksite camps or replacing the tents and chauldaries in the existing camps, the desirability of constructing basha type huts for accommodating the displaced persons may be kept in view.

New Work Centres are of the 'Basha' type and the Work Centres with tented accommodation are gradually being converted into Work Centres with 'Basha' type accommodation.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. R.S. 6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960.*]

32

109

Displaced persons brought to Dandakaranya have to pass through the transit camps and worksite camps before final settlement. This has given rise to an impression among the displaced persons that they are brought from one camp (in West Bengal) to go to another. The Committee feel that as far as possible, where the places they would be settled finally are not far away from the work-

As far as possible, Work Centres are being put up in and around the areas of final resettlement. There are, however, a number of Work Centres on the National Highway and on the major District Roads leading to resettlement areas. These are to be used for transit accommodation as well as to provide employment during the transit period. As far as practicable, the intention is not to keep settlers for more than the

sités, the displaced persons may be taken from the transit camps to their villages directly. If necessary, a worksite camp may be set up near each village site. Only those displaced persons who are going to be settled in that village may be taken there so that they may come to feel that that would be their home. Such an arrangement is also likely to result in economy in expenditure on providing duplicate water, medical and educational facilities.

34

114 The Committee consider that considerable amount of infructuous expenditure has been involved in the construction of houses at Boregaon village. It is not only the quality of construction involving avoidable expenditure on repairs that is wrong, the type of houses also is not suitable for the displaced persons with the result that they are now permitted to build their own houses. The Committee feel that the case needs to be investigated with a view to find out how such defective planning and construction of houses came about so that similar mistakes may not be repeated.

Further information called for by the Committee.
The latest position in the matter may please be stated. (L.S.S. O.M. No. 33-EC. I/60 dated 3.7.1961).

During the visit of the Study Group of Estimates Committee to the area it was brought to their

35

115

minimum period in the Work Centres before moving them to village sites.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. R.S. 6(6)/60, dated 22nd September, 1960].

Action is being taken as recommended by the Estimates Committee.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. R.S. 6(6)/60, dated 26th October, 1960].

This matter has been looked into. In the early stages, a number of things had to be done in Dandakaranya on an experimental basis. The construction of houses in Boregaon was entrusted to the officers of the State Government. The defects of planning and construction have been remedied to the extent possible and no further construction has been undertaken through the agency of the State Governments.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(36)DN /61, dated 30th September, 1961].

Special efforts to ensure adequate supply of drinking water at village sites are being made. During

notice that there was a great shortage of drinking water. The Committee consider that the success of the whole scheme hinges on the availability of water for drinking as well as for irrigation. They, therefore, recommend that in planning the settlements greater attention should be given to this factor, so that having constructed the settlements they may not have to be abandoned for want of water and the displaced persons put to avoidable inconvenience.

the period when the village is being constructed, the source of water will be tube-wells. Thereafter tanks and masonry wells will be the main sources of water supply.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. R.S. 6(6)/60, dated 7th October, 1960.*]

36

118 Land rights that would be given to the displaced persons were still under consideration. The question of land rights is an important factor which influences the displaced persons in their decisions to go to Dandakaranya area. The Committee feel that the position with regard to the rights is yet uncertain. They consider that such an uncertain position in regard to rights, title and interest in the lands to be given to displaced persons would not be conducive to attract them to Dandakaranya. They, therefore, recommend that immediate steps may be taken to remove the element of uncertainty by ensuring security of occupancy for the displaced persons who are allotted land.

The Madhya Pradesh and Orissa Governments have agreed to give the best available land rights prevailing in the area to settlers in the respective States. These rights are heritable and transferable.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. R.S. 6(6)/60, dated 7th October, 1960.*]

As the irrigation schemes had not made much advance most of the land at present allotted remained unirrigated. It was represented to the Committee that the yield from the land was also not satisfactory. In the circumstances the Committee feel that agriculture is not likely to provide economic sustenance to the displaced persons for some time to come. The Committee suggest that this factor may be kept in view in preparing schemes for rehabilitation of displaced persons in Dandakaranya.

Further information called for by the Committee.

Please state the progress made in the matter.
(L. S. S. O. M. No. 33-EC. 1/60, dated 3-7-1961)

A programme for the setting up of a number of cottage and small-scale industries has been approved by the D.D.A. and it is hoped that through these industries the settlers will be able to augment their income from land.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. R.S. 6(6)/60, dated 7th October, 1960.*]

In addition to fishery, duckery and poultry schemes which have made considerable progress, the following industries have already been started in the project with a view to provide employment and training facilities along with subsidiary income to the settlers.

1. Wood working Centre, Boregaon.
2. Weaving Centre at Boregaon.
3. Ambar Charkha at Boregaon.
4. Bamboo Matting Centre at Beopariguda.
5. Carpentry shop at Jagdalpur.
6. A Tailoring Centre at Kondagaon.
7. Paddy Husking by Dhenkies. At present 1500 Dhenkies are in operation.

The following schemes have also been sanctioned :—

1. Oil Extraction Scheme.
2. Black Smithy & Tin Smithy Scheme.
3. Biri Making Scheme.
4. Sisal Fibre Extraction Scheme.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(36)DNK/61, dated 30th September, 1961.*]

40

122

The Committee consider that adequate educational facilities are a primary requirement for any settlement. The settlers not being able to settle down at one place as soon as they are taken to Dandakaranya makes the problems more difficult. They suggest that as the future of the settlements would be dependent on the educational facilities provided now much care should be given to the planning of those facilities. In doing so as suggested at para 52 attention should be paid to the maximum utilisation of existing institutions by reserving seats for displaced persons. For example seats may be reserved in Jeypore College for displaced students.

41

125

When the Study Group visited the Boregaon Hospital they were informed that facilities provided in the Hospital were inadequate to meet the needs of the displaced settlers in the area. As pointed out at para 52 of the Report the Committee suggest that both for medical and educational facilities, instead of setting up duplicate institutions for the displaced persons alone, the existing State Governments' institutions may be expanded and utilised in consultation with the State Governments, special funds being given to the State Governments for the purpose. Care should be taken to see

In consultation with the State Governments concerned, plans for the setting up of Primary Schools and Secondary schools have been finalised. Arrangements have also been made for children of settlers who have reached the collegiate stage, to be admitted to local institutions in Bastar & Koraput districts.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. R.S. 6(6)/60,
dated 24th September, 1960].

The Medical and Health Scheme of the Dandakaranya Project has been drawn up in consultation with the Medical Authorities of the States of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. In addition to the new institutions being set up by the Dandakaranya Development Authority assistance is being given by the Authority to the existing Medical Institutions run by the State Governments to augment their facilities.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. R.S. 6(6)/60,
24th September, 1960].

that these facilities are equally available to local tribals.

42

The Committee feel that small scale and cottage industries help to rehabilitate the displaced persons quickly. They are sometime traditional in nature, simple in operation and therefore easy to learn the techniques of and do not require much capital outlay. They, therefore, recommend that early steps be taken to promote development of small scale industries in the area with the assistance of the concerned organisations such as the Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries Board, Khadi and Village Industries Commission, etc.

126

Steps are already being taken to set up small scale and cottage industries. Over 400 'dhenkies' for paddy husking have already been supplied to the settlers. The plan is to provide a 'dhenki' to every family. A wood-working centre has been set-up at Boregaon. Doors and windows to be used in the new village houses will be manufactured in this centre. 20 looms have also been installed for the production of dhories and sarees of the type used by the settlers. A bamboo matting production centre has been started for making darma matting to be used as partitions of village houses, etc. Schemes for crushing mustard mahuwa and other seeds.

These industries will, as far as possible, be located in or near the new village settlements
[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS 6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960].

43

The Committee understand that the present policy of the Government of India in the Ministry of Labour and Employment is not to have combined Centres and that training Centres must be separate from production Centres. They suggest that the pattern of production and training Centres to be started in Dandakaranya may be reviewed accordingly.

127

The scheme has been drawn up in consultation with the D.G.R & E. of the Ministry of Labour.
[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS 6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960].

44 132

The Committee welcome the steps taken for the welfare of tribals in Dandakaranya area. In particular they emphasise the need for creating tribal group leaders, as also for settling the tribals who are weaned away from shifting cultivation in the newly reclaimed lands earmarked for them. They, however, feel that in dealing with the tribals the psychological approach is as important as provision of material benefits. They understand that no much publicity has been given about the operations of the Dandakaranya Development Authority among the tribal people to secure their co-operation in the endeavour. They consider it essential for the success of the scheme that satisfactory relations should be maintained with the tribal people and suggest that every effort should be made to secure their confidence and goodwill.

Some tribal group leaders have since been appointed. An Adviser on tribal welfare has also been appointed. One of his functions is to maintain close touch with the local tribals and to explain to them the broad outlines of the Project and to suggest the steps to be taken to promote tribal welfare. Steps have also been taken to give adequate publicity among the tribals regarding the measures taken or proposed to be taken for their welfare.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M No. RS 6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960].

45 135

The Study Group of the Estimates Committee which visited Dandakaranya formed the impression that the caravans acquired to provide accommodation for members and senior officers of the D. D.A. were luxury items which did not fit in well with the environments. The Committee feel that Govern-

Though the Ministry fully shares the sentiments of the Estimates Committee, the accommodation problem in Dandakaranya was very acute in the initial stages. In fact, at most places accommodation was non-existent. The work had to be started from scratch in an area which was mostly unsurveyed and highly malarious and in which

ment officials while working on social welfare programmes should identify themselves with the people for whose Welfare they are working and give no room for a feeling that they are of a different station in life. The Committee feel that the expenditure incurred on the caravans by the Ministry of Rehabilitation was avoidable.

communications were very difficult. These caravans were secured from another Government department to provide ready accommodation at that time and have proved useful.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M No. RS 6(6)/60, dated 3rd October, 1960.*]

46. 138 The Study Group formed the impression that the project had too many vehicles and that they were not being put to proper use. The Committee, therefore, suggest that the vehicles requirements of the project may be reviewed and proper check exercised over their utilisation.

Now that the Project has gained momentum and large scale operations have begun in widely separated areas, Project vehicles are being fully utilised and a proper system of checks and controls has been instituted.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS 6(6)/60, dated 24th September, 1960.*]

48. 140 The Committee feel that there is good deal of misunderstanding among the displaced persons about life in Dandakaranya. They, therefore, suggest that to attract the displaced persons to the area correct information with regard to the programme of their settlement, where they would be settled, how long they would remain in the transit camps and what resettlement benefits they would get etc. should be made available to them. For this purpose they suggest that a publicity organisation be set up in West Bengal to carry the message of Dandakaranya to the displaced persons.

An experienced officer of the Press Information Bureau of the Government of India is attached to the Ministry of Rehabilitation to look after its publicity work. This officer also attends to the Dandakaranya publicity. Lately, another officer of the Press Information Bureau has been appointed as Information Officer at the Headquarters of the Authority at Koraput. He has wide contacts with the Press in West Bengal, and with the approach of the next working season is to concentrate on publicity amongst displaced persons in the camps in the State. A leaflet and a brochure giving full details of the rehabilitation benefits available to settlers in Dandakaranya are under preparation. Moreover, the

Zonal Leaders and Social Workers employed by the Dandakaranya Development Authority who are themselves displaced persons, also help in publicizing the Project amongst displaced persons. The State Government have also their own publicity organisation within the State. In the circumstances, it is not considered necessary to have another Central publicity Organization in West Bengal.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS 6(6)/60; dated 3rd October, 1960].

50

142 The birth of Dandakaranya has been hailed on all sides and has given rise to great hopes. The displaced persons look forward to it as a land which will give them a new home and make them forget the poignancy of the loss of their original homes and hearths and their subsequent tribulations. The indigenous tribal people see therein the abandonment of their nomadic existence and the ushering in of a new life of peace and plenty. The States of Orissa and Madhya Pradesh see a vision of the conversion of this wild, inaccessible and undeveloped region into a flourishing one humming with agricultural and industrial activities. It is indeed

Noted.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M No RS 6(6)/60. dated 24th September, 1960].

a great experiment where all the elements should combine in one mighty co-operative effort.

51

143

The question of settlement of displaced persons in Dandakaranya which is the prime motive for the conception of the project is essentially a human problem which transcends party or other considerations. Now that the teething troubles, however regrettable, are over the Committee hope that the whole movement of displaced persons to their new home will no longer be a matter of doubt or hesitation but one of happy, though arduous adventure, with the sure prospect of a hospitable reception at the other end.

Noted.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS 6(6)/6c;
dated 24th September, 1960].

53

145

The Committee have expressed their appreciation of the attitude of the States that have hastened to offer parts of their States for this great beneficent work. The Committee are desirous that the States should not rest in leaving things to be done by the Authority, but feel that they are joint participants in the great endeavour and lend their full and wholehearted co-operation.

Noted.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS 6(6)/6o,
dated 24th September, 1960].

55

147

The Committee fervently hope that Dandakaranya will soon turn into a most happy and prosperous region exploiting in full the rich natural resources to the benefit not only of the displaced persons and the people of that area but also of the country as a whole.

Noted.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS 6(6)/6c,
dated 24th September, 196c].

CHAPTER IV

REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT THAT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

Serial No. of the recommendation	Reference to Paragraph No. of the Report	Summary of recommendations/conclusions	Reply of the Government	Comments of the Committee
1	2	3	4	5

7 17 Other than the Chairman, there is no non-official representation in the Authority. The Committee feel that it would be in the interests of the Project if some well-known social workers were to be included in the Dandakaranya Authority. They do not think that addition of a few such non-officials would make the body too unwieldy. As already indicated they do not think it necessary for the member of Agriculture and Engineering to be members of the Authority. They may be departmental heads. The Committee, therefore suggest that the feasibility of appointing a few non-officials as part-time members may be considered.

The number of Members of the Dandakaranya Development Authority, after re-constitution on the lines recommended by the Estimates Committee, is 8. The appointment of non-official social worker as part time members of the Authority would necessitate representation being given to each of the 3 States, *viz.*, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal. Any such additions are likely to make the Authority unwieldy and to detract from the expeditious Report.

See para I
Chapter I
of the
Report.

implementation of the scheme. There are already a large number of social workers, most of whom are displaced persons from East Pakistan, employed under the Authority to assist in the Welfare activities of the displaced persons in Dandakaranya and there is also an expert on Tribal Affairs to advise the Authority with regard to schemes of tribal welfare and advancement. This Ministry does not consider any further additions necessary at present and is therefore unable to accept the suggestions of the Estimates Committee.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS. 6(6)/60, dated 3rd October, 1960].

14 It is needless to emphasise the usefulness and necessity of preparing a master plan for a project like this. The Committee feel that there is a glorious opportunity to plan and build up a prosperous area out of the untold wealth of Dandakaranya an idea which they are assured the Ministry fully shares. The Committee, therefore, consider that no effort should be spared in preparing a master plan without delay. In case it is difficult to find competent men in India for the

40 It has all along been the intention of the Committee to prepare a master plan for the project. It has not been possible to prepare a plan so far due to the lack of suitable personnel and inadequate data for the area. The data is now being collected and it is expected that it would be possible in the not too distant future to start work on a master plan for the area.

purpose, the Committee would suggest the consideration of the feasibility of getting experts from abroad for the purpose.

Further information called for by the Committee

The latest position in the matter may please be stated.

(L.S.O.M. No. 33 EC. 1/60 dated 3-7-1961).

limina-
ries to
the pre-
paration
of a

The work of collection of data for the preparation of a Master Plan has not yet been completed. Suitable personnel for the preparation of a Plan has not yet been appointed. The Chairman, Dandakaranya Development Authority has, however, been requested to ensure that the work of preparation of a Master Plan* is given priority and is started at the earliest possible time.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(36)DNK/61 dated 30th September, 1961.*]

37

The position of the Dandakaranya Development Authority itself in regard to the lands that are being reclaimed and developed is uncertain with the result that it is not in a position to confer rights on the occupants *viz.* displaced persons or tribal people. It is also seen that the Authority is not in a

119

The Com-
mittee
hope that
Govern-
ment of
India co-
uld take

The D.D.A., in consultation with the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa, have agreed that the land rights to settlers will be given by the State Governments without the Dandakaranya Authority coming in as intermediary.

position to get anything in return for the vast investments it is making in Dandakaranya and the rental revenue at present goes to the State Governments concerned. The persons who are being settled on the land cannot get ownership rights because they have got to pay the reclamation costs, etc. The Committee consider that this nebulous condition should not last long. There are some alternatives which may be considered. One of them is for the Dandakaranya Development Authority to take these tracts of land on darkhast outright and become the owner thereof when it will have right to pass on the ownership to individual settlers on payments indicated above. The other is to take a long lease of the lands, say ninety-nine years, when they could pass on their rights to the settlers. The Committee feel that the large investments the Government of India are making should yield some return to itself and the whole of it cannot be taken away by way of rent by the State Governments in course of time. The question as to who should get the sale price of land in case a settler

*At the time of factual verification the Ministry stated :

“The Dandakaranya Development Authority has been asked to proceed expeditiously with the preparation of a Master Plan for the Project.”
(Ministry of Rehabilitation No. 13 (1)/61-Genl. dated 23-12-1961).

**At the time of factual verification the Ministry stated :

“Necessary action is being taken to arrive at an early decision in this matter.”
Ministry of Rehabilitation No. 13 (1)/61-Genl. dated 23-12-1961).

The question of the return on the investment made by the Government of India in reclaiming land which is being passed on to the settlers, has yet to be examined in consultation with the State Governments.

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS 6(6)/60 dated 7th October, 1960.]

This question has not yet been examined in consultation with the State Governments. It is unlikely that the State Governments who have placed their lands at the disposal of the Dandakaranya Development Authority free of charge for the settlement of displaced persons from camps in West Bengal, will agree to surrender any part of the land revenue to the Authority. **

[Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(36)DNK/61 dated 30th September, 1961.]

up the matter early with the State Governments with a view to arriving at a mutually satisfactory arrangement in this regard.

chooses to own his piece of land is also not very clear. Whether it is the Authority that should get it because of having invested monies for reclamation, etc., or it is the State that should get it on the basis of mere ownership or whether the sale price should be divided between the authority and the State and if so in what proportions, these are points which are not yet determined. The Committee considers that it would be desirable to settle these matters early as to leave them vague would create complications in the future.

Further information called for by the Committee
Please state if the question of the return on the investment by Government of India has been examined in consultation with the States and if so, with what results.

(L.S.S. O.M. No. 33-EC. I/60 dated 3-7-1961).

- 54 146 The Government of India have taken upon themselves the Dandakaranya Project with a noble objective and a great hope and are not stinting expenditure. It is of utmost importance that there must be careful planning and speedy and judicious implementation of the Schemes for which it is essential to draw
- The Dandakaranya Development Authority has been directed to prepare a general five year plan and a more specific plan for the year.
- As already stated, when the Ministry of Rehabilitation is wound up the
- Please see comments against S. No. 14 in this Chapter.

up a Master Plan without delay. The committee are not sure as to who will take over the work of the Rehabilitation Ministry so far as Dandakaranya is concerned after the Rehabilitation Ministry ceases to exist. It would be most desirable that that question is settled early enough. The Committee feel that as the development work progresses fresh problems will arise and it is well to anticipate as many of them as possible and provide for them from now onwards.

Further information called for by the Committee
Please state briefly about the arrangements made and the success achieved in drawing up Master Plan for Dandakaranya Project.

(L.S.S. O.M. No. 33—EC. I/60 dated 3-7-1961).

residuary work relating to Dandakaranya will be entrusted to the Dandakaranya Development Authority so long as that Authority exists and will be carried out under the directions of one or other of the Ministries of the Government of India.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. RS 6(6)/60 dated 24th September, 1960.*]

The Master Plan* has not yet been prepared for the reasons explained in the reply to Sl. No. 14—paragraph 40 of the Report. A Plan for the next working season has, however, been drawn up and approved by the Dandakaranya Development Authority and work is to proceed according to this plan during the coming season beginning in October/November 1961.

[*Ministry of Rehabilitation O.M. No. 3(36)DNK/61 dated 30th September, 1961.*]

* At the time of factual verification the Ministry stated.

“The Dandakaranya Development Authority has been asked to proceed expeditiously with the preparation of a Master Plan for the Project.”
(Ministry of Rehabilitation No. 13 (I)/61—Genl. dated 23-12-1961).

APPENDIX

Analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Ninety-Seventh Report

1. Total Number of recommendations	55
2. Recommendations accepted fully by Government (<i>Vide</i> recommendations Nos. 1, 2, 4, 11, 19, 22, 33, 39, 47, 49 and 52 in Chapter II).	
Number	11
Percentage to total	20%
3. Recommendations accepted by Government partly or with modifications (<i>vide</i> recommendations Nos. 6, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35, 36, 38, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 46, 50, 51, 53 and 55 in Chapter III).	
Number	32
Percentage to total	58.2%
4. Recommendations not accepted by Government but replies in respect of which have been accepted by the Committee (<i>vide</i> recommendations Nos. 3, 5, 9, 15, 20, 31, 45 and 48 in Chapter III).	
Number	8
Percentage to total	14.5%
5. Recommendations replies to which have not been accepted by the Committee (<i>vide</i> recommendations Nos. 7, 14, 37 and 54 in Chapter IV).	
Number	4
Percentage to total	7.3%