ESTIMATES COMMITTEE (1967-68)

FIFTY-FIFTH REPORT

(FOURTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION

(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE)

Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventy-third Report of the Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha) on the erstwhile Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture)---Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur



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INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Estimates Committee, having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Fifty-Fifth Report of the Estimates Committee on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their 73rd Report (Third Lok Sabha) on the erstwhile Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Department of Agriculture)—Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur.

2. The Seventy-Third Report of the Estimates Committee was presented to the Lok Sabha on the 27th April, 1965. Government furnished replies indicating action taken on the recommendations on the 27th January, 1966. Government's replies were considered by Study Group 'E' at its sitting held on the 22nd June, 1967. Further information on Government's replies to some of the recommendations was called for from the Ministry on different dates and the last communication furnishing such further information was sent by Government on the 6th September, 1967. Further replies received from Government were considered by Study Group 'E' of Estimates Committee on the 19th December, 1967. The draft Report was considered by Study Group 'E' on the 11th March, 1968 and adopted by the 'Committee on 26th March, 1968.

3. The Report has been divided into the following Chapters: •

- I. Report.
- II. Recommendations that have been accepted by Government.
- III. Recommendations which the Committee do not want to pursue in view of Government's replies.
- IV. Recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted.
 - V. Recommendations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited.

4. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventy-Third Report of the Estimates Committee (Third Lok Sabha) is given in the Appendix. It would be observed therefrom that out of 26 recommendations made in the Report, 18 recommendations *i.e.* 69.2 per cent have been accepted by Government and the Committee do not desire to pursue 7 recommendations *i.e.* $26 \cdot 9$ per cent in view of Government's replies. Final reply in respect of one recommendation, *i.e.* $3 \cdot 9$ per cent, is still awaited from Government.

NEW DELHI;

April 4, 1968.

Chaitra 15, 1890 (Saka).

P. VENKATASUBBAIAH,

Chairman, Estimates Committee.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

The Committee are glad to observe that the recommendations contained in their Seventy-Third Report (Third Lok Sabha) on the erstwhile Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Department of Agriculture)... Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur, have been replied to by Government to the Committee's satisfaction.

While noting the action taken by Government on certain recommendations, the Committee desire that further information on the progress made in implementation of some of the recommendations (included in Chapters II, III & V) may be furnished to the Committee.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Serial No. 1), Para 14.

The Committee suggest that there should be close contact between the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur and the Defence Laboratory, Jodhpur, in regard to research activities in fields of common interest.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation is accepted.

2. A Research Coordination Committee of Defence Laboratory, Jodhpur, and the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur, is being formed for purposes of collaboration and exchange of knowledge/data subject to the limitation imposed by the security requirements and to avoid unnecessary duplication of work.

[Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate the progress made in the matter of setting up of the Research Coordination Committee.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated 17-7-1967].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

A Research Coordination Committee consisting of experts of the C.A.Z.R.I. and the Defence Research Laboratory at Jodhpur has since been constituted. The Committee has already held four meetings.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D.&C. (Deptt. of Agriculture), I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 6-9-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 2), Para 22

The Committee suggest that the Institute should undertake continuous studies of the technique and methods being followed in the United States, U.S.S.R., Australia, Israel and Egypt to tackle the problems of arid zone so that promising lines of research can be taken up in the Institute for intensified effort to find solution suited to conditions in India.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

A very close liaison will continue to be maintained through contacts with the research organisations in the countries listed. These are as follows:—

- 1. Dryland Research Institute, Riverside, U.S.A.
- 2. Commonwealth Scientific Industrial and Research Organisation, Australia
- 3. Institute of Arid Zone Research, Israel, Beersheba.
- 4. Desert Research Institute, Mataria, U.A.R.

Such of the lines of researches as suit the Socio-economic conditions of the people in India will be taken up to find solutions of the problems of the Indian arid zones.

[Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 3), Para. 23

The Committee suggest that the Government may undertake scientific and technological studies of the conditions obtaining before and after the advent of the canals.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Survey of areas commanded by the Ganga Bhakra and Rajasthan Canals is being taken up by the Government of Rajasthan in collaboration with U.N.O. under U.N. Special Fund. The recommendation has been forwarded to that Government for necessary action. The Institute will also maintain liaison with the State authorities and complement the surveys to the extent necessary. A Socio-economic survey of nomadic Cattle Breeders in the Rajasthan Canal tract has been completed. Further studies on the changing pattern of Socioeconomic and technological conditions will be undertaken after the advent of the canal in this tract.

[Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 4), Para 25

Since the stabilisation of shifting sand dunes can play an important part in saving the vegetation in villages and towns from the memace of sand and also augment the fuel and fodder supply in the area, the Committee suggest that the technique developed by the Institute may be put to effective use by the State Government on a wider scale. The Committee would further suggest that a phased programme for covering sand dunes in the entire area may be drawn up for implementation and that the proposed Desert Development Board/Government of India may extend necessary assistance in that behalf.

Reply of Government

The recommendation regarding the technique of stabilization of sand dunes has been accepted by the State of Rajasthan. It has been proposed to stabilize 15,000 acres of shifting dunes in the Fourth Five Year Plan. A phased programme will be drawn up for the purpose by the State Government. The recommendation is being forwarded to the State Government for implementation. When the Desert Development Board is set up, this recommendation will also be brought to their notice for further action.

[Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture). O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate whether phased programme for the stabilisation of 15,000 acres of shifting sand dunes has been drawn up. The reaction of the Desert Development Board on this matter may also be stated.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated 17-7-1967].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

The Government of Rajasthan have been requested to intimate the latest position in regard to the drawing up and actual implementation of the phased programme for the stabilization of 15,000 acres of shifting sand dunes. Their reply is awaited. A copy of the recommendation of the Estimates Committee has already been sent to the Secretariat of the Desert Development Board. The Board is likely to consider the recommendation at its very first meeting when held.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D.&C. (Deptt. of Agriculture), I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 6-9-1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The reply of the State Government when received, may be forwarded to the Committee.

Recommendation (Serial No. 5), Para. 26

The Committee suggest that the seed production of grasses suitable for growing in arid zones may be taken up on an extensive scale, commensurate with the total area to be served, as this would materially increase the forage resources of the State.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation has been accepted.

The State Governments have been asked to implement the same to the extent the resources of the State permit.

[Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please furnish the progress report in the matter of seed produc**dion** of grasses suitable for growing in arid zones.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated 17-7-1967].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

The replies so far received from the State Governments indicate that the recommendation is being followed up in Madras, Kerala and Gujarat. The Government of West Bengal and the Administrations of the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Laccadive Islands have stated that the recommendation is not applicable to the conditions obtaining in their State/Territories. Replies from the remaining State Governments are still awaited. They have been reminded.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D.&C. (Dep^tt. of Agriculture), I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 6-9-1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The full position may be intimated to the Committee when replies from other State Governments are received.

Recommendation (Serial No. 6), Para 27

The Committee suggest that the regeneration of grasses in the range-lands coupled with live-stock studies should be taken up on an extended scale and a phased programme should be drawn up to rep-grade the deteriorated grass lands in the arid and semi-arid lands.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation has been accepted.

The State Governments have been asked to implement the same to the extent the resources of the State permit.

[Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture). O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please furnish the progress report in the matter of regeneration. of grasses in the range lands coupled with live-stock studies.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated 17-7-1967].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

The replies so far received from the State Governments indicate that the recommendation is being implemented in Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Madras and Gujarat. The Government of West Bengal and the Administrations of the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Laccadive Islands have stated that the recommendation is not applicable to the conditions obtaining in their State territories. Replies from the remaining State Governments are still awaited. They have been reminded.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D.&C. (Deptt. of Agriculture), F.C.A.R. O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 6-9-1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The full position may be intimated to the Committee when replies from the other State Governments are received.

Recommendation (Serial No. 7), Para 28

The Committee suggest that wild species of plants may be studied from the aspect of water deficiency and their adoption to arid environment.

Reply of Government

These studies have already been initiated in the Agronomy, Silviculture and Plant Physiology Sections of the Central Arid Zone Research Institute. This work will be continued.

[Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture). O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 9), Para 28

The Committee would like the Institute to intensify its efforts to locate quick growing suitable trees so that the meagre forest resources in the arid zone may be augmented.

The Committee further like to stress the need for protecting existing forests against indiscriminate felling.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Regarding the first part.—The Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur, would collect quick growing hard species of trees and shrubs from all homoclimatic regions for introduction.

Regarding the second part.—The recommendation has been communicated to the State Governments and they have been requested to implement the same to the extent the resources of the State permit.

[Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966.]

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

(i) Please intimate the steps taken by the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur for collecting quick growing hard species of trees and shrubs from all homoclimatic regions for introduction.

(ii) Please intimate the action taken by the State Governments for protecting existing forests against indiscriminate felling.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated 17-7-1967.]

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

(i) Since 1965, the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur has introduced 35 species of Eucalyptus and Acacias and 28 species of other miscellaneous genera. The Institute has also distributed seeds and seedlings of these species to Departments/agencies of the State Governments.

(ii) Replies so far received from the States indicate that the recommendation is being implemented in Madras, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Punjab. The steps taken by the State Governments include intensive patrolling in every forest circle against offenders, felling of only silviculturally matured trees and regeneration of areas after exploitation. The Government of West Bengal and the Administrations of the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Laccadive Islands have stated that the recommendation is not applicable to the conditions obtaining in their State territories. Replies from the remaining State Governments are awaited. They have been reminded.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D.&C. (Deptt. of Agriculture), I.C.A.R. O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 6-9-1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The full position may be intimated to the Committee when replies from other State Governments are received.

Recommendation (Serial No. 10), Para 29

The Committee suggest that after the results of evaluation being made of the production of fuel, gum arabica and carrying capacity of live-stock as a result of standardised techniques of roadside shelter belt planting, are finalised these may be communicated to the State Governments concerned so that plantation of roadside shelter belts can be taken up on an extensive scale.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is accepted.

[Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966.]

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate the reaction of the State Government in the matter of plantation of roadside shelter belts.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated 17-7-1967.]

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

It is understood that the State Government of Rajasthan have since taken up a programme of planting roadside shelter-belts. They have been requested to indicate the details of the programme as also the physical targets achieved by them in this respect. The Committee will be informed about the position on receipt of a reply from the State Government of Rajasthan.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D. &C. (Deptt. of Agriculture), I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 6-9-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 12), Para 32

The Committee suggest that a perspective plan may be drawn up for carrying out an integrated survey of natural resources of all the arid and semi-arid lands in India in a detailed and thorough manner so that the future development of the arid and semi-arid regions could be based on complete and reliable data with appropriate order of priorities. The time limit for the completion of the various stages of the survey may be fixed and it should be ensured that it is adhered to.

As the information, gathered from resources surveys, will be of direct significance to the State authorities in their development activities, the Committee suggest that the desirability and feasibility of associating them with the conduct of resources surveys may be considered. The Committee recommend that the Institute should evolve a standard method for an integrated natural resources survey so that it can be followed both by the Central and State agencies to gather information on uniform basis.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation is accepted in principle. It is, however, considered necessary that a rapid reconnaissance survey should be carried out to obtain the necessary data for drawing up a perspective plan for the detailed integrated survey recommended by the Committee. A phased programme for the reconnaissance survey is being drawn up. The State Governments will be associated with the survey and the staff will get training in the technique standardised by the Institute.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966.]

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate the present position in regard to a phased programme for the reconnaissance survey.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated 17-7-1967.]

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

A reconnaissance survey of 11,000 square kilometers has been completed. This covers six Community Development Blocks in the Western Districts of Rajasthan. Survey of two more Blocks is in progress. In a phased programme of surveys, it is proposed to undertake a reconnaissance survey of about 10,000 square kilometers and detailed survey of two more Blocks in 1968-70.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D.&C. (Deptt. of Agriculture), I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 6-9-67].

Recommendation (Serial No. 13), Para 33

The Committee suggest that there should be close coordination between the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, the Exploratory Tubewells Organization and the Under-Ground Water Board of the State Government to avoid any overlapping and duplication of work and to ensure that the survey of under-ground water covers comprehensively all the desired aspects of the problem.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

'Accepted. A Work Study Group is being constituted for this purpose.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 14), Para 34

The Committee suggest that the Institute may examine the question of undertaking studies of methods of efficiently utilizing distributed water and local ground water for irrigation purposes and of the most efficient use of rainfall for crop production, pastures, forestry and stock water in the different land types of the regions.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Central Arid Zone Research Institute, has already initiated studies on efficient use of rain water for crop production, pastures, forestry and stock water. These studies are proposed to be further strengthened in the course of the Fourth Plan.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 15), Para 35

The Committee suggest that an early decision may be taken on the proposal to set up the Division of Liaison in Physical and Chemical Engineering Studies. The Committee also suggest that studies in desalination of brackish water may be undertaken on priority basis.

Reply of Government

In pursuance of the recommendations of the Estimates Committee on the Central Arid Zone Research Institute—vide S. No. 25 of the recommendations at Appendix IV of their 73rd Report an Achievement Audit Committee is being appointed to review the work done by the Central Arid Zone Research Institute and to suggest future programme also. The question of setting up the Division will also be examined by that Committee.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate whether the Achievement Audit Committee has been set up. If so, a copy of the Report of this Committee, if available, may be furnished.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated 17-7-67].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

An Achievement Audit Committee was set up and it has since inspected the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur. The Report of the Committee is expected to be received shortly.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D. & C. (Deptt. of Agriculture), I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 6-9-67].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Ministry may furnish to the Committee copy of the Report of Achievement Audit Committee for record.

Recommendation (Serial No. 17), Para 36

The Committee suggest that experiments to find out the yield and content of all the varieties of Guar may be completed early so that varieties of high yield and quality may be introduced in the arid areas. The Committee understand that there is great scope for improving the export of Guar yielding high quality gum to the foreign countries. The Committee hope that the export of Guar preferably in the manufactured form viz., gum, will be stepped up to earn more of valuable foreign exchange, giving at the same time due conside ation to the requirements of the country for Guar.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

A large collection of *Guar* varieties has been built up at the Central Arid Zone Research Institute in collaboration with the Division of the Plant Introduction, Indian Agricultural Research Institute. There are 76 varieties which are under test at the Central Arid Zone Research Institute. Of these, 37 varieties have been tested for their gum. A stage has been reached where trials could be initiated during the 4th Plan period, to select high yielding gum content varieties for introduction in the arid areas of the country. Once such *Guar* varieties have been selected a seed multiplication programme etc. will be undertaken.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please furnish the progress report regarding selection of high yielding gum content varieties for introduction in the arid areas of the country.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-ECII, dated 17th July, 1967].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

Forty five varieties of *Guar* are under trial at the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur. Of these the gum content of twenty-four varieties have already been examined. The varieties I.C.9495, I.C.32, I.C.7563, Sikar and Agra are seen to have gum content ranging from 40—43% by weight of seed.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D. & C. (Deptt. of Agriculture), I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 6-9-67].

Recommendation (Serial No. 20), Para 39

The Committee suggest that ecological investigations on animal and insect pests in arid areas may be intensified with a view to evolve suitable methods for their biological control.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The Animal Ecologist of the Central Arid Zone Research Institute is already engaged on studies for controlling the special rodent pests of vegetation in the arid areas. The Government of India have also requested the UNESCO for services of a specialist in Eco-toxicology. As and when this expert is assigned, the work on this aspect will be further intensified. The work on the control of insect pests will also be taken up in due course.

[Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 21), Para 40

As research work on sheep is being done at both the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur and the Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Malpura, the Committee would like it to be ensured that there is close coordination of activities in this field between the two Institutes so that there is no overlapping or unnecessary duplication of efforts.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The recommendation is accepted.

For the present, the only three projects on sheep started are as follows:---

- 1. Selection of sheep on the basis of potassium-sodium ratio in whole blood and red blood cells in relation to wool production per unit body weight and its quality.
- 2. Heat and water stress tolerance in sheep relative to body weight and wool production.
- 3. Micro-nutrient status of the blood of three breeds of sheep to find out if it is concerned with anaemia in sheep which is widely prevalent in Rajasthani breeds.

These projects for the present have not been taken up at the Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Malpura. These were started in concurrence with the then officer Incharge of the Institute. These investigations fall in the fields of Physiological Genetics and Animal Physiology which sections have not yet been started at the Sheep and Wool Research Institute. To avoid overlapping and unnecessary duplication the programmes will be coordinated by the Directors of the two Institutes.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

Recommendation (Serial No. 23), Para 43

The Committee cannot over-emphasise the importance of ensuring that the results of research conducted by the Institute are translated into actual practice by all the State Governments concerned and would stress that there should be close, effective and continuous coordination with the State Governments in the field of research on arid zone problems and the utilization of results of research.

Reply of Government

The above recommendation is accepted.

2. It is, however, pointed out that at present the Director, Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur, is a member of the Planning Committee for Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Forestry of the Government of Rajasthan and also of the Senate of the Jodhpur University. The research programmes of the Institute are discussed generally with the Research Officers of the University of Udaipur, Departments of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Forestry of the State Government. The fundamental and applied research results are always brought to the notice in the meetings of the above Committee and also of the Agricultural Research Advisory Committee of the State Government. The Institute is also maintaining close touch with the non-Governmental organisations like Registan Seva Abhiyan (Desert Welfare Movement), Sahodar Sadan, Bikaner and is supplying all the literature published by the Institute. The Institute is further maintaining close liaison with the Arid Zone Association which is regularly bringing out a technical journal giving the results of research obtained at the Central Arid Zone Research Institute and also in several other Institutes in the world.

The results will also be communicated to the State Governments, wherever considered necessary.

[Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate to what extent the results of research conducted by the Institute have been put up into actual practice by means of close, effective and continuous coordination with State Governments.

[Lok Sabha Secretariat O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated 17-7-67].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

There is a very close liaison between the Institute and the Departments of Forestry, Animal Husbandry, Agriculture and Soil Conservation of the Government of Rajasthan. The results of research conducted at the C.A.Z.R.I., for example in the fields of (1) Technique of stabilization of shifting sands, (2) selection of drought hardy and fast growing shrub species for afforestation (3) the techniques of afforestation in different edaphic types met with in the Western Rajasthan, (4) production of seeds of high perennial grass species for reseeding and improvement of poor and degraded rangelands and (5) improved agronomic practices for increasing crop production have been passed on to the above referred departments for adoption. The State Forestry and Highway Department have adopted the technique of stabilization of shifting sand dunes whereas the other Development Departments have taken up improved species of trees selected by the Institute for the large scale planting programme as evidenced by the large scale demand of seeds and seedlings of these species. The State Forestry Department is also considering the recommendations of the Institute in respect of techniques of afforestation of different sites for implementation. It is also pointed out that during the 11th Silvicultural Conference held in May 1967 at Dehra Dun, the results of forestry research work carried out at the Institute were also discussed in detail for adoption by the Governments of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana To date 28 tonnes of seeds of high perennial species of grasses bove been distributed by the Institute to different departmental agencies in these three States with a view to enable them to improve their range-lands by reseeding.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D.&C. (Deptt. of Agriculture), I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 6-9-67].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The area in which the improvements have been introduced may be reported to the Committee.

Recommendation (Serial No. 25), Para 46

The Committee hope that the proposed Achievement Audit Committee would be appointed soon to review the work done by the Institute since its inception. As regards subsequent reviews, the Committee would suggest that the review may be conducted in the third or fourth year of the Plan so that the advice of the experts is available in time for framing schemes for the next Plan period.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

Recommendation is accepted.

It is proposed to appoint an Achievement Audit Committee consisting of the following members:----

(i) Agricultural Commissioner-Chairman

MEMBERS

- (ii) Shri C. R. Ranganathan, Executive Director, Fertilizer Association of India.
- (iii) Shri Mahabir Prasad, Irrigation Advisor to the Government of India.
- (iv) Dr. H. R. Arakeri, Joint Director of Agriculture, Govt. of Mysore.
- (v) Dr. J. S. Kanwar, Punjab Agriculture University.
- [Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture), O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

CHAPTER III

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

Recommendation (Serial No. 8, Para No. 28)

They suggest that the techniques for the up-take of the nutrients under low soil moisture condition, which is an essential necessity in arid areas, may be developed for cultivated plants.

Reply of Government

This work is proposed to be taken up during the Fourth Plan period.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture), O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II, dated 27-1-1966.]

Recommendation (Serial No. 11, Para No. 30)

The Committee suggest that research efforts may be intensified so that a practical solution to the problem of conserving soil against wind erosion may be found early.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

A proposal to take up Wind Erosion Studies at the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, is under consideration. These studies include evolving practical methods of conserving soil against wind erosion.

At present a limited work of field studies on the methods of conserving soil is being undertaken by the Central Arid Zone Research Institute.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II., dated 27-1-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state whether the Institute has taken up Wind Erosion studies to solve the problem of conserving soil against wind erosion.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5(9)/64-E.C.II, dated 15-12-66].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

The Central Arid Zone Research Institute has already been doing research on the methods of establishment and testing the efficiency of wind erosion control measures like wind breaks, wind strip cropping, stubble mulching etc. in different habitats. Now it has been decided to establish a special Wind Erosion Studies Section to intensify both fundamental and applied research in the field as well as the laboratory from 1967-68.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D. & C. (Deptt. of Agri.), I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 28-12-1966].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee stress the need for intensifying and quickening the tempo of research of the methods of establishment and testing the efficiency of wind erosion control measures.

Recommendation (Serial No. 16, Para No. 36)

The Committee suggest that research may be intensified to develop Bajra and Jowar seeds which are tolerant to saline water conditions.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

In the Section of Plant Physiology, a separate sub-section is being set up to study the problems of salinity tolerance in crop plants. The work already started will be intensified and it is expected that varieties of *Jowar* and *Bajra* will be selected which are tolerant to saline condition.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Deptt. of Agri.), I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II, dated 27-1-66].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate the present position in the matter of setting up a separate Sub-Section to study the problems of salinity tolerance in crop plants.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated the 17th July, 1967].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

A separate Sub-Section was included in the draft proposals for intensification of research at the Central Arid Zone Research Institute during the 4th Plan period. These proposals will be finalised in the light of the Report of the Achievement Audit Committee, as soon as it has become available.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D. & C. (Deptt. of Agriculture), I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 6-9-67].

Recommendation (Serial No. 18). Para 37

The Committee hope that the standard indigenous gypsum blocks evolved by the Institute would be put to extensive use for the purpose of estimating irrigation and soil moisture.

Reply of Government

The recommendation is accepted. The State Governments and Central Institutes have been informed of the gypsum blocks evolved by the Central Arid Zone Research Institute. It is hoped that the State Governments and the Institutes would fully utilise the same.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture), O.M. No. 12-9/65-Inst^t. II, dated the 27th January, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate the extent to which gypsum blocks evolved by the Institute have been utilized by the State Governments for the purpose of estimating irrigation and soil moisture.

[Lok Sabha Sectt., O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated the 17th July, 1967].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

The Director, Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur has received enquiries from various State Government agencies regarding the use at d fabrication of gypsum blocks. He has supplied the required information to these agencies. The Institute has also trained an officer of the Government of Rajasthan, Agriculture Department, in maxing gypsum blocks.

The State Governments have also been requested to indicate the action taken by them on the recommendation of the Committee. Replies from most of them are still awaited. They have been reminded.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D. & C. (Deptt. of Agriculture), I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (IIF), dated 6-9-1967].

Recommendation (Serial No. 19, Para 38)

The Committee hope that the scheme drawn up by the Institute for the rehabilitation of Banjara group of nomads, if found feasible, would be implemented by the State Governments.

Reply of Government

The recommendation of the Estimates Committee has been communicated to the State Government of Rajasthan for taking necessary action.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture), O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II, dated the 27th January, 1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please intimate the reaction of the State Government of Rajasthan for rehabilitating the Banjara group of normads.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated the 17th July, 1967].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

The State Government of Rajasthan were requested to indicate the action taken by them on the scheme drawn up by the Institute for rehabilitation of Banjara group of nomads. The matter was also discussed with State representatives by the Director, Central Arid Zone Research Institute. However, no reply has been received from them. They have been reminded.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D. & C. (Deptt. of Agri.), I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 6-9-1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Reply of the State Government when received may be forwarded to the Committee.

Recommendation (Serial No. 22, Para 42)

The Committee would like to draw attention to the following recommendations made by the Symposium on Problems of Indian Arid Lands, with which the Committee agree:

- 1. The ecological investigations in arid lands of plant communities should be intensified as the information on these subjects is fragmentary.
- 2. The basic research work of the Institute should give research attention to (i) the possibility and desirability of

building up soil organic matter in arid and semi-arid environments, (ii) study of the micro-flora of these regions and (iii) the role of rhizobium and the importance of adapted efficient strains for arid, semi-arid, saline and alkali tracts and regions.

3. Research should be conducted to set up small scale industries which can be developed as by-product industries based upon industrial raw materials of the Arid Zone consisting of gypsum, limestone, base metals, lignite, salt, sand and medicinal plants.

The Committee hope that the above mentioned research schemes would be considered for inclusion in the Fourth Plan for the Institute.

Reply of Government

The investigations on (a) plant communities of arid lands and (b) soil micro-flora, organic matter and nitrogen fixing rhizobia as listed under (1) and (2) of the Committee's recommendations will be intensified during the Fourth Five Year Plan in the Sections of Ecology and Microbiology of the Basic Resources Studies Division of the Institute.

There is no set up in the Institute to conduct studies on mineral and agricultural by-products for starting agro-industries and mineral based industries. This will require a separate Division at the Institute which is not envisaged in the programme. This recommendation is proposed to be communicated to the State Government for action in the Industries Department.

[Ministry of Food Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture), O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II, dated 27-1-66].

Recommendation (Serial No. 24, Para 45)

The Committee consider it of vital importance that the training courses run by the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, are reviewed periodically in consultation with the State Governments so that any improvements or modifications, where called for, could be effected.

The Committee also suggest that an early decision may be taken on the question of setting up of a "Post graduate School" at the Institute in those subjects in which the Institute has adequate facilities.

Reply of Government

At present no regular courses are being conducted except ad-hoc courses like "Grassland Ecology", "Improvement of Grazing Resources and Fodder Production", "Water balance Studies of Plant Communities" and "Photo Interpretation for Soil and Water Conservation". The suggestion of the Estimates Committee is, however, accepted.

As regards the starting of the Post-graduate courses, the matter is under consideration.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Deptt. of Agri.) O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II, dated the 27th January, 1966)].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state the present position in regard to the introduction of post-graduate courses in such subjects in which the Institute has adequate facilities.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated 15-12-66].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

The question of starting the post-graduate Courses is still under consideration.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture) I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (IIP), dated 28-12-1966].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state the latest position in regard to the introduction of Post-Graduate Courses in such subjects in which the Institute has adequate facilities.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated 6-2-1967].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

The question of introduction of Post-graduate Courses at the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur was placed before the Achievement Audit Committee appointed for going into the working of the Institute for their expert opinion. The recommendation of the Committee on this point is awaited. The question will be considered on receipt of their recommendation.

[Ministry of Food & Agriculture C.D. & C. (Deptt. of Agri.) I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-Agri. Instt. III, dated the 8th February, 1967].

FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please state the recommendation made by the Achievement Audit Committee on the question of introduction of Post-graduate courses in the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur and the action taken by Government thereon. A copy of the Report of the said Committee may also be furnished.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-EC II, dated 9th March 1967].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

The Report of the Achievement Audit Committee on the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur has not been received so far. In the meanwhile, the Chairman of that Committee has been consulted regarding the Committee's thinking on the question of introduction of Post-graduate courses in the Central Arid Zone Research Institute.

The two essential requirements for the Post-Graduate degrees are (i) the thesis work and (ii) the course work. It has been suggested that the Central Arid Zone Research Institute should undertake post-graduate teaching in collaboration with the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. The Indian Agricultural Research Institute would select candidates in accordance with their usual procedure and impart course work at Indian Agricultural Research Institute itself. It is felt that the course work which is part of the post-graduate degree course could be much better undertaken at Indian Agricultural Research Institute, without duplicating all arrangements at Central Arid Zone Research Institute. After doing the course work at Indian Agricultural Research Institute, the candidates would undertake thesis work (research part) at the Central Arid Zone Research Institute. The degrees given would be those of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute which has got the status of a University. Similar arrangements could be made with some other Universities engaged in post-graduate teaching in agricultural and animal sciences. Action is being taken on the lines indicated above.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D. & C. (Deptt. of Agri.) I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI(III) dated 17-4-1967].

CHAPTER IV

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Recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee

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CHAPTER V

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RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWATTED

Recommendation (Serial No. 26), Para 49

The Committee hope that the Desert Development Board would be set up at an early date with representatives of the Central and State Governments to draw up a coordinated programme for the development of the desert area. The Government should ensure tha the results of research carried out in the Central Arid Zone, Research Institute and elsewhere are applied with advantage in the field. The Committee hope that adequate resources for development of the desert area would be made available.

REPLY OF GOVERNMENT

The proposal to set up the Desert Development Board is under the active consideration of the Government of India.

The Desert Development Board when set up will consist of the representatives of the State Governments of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Punjab, the Planning Commission and the Ministries of Food & Agriculture, Health, Finance, Irrigation & Power and Social Security.

The Desert Development Board will take into account the results of the research of the C.A.Z.R.I., Jodhpur while formulating its programmes of work. In fact it is contemplated that the Board will work in close collaboration with the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur.

A sum of Rs. 10 crores is likely to be earmarked for Desert Development work in the 4th Five Year Plan.

[Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture), O.M. No. 12-9/65-Instt. II, dated the 27th January, 1966]. FURTHER INFORMATION CALLED FOR BY THE COMMITTEE

Please furnish a copy of the proceedings of the first meeting of the Central Desert Development Board.

[Lok Sabha Sectt. O.M. No. 5-9/64-E.C. II, dated the 17th July, 1967].

FURTHER REPLY RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT

No meeting of the Board has been held so far.

[Ministry of F.A.C.D. & C. (Deptt. of Agriculture) I.C.A.R., O.M. No. 10-58/66-AI (III), dated 6-9-1967].

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee hope that no time would be lost by Desert Development Board in formulating its programme of work.

P. VENKATASUBBAIAH,

Chairman,

Estimates Committee.

NEW DELHI.

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APPENDIX

Analysis of action taken by Government on	
contained in the 73rd Report of the E	stimates Committee
(Third Lok Sabha)	
1. Total number of recommendations	26
 Recommendations that have been a by Government (vide recommendati 1-7, 9, 10, 12-15, 17, 20, 21, 23, and cluded in Chapter II). 	on Nos.
Number	18
Percentage to the total	69. 2%
3. Recommendations which the comm not desire to pursue in view of Gove replies (<i>vide</i> recommendation Nos. 8 18, 19, 22 and 24 included in Chapt	ernment's 3, 11, 16,
Number	7
Percentage to the total	26.9%
4. Recommendations in respect of whit reply of Government is still awaited commendation No. 26 included in (l (vide re-
Number	I
Percentage to the total	3.9%

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