

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

(1969-70)

(FOURTH LOK SABHA)
NINETY-FIFTH REPORT

**Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development
and Co-operation (Department of Agriculture)**

**[Action Taken by Government on the recommendations
contained in the thirty-seventh Report of the Estimates
Committee (Fourth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Food,
Agriculture Community Development and Co-operation
(Deptt. of Agriculture)—Central Inland Fisheries
Research Institute, Barrackpore]**



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AUGUST, 1969/SRAVANA, 1891 (SAKA)

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CORRIGENDA TO

Ninety-fifth Report (Fourth Lok Sabha) of Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Department of Agriculture) - Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore.

Page (vii) para 2 for 'Thirty-seven' read 'Thirty-seventh'.

Page 2 Line 6 for 'advance' read 'advances'.

Page 3 Line 11 for 'Kakdwin' read 'Kakdwip'.

Page 4, Line 33 for 'posts' read 'post'.

Page 8 Line 37 for 'prceedings' read 'proceedings'.

Page 10 Line 35 for 'research' read 'Research'.

Page 15 Line 34 for 'Note.' read 'Noted.'.

Page 17 Line 33 for 'acquinting' read 'acquainting'.

- Page 18 Line 21 for 'fill up' read
'fillip'.
- Page 20 Line 14, for 'following up'
read 'follow up'.
- Page 20 Line 18 for 'State Government
of Fisheries' read 'State
Department of Fisheries'.
- Page 25 Line 23 for 'Institute'
read 'Institutes'.
- Page 26 line 39 for 'countrywise
scale' read 'countrywide scale'.

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(1968-69)

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INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Estimates Committee, having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Ninety-fifth Report on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-seventh Report of the Estimates Committee (Fourth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Department of Agriculture)—Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore.

2. The Thirty-seven Report of the Estimates Committee was presented to the Lok Sabha on the 12th March, 1968. Government furnished replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in the Report on the 12th December, 1968. The Study Group 'E' of the Estimates Committee (1968-69) considered the replies received from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research at their sitting held on the 29th April, 1969. The draft-Report was adopted by the Committee on the 28th July, 1969.

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 desire to pursue in view of Government's reply.

4. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirty-seventh Report of the Estimates Committee (Fourth Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix. It would be observed therefrom that out of 69 recommendations made in the Thirty-seventh Report, 67 recommendations, i.e. 97·1 per cent have been accepted by Government. The Committee do not desire to pursue 2 recommendations, i.e. 2·9 per cent in view of Government's reply.

M. THIRUMALA RAO,

Chairman,

Estimates Committee.

NEW DELHI;

August 8 1969

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CHAPTER I

REPORT

The Estimates Committee are glad to observe that the recommendations contained in their Thirty-seventh Report (Fourth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Department of Agriculture)—Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore, have been replied to by Government in time and generally to their satisfaction.

2. The Committee desire that further information on the progress made in the implementation of some of the recommendations may be furnished to the Committee.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Serial No. 1) Para 1.10

The Committee note the objectives of the Institute and the efforts made so far to realise the same. They are glad that significant advance have been made in the research on pisciculture and fish production. Being the premier research institution in the country devoted to inland fisheries, the Institute has a great responsibility in evolving new methods and techniques for fish culture and suggesting means for increasing fish production in available inland waters. Alongside the researches on fish cultural techniques investigations on the biology of important fisheries, etc. there is an imperative need for disseminating the results of researches to the fish farmers who want to take up fisheries as a profession. The Committee hope that the Institute would keep this objective in view while carrying on research work.

Reply of Government

The reoriented programme of work of the Institute for 1968-69 has taken into full consideration the objectives mentioned by the Committee, namely, evolving new methods and techniques in fish culture and suggesting means for increasing fish production in available inland water. As regards dissemination of research to fish farmers, proposals for setting up an Extension Wing in the Institute with six zonal units (namely, North West Zone, North Zone, East Zone, Central Zone, West Zone and South Zone) are now under consideration.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-3/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 2) Para 1.29

The Committee note that although the administrative control of the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute has been transferred to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research with effect from 1st October, 1967, exploratory fishing in Sundarbans estuaries, brackish water fishing farm in lower Sundarbans and Inland Fisheries Training Section, which were hitherto dealt with in the Institute, have not been transferred to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. In view of the fact that brackish water fish culture can become a very major industry if properly developed, the importance of the exploratory fishing and brackish water fish farming started in the Sundarbans areas can hardly be over emphasised. The Committee would, therefore, like to be assured that the work already done in exploratory fishing in Sundarbans estuaries and in setting up the brackish water

fish farm in Kakdwip would continue to be dealt with by some Central agency so that they receive the attention they deserve.

Reply of Government

The project in respect of exploratory fishing in Sundarbans estuaries, brackish water fish farm in lower Sundarbans will continue to be dealt with by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Department of Agriculture). The investigational phase of the development of brackish water fish farming in lower Sundarbans has been taken up by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute. The brackish water fish farm at Kakdwip continues to remain under the control of the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 4) Para 2.18

The Committee are surprised to note that against 531 sanctioned posts as many as 106 posts of all categories, i.e. 20 per cent were vacant on 7th September, 1967. The Committee regret that despite the observations of the two reviewing teams—Chopra Committee (1954) and Professor Swingle (1961)—that considerable delays took place in filling up vacant posts, Government did not consider it necessary to tackle the problem effectively and take suitable remedial measures. While the Committee are inclined to accept the Ministry's contention that staff has done useful work, they have no hesitation in saying that their output would have been larger in physical terms had all the vacant posts been filled up. While the reasons for the large number of posts remaining vacant might be diverse, their effect on the efficiency of the Institute must be cumulative. The Committee apprehend that unless quick and energetic steps are taken to fill up the vacant posts, the execution of the projects taken up by the Institute would be seriously hampered. The Committee appreciate the difficulties of the Ministry in filling up some scientific posts with suitable personnel on account of unattractive pay scales attached to them. They, however, feel that this is a matter which should have been known to the Ministry when they planned their programmes of work requiring the services of competent technical personnel. Steps should have been taken to obtain necessary financial sanction to revise the pay scales in appropriate cases so as to attract persons with requisite qualifications.

Reply of Government

Action is already underway to fill up as many of the vacant posts as possible. Of the 106 vacant posts referred to by the Committee, 16 posts cannot be filled up as they come within 3 per cent cut now in operation. Of the rest of the 90 posts, 44 posts have already been filled up. Action has already been initiated for filling up the rest of the posts.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 4) Para 2.19

Now that the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute has come under the control of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the Committee hope that that organisation would take note of the present position and adopt suitable remedial measures in this direction.

Reply of Government

The question of the revision of pay scales and their structure for scientific/technical posts is under consideration of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 5) Para 2.20

The Committee are unhappy to note that suitable departmental candidates were sometimes not forthcoming to fill up promotional quotas and as such there was delay in filling up some of the posts. In the opinion of the Committee, this only shows a lacuna in the training arrangements in the Institute. The Institute should so plan their work and train up their personnel that at each level there is a second rung of the qualified scientists who should be in a position to come up and man the senior scientific posts as and when they fall vacant.

Reply of Government

The recommendations of the Committee have been noted. It may, however, be pointed out that in the case of almost all the posts filled up by direct recruitment through the Union Public Service Commission in recent years, the Departmental candidates have been selected by the Commission. This partly accounts for the lack of suitable candidates for departmental promotion.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 6) Para 2.21

The Committee are unhappy about the inordinate delay in filling up the posts of Deputy Director which has remained vacant since January, 1964. They fail to see why requisite qualifications for this post were not laid down when a requisition was sent to the Union Public Service Commission in 1964. The Committee would urge that, before a new post is actually sanctioned care should be taken to spell out in detail the qualifications and the experiences which a candidate for the same is expected to possess. While sending requisitions to the Union Public Service Commission for filling up the vacant posts, full particulars about the qualifications and research experience etc. required of the candidates should be sent simultaneously. It should also be ensured that no post remains vacant for more than six months and if necessary, arrangements should be made to fill up the vacant posts on an *ad hoc* basis, so that research work is not handicapped.

Reply of Government

Now that the Institute is under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, all recruitment to senior posts will be done by the selection Committees set up by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The post of Deputy Director has already been advertised by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and a candidate will be selected after interviewing the various applicants.

All efforts will be made to ensure that posts do not remain vacant for more than six months.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 7) Para 2.22

The Committee would suggest that the Ministry may examine the causes of delay in filling up such and vacant posts of classes III and IV staff as Caretaker, Engine Driver, Launch Driver, Laboratory Boy, Fisherman, Boat Driver, Boatman, Sweeper, etc. which are normally filled through Employment Exchange. In case such candidates are not forthcoming from the Employment Exchanges, no time should be lost in recruiting the same from the open market.

Reply of Government

The Class III posts like Research Assistants, Survey Assistants, Scientific Assistants, etc. for which suitable candidates were not forthcoming from Employment Exchange, have already been advertised in the leading newspapers. In other cases, on receipt of clearance from Employment Exchange, recruitment is made from the open market. In order to locate the causes of delay in filling up vacant posts at the Institute, the Work Study Unit of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research will be examining the same in detail.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 8) Paras 2.25 and 2.26

The Committee are not happy about the continuance of a large number of temporary posts some of which were created as early as 1961. Apart from the deleterious effect the temporary nature of a post has on the pensionary rights of a worker, the quality of research is adversely affected inasmuch as a temporary employee would be more preoccupied with the search for a secure job to the detriment of research.

The Committee have already dealt with this problem in para 79 of their Seventy-fifth Report (Third Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture)—Indian Council of Agricultural Research. They hope that the Council could consider the cases of temporary posts in the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute in the light of the recommendation made in their Seventy-fifth Report.

Reply of Government

The Institute is at present considering a proposal for the conversion of temporary posts into permanent ones and these will be examined and implemented by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research when the proposals are received.

Confirmation of personnel against permanent posts, which existed at the time of transfer of the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is at present under the consideration of the Department of Agriculture.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 9) Para 2.28

The Committee note that among the category of other technical posts are included such persons as photographer, artist, computer, librarian, scientific assistant, driver, mechanic, carpenter etc. It is obvious that these functionaries do not undertake research or teaching work. Taking teaching staff in the category of scientific personnel, the percentage of scientific staff in the Institute comes to 33. As against this, the percentage of non-scientific staff is 67. The Committee feel that there is an imbalance in the staffing pattern of the Institute inasmuch as there is a preponderance of administrative staff as compared to scientific staff. It is desirable to lay down a correct ratio between the administrative staff and the research staff not only in this institute but in all Central Research Institutes dealing with fisheries.

Reply of Government

The question of the feasibility of fixation of a ratio between the administration staff and the research staff in an Institute under Indian Council of Agricultural Research particularly Fisheries Research Institute will be examined in detail and the decision arrived at will be made applicable to all the Central Fisheries Research Institutes.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 10) Para 2.30

The Committee would suggest that the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, to which the Institute is now transferred, should carefully consider the general principles laid down by the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Cabinet while deciding the administrative pattern of the Institute. It should be ensured that the Institute is staffed with proper scientific personnel, there is clear delegation of powers and that scientists are provided with proper administrative personnel to relieve them of routine administrative work.

Reply of Government

This recommendation has been noted for compliance. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is already seized of these problems.

and action to implement the recommendations of the Committee is already under way.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 11) Para 2.30

The Committee would suggest that the question of setting up of Governing Council for this Institute on the lines of the general principles laid down by the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Cabinet should be considered and the Estimates Committee informed in due course about the action taken in the matter.

Reply of Government

The general question of the setting up of Governing Councils for all the Research Institutes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is under consideration.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Comments of the Committee

Final decision may be communicated to the Committee.

Recommendation (Serial No. 12) Para 2.33

The fact that the chances of promotion to higher posts or higher scales for scientific personnel are less in Research Institutes has already been highlighted by the Committee in their 75th Report (Third Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture)—Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The Committee would reiterate the recommendations made in para 91 of their Report and suggest that the matter may be pursued vigorously.

Reply of Government

With the reorganization of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research as the Central Body responsible for promoting, assisting and co-ordinating agricultural (including animal husbandry) research and education throughout the country, and the integration with the Council, of the various research Institutes, special efforts are being made to strengthen the various Institutes, Laboratories and Centres under the Council and to intensify their research and educational activities, commensurate with the country's requirements during the Fourth Five Year Plan period. In addition, the Council has recently sanctioned a "Scheme of merit promotion and advance increments" to the scientific personnel employed by the Council.

A proposal for improving the pay-scales of scientific and technical staff under the Council so as to bring them at par with those prevailing in the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and other sister organizations is also under active consideration.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 13) Para 2.37

The Committee feel that the presence of two or more officers of identical rank at the same sub-station and one of them being designated as the Officer-in-Charge-cum-Senior Research Officer is likely to lead to administrative difficulties. They, therefore, recommend that the designation of the Senior Research Officer, who also looks after the administration of a sub-station, should be suitably changed.

Reply of Government

Noted. The matter is under consideration.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 14) Para 2.37

The Committee feel that the Head of the Sub-Station, who has to undertake research work, should not be burdened with administrative duties. They suggest that the question of providing suitable administrative assistance to the Head of each of the Sub-Station may be considered.

Reply of Government

The recommendation has been noted for implementation.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 15) Para 2.40

The Committee would recommend the extension of the scheme of merit promotions and advance increments to the Central Institutes on the Fisheries side, if not already done, so that such of the members of the staff as have done outstanding work are suitably rewarded.

Reply of Government

The scheme of merit promotions and advance increments of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been extended to all the Fisheries Research Institutes which have come under the administrative control of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial Nos. 16, 17 and 18) Para 3.12

The Committee commend the steps taken by the Standing Fisheries Research Committee for coordination of fisheries research in the country. They suggest that the proceedings of the Standing Fisheries Research Committee should be publicised and made available to all fisheries research institutes in the Centre and in the States as well as to universities which impart teaching in fisheries and allied sciences.

The Committee suggest that the Standing Fisheries Research Committee should hold their sittings at important fishing centres of the country so as to bring the representatives of the industry into closer contact with research workers.

The Committee feel that for better coordination the regional committees should meet frequently and discuss problems of common interest and a report of discussion held at such meetings should be made available to the Standing Fisheries Research Committee.

Reply of Government

The Standing Fisheries Research Committee of the Department of Agriculture has recently been wound up. As such the question of publicising its proceedings does not arise.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research have set up a scientific Panel for Fisheries Research. The Panel considers important matters concerning fisheries research. The relevant recommendations of the Panel wherever necessary are passed on to the State Fisheries Departments, research centres/concerned universities and other teaching institutions. The meetings of the Scientific Panel are, as a rule, held in Delhi.

In respect of various research institutes, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is considering a proposal to set up Advisory Committees. On such Committees the suggestion for having the representatives of the industry as members would be kept in view while deciding their membership.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 19) Para 3.21

The Committee cannot overemphasise the importance of taking up research projects which are likely to have a definite impact on fish production. They are glad to note that one of the criteria for selecting new projects is the benefit that would accrue in terms of increased production. They would, however, stress that before a project is taken up for implementation, the economics thereof should be fully gone into and worked out in detail.

Reply of Government

This has been noted for guidance.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1) dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 20) Para 3.22

The Committee are unhappy to note that the Institute has no mechanism to assess the impact of its researches on fishery development either in West Bengal or in other States. They suggest that a method may be devised in consultation with the State Government whereby it should be possible for the Institute to adjudge to what

extent increased yield has been effected as a result of the techniques evolved by it.

Reply of Government

Noted. The matter is being carefully examined.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1) dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 21) Para 3.26

The Committee cannot comprehend why it should not be possible to indicate the date of inception of a project. For purposeful planning it is imperative that time-targets setting out dates of inception and probable dates of completion of projects are laid down. All projects should be classified into short-term and long-term ones, and tentative dates for completion should be insisted upon. It should be the responsibility of the principal Investigator, who works out a particular scheme, to send annual progress reports of the scheme so as to enable the Director and through him the Standing Fisheries Research Committee to evaluate the progress of the scheme. If a project has to be abandoned, it is desirable that it is discontinued at the earliest possible opportunity to save time and money.

Reply of Government

The recommendation has been followed in preparing the revised programme of work of the Institute. In all project programme of the Institute for 1968-69 the dates of commencement and completion have been indicated.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 22) Para 3.26

The Committee would suggest that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research may examine all such schemes which have continued or are continuing for more than three years in order to find out whether the results achieved are commensurate with expenditure.

Reply of Government

There is no scheme on fisheries research financed by the Indian Council of Agricultural research which is continuing at present. The research schemes financed by the Council are scrutinised before sanction by the Panel for Fisheries Research and Standing Committee on Animal Sciences Research. Thereafter once the scheme is started annual progress reports of the schemes are considered by the Scientific Panel to see whether or not the progress has been according to the approved technical programme. Any lacunae observed in the progress of the scheme are pointed out to the sponsoring authority and the officer-in-charge of the scheme and specific suggestions to rectify them are made. In watching the progress of

the schemes, the expenditure aspect is always kept in view by the Scientific Panel.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 23) Para 3.32

The Committee are glad to note that Ministry have taken a decision to set up a unit for Research on fish farm designing in the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore. The fish farms not only serve as potential sources for supply of fish by culture practices but also as composite units for demonstration of improved methods of pisciculture and observation centres on breeding of various exotic and indigenous species, their rates of growth, their adaptability to various environmental conditions and their optimum food requirement in different regions of the country under control conditions. Now that State Governments are setting up their own fish farms to augment the production of fish seeds, it is imperative that there is some standardisation in the designing of such farms. The Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore, should in due course, be in a position to provide guide-lines to the State Departments of Fisheries in the matter of designing fish farms so that economics in construction as well as reduction in the cost of reclamation of water areas could be achieved. The standardised designs prepared by the Institute should be made available to progressive farmers intending to take up fish farming as their profession. The Committee would stress that Fish Farm Designing Unit in the Institute should be set up without any delay.

Reply of Government

Active steps have already been taken to set up a Fish Farm Designing Unit at an early date. Recommendations of the Committee regarding the objective of the Unit have been noted.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendations (Serial No. 24) Para 3.49

The Committee are of the view that for any successful implementation of fish culture programme it is of paramount importance that fish seed of the desired species are made readily available in sufficient quantities. Since the production of the fish seed in the country at present is grossly inadequate and cannot meet the demand of even adequately stocking the areas cultivated the Committee feel that there is an immediate need to make concerted efforts for increasing production of fish seed.

Reply of Government

Efforts are being made by the State Governments to increase their fish seed production. In addition, the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute has explored some of the areas in the rivers Yamuna, Sone, Kosi, Cauveri, Bhawani, Godavari, Tungabhadra, Vedhavati,

Sutlej Beas, Banas and Chambal. Some of the States have taken up induced breeding with the required complement of nurseries and rearing tanks. The recommendation has been brought to the notice of the State Governments by the Department of Agriculture. In the formulation of the Fourth Plan (1969-74) special note has been taken of the need for special efforts for spawn production. The Central Government will coordinate these efforts.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 24) para 3.50

The Committee would in this connection like to invite the attention of the Government to the Fish Seed Committee Report, 1966 wherein it has been recommended that the objective of all the States should be to establish at least one centre for induced breeding in each district, with the required complement of nurseries and rearing tanks, within the next ten years. Experimentation to standardise the doses, study of optimum breeding conditions like temperature, oxygen, etc., which are conducted at the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, should be statistically designed and the results thereof should be made available within the next two years.

Reply of Government

Necessary work in this connection has been taken up at the Cuttack Sub-station of the Institute and the results will be made available within next two years.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 25) Para 3.51

The Committee strongly recommend that States which have already succeeded in induced breeding of carps should intensify their activities in this direction, with a view to enhance the production of seed. In the case of those States which have not yet achieved success, trained extension officers should be sent to demonstrate the techniques.

Reply of Government

The work relating to the induced breeding of carps is being progressively intensified in those States where it has succeeded. The Regional Training Institutes for Inland Fisheries Operatives at Agra and Hyderabad and the Inland Fisheries Training Unit at Barrackpore conduct training courses for fisheries workers including Extension Officers in the induced breeding of carps. The trained personnel demonstrate the techniques and conduct the operations in their respective States.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 26) Para 3.52

As the success of induced breeding of major carps depends on the 'receptivity condition' of the breeders in regard to pituitary hormone injections, the Committee feel that it would be worthwhile to collect information regarding the periods at each centre during which the breeders are likely to react favourably to hormone treatment. This would provide gainful knowledge for achieving success at each centre in the future years. Further thought can then be given as to how best the period of receptivity of the breeders can be prolonged at each of the centres.

Reply of Government

The State Governments have been addressed by the Department of Agriculture to collect information on the maturity periods of breeders and to seek advice from the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute regarding utilization of the period of receptivity. Necessary experiments in this connection will be taken up by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 27) Para 3.53

The Fish Seed Committee, 1966 have stated in their report that 'adiposity in carps appears to come in the way of the breeders attaining receptivity condition'. The Committee suggest that efforts must be made to determine items of diet that would not lead to accumulation of excessive fat in the breeders.

Reply of Government

Studies in this direction are in progress under natural conditions. Experimental investigations will be undertaken as soon as the Central Freshwater Fish Farm of the Institute is ready.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 28) Para 3.54

The Committee understand that experiments on the induced breeding of mullets have already been initiated by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, as well as by the Government of Kerala. They suggest that the work should be continued and experiments to induce Bhakti to breed through pituitary hormone administration should also be undertaken by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute at an early date.

Reply of Government

The experiments will be taken up as soon as the Brackish water Fish Farm of the Institute is ready.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 29) Para 3.55

The Committee understand that work on the induced breeding of Hilsa through pituitary hormone administration has also been recently initiated by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute. They suggest that this work should also be continued by the Institute alongside experiments on its suitability for culture in impoundments. The seed thus obtained can also be utilised for stocking rivers where necessary.

Reply of Government

The possibilities of this will be looked into. While work of induced breeding on Hilsa is included in the current year's programme of work, the cultural possibilities of Hilsa depend upon change in migratory instinct of the fish which ordinarily is difficult to achieve.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 30) Para 3.56

The Committee suggest that possibility of establishing a series of pituitary gland 'Banks' may be explored by the Central and State Governments.

Reply of Government

Pituitary Gland Banks can only be maintained by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute and its sub-Centres and by the State Centres. The States have been addressed by the Department of Agriculture to create 'Banks' for pituitary glands at suitable centres and fish breeding farms. The Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute will also maintain pituitary gland 'Banks' at suitable centres.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 31) Para 3.57

The Committee are unhappy to note that about 9,59,487, acres of water areas which are readily available for culture are left unutilized. They strongly recommend that large stretches of cultivable water areas in the country which are at present left unutilized should be brought under cultivation by using the seed procured through induced breeding.

Reply of Government

Provision has been made by the Department of Agriculture for bringing additional water areas, which are at present unutilized, under cultivation during the Fourth Five Year Plan (1969-74). This is proposed to be done through intensification of seed procurement through natural as well as induced breeding methods.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 32) Para 3.58

The Committee are concerned to note that economics of induced fish breeding has not been worked out so far by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute in spite of the fact that evolution of induced breeding technique is said to be the most significant achievement of the Institute and there is a pressing need for quality fish seed from various States. The Committee hope that no time would be lost in undertaking a study of the relative merits and economics of production of fry through collection from natural sources, pituitary injections and bundh breeding, by the Economic Study Unit that is soon going to be set up in the Institute.

Reply of Government

The matter is under the active consideration of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, (New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Comments of the Committee

Committee may be informed of the final action taken.

Recommendation (Serial No. 33) Para 3.59

The Committee would like to stress that they attach greater importance to the development and increase in inland fish production by greater exploitation of the fish seed which are available from the natural waters. They need hardly stress that the collections of fish seed from the natural waters can be increased manifold as at present only 2 per cent of the natural fish seed available in natural waters are caught. Moreover, as already revealed in a study made some time back in Orissa, while the cost of pituitary spawn was Rs. 125 per 50,000 spawns, the cost for riverine collection was only Rs. 20 for the same number. In the circumstances, the committee would urge that Government should encourage at all levels collection exploitation and utilisation of fish seed from the natural waters alongside production of fish seeds by artificial means.

Reply of Government

Note. This approach has already been incorporated in the 4th Five Year Plan (1967-74) for Fisheries Development.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 34) Para 3.62

The Committee suggest that productive ponds providing suitable nursery must be selected near all breeding centre rearing the young ones of various species and for maintaining a good stock of breeders.

Reply of Government

The State Governments have been addressed by the Department of Agriculture to implement the recommendation which is a part of the programme of composite farming envisaged in the formulation for the Fourth Five Year Plan and to obtain technical guidance from the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 35) Para 3.64

The Committee cannot too strongly stress the need for co-ordination and proper dissemination of the results of researches achieved in the various induced breeding centres under the Central and State Governments. The Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute should co-ordinate with State Fisheries Departments and collect information regarding the progress of the schemes in various States. It would be useful if the data collected are published in the Annual Report of the Institute.

Reply of Government

Noted. The matter is being carefully examined.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Comments of the Committee

The Committee may be informed of the final decision.

Recommendation (Serial No. 36) Para 3.77

The Committee attach considerable importance to such items of research as are likely to have a definite impact on the yield of fish. From this stand point, there cannot be two opinions about the need for strengthening research on the introduction of exotic fishes in reservoirs and their culture along with indigenous varieties.

Reply of Government

The project on Fisheries investigations in reservoirs has been reorganised and during the current year, work on the following problems have been taken up.

1. Physico-chemical studies of water and soil.
2. Fish food resources in reservoirs.
3. Utilization of available food resources in reservoirs.
4. Effect of impoundment on reproduction and survival of fishes.
5. Fishery biology and population dynamics of commercial fishes of reservoirs.
6. Fishery management and development in reservoirs.

The Committee's recommendations will be incorporated in the programme of work based on information obtained by researches now taken up under item Nos. 1, 2 and 3 mentioned above.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 37) Para 3.77

The Committee would like to stress that fish farmers accustomed to grow the traditional fishes have a natural resistance to the introduction of exotic fishes, and it is for the extension staff of the Institute to explain and demonstrate to fish farmers that exotic fishes like mirror carps, grass carps, etc. do not denude the waters by eating away popular varieties of fishes.

Reply of Government

As already stated in answer to para 1.10, proposals for setting up of Extension Wing in the Institute with six zonal units are now under consideration. Recommendations made in the above paragraphs will be implemented as soon as the Extension Wings are set up.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 38) Para 3.78

The Committee feel that it is desirable that economics of mixed farming are fully worked out and made known to the State Departments of Fisheries for the benefit of progressive farmers who want to take up mixed farming to augment their income.

Reply of Government

Investigation on mixed farming are in progress at the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute and as soon as conclusive results are obtained, the economics will be worked out and made known to State Departments.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 39) Para 3.79

The Committee feel that there is a need for acquainting the fish farmers about the harmful effect on the growth of carp fry by the random introduction of Tilapia. The Institute may bring out popular pamphlets to educate the fish farmers about the economic effect of culture of Tilapia in ponds and reservoirs.

Reply of Government

As already stated in answer to para 1.10, proposals for setting up of Extension Wing in the Institute with six zonal units are now under consideration. Recommendations made in the above paragraphs will be implemented as soon as the Extension Wings are set up.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 41) Para 3.101

The Committee understand that there are vast areas of cultivable brackish waters which are potentially rich resources of fish production and are still unharnessed at present. Barring a few exceptions, there is hardly any information regarding the availability and magnitude of brackish water fish seed in the country. The Committee would suggest that a survey of the areas of cultivable brackish waters may be undertaken by the Ministry in consultation with the State Governments.

Reply of Government

The State Governments have been requested by the Department of Agriculture to initiate a survey of the brackish-water areas and availability of brackish water fish seed and to seek advice on the methodology of survey from the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 42) Para 3.107

The Committee are glad to know that an experimental fish farm is going to be set up at Panna (Madhya Pradesh). They feel that the setting up of this farm would give a much-needed fill up to the development of inland fisheries in Madhya Pradesh and other adjoining States. The Committee hope that the Fish Farm would undertake experiments not only in regard to the known varieties of fishes which thrive in West Bengal and Orissa but also other economic species which can be grown under control conditions in other parts of the country. The Committee would stress the need for the early activation of the project.

Reply of Government

The recommendation will be implemented as soon as the Central Experimental Fish Farm is ready. The site at Panna (Madhya Pradesh) measuring about 284 acres was obtained from the Government of Madhya Pradesh with a view to establishing an experimental fish farm and inland experimental sub-station for training junior fisheries personnel under the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute. To determine the suitability of the site, observations were made and experimental tanks were excavated at the site. Observations on retentivity of water, soil analysis, soil nutrition, percolation studies etc. were made. The Council has constituted a Committee of Experts to go into the details of the project in the light of the above mentioned observations. As soon as the report of the Expert Committee is received, further action in the matter will be taken.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 43) Para 3.114

The Committee are glad to note that researches are being conducted by the Institute for the control of weed by chemical and other means so as to preserve fisheries. They would, however, emphasise the need for working out the economics and usefulness of various weedicides so as to recommend them as a standard eradication method for submerged weed.

Reply of Government

This has been included in the current year's work programme of the Weed Control Unit of the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 44) Para 3.114

Alongside experiments on the chemical weedicides, the Committee would suggest that trials may be conducted to see if water-hyacinth and other water weed could be used as compost for agricultural crops or as nutrients for enriching the fish ponds for better production of fish.

Reply of Government

This recommendation will be incorporated in the future programmes of work of the Weed Control Unit.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial Nos. 45 and 46) Para 3.122

The Committee are glad to note the steps taken by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute for combating pests and diseases of culture fishes. They would urge that effective steps may be taken in consultation with the State Governments concerned to popularise among the fish farmers such of the chemicals as have proved effective against the diseases of culture fishes.

The Committee suggest that a programme for training of fish farmers in the application of chemicals, pesticides, etc. in fish culture tanks and ponds may be drawn up in consultation with the State Governments concerned.

Reply of Government

As already stated in answer to para 1.10, proposals for setting up of Extension Wing in the Institute with six zonal units are now under consideration. Recommendations made in the above paragraphs will be implemented as soon as the extension wings are set up.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 47) Para 3.135

The Committee are glad to note that the problems of Chilka Lake, an important fishing centre in the country, have been thoroughly studied by the Chilka Investigation Unit set up by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute. The study team has made several useful suggestions to prevent depletion of stock as also to step up fish production. The Committee, however, are surprised that no information appears to be available in the Ministry or the Institute as to the action taken by the State Government on the recommendations made by the Investigation Unit. Fisheries research involves a co-ordinated effort of both the Central and the State Governments. In this particular case, as investigation was undertaken by a study team appointed by a Central Institute, it was but proper for the Ministry to keep in touch with the State Fisheries Departments to find out what following up action has been taken in the light of the suggestions made. In any case, the report should have been considered by the Central Board of Fisheries and necessary guide lines given to the State Government of Fisheries as regards the methods to be adopted for preserving the fish stock of the Chilka Lake. Considering the importance of Chilka as a source of fish food and the support that it gives to the Industry, the Committee would stress that the Ministry may, in consultation with the State Government, adopt suitable measures for conservation of the Chilka fisheries.

Reply of Government

The Department of Agriculture have addressed the Government of Orissa to consider the recommendations of the Institute. The Orissa Government will also be requested to inform the Department of Agriculture the latest position, and if they need any technical clarification, the same will be provided by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 48) Para 3.140

The Committee regret to note that Government have not been able to create so far a Research Unit on river survey for Brahmaputra recommended to be set up immediately by the Central Board of Fisheries as early as 1965. There has been considerable delay in finalizing the matter and some more time is likely to be taken in the construction of vessel. The Committee feel that the Ministry, once they were convinced about the usefulness of the project, should have proceeded with speed in the matter and assisted the State Government in getting a suitable vessel for survey purposes. The Committee hope that Research Unit on Brahmaputra River Survey would be set up without further delay.

Reply of Government

Proposals for setting up Brahmaputra Survey Unit are being formulated by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute for necessary action.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 49) Para 3.149

Considering the importance of Hilsa fisheries, the Committee appreciate the steps taken by the Institute to strengthen research and investigations in this direction. The Committee understand that there are vast Hilsa resources in Godavary river and the Andhra Pradesh Fisheries Department has been conducting investigations on Hilsa Fisheries. The Committee would stress the need for co-ordination of work carried out by the Central and State agencies so as to avoid duplication of researches. The Committee hope that the data collected by the Institute in connection with maturation, breeding season, migration, age, class, sex composition and food habits of Hilsa Fish would be processed and published for the guidance of State Fisheries Departments.

Reply of Government

In drawing up the programme of work of the Institute, care is always taken to avoid duplication of research work.

The data obtained on the biology of Hilsa fish will be published as soon as sufficient information has been gathered.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 50) Para 3.156

The Committee understand that no large scale production of trout could be effected for want of hatchery and rearing ponds. It continues to be cultured in Kashmir and other places according to methods and techniques introduced in India more than 50 years ago. The Committee are unhappy to note that there has been no significant development of trout fisheries since the inception of Cold Water Fisheries Unit in 1963. No new techniques and methods appear to have been evolved for the culture of such important fisheries as trout, mirror carp, mahseab, etc. The Committee cannot overemphasise the need for intensive research to provide a scientific basis for the development of trout fishery and other hill fisheries.

Reply of Government

The work of the Cold Water Fisheries Unit is being intensified on the basis of this recommendation. Selected problems on trout culture have been included in the current year's programme of work.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 51) Para 3.156

The Committee suggest that the question of improving the fishing methods and introduction of new gear to be used in the trout fisheries in the hilly districts of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Kashmir may be actively considered by the Ministry. The assistance of the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology may be sought in the fabrication of suitable fishing gear. The Committee also suggest that vigorous attempts may be made for the development of trout and other high altitude fisheries in hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh, Mysore, Kerala, Haryana and Madras in consultation with the State Governments concerned.

Reply of Government

Steps are being taken by the Department of Agriculture to take up fisheries development of the hilly areas as part of the Fourth Plan activities and the State Governments will be requested to give due importance to this development. These recommendations will be incorporated in the future programme of work of the Cold Water Fisheries Unit of the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 52) Para 3.164

The Committee consider that there is an urgent need for making an intensive study of the pollution of rivers, specially the river Hooghly, by the discharge of factory wastes which are considered to have a deleterious effect on fresh water fishes and specially the Hilsa fish. They also feel that this is a matter which should receive the most careful consideration of the Public Health Irrigation and Fisheries Departments of the State Governments concerned. The Committee strongly feel that the Ministry should take early concerted steps for the setting up of a Water Pollution Board in consultation with the State Governments concerned.

Reply of Government

The question of setting up a Water Pollution Board will be taken up by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture with the appropriate ministries of the Central Government and consultations will be made with the State Governments. The studies of the pollution of rivers, specially the river Hooghly, by the discharge of factory wastes, have been initiated at the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 53) Para 3.167

The Committee note the studies conducted by the Fish Spawn Prospecting Teams in surveying the potentiality of various spawn yielding river stretches. They would urge that the conclusions drawn from the surveys may be utilised for proper exploitation of the fishery resources in the rivers which have already been surveyed.

Reply of Government

The concerned States are regularly being informed of the results obtained in Spawn Prospecting Investigations conducted by the Institute.

The Committee's recommendation will also be circulated to all the concerned State Fisheries Departments.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 54) Para 3.172

The Committee are glad to note that progress has been achieved in this field during the course of the last four years and an improved gear has been evolved and standardised. They would, however, suggest that a suitable type of gear for collecting spawn from deeper regions of the rivers where quality spawn are available should be urgently evolved and standardised.

Reply of Government

This is included in the programme of work of the Riverine Division of the Institute.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 54) Para 3.173

The Committee note that investigations on the feasibility of transplanting desirable species of fish and prawn have already been initiated by the Institute. They would suggest that the results achieved in this direction may be published in the Annual Reports of the Institute. The progress of the scheme may also be closely watched by the Central Fisheries Research Committee or the appropriate Committee of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Reply of Government

The results obtained will be published regularly in the Annual Reports of the Institute. As suggested by the Committee the progress of this scheme will be closely watched by the appropriate Committee of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 55) Para 3.175

The Committee suggest that feasibility of implementing the following recommendations of the Fish Seed Committee may be examined at an early date :

- “(d) Breeding grounds of major carps should be located and charted out all over the country to enable fuller exploitation of the resources and also to take suitable measures for the protection of breeding grounds.

- (e) Hitherto, very little efforts have been made to locate centres of availability of seed of brackish water fishes. Hence, the concerned State Government should make intensive efforts towards exploitation of such resources. The Central Institute may initiate investigations to develop suitable gear for the collection of brackishwater seed."

Reply of Government

The State Governments have been addressed by the Department of Agriculture to initiate survey of the breeding grounds and take suitable measures for their protection and to approach the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute for technical guidance.

Action on the first part of the second recommendation above is to be taken by the concerned State Departments. For this purpose the recommendation is being circulated to the different State Fisheries Departments.

The Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute will initiate investigations to develop suitable gear for the collection of brackish water seed during the ensuring season.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 56) Para 4.10

The Committee attach considerable importance to collection of fisheries statistics and survey of available inland waters so that planned action could be taken to step up resources. They are unhappy that although a decade has passed since the All India Fisheries Conference adopted a resolution on the subject, no effective steps have been taken by the Ministry for collection of statistics relating to Inland Fisheries on a scientific basis. They would suggest that the Institute of Agricultural Research Statistics of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research may, in conjunction with the National Sample Survey, evolve suitable techniques for conducting surveys from the point of view of estimating total production of fish on an all India basis.

Reply of Government

The recommendation has been noted. As the National Sample Survey has already done some work on the subject, they will be asked to pursue the work more vigorously. In case they are unable to do so, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research will take up the investigations as a collaborative project between the Institute of Agricultural Research Statistics and Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 57) Para 4.11

The Committee note that the Institute is also collecting catch statistics from selected rivers and estuaries, but the work has been accorded a low priority. They would suggest that the Institute should co-ordinate their efforts with those of the National Sample Survey so that a methodology may be laid down for a scientific enumeration of fish catches on a country-wise scale.

Reply of Government

The Institute is approaching the National Sample Survey to develop the methodology suggested by the Estimates Committee.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial Nos. 58 and 59) Para 4.16

The Committee would suggest that the universities having departments of Zoology should be increasingly associated with the institutes of fisheries in general and Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute in particular in the solution of problems of fundamental nature relating to fisheries.

The Committee hope that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research which gives grants to research institutes and to universities will farm out certain projects to universities on a continuing basis. Problems of applied nature may be entrusted to the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute and State Research Institute for solution.

Reply of Government

The recommendation has been noted for compliance.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 60) Para 4.19

The Committee are glad to note that sub-stations of the Institute are in close liaison with the Fisheries Departments of the particular States in which the sub-stations are located and that some of the research projects undertaken by the Institute are implemented in collaboration with State Fisheries Departments. The Committee would, however, stress that the Institute should also maintain close and direct liaison with other Research Institute dealing with fisheries in India and abroad.

Reply of Government

The Institute will try its best to maintain a close and direct liaison with other research institutes dealing with fisheries in India. This will become easier once the proposed Extension wings referred to in the reply to para 1.10 of the Estimates' Committee's Report are set up.

As regard liaison with research institutes abroad, they will be contacted as and when necessary. This is already being done.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 61) Para 4.23

While noting the present arrangements for evaluation of the research work by the Director and the Officer-in-Charge of the Sub-Station, the Committee would like to suggest that periodic evaluation of the work of the Institute may be conducted by an Achievement Audit Committee consisting of specialists. In this connection, the Committee would like to invite the attention of the Ministry to recommendations made by them in para 9 of their 76th Report (Third Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Food, and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture) Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Reply of Government

All the Institutes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research are evaluated by an Achievement Audit Committee once in five years. The Fisheries Research Institutes will also now come under this system.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial Nos. 62 and 63) Para 4.33

The Committee are unhappy that having set up a chain of extension units for dissemination of results of researches carried out by the Central Fisheries Research Institute the Ministry considered it necessary to wind them up as a measure of economy. In the opinion of the Committee, this step was retrograde one. Research cannot be carried out in isolation. It is essential that the benefits flowing from research should be made available to the fishermen who require to be enlightened about the latest scientific techniques for the exploitation of fishery resources. The Committee, however, note that the Ministry is contemplating to set up a proper extension machinery on the same lines as agriculture. The Committee hope that the Institute as well as the Indian Council of Agricultural Research would, in co-operation with the State Departments of Agriculture, devise effective machinery to ensure that the results of practical value emerging from the research activities of the Institute are systematically and speedily transmitted to the fish farmers on a more extensive and countrywise scale.

The Committee suggest that the Institute may arrange to publish research results in the form of attractive pamphlets in popular styles and send them to State Governments, Farmers' Organisations and other concerned agencies. Instructional films depicting improved methods and advances in fisheries and the advantages flowing from them should be prepared and widely displayed in rural areas. Arrangements should also be made for giving publicity in improved practices, fishing gear and equipments, etc. at fairs and exhibitions held in the countryside.

Reply of Government

As already stated in answer to para 1.10, proposals for setting up of Extension Wing in the Institute with six zonal units are now under consideration. Recommendations made in the above paragraphs will be implemented as soon as the Extension Wings are set up.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 64) Para 4.42

The Committee attach considerable importance to periodic meetings of the research workers employed in the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute as also in the various State Research Institutes for discussion of common problems and exchange of information relating to fisheries research being conducted by them. The Committee suggest that arrangements may be made for holding periodic meetings of the research workers of Central and State Research Institute in various research stations/sub-stations by rotation.

Reply of Government

The recommendation has been noted for compliance.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 65) Para 5.5

The Committee note that the training course in the Institute is now controlled by the Director, Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Bombay. The Committee hope that the training would continue to be imparted at Barrackpore so as to meet the special needs of States in the eastern region where a large number of persons trained in inland fisheries is required.

Reply of Government

Admission to the training centre at Barrackpore is open to all. Its location is however, convenient for candidates from eastern region where there is a special need for training in Inland Fisheries. It is envisaged that this training centre will continue. Plans for training are being drawn up on this basis.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 66) Para 5.17

The Committee are unhappy that the facilities available in the Institute for training in inland fisheries have not been fully utilised. In view of the fact that the number of trainees is coming down from year to year, the Committee suggest that the causes of this downward trend may be thoroughly examined and suitable remedial measures taken in consultation with the State Governments whose responsibility it is to sponsor candidates for the training course.

Reply of Government

All efforts will be made to utilize fully the facilities available in the institute. The matter is being taken up with the State Governments and a detailed analysis of the position is being made so that appropriate lines of action may be determined.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 67) Para 5.21

Considering the present intake of students, the Committee think that the strength of the teaching staff is adequate. Although the training course has now come under the control of the Central Institute of Fisheries Education, the Committee hope that the research staff of the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute would continue to deliver lectures on important subjects pertaining to inland fisheries to the trainees.

Reply of Government

The research staff of the Institute will continue to deliver lectures to the trainees, as was being done in the past.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 68) Para 6.3

The Committee feel that some of the reasons indicated for delays in execution of work relating to construction of buildings etc. are such as could have been avoided by better planning and execution. They are, however, glad that steps have now been taken for proper utilisation of the funds.

Reply of Government

Noted.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Recommendation (Serial No. 69) Para 6.6

The Committee note the proposal of the Ministry to allocate funds according to the projects to be undertaken by the Institute. The Committee suggest that alongside project budgeting, the Ministry should also conduct periodically an assessment of the progress made in respect of each project with a view to see whether the monies sanctioned for a project are being well laid out.

Reply of Government

Noted for guidance.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

CHAPTER III

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

Recommendation (Serial No. 3) Para 2.9

The Committee are glad to note that the Director of the Institute conducts an annual review of the staff strength of the Institute. The Committee would, however, like to suggest that besides an annual review by the Director, there should be a separate review every year of the staffing pattern of the Institute by the Standing Research Committee of the Ministry or the appropriate committee of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. That Committee should not only examine to what extent the available resources of the Institute have been utilized to carry out the projects already entrusted to it, but also assess the need for additional posts in the Institute in the context of new research programmes proposed to be undertaken by it. The Committee while reviewing the research programmes should also locate the deficiencies in the various Divisions and Sections of the Institute and suggest suitable remedial measures.

Reply of Government

The work done hitherto by the Standing Research Committee of the Department of Agriculture will in future be done by the Scientific Panel for Fisheries Research of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research insofar as the three Fisheries Research Institutes are concerned. The Scientific Panel for Fisheries of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research will not be in a position to review the need for additional posts in the Institutes. This can best be done by a Staff Inspection unit of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research which can visit the Institutes by turn and make an assessment of the staff requirements. The creation of a Staff Inspection Unit for periodic review of the staff requirements of various Institutes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is under consideration. The annual review of staff requirements will, however have to be left to the Director of the Institute only.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

Comments of the Committee

The position regarding the setting up of the Staff Inspection Unit of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research may be communicated to the Committee.

Recommendation (Serial No. 40) Para 3.93

The Committee note that the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute in conjunction with the State Agricultural Departments has been carrying on investigations on Paddy-cum-Fish Culture

during the last 12 years and the results achieved so far have not proved to be encouraging. The Committee feel that the Scheme has not been properly conceived and at no time an attempt appears to have been made to work out the economics of the whole project. The Committee are surprised that there is no separate account of expenditure incurred on the project. In view of the fact that the experiment has been going on for a number of years in several States, the expenditure on this infructuous project must be considerable. The Committee suggest that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research may conduct an appraisal of the entire scheme with a view to decide once for all whether the scheme should be continued or abandoned.

Reply of Government

At present the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute is not conducting any research on Paddy-cum-Fish Culture. The Institute, however, carried out some experiments on the subject between 1956-57 to 1960-61 in the experimental paddy plots of the Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack.

The following results were obtained in those experiments :

- (1) The paddy plots were poor in respect of fish food organisms, production of plankton being low survival of fish, fingerlings was extremely poor.
- (2) Fish fry and fingerlings were subject to heavy predation.
- (3) The yield of paddy was slightly less from plots where fish were stocked than in the central plots.

It was concluded that in India, where the bulk of rice crop depend upon the rainfall for water supply, the erratic distribution of rain or variation of monsoon may result in complete or partial failure of rice and fish crop. Poor survival and low yields of fish due to scarcity of fish feed organisms and predators do not suggest a bright future for fish culture in paddy fields in India, under this research work.

Since the work on the problem at Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute terminated in 1961, the question of its appraisal for considering its continuation does not arise.

[Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, letter No. F. 18-8/68-AHI(1), dated the 12th December, 1968].

NEW DELHI
August 8, 1969.
Sravana 17, 1891 (Saka).

M. THIRUMALA RAO,
Chairman,
Estimates Committee.

APPENDIX

(*vide* Introduction to Report)

Analysis of the Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained the Thirty-seventh Report of the Estimates Committee (Fourth Lok Sabha).

Total number of recommendations	69
Recommendations which have been accepted by Government, <i>i. e.</i> recommendations Nos. 1, 2, 4—39 and 41 to 69	
Number	67
Percentage to total	97.1
Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's reply, <i>i. e.</i> recommendations Nos. 3 and 40	
Number	2
Percentage to total	2.9

*

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