

FIRST REPORT OF
COMMITTEE OF SECRETARIES
ON GOVERNMENT JOURNALS.



सत्यमेव जयते

with the approval of the Prime Minister, a Committee of Secretaries consisting of Secretary, Ministry of I&B, Secretary to the Prime Minister and Secretary, Finance Ministry, was constituted towards the end of 1964 to go into the whole question of rationalisation of the journals and periodicals published by the Central Ministries and the autonomous bodies under them. The Committee was asked to examine, in consultation with the sponsoring authorities, the journals brought out by them, to assess their usefulness and recommend their continuance or otherwise. The aim was to make the most of the Government's resources in trained men, printing facilities and raw material.

2. The Committee first met on January 14 and then on May 11, 1965. Subsequently the Chairman of the Committee and a Working Group appointed by the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet examined the scientific and technical journals on January 5, 1966.

3. A preliminary survey carried out by the Committee revealed that there were 209 journals published by the Government and Government-financed autonomous bodies. Of these there were 17 annuals, 9 half-yearlies, 57 quarterlies, 5 bimonthlies, 78 monthlies, 26 fortnightlies, 14 weeklies and 3 dailies.

4. The journals can be grouped into four broad categories. There are general-purpose journals like BAL BHARATI and AJKAL (Hindi and Urdu) which seek to influence the readers' attitude. They aim at making the people conscious of their heritage and inculcate in them such ideals as national unity, social justice and progress. Then there are magazines like INDIA & FOREIGN REVIEW, TRAVELLER IN INDIA, YOJANA, INTENSIVE CULTIVATION, SAINIK SAMACHAR which carry information to the reader about politics, programmes and achievements in specific spheres

of Government's activity. Thirdly, there are house journals published mainly by the Railways and the Defence Ministry, for promoting a feeling of cohesion between the workers and the employers. To the fourth category belong scientific and technical journals which carry results of research in science and technology and discuss the problems in these fields.

5. Earlier, an Expert Committee appointed by the Ministry of I&B to survey the journals had reported the existence of 173 journals in 1960. It was thus evident that there was a substantial increase in the number of journals between 1960 and 1964.

6. In every category the Committee observed a tendency for the journals to multiply. The CSIR which used to carry the results of research in a single journal now had a large number of journals, each devoted to a specialised field of science. Similarly, the number of ICAR journals has increased manifold in recent years. Many of the Central Ministries and the autonomous bodies under them have started new journals.

7. Many of the journals were found to have similar or allied themes, contents and readership. In many other cases although the avowed purpose of the journals was different, their contents were hardly distinguishable. Such journals, the Committee felt, could be merged and overlapping of effort avoided.

8. Many of the journals examined were found lacking in the requisite standards of textual contents, get-up and production. Their sales - although they had been in existence for many years - were far from encouraging. Moreover, since too many Government journals competed for advertisement from a common pool, Government journals generally carried few advertisements and a large number of these were consequently running at loss. Losses compelled the sponsoring authorities to be content with only modest standards of production which, in turn, reduced their appeal to and impact on

the readers. Such journals were, therefore, neither effective instruments of publicity nor good business.

9. While the Committee agreed that a certain measure of subsidy was reasonable and even necessary in the case of publicity journals - which had to be subsidized even in private sector - it felt that journals that had largely failed to establish themselves after several years of existence had no justification for separate existence.

10. The existing situation, the Committee felt, was undesirable from another angle also. Too many journals, each devoted to a small sector of the Government's activity, tended to blur the image of the country, since few readers could afford to subscribe to an assortment of journals. Fewer well-written and well-produced magazines, it was felt, would make a deeper impression on the reader and better present an integrated picture of progress than many sub-standard ones.

11. The Committee noticed that the production values of the journals varied greatly and often had little relationship to what they sought to achieve. Some of these were brought out on imported art paper, even though they were neither art journals nor designed for foreign readership. In fact, this scarce material was not even put to an effective use. Many of the journals used Indian art paper even though they carried few half-tone illustrations.

12. Considering the facts enumerated in paras 7 to 11 the Committee came to the conclusion that there was need for rationalisation in production values, reduction in the number of journals to eliminate overlapping. The Committee felt that at the present stage of the country's development when the Government's resources were limited, it would be

desirable to concentrate them on bringing out fewer and better journals.

13. The main reason for the existing unsatisfactory position of Government journals, the committee thought, was the absence of a well-defined policy and principles in the field of journals and an agency to ensure their observance. As a remedial measure the Committee recommended the following criteria for 1) reducing the number of the existing journals, 2) rationalisation of production standards and 3) for regulating future developments:

- 1) General-purpose and publicity journals which have been in existence for five years and have failed to achieve a paid circulation of 1,000 should be discontinued. In the case of scientific research and technical journals the corresponding figures should be 500.
- 2) Journals with similar and allied contents and more or less common readership should be merged so that fewer journals can be brought out more effectively.
- 3) Research, science, and technical journals with a print order of less than 500 should be mimeographed and only the cover should be printed.
- 4) Imported art paper should be used only in foreign publicity or prestige journals.
- 5) Journals of which fewer than a fourth of the pages carry half-tone reproduction should eschew use of Indian art paper.
- 6) No new journal will be started without the sponsors seeking the clearance of the Minister for Information & Broadcasting or the Committee of Secretaries.
- 7) Exemption from the application of the above criteria will be granted by the Minister for Information and Broadcasting or the Committee of Secretaries.

14. The criteria mentioned in para 13 were discussed by the Committee with the representatives of the Ministries and with the Working Group appointed by the Scientific

Advisory Committee to the Cabinet and were generally accepted.

15. The specific recommendations of the Committee in respect of each journal were communicated to the respective Ministries. The final recommendations of the Committee were made in consultation with the representatives of the Ministries concerned.

16. The Scientific and Technical journals were scrutinised and discussed by the Chairman of the Committee with a Working Group appointed by the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet. The recommendations of the Working Group have been finalised and circulated for implementation.

17. To-date the recommendations of the Committee have been finalised in the case of 155 journals. Of these the Committee has recommended discontinuance of 23 journals listed at appendix 'A'. Recommendations that involve reduction in print order, periodicity or bulk have been indicated at Annexure 'B'.

18. The savings which will accrue as a result of the implementation of recommendations indicated at Annexures 'A' and 'B' are tabulated at Annexure 'F'.

19. In case of 115 journals the Committee has not recommended any change. These journals are listed at Annexure 'C'.

20. In respect of some of the recommendations of the Committee, representations have been made by authorities publishing the journals. There are eight such journals listed at Annexure 'C'. The representations will be considered at the next meeting of the Committee. In case

of 29 journals tentative recommendations have been made by the Committee but these have to be discussed with the Ministries publishing these journals at the next meeting of the Committee before final recommendations are made.

21. Some of the journals have still to be examined by the Committee. These journals are mentioned at Annexure 'E'.

22. To sum up, the Committee has finalised recommendations in respect of 155 journals. Of these, it has recommended discontinuance in the case of 23 journals and suggested reduction in print order, bulk or periodicity in the case of 17. In the case of 115 journals the Committee has not suggested any change. At a subsequent meeting the Committee will examine representations in respect of 8 journals. It will also discuss with the representatives of the Ministries concerned tentative recommendations in respect of 29 journals and scrutinise another 17 journals.



ANNEXURE 'A'

List of the journals which are to be discontinued

EDUCATION (Ministry of)

1. INSDOC - A Current Science Literature
2. Bibliography of Scientific Publications of South and South-East Asia
3. Bulletin of Regional Research Laboratory
4. Food Science

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (Ministry of)

5. Indian Livestock
6. Pashu Palan (Hindi)
7. Agricultural Research
8. Rice News Teller
9. Indian Potato Journal
10. Statistical Newsletter and Abstract
11. Indian Coconut Journal
12. Indian Tobacco
13. Arecanut Journal
14. Indian oil Seeds Journal
15. Indian Sugarcane Journal
16. Sugar Cane Herald- Ishu Sandesh (Hindi & English)
17. Indian Cotton Journal
18. Compost and Sewage Bulletin

COMMERCE (Ministry of)

19. Metric Measures
20. Metric Maptol (Hindi)
21. Abstracting Service

INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (Ministry of)

22. Indian Information
23. Bhartiya Samachar (Hindi)

ANNEXURE 'B'

Other Recommendations including reduction in print order, bulk etc.

EDUCATION (Ministry of)

1. C.S.I.R. News Print order to be reduced from 1,500 to 1,000
2. Technical Man Power Bulletin Print order to be reduced from 4,000 to 3,000
3. Environmental Health To be reduced half of its present size
4. Khadya Vigyan (Hindi) To be converted into a quarterly from monthly.
5. Khadya Vigyan (Kannada) To be converted into a quarterly from monthly.
6. Research and Industry To be converted into quarterly from monthly.
7. Vigyan Pragati (Hindi) To be brought out once in two months.
8. Leather Science Director, Central Leather Institute, Madras to examine the possibility of reducing the frequency to once in two months.
9. Indian Journal of Technology) Proposal for the merger of (9) and
(10) will be placed before the
Executive Council of the Publica-
tions Directorate (C.S.I.R.)
10. Journal of Scientific and Industrial Research)

Food and Agriculture (Ministry of)

11. Indian Journal of Agricultural Science To incorporate Agricultural Research and to be published once in two months instead of quarterly.

Works & Housing (Ministry of)

12. Journal of the National Building Organisation Number of copies to be printed 1,750 instead of 2,200 and pages to be reduced from 100 to 60.

The question of discontinuance
would be re-examined after a year.

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14. Irrigation and Power The Journal should be priced.

15. Swasth Hindi) The journal should be re-evaluated
16. Family Planning) after a year.

17. Bulletin of Small-scale Industries. The journal should be priced and the position reviewed after 6 months.

Journals about which recommendations were made by the Committee of Secretaries, but sponsoring authorities have represented against the recommendations.

1. Intensive Agriculture
2. Unnat Krishi (Hindi)
3. Indian Journal of Fisheries
4. Indian Fisheries Bulletin

5. Indian Journal of Sericulture) On the representation of
6. Indian Silk) Ministry of Commerce, the
) Committee of Secretaries
) decided not to make any
) change in these 2 journals.

7. India Trade Journal

8. Journal of Industry and Trade

ANNEXURE 'D'

Journals about which tentative recommendations were made by the Committee of Secretaries on 11.5.1965. These tentative recommendations are to be discussed with the representatives of the Ministries sponsoring the Journals.

Education (Ministry of)

Tentative Recommendations

1. Cultural Forum	Education Ministry	To continue
2. Indo-Asian Culture	Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi.	Merger with 'Cultural Forum' suggested.
3. Cultural News Forum India	Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi.	In view of the poor sale reduction in print order by 50 % suggested.
4. Sanskriti (Hindi)	Education Ministry	In view of the poor sales discontinuance suggested.
5. Thaqafat-Ul-Hindi	Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi.	Since only 5 out of 2,500 printed are sold, it is presumed that the remaining copies are effectively distributed.
6. Indian Archives	National Archives New Delhi	No change
7. Indian Literature	Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi.	-do-
8. Lalit Kala	Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi	-do-
9. The Education Quarterly.	Education Ministry)	To be merged.
10. Teachers Quarterly (Bengali & Eng.)	Directorate of Extension, Project, Calcutta)	

CENTRAL SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD

11. Social Welfare	C.S.W.B., New Delhi	In accordance with the recommendations of the Vidyalandkar Study merger of these with 'Yojana' suggested.
12. Samaj Kalyan (Hindi)	-do-	

Khadi and Village Industries Commission

13. Khadi Gram Udyog (English) Industries Commission Discontinuance of free distribution
14. Khadi Gram Udyog (Hindi)
15. Gram Udyog (Marathi)
16. Jagrati (English)
17. Jagrati (Hindi)

Civil Aviation (Ministry of)

Rashtriya Panchang Director General
of Observations

18. English To be discontinued.
19. Hindi
20. Urdu
21. Bengali
22. Gujarati
23. Kannada
24. Malayam
25. Marathi
26. Oriya
27. Sanskrit
28. Tamil
29. Telugu

ANNEXURE 'E'

List of the journals which have still to be
examined by the Committee of Secretaries

1. School Science
2. Journal of Education for Teaching
3. The Young Child
4. Euniyadi Talim
5. Guidance Review
6. Audio-Visual Education
7. Teacher Education
8. Secondary Education
9. Record of the Botanical Survey of India
10. Record of the Indian Museum
11. Nuclear India
12. Indian Minerals
13. The Journal of Parliamentary Information
14. Digest of Central Acts of Constitutional Cases
15. Privileges Digest
16. Memoirs of the Indian Museum
17. Abstract and Index of Reports and Articles

ANNEXURE 'F'

Savings likely to be accrued to Government
on the Implementation of the Recommendations
of the Secretaries Committee.

1. Indian Information Rs. 42,131
2. Bhartiya Samachar Rs. 24,140
3. Metric Measures Rs. 14,685
4. Metric Maptol Rs. 4,729
5. CSIR Journals: An economy of about 20 % of the total
in paper and printing cost.
6. Eastern Railway Magazine was using imported art paper.
Since changed over to the Indian art paper. The saving
thus accrued on this account is Rs.15,600.
7. I.C.A.R. Journals - Figures not received yet.
8. Journal of the National
Building Organisation Rs.6,265



No Change

Education (Ministry of)

1. Annals of Library Science
2. Indian Journal of Chemistry
3. Indian Journal of Pure and Applied Physics
4. NML Technical Journal
5. FRI News
6. Indian Journal of Experimental Biology
7. Indian Journal of Biochemistry
8. Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute, Bulletin
9. Science Reporter
10. Bulletin of the National Geophysical Research Institute.

Food and Agriculture (Ministry of)

11. Indian Farming
12. Kheti (Hindi)
13. Indian Journal of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry
14. Indian Horticulture
15. Coconut Bulletin
16. Thengins (Kannada)
17. Nallikara Bulletin (Malayalam)
18. Tobacco Bulletin
19. Tambacu (Hindi)
20. Pogaku (Telugu)
21. Rubber Board Bulletin
22. Bhartiya Tilhan Patrika (Hindi)
23. Agricultural Situation in India
24. Agricultural Marketing
25. Gosamvardhan (English)
26. Gosamvardhan (Hindi)

Civil Aviation (Ministry of)

27. Indian Journal of Meteorology and Geophysics
28. Weekly Weather Report
29. Indian Ephemeris and Nautical Almanac
30. Seismological Bulletin
31. Indian Daily Weather Report

Works and Housing (Ministry of)

32. N.B.C. Digest
33. N.B.C. Abstract

Communications (Ministry of)

34. Telecommunications
35. Teleworks Patrika
36. Dak Tar (English)
37. Dak Tar (Hindi)

Petroleum and Chemical (Ministry of)

38. O.N.G.C. Reporter

Industry and Supply (Ministry of)

- 39. I.S.I. Bulletin
- 40. Machine Tool Engineer
- 41. Trade Mark Journal

Cabinet Affairs (Ministry of)

- 42. Monthly Abstract of Statistics

Commerce (Ministry of)

- 43. Udhog Byopar Patrika (Hindi)
- 44. Forward Market Bulletin
- 44A. Indian Journal of Sericulture
- 44B. Indian Silk

Community Development and Cooperation (Ministry of)

- 45. Kurukshetra
- 46. Kurukshetra (Hindi)
- 47. Panchayati Raj

Defence (Ministry of)

- 48. Sainik Samachar
- 49. Sainik Samachar (Hindi)
- 50. Sainik Samachar (Marathi)
- 51. Sainik Samachar (Punjabi)
- 52. Sainik Samachar (Tamil)
- 53. Sainik Samachar (Telugu)
- 54. Sainik Samachar (Malayalam)
- 55. Sainik Samachar (Urdu)
- 56. Sainik Samachar (Gorkhali)
- 57. Ordnance
- 58. Indian Air Force
- 59. Naval Despatch

External Affairs (Ministry of)

- 60. Indian and Foreign Review
- 61. Foreign Affairs Record

Finance (Ministry of)

- 62. Quarterly Bulletin of Bombay Customs
- 63. Daily List of Imports
- 64. Daily List of Exports
- 65. Reserve Bank of India Bulletin
- 66. Company News and Notes

Home Affairs (Ministry of)

- 67. Indian Police Journal
- 68. Work Improvement

Information and Broadcasting (Min. of)

- 69. Akashvani (English)
- 70. Akashvani (Hindi)
- 71. Akashvani (Urdu)

72. Betar Jagat (Bengali)
73. Vanoli (Tamil)
74. Vani (Telugu)
75. Akashi (Assamese)
76. Adhaat-ul-Hindi (Arabic)
77. Vinindze Change (Chinese)
78. Saura H-enghubung (Indonesian)
79. Sadai Hind (Persian)
80. D Hindi Awaz (Pushtu)
81. Goa Gargi Dratan (Tibetan)
82. I'inde Vous Parle (French)
83. India Calling (Western)
84. India Calling (Eastern)
85. Bal Bharati (Hindi)
86. Ajkal (Hindi)
87. Ajkal Urdu

Steel and Mines (Ministry of)

88. Iron and Steel Control Monthly Bulletin

Irrigation and Power (Ministry of)

89. Bhagirath

Labour and Employment (Ministry of)

90. Indian Labour Journal

Planning Commission

91. Yojana
92. Yojana (Hindi)

Railways (Ministry of)

93. Welfare
94. Kalyan (Hindi)
95. Sankshyaman (Telugu)
96. Kalyan (Bengali)
97. Kalyan (Oriya)
98. Lifeline (English)
99. South Eastern Railway Newsletter
100. Jiwan Marg (Hindi)
101. Jagjog (Bengali)
102. Western Railway Newsletter
103. North Eastern Railway Newsletter
104. Sanjaki
105. Northern Railway Newsletter
106. Northern Railway Magazine
107. Central Railway Magazine
108. South Eastern Railway
109. Eastern Railway Magazine
110. Indian Railways
111. Bhartiya Rail
112. Rail Coach

Transport (Ministry of)

113. Traveller in India
114. Basic Road Statistics of India
115. Bhartiya Kool Sarak Nankray (Hindi)