

MEETING OF THE EXPERT SUB-COMMITTEE FOR PLANNING OF HIGH ALTITUDE RESEARCH STATION IN THE HIMALAYAS.

Following a recommendation made by the Atmospheric Research Committee at its meeting referred to above, a meeting of this Expert Sub-Committee was held at the Meteorological Office, New Delhi, on the 15th of March 1950. The principal item discussed was the provisional draft plan for the Research Station, prepared by Dr. S. K. Banerji. The general consensus of opinion was that the plan of a fully equipped Research Station, as set out in the provisional draft, should be considered a long range objective. The aim should be to develop it slowly, beginning with small buildings and a skeleton staff. The more immediate efforts should be directed at setting up small "working camps" which could offer the minimum of comfortable accommodation for a few visiting scientists. Such "working camps" should be set up without

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delay at Thangu (Sikkim) and Kyelong (Lahaul). If, as a result of further inspection, the site at the Mana Pass, near Badrinath, proves to be the best, the objective of developing this station into a well-equipped High Level Research Station should be kept in view. The Chairman was asked to place these proposals before the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research for their approval, and for the appointment of observers to be posted at the two "working camps" for continuous meteorological observations, including observations of seeing conditions at the two sites. The Defence Ministry would also be approached to post at these stations a senior physicist or physiologist for physiological observations.

Ways and means to arrange a tour for inspection of the site near the Mana Pass were also considered.