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Minutes of the 5th meeting of the Standing Fire
Advisory Committee held from 5th to 8th of August, 1958,
at 20, Travancore House Hutments, Canning Road, New Delhi.

Present:

1. Shri M.G. Pradhan,
Commandant,
National Fire Service College,
Nagpur.
2. Capt. C.M. Gogery,
Director, West Bengal Fire Services,
13-D, Free School Street,
CALCUTTA.
3. Shri S.F. Lakhani,
Fire Adviser,
Ministry of Defence,
NEW DELHI.
4. Shri A.B. Advani,
Chief Fire Officer,
Delhi Fire Service,
NEW DELHI.
5. Shri M.J.B. Maneckji,
Commandant, General Home Guards,
And Honorary Fire Adviser
to the Government of Bombay,
Old Secretariat Annexe,
BOMBAY.
6. Shri P.N. Mahrotra,
Fire Officer,
Civil Aviation Training Centre,
Allahabad.
7. Shri John Koshi,
P.A. to I.G. of Police,
Mylapur,
Madras-4.
8. Shri S.K. Bose,
Chief Fire Officer,
Uttar Pradesh,
Allahabad.
9. Shri N.M. Karanjia,
Fire Superintendent,
Central Railways, Platform No.1,
Bombay, V.T.
10. Shri Syed Sayeed Hassan,
Headquarters Fire Force, Commander,
Fire Service Headquarters,
Daru - Salam,
Hyderabad-1.

11. Shri S.G. Vengsarkar,
Chief Officer,
Bombay Fire Brigade,
Dyaula, Bombay-8.
12. Shri D.A. Ajitha Simha) From I.S.I. representing
Shri Omparkash.) Shri C.S. Chandrasekhara,
Deputy Director, I.S.I.,
S. Hachura Road, New Delhi.

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The fifth meeting of the Standing Fire Advisory Committee opened with an inaugural address by Shri Fateh Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs. Shri T.C.A. Srinivasavardan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs also attended with the Joint Secretary.

After welcoming the members of the Committee, Shri Fateh Singh stated that having taken over this branch recently, he was very happy to note that members of this committee were rendering very useful service to the country by giving their expert advice on various problems relating to Fire Prevention & Extinction and Fire Engineering since 1955 when this Committee was first set up. Shri Fateh Singh also referred to the establishment of the National Fire Service College in 1956 and expressed the hope that with lapse of time, the College would supply an adequate number of trained persons to man the Fire Services in the country and thus play a very important role in the history of Fire services in the country. He was happy to note that there were a few regional or local Fire schools in some States like Bombay, Madras, West Bengal, and Uttar Pradesh, and expressed a desire that there should be some kind of relationship between these schools and the National Fire Service College.

Shri Fateh Singh observed that Government had recently decided in consultation with the Ministry of Education to award certificates, diplomas and Associate Memberships to trainees attending the different courses in the National Fire Service College and that Government was considering the question of setting up a governing body competent to award such Associate Membership. He, therefore, enquired of members of the Standing Fire Advisory Committee whether or not the National Fire Service College, its governing body and its Associate Members might constitute an Indian Institute of Fire Engineers.

Shri Fateh Singh reminded members that it was the responsibility of State Governments and of statutory local bodies wherever they existed, to make suitable provision of fire-fighting facilities and, therefore, in response to the recommendations of the Standing Fire Advisory Committee and its predecessor bodies made in the past that the Fire Services should be nationalised, the Government of India have now proposed to circulate a Model Fire Bill to State Governments.

While concluding his speech, Shri Fateh Singh informed members of the committee that there was a proposal to observe the "National Fire Prevention Week" annually during April/May rather than in November from 1959 onwards, in view of the incidence of fire outbreaks during summer in all parts of the country. He also referred to the question of establishment of the Fire Research Organisation which was under the active consideration of Government.

Shri T.C.A. Srinivasavaradan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs also spoke to the members expressing his appreciation of the expert advice given by members on various matter pertaining to safety of life and property from fire and assured members that all recommendations made by them would be given a careful consideration and that he would do all his best in implementing expeditiously the various schemes and proposals made by members which were finally accepted by Government. Shri Srinivasavaradan also expressed his desire to submit certain problems for consideration of members during their deliberations and stated that he would like to join in the discussions on items in which he had specific suggestions to make.

The Chairman, Shri M.G. Pradhan, thanked the Joint Secretary, Shri Fateh Singh on behalf of the committee, for having inaugurated the conference and for making very valuable suggestions for the consideration of the members in his address. Shri Pradhan also expressed the thanks of the members of the committee to the Deputy Secretary, Shri Srinivasavaradan for assuring the members that Government would do their best in helping to implement the various recommendations of the committee to the extent possible as has already been done in the past and to expedite such implementations personally and thus help in the establishments of efficient Fire Services in the country. Shri Pradhan assured the Joint Secretary and the Deputy Secretary that the committee would always render whatever help and expert advice on problems relating to the Fire Prevention and Extinction as also in Fire Engineering, that would be sought by Government and to cooperate in the schemes formulated and sponsored by Government in these matters.

With the encouragement received from the Joint Secretary and the Deputy Secretary, the members got down to their deliberations on the various items on the agenda with Shri Pradhan in the chair.

The Items were taken up for consideration in the following order:-

Item No. 1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 4th Meeting held at New Delhi on 3rd and 4th March 1953.

While this item was put before members, Shri S.K. Bose observed that under Item No. 5, "Consideration of the specifications suggested for a Fire Engine for rural fire-fighting and for houses in small towns", the last sentence requires modifications, since it does not fully convey the decisions taken at the meeting. The revised and corrected copy of specifications was to be prepared by Shri C.S. Chandrasekhara of the Indian Standards Institution, and the same was to be reconsidered by this Committee at one of their subsequent meetings.

The members agreed with this view and proposed to modify the last sentence to read as "The revised and corrected specifications as prepared by Shri Chandrasekhara of the Indian Standards Institution, would be reconsidered by the committee at one of their subsequent meetings."

Referring to Item No. 4 of the minutes, it was pointed out that the sliding scale of the pumping unit on the basis of population in lakhs, the members of the committee observed that the scale of pumping units for populations higher than three lakhs should be at the rate of one additional pumping unit for every lakh of population or a fraction thereof irrespective of the upper limit. The first sentence on page 11, therefore, should read "From 3 lakhs upwards, there should be one additional pumping unit for every lakh of population or a fraction thereof".

The Committee further desired to clarify that the pumping unit should have a capacity of approximately 500 gallons per minute. Therefore, the note under item 4 should read, "A pumping unit means a self-propelled motor fire engine or a trailer pump complete with towing vehicle or a jeep fire engine having a capacity of 500 G.P.M. approx."

The members further observed that two paragraphs after "NOTE" in Item 4 of the minutes, should read as follows:-

(i) "In industrial cities and areas of high fire risks, the scales and types of additional fire-fighting appliances should be determined by an actual survey of the area to be protected".

(ii) "The above scale should be made applicable only to cities and towns. As for the industrial undertakings where the area is such as cannot be reached by manhauling of trailer pumps within reasonable times, vehicles with towing attachment should be provided at the scale of one for every four trailer pumps with a minimum of one such vehicle to be available at all times".

With the above modifications, the minutes of the 4th Meeting of the Standing Fire Advisory Committee were confirmed.

Item No. 2: Scale of Towing Vehicles for Trailer Pumps.

(1) The Committee has not advised against the Trailer Pumps. The members are of the opinion that self-propelled fire engines like the Jeep/Land Rover fire engines are preferable to Trailer Fire Pumps and Towing vehicles, but where Trailer Fire Pumps are provided or have to be provided due to local conditions, the scale of Towing Vehicles recommended is 'one per Trailer Fire Pump' (Please refer to 'NOTE' under Item 4 of the minutes of the 4th meeting of the Standing Fire Advisory Committee). This scale need not be applied to industrial undertakings where the area is such that the Trailer Fire Pumps could be manhauling within the premises, in which case a scale of one Towing vehicle for 4 Trailer Fire Pumps would be adequate, subject to the provision of a minimum of one Towing Vehicle. The number of Towing Vehicles can be reduced by carrying light/portable pumping units on the Towing vehicle itself, in which case, it could also tow a Trailer Pump behind and thus will give two pumping units per Towing Vehicle. In such case, necessary additional crew will also have to be carried on the Towing Vehicle for manning the light/portable pumping units.

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(ii) The Committee's preference for self-propelled pumping units does not necessarily mean the exclusion of Trailer Fire Pumps. The position has been clarified in the above para.

(iii) In view of the clarification given in para (ii) above, No. (iii) does not arise.

Item No. 3: Draft rules for the provision of fire-fighting equipments in industrial establishments.

The Committee went through clause by clause of the draft rules prepared by the Ministry of Labour under Sub Section 7 of Section 38 of the Indian Factories Act and have modified them suitably wherever considered necessary. A few clauses were also added to the draft rules so as to make them more comprehensive. A copy of the revised and corrected draft rules is attached.

The members of the Committee desired that wherever local fire services were existent, the advice of the local Fire Officer may be sought.

Item No. 4: - Specifications for a Towing Vehicle.

The members of the Committee had gone through the draft specifications prepared by the Delhi Fire Service and were of the opinion that since these vehicles are urgently required, it would be necessary first of all to ascertain from the indigenous sources in the country as to the type of chassis in the two groups of petrol driven and diesel oil driven engines that are available in the country. After ascertaining the types available, the Committee members felt that a Chassis capable of carrying a load of 1 ton to ~~1 1/2~~ tons should be selected for a towing vehicle as the engine should be capable of hauling up a trailer pump of medium size and the weight of the equipment and members of the crew with a reasonable speed in the semi-rural and rural areas.

Having ascertained the availability of chassis and made the selection, the Committee feels that the body work and stowage can then be specified so as to suit the available length and breadth of the chassis. The present specifications prepared by Delhi Fire Service closely conform to the Home Office specifications and could be adopted with advantage if the available chassis is suitable for accommodating these features.

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The representative of the Indian Standards Institution has stated that the I.S.I. was prepared to assist the Committee in laying down specifications and that a similar specification as the one prepared by Delhi Fire Service was under preparation by the I.S.I. in case of future purchases or orders. He, therefore, observed that it was possible for the I.S.I. to chase up the work on any particular specification, if deemed necessary.

Item No. 5: Peak cap badges for the Fire Service Officers.

In view of the comments received from the Ministry of Defence, the members of the Committee felt that the eight pointed star as was previously recommended by them should be exclusively adopted for the Indian Fire Services. As regards the use of blue berets, the members of the Committee are of the opinion that since the fire services have a distinctive uniform, badges of ranks and cap badges of their own and since the question of the use of navy blue colour berets has never before been raised by the armed forces, their present objection does not seem to be appropriate, as there is no likelihood of the colours being confused with those of the armed forces.

Item No. 6: Standardisation of ranks for the Fire Services Personnel.

The committee had before them for consideration Ministry's letter No. 54/3/58-ER.II dated 29.5.58, addressed to State Governments, and replies received from Sarvshri A.B. Advani, S.G. Vengsarkar, and Capt. C.M. Gogerly.

After going through the observations made by these officers, the committee felt that there was no need for any change in the recommendations previously made in these respects and the various difficulties brought forward by these officers could be overcome if departmental rules for appointment and promotions are framed by the appointing authorities to suit their local requirements.

Item No. 7: Rescue Vans for the Fire Services.

While this item was being considered, Sarvshri Vengsarkar, Koshi, Advani and Capt. Gogerly stated that they have been using their emergency tenders with all equipments and gears to serve as rescue vans at house collapses and such other calls where persons trapped have to be rescued.

The Indian Standards Institution have already prepared a specification for emergency service which is in the stage of finalisation now. This specification includes the necessary specialised equipment to be carried for rescue purposes and the committee considers that this should be quite suitable to serve as specification for rescue van for the Fire Services.

As regards the suitable scale of such vans for fire services, the committee feels that there should be one such rescue van for every place having a population of 2 lakhs to 10 lakhs and it should be augmented by additional rescue vans for every additional 10 lakhs. The committee feels that apart from the attendance of rescue vans for such rescue calls, the regular fire engine with equipments can attend to supplement the service at such rescue calls.

The above recommendation does not cover the requirements of special areas like docks, mines, aerodromes etc., which may require special equipments for such purposes.

Item No. 3: Finalisation of Draft Drill Manual

The members of the committee took up for consideration the finalisation of the Draft Drill Manual prepared by the Chairman of the committee, copies of which had previously been circulated amongst the members.

Comments on various drills and movements were received from Sarvashri Maneckji (Bombay), P.M. Mehrotra (Civil Aviation), Syed Saad Hassan (Andhra Pradesh), and S.B. Vengsarkar (Bombay Fire Brigade) and these were carefully gone through by the members of the Committee.

Regarding the Squad Drill, the members of the Committee stated that although at the time of the Fire Chiefs Conference in August, 1955, they had proposed that the squad drills as published by U.K. Home Office (Fire Service Branch) in their Fire Service Book should be reproduced in the Drill Manual for Fire Services in India, they now feel that since squad drill for the Army in India has now been finalised, they desire that squad drill as followed in the Indian Army should now be incorporated in the Drill Manual in place of the one previously proposed. It is further observed that in view of the delay caused for finalisation of the Drill Manual it would be proper now to follow the squad drills now in vogue in the Indian Army.

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The Committee, therefore expressed the wish that the Ministry of Home Affairs may kindly approach the Defence Ministry for obtaining the latest Indian Army drills which may be incorporated in the Drill Manual.

While discussing the different fire drills, Satyashri Vengraekar and Advani members suggested that there should be standard movements for the various members of the crew according to numbers which should not be too different when compared with movements in Hose Drills, Trailer Pump Drills, Motor Pump Drills and Ladder Drills. They further stated that as per the movements laid out at present in the revised Drill Manual, there has been a substantial change over in the different movements of the various numbers of members of crew for the different drills and it becomes too difficult for the members of the staff to know by heart, in what way their movements would change, for a particular drill. This was primarily due to No. 2 of the crew, having been termed as a Driver/Pump Operator, who in some drills is non-existent. After a prolonged discussion, all members, unanimously agreed that the different drills should be so revised as to term the last member of the crew as Driver/Pump Operator. This would automatically bring about standard movements for other members of the crew for different drills. The Chairman was authorised by the Committee to revise the Drill Manual on the above basis and get the same printed without further reference to them.

With the above fundamental changes, it was also considered necessary by the members of the committee to add a four-men hydrant drill in the Manual and the Chairman was authorised to incorporate the same based on standard movements.

The members made general observation that all figures in the Drill Manual should be serially numbered and actual photo-plates as regards "the position of Attention from the front", "the position of Attention from the side", "the position of Stand-at-ease from the rear", "saluting to the front", "Raising Extension Ladder", "Extending Extension Ladder", and "Operating Hook Ladder" (one man and two men), should be incorporated in the printed Drill Manual.

recommended that the use of cavillon bells in the fire services should be standardised.

Item No. 12: Formation of the Indian Institute of Fire Engineers.

In his inaugural address the Joint Secretary had referred to the question of setting up an Indian Institute of Fire Engineers and enquired of this Committee whether the National Fire Service College, its governing body and its Associate Members might constitute such an Indian Institute in the country.

The matter was considered by the members of the Standing Fire Advisory Committee, and they have favoured this idea and have appointed a Sub-committee consisting of Sarvshri Saeed Hassan, John Koshi, and P.M. Mehrotra, with Shri Saeed Hassan as the Convener, to draw up the draft constitution, articles and bye-laws for the proposed Institute.

The Sub-committee is requested to draw out the draft and submit it for consideration of the Standing Fire Advisory Committee at one of their subsequent meetings.

Item No. 13: Fire Prevention Week:

The Joint Secretary also had referred in his address to the observance of the "Fire Prevention Week" throughout India and suggested that we might observe this Week during April/May from 1959 onwards, rather than in November in view of the incidence of fire outbreaks during summer in all parts of the country.

The members of the Committee discussed the question of the observance of the Fire Prevention Week in view of the suggestion these observations made by the Joint Secretary. As it was explained that the observance of such a Week annually preceding the Dewali festival is not convenient from the point of view of climatic conditions in some of the States, as also it was felt that larger section of the public is pre-occupied with the preparations for the Dewali festival, it is not fully appreciated or largely attended by the public. The Committee, therefore, recommends that this Week should be annually observed in the 2nd week of February as far as possible, as the committee feels this would be the most proper time from the point of view of climatic conditions throughout the country, as also it is very unlikely that major national festivals would fall in this month.

The committee also feels that this Week should be observed throughout the country at one and the same time, as hitherto. This would tend to create greater publicity and better fire consciousness amongst the public.

The committee further recommends that the next Fire Prevention Week scheduled to be observed in November 1958, may be postponed to February 1959.

Item No. 14: Scales for fire-fighting equipments for peace-time and emergency requirements.

The D.S.(FS) Sri Brinivasavaradan requested members of the Committee to give their expert opinion on:-

- (1) The scale of providing fire-fighting units on population basis for peace-time requirements.
- (2) The scale of fire-fighting equipments for emergency requirements.
- (3) If peace-time requirements are adequate, what priority should be assigned for bringing them to the emergency requirements.
- (4) If peace-time requirements are inadequate, in what manner and by what priority can these be raised to emergency requirements.

The members discussed the questions raised by the D.S.(FS) at length and thereafter, appointed a sub-committee consisting of Sarvshri S.F. Lakshmi (Convener), John Koshi, Vengsarkar, Advani, and Capt. Gogerly. The sub-committee later on submitted their recommendations which were unanimously accepted by the main committee.

The Committee unanimously recommended as follows:-

- (1) The existing scale of pumping units in major cities like Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras were considered and the requirements of these major cities for peace-time fire protection according to the sliding scale of pumping units recommended at the 4th meeting of the Standing Fire Advisory Committee are considered adequate to meet peace-time requirements of cities and towns. It is, however, further recommended that in assessing the additional pumping units necessary to cover special or high fire risk areas, the local fire officer should take into account the local conditions and situations which may have to be faced. For example, in the matter of location of fire stations the scale of one fire station for every 4 sq. miles should be made flexible so that the local fire officer can locate fire stations at closer or greater distances depending upon the topography, terrain etc. of the locality as well as the fire risk involved and the time taken to effectively cover such risk.

(2) Requirements of pumping units in the event of emergency should be based on the type of emergency according to which cities and towns may be classified as:-

- (A) High vulnerability.
- (B) Moderate vulnerability, and
- (C) Low vulnerability.

The scale of pumping units during emergency as compared to those in peace-time (P) should be in the following ratio:-

P:C:B:A as 1:2:3:7

The additional pumping units required in emergency, may be trailer pumps although self-propelled fire engines are preferable. The towing vehicles required for trailer pumps at the rate of one for every pump, may be made up by acquiring suitable vehicles and fitting them with towing attachments. (3) The difference between the peace-time requirements and the requirements during the time of emergency for vulnerable areas as per scales prescribed above should be made up progressively during peace-time, upto 50% of the total appliances and equipments in times of emergency.

The balance of the requirements in respect of the appliances and equipments should be stockpiled by the Government.

(4) The deficiency between the existing inadequate equipment and the peace-time requirements as per scales recommended above should be made up immediately in respect of vulnerable areas by giving it the highest priority.

Item No.15: Duties of various ranks of the Fire Services.

Shri S.G. Vengsarkar of Bombay Fire Brigade requested members to consider the desirability of laying down precisely the duties and functions of all ranks of the Fire Services as he felt that, at present, there were no clear cut definitions of duties of various ranks of the Fire Service, with the result that disputes often occurred when fire personnel were asked to do certain jobs as part of their regular legitimate duties.

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Members desired to have the existing details of duties of various ranks at present framed in the Fire Services of various States. It was, therefore, decided that this information should be called from the various State Governments and Central Ministries and thereafter the matter could be considered further by this committee.

Members expressed their thanks to the Ministry of Home Affairs for appreciating their difficulties for attending to a heavy agenda in short time as expressed at the last meeting of the Committee and for allotting time for the meeting this time commensurate with the amount of work involved. They further observed that as the work of this Committee has progressively increased and now grown sufficiently large, involving a heavier burden on the Chairman, who is required to shoulder the work of finalization of different resolutions after discussions as also the compilation of the same in the little spare time that is at his disposal during the days when the meetings are held and later on to attend to the preparation of full minutes of the meeting etc. they felt that there was a need for attaching a separate official to work as Secretary to this committee, preferably from the office of the Ministry, who is well conversant with this work and who would also be able to look after the entire work connected with the Standing Fire Advisory Committee meetings. Members unanimously request the Ministry, to consider this proposal favourably.

The Chairman, Shri M.G. Pradhan thanked all members for their continued cooperation and assistance rendered by them in attending to the problems referred to them and for giving their expert advice on all matters pertaining to the Indian Fire Services. He expressed his sincere hopes that all members would readily come forward to help him in whatever matters relating Fire Prevention & Extinction and Fire Engineering that would be referred to them in future.

The Meeting came to a close at 6.0 P.M. on 8th August 1958, with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

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(M.G. PRADHAN),
CHAIRMAN
STANDING FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

LIST OF UNIFORM CLOTHINGS

Rank	Common	Summer	Winter	Light- Khaki
Sub-Officer and above	1. Fire Tunic K-haki (Light/heavy to be decided by local F-fire Officer)	1. Bush Shirts - khaki cellul- lar full sleeves	1. Tunic khaki serge open collar	Light- Khaki superior summer clothes Heavy-kh serge superior
	2. Trouser khaki (Light/heavy to be decided by local F fire Officer.	2. Tunic open collar khaki drill superior	2. Heavy woolen coat khaki.	Same as for Lt No.1
	3. Shirts khaki Lus Telin full sleeves.		3. Gloves woolen khaki.	
	4. Tie maroon blue			
	5. Peak cap khaki serge superior with cloth peak and appro- priate cap badge.			
	Or, Turban khaki muslin 7 yds. for Sikh officers with appropriate cap badge.			
	6. Socks woolen.			
	7. Shoes black with Oxford front toe cap.			
	8. Pair of black leather Wellington knee Boots.			
	9. Fire Helmet black leather.			
	10. Lanyard and whistle (Lanyard to be maroon plated and whistle to be thunder-bolt chrome-plated).			

Rank	Common	Summer	Winter	Remarks
Sub-Officer and above.	11. Belt khaki webbing with pouch and pocket line of 12 ft. white cotton cord.			
	12. Axe Fireman with insulated handle.			
	13. Buttons large and small white shining metal with markings.			
	14. Badges of ranks as applicable as per Standing Fire Advisory Committee recommendation.			
	15. Water-proof Coat.			
	16. Epaulettes white metal for Fire Tunics.			
	17. Shoulder Titles white metal.			

Rank	Common	Summer	Winter	Remarks
All other ranks.	1. Fire Tunic khaki (Light/heavy to be decided by local Fire Officer).	1. Shirts khaki Cellular full sleeves	1. Tunic khaki woolen closed collar double breasted broad cloth.	Light khaki drill superior Heavy Kh. woolen broad cl
	2. Trouser khaki (Light/heavy to be decided by local Fire Officer)		2. Jersey woolen khaki full sleeves with leather elbow protector, two small side pockets & slots for shoulder straps.	Same as for Item No. 1.
	3. Beret khaki woolen with badge, or, Turban khaki muslin 7 yds for Sikhs, with badge.		3. Gloves woolen khaki.	
	4. Socks woolen		4. Heavy woolen coat khaki.	
	5. Boots ankle leather black (shoes for Driver operators)		5. Blanket woolen.	
	6. Gum Boots.			
	7. Fire Helmet black leather.			
	8. Lanyard maroon with whistle thunder bolt for L/Firemen only.			
	9. Belt khaki webbing with pouch and belt line of 12 ft. white cotton cord.			
	10. Axe Fireman with insulated handle.			
	11. Buttons large & small with shining white metals with markings.			

Rank	Common	Summer	Winter	Accessories
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12. Badges of ranks as applicable as
per S.F.A. Committee recommendation.

13. Kit bag/box.

14. Overalls khaki drill.

15. Vests cotton white.

16. Shorts khaki drill.

17. Shoes Canvas white

18. Shoulder Titles metal

19. Durries.

Rule 61(A): Fire Fighting Apparatus and Water Supply.

1) In every factory there shall be provided and maintained the following fire fighting equipment:—

- a) Two fire buckets of not less than 2 gallon capacity for every 1000 sq. ft. of floor area subject to a minimum of four buckets on each floor.
- b) Every bucket provided under this sub-rule shall :—
 - (i) Conform to appropriate Indian Standards Specification.
 - (ii) be kept in a position approved by the Inspector and shall be used for no other purpose than fire extinguishing and
 - (iii) at all times be kept full of water, except where the principle fire risk arises from inflammable liquid or other substances where water cannot be used. It shall be kept full of clean, fine dry sand, stone dust or other inert material.

Provided that where the Chief Inspector is of the opinion that owing to the other adequate fire fighting apparatus provided in the factory building or room, he may issue a certificate in writing (which he may at his discretion revoke) specifying the extent to which the above requirements are relaxed in respect of that building or room.

2) In every factory, adequate provision of water supply for fire fighting shall be made and where the amount of water required as calculated from the formula $A+B+C+D$ divided by 1000 is 120 gallons or more per minute, power driven trailer pumps of adequate capacity to meet the requirement of water as calculated above shall be provided and maintained.

In the above formula:—

A=the total area in sq. ft. of all floors including galleries in all buildings of the factory;

B=the total area in sq. ft. of all floors and galleries including open spaces in which combustible materials are handled or stored;

C=the total area in Sq. ft. of all floors over 50 feet above ground level; and

D =the total area in sq. ft. of all floors of all buildings other than those of fire resisting construction.

Provided that where the fire risk involved does not require use of water, such areas under B.C.D may, for the purpose of calculations, be halved.

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Provided also that where the areas under B.C. or D are protected by permanent automatic fire-fighting installations approved by any fire association or fire insurance company, such areas may, for the purpose of calculations, be halved..

Provided further that where the factory is situated at not more than 2 miles from an established city or town fire service, the pumping capacity arrived at by the formula above may be reduced by 25% but no account shall be taken of this reduction in calculating water supply required under the sub-rule 2.

3) Each Trailer Pump shall be provided with equipment as per schedule A. Such equipment shall conform to Indian Standards Specifications wherever they exist.

4) Five men inclusive of Driver-operator and one leader for each Trailer Pump adequately trained in fire fighting and in operation of trailer pumps shall be available during all times.

5) Trailer Pumps shall be housed in a separate shed/sheds which shall be sited close to a principal source of water supplies in the vicinity of the main risks of the factory.

6) In factories where the area is such as cannot be reached by man-hauling of trailer pumps within reasonable time, vehicles with towing attachment shall be provided at the scale of one for every four trailer pumps with a minimum of one such vehicle kept available at all times.

7) Water supply shall be provided to give flow of water as calculated under sub-rule (2) for at least 100 minutes. At least 50% of this water supply or 1 lakh gallons whichever is less, shall be in the form of static tanks of adequate capacities (not less than 10,000 gallons each) distributed round the factory with due regard to the potential fire risks in the factory. (Where piped supply is provided, the size of the mains shall not be less than 6" diameter and its shall be capable of supplying minimum of 1000 gallons per minute at a pressure of not less than 10 lbs. per sq. inch).

8) Fire fighting drills and practices by Fire crew shall be held at least once a week and shall closely approximate to actual conditions of fire fighting including use of equipment.

9) (a) In factories having more than 1000 sq. ft. floor area and where fire may occur due to combustible materials other than inflammable liquids, electrical equipment and ignitable metals, soda acid or equivalent type of portable extinguishers at the rate of one for every 500 sq. ft. of area spaced at not more than 100 ft. apart subject to a minimum of one extinguisher shall be provided in addition to fire buckets as required under sub-rule (1)".

(b) In factories where fires may occur due to inflammable liquids or grease or paint, the extinguishers to be provided at the scale laid down in clause (a) shall consist of foam, carbon tetrachloride, dry powder, carbon dioxide, chlorobromo methane or other equivalent type.

(c) In factories where fires may occur due to electrical equipment, the extinguisher to be provided at the scale laid in clause (a) shall consist of carbon dioxide, dry powder, carbon tetrachloride or equivalent types.

(d) In factories where fires may occur due to magnesium aluminium or zinc dust or shavings of other ignitable metals, the use of liquids, carbon dioxide and foam type extinguishers shall be prohibited and an ample supply of clean, fine, dry sand, stone dust or other inert material shall be kept ready for segregating such fires.

(e) Every type of portable fire extinguisher shall be kept mounted in a position approved by the Inspector.

Provided that where the Chief Inspector is of the opinion that owing to other adequate fire fighting apparatus or permanent automatic fire fighting installations approved by any recognised fire association or fire insurance company provided in the factory building or room, he may issue a certificate in writing (which he may at his discretion, revoke) specifying the extent to which the above requirements are relaxed in respect of that building or room.

10. (a) Every portable fire extinguisher to be provided under sub-rule (9) shall:-

(i) conform to the appropriate Indian Standards Specification.

(ii) be kept charged ready for use, properly mounted in a position approved by the Inspector and accompanied by the maker's printed instructions for its use, and

(iii) be examined, tested or discharged periodically in accordance with the maker's recommendations.

(b) The manager of every factory shall keep and maintain sufficient number of spare charges for each type of extinguisher provided in the factory with a minimum of 12 spare charges always in stock and readily available.

11) Every worker of the factory should as far as possible be trained in the use of portable fire extinguishers, subject to a minimum of at least one-fourth of number of workers, engaged separately in each section of the factory.

12) Each factory shall detail a trained officer who shall be responsible for the proper maintenance and upkeep of all fire-fighting equipments.

13) The Factory Management for the observance of factory discipline and orderliness, shall prepare a detailed "Fire Safety Plan" for proper enforcement of fire safety rules and for actions to be taken in proper sequence, in case of a fire in the factory.

10 (23)
REGISTERED

No.FC/11-8/61
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
National Fire Service College

Nagpur, the 24th February, 1961
5 Phalguna 1822 (Saka)

From

Shri M.G. Pradhan,
Secretary,
Standing Fire Advisory Committee.

To

All Members of the
Standing Fire Advisory Committee.

Subject:- Tenth meeting of the Standing Fire Advisory
Committee held at Calcutta from 30th December
1960 to 3rd January 1961 - Minutes of -

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Sir,

Please find herewith, copy of aforesaid minutes
in duplicate, one of which, may be forwarded to your
Department/Government, if needed.

The recommendations of the Committee have duly
been forwarded to the Ministry of Home Affairs,
Government of India, New Delhi.

Yours faithfully,

Encls: 2 copies of
minutes.

Sd/- M.G. Pradhan
Secretary,
S.F.A. Committee.

...

No.FC/11-8/61 Of date.

(1) Copy, along with copy of minutes in
duplicate, forwarded to the Chairman, Standing Fire
Advisory Committee, Ministry of Home Affairs,
Government of India, 20-Travancore House Hutments,
Canning Road, New Delhi.

(2) Copy, along with 25 copies of the minutes,
forwarded by Registered Parcel to the Under Secretary
to the Government of India (ER-II), Ministry of Home
Affairs, 20-Travancore House Hutments, Canning Road,
New Delhi.

Sd/- M.G. PRADHAN
Secretary,
S.F.A. Committee.

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Minutes of the 10th meeting of the Standing Fire Advisory Committee held at Fire Brigade Headquarters, 13-D, Free School Street, Calcutta-16, from 30th December, 1960 to 3rd January 1961.

PRESENT:

1. Commandant General M.J.B. Maneckji,
Honorary Adviser,
Government of India,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
New Delhi. Chairman
2. Shri M.G. Pradhan,
Commandant,
National Fire Service College,
Nagpur Secretary
3. Shri A.B. Advani,
Chief Fire Officer,
Delhi Fire Service,
Delhi. Member
4. Shri K.P. Balkrishna Menon,
Divisional Fire Officer and
P.A. to Inspector-General of Police,
(Fire Service Branch)
Government of Kerala,
Trivandrum. Member
5. Shri S.K. Bose,
Chief Fire Officer,
Uttar Pradesh Fire Services,
Allahabad. Member
6. Shri S.C. Chatterjee,
Director,
West Bengal Fire Services,
13-D, Free School Street,
Calcutta-16. Member
7. Syed Sayeed Hassan,
Additional Director of Fire Services,
Andhra Pradesh Fire Services,
Dar-us-Salam,
Hyderabad-Dn. Member
8. Shri K.P. Katre,
Chief Fire Officer,
Mysore State Fire Services,
Bangalore. Member

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9. Shri John Koshi,
Chief Fire Officer and
P.A. to Inspector-General of Police,
(Fire Service Branch),
Mylapur, Madras. Member
10. Shri G.W. Khot, I.P.,
D.I.G. of Police Administration,
Jammu and Kashmir Government,
Jammu. Member
11. Shri S.F. Lakhani,
Fire Adviser to the
Ministry of Defence,
Government of India,
New Delhi. Member
12. Shri Mohinder Singh,
Fire Officer,
Orissa Fire Service,
Cuttack. Member
13. Shri S.G. Vengsarkar,
Chief Fire Officer,
Atomic Energy Establishment,
Trombay, Bombay. Member
14. Dr. H.C. Visvesvaraya,
Deputy Director (Building),
Indian Standards Institution,
Manak Bhavan,
9, Mathura Road,
New Delhi. Member
15. Shri J.K. Munshi,
Chief Fire Officer,
Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation,
Ahmedabad (Gujarat). Member

Shri P.N. Mehrotra, Fire Officer, Civil Aviation
Department did not attend, being out of India.

The 10th meeting of the Standing Fire Advisory
Committee was inaugurated by Shri I.D. Jalan,
Minister for Local Self Government, West Bengal.

While welcoming the members, the Minister
observed that the danger and effects of uncontrolled
fires had attained such a great importance in our
country that it was very appropriate for the Government
of India to have appointed such a body of experts like
the Standing Fire Advisory Committee in order to devise
ways and means to uplift the standards of efficiency of
the Fire Service Organisations and thus protect life
and property throughout the country. The Minister
further stated that the standards could only be
enhanced by the well-conceived recommendations of the

Committee in respect of training and manufacture of fire-fighting equipment and that he was glad to note that the most modern, scientific and up-to-date training was being imparted at the National Fire Service College at Nagpur. He was also happy that standards were specified for the manufacture of fire-fighting equipment, for manning the Fire Services and for affording appropriate Fire Cover for different places in the country by this Committee since its appointment.

The Minister remarked that the Industrial Developments during the 1st and 2nd Five Year Plans were associated with high risk of fire and with a view to raise the economical condition of the country, it was very necessary to protect from this danger of fire by taking suitable scientific precautions and from this point of view he expressed that the role that the Committee has to play has a tremendous consequence and if the recommendations of the Committee are not taken in proper form, there was likelihood of destroying whatever is produced with a detrimental effect on the economic development of the country. He was pleased to note that the Committee had already assessed this increase in Fire Risk and is taking active steps in recommending Grants-in-Aid to different States in order to raise the standards of efficiency in respect of fire-fighting equipment and training. With these observations the Minister declared the Conference open.

The Chairman, Shri M.J.B. Maneckji, while thanking the Minister for the honour done by him to the Committee in inaugurating the Conference, assured him that the Committee will do its best in fulfilling the task expected of it by the Minister and would also endeavour to render assistance and guidance to all Fire Services and Industrial Establishments in the country so as to minimise the losses to life and property through fire in the country. Thereafter the Conference took up the agenda for consideration.

ITEM NO.1:- CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE
9TH MEETING OF STANDING FIRE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE, HELD AT BOMBAY
FROM 17TH TO 20TH AUGUST, 1960.

The minutes of the last meeting, which had been circulated to all the members, were confirmed.

ITEM NO.2:- FOLLOW UP ACTION BY THE MINISTRY
OF HOME AFFAIRS, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The statements circulated by the Ministry in respect of points raised to the meetings of the Standing Advisory Committee and the progress made in different items, were noted.

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ITEM NO.3:- CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT FIRE
PREVENTION MEASURES FOR STORAGE
AND HANDLING OF FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS
INCLUDING THOSE COVERED UNDER
PETROLEUM ACT - VIEWS EXPRESSED
BY THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF EXPLOSIVES
IN INDIA ON DRAFT RULES PROPOSED
BY SHRI M.G. PRADHAN

After a prolonged discussion the Committee desired that all members should send the rules framed and the procedures followed in their States in respect of storage licences to the Secretary, who should then take up the matter with the Chief Inspector of Explosives in India.

The comments obtained from the Chief Inspector of Explosives in India should then be circulated at all members for their consideration at a later meeting of the Standing Fire Advisory Committee.

ITEM NO.4 - MODEL FIRE SERVICE BILL -
PROGRESS MADE -

The Chairman informed the members that while he would take up the case with the Home Ministry to issue letters and reminders to the States/Municipalities/Union Territories etc., asking them to let the Ministry know as to what action had been taken by them with regard to the various recommendations made by the Standing Fire Advisory Committee, he asked members that they should also individually see that these recommendations are taken up by their authorities expeditiously and make individual efforts to convince them to follow them.

The State/Municipal Corporation/Union Territories etc., would be requested to inform us to when they envisage that the Model Fire services Bill would be implemented.

ITEM NO.5:- FIRE DRILL COMPETITIONS -
RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR
VARIOUS DRILLS TOGETHER WITH
PENALTIES.

The Committee considered the Draft Rules prepared by the Sub-Committee for:-

- (i) Trailer Pump Drill (Wet).
- (ii) Extension Ladder Drill with Rescue (Dry), and
- (iii) Tactical Medley Race,

and decided that the competition for Tactical Medley Race may not be introduced at this stage. Members desired that the Secretary should supply them with the copies of standard drills for Trailer Pump and

Extension Ladder, as incorporated in the Standard Drill Manual, after which they would conduct such competition drills based on the Draft Rules, as framed now by the Sub-Committee, in their individual Fire Services and report about their experiences. These rules can then be finalised in the light of such experiences.

As regards the First-Aid and Stretcher Drill Competition, members felt that the First-Aid Drill, as followed by St. John's Ambulance, was not very suitable and the Committee resolved that Shri Vengsarkar should obtain details of the artificial respiration drill competition at present followed by the Maharashtra Home Guards and forward to the Secretary, which can then be circulated to all members and finalised at a later stage.

ITEM NO.6:- PROCEDURE FOR WORKING PARTIES AND SUB-COMMITTEES.

The Chairman made it very clear to all members that when we appoint Working Parties or Sub-Committees for certain items, we appoint a Convener and it would be the Convener's responsibility during the interim period to get all the paper work done and circulated to all members of the working party or the sub-committee. The views of the members of the working party or the sub-committee would then be communicated to the Convener, who would furnish the final report to the Secretary for being placed on the agenda for consideration of members and to take a decision.

ITEM NO.7 - RULES FOR FIXING UP SCALES OF FIRST-AID FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT AT GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The note received from Dr. Visvesvaraya of the Indian Standards Institution, New Delhi, was circulated amongst all members and it was decided that the matter be first considered at the Sub-Committee of the Indian Standards Institution, dealing with this question and its recommendations later on placed before the Standing Fire Advisory Committee for their consideration.

ITEM NO.8:- VISIT TO FIRE TRAINING CENTRE, ALLAHABAD - REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE.

The Committee noted the report of the Sub-Committee regarding the Fire Training Centre of the Uttar Pradesh (Police) Fire Service, Allahabad, and expressed satisfaction at the way, the training was being imparted. The committee felt that with certain changes, it could be developed into a Regional Training Centre for those States within the region, who desired to send their people for training as they

may not have facilities of their own for this purpose.

ITEM NO.9:- UTILIZATION OF SUBSIDY BALANCE
GIVEN TO JAMMU AND KASHMIR STATE
FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FIRE STATIONS,
BUILDINGS ETC.

The Chairman, while appreciating the difficulties expressed by the representative of the State of Jammu and Kashmir in respect of construction of fire stations pointed out that "the grant-in-aid" was meant to purchase equipment to augment and improve the fire-fighting facilities in the State and it would not be possible to allocate any of the sums for this purpose.

Shri Khot explained that in case of Jammu and Kashmir, special consideration should be given because it was an area of great fire risk and felt that as in case of other Government Services, viz., the police, where facilities were given by the Government of India for construction of buildings, etc. similar facilities should also be given in respect of fire stations.

The Chairman informed Shri Khot that this would have to be considered completely separately from the question of subsidy for equipment and, if necessary, he may ask his Government to take this matter up formally with the Government of India.

ITEM NO.10:- PROPOSAL FOR OPENING REGIONAL
TRAINING SCHOOL FOR FIREMEN,
LEADERS AND DRIVERS-CUM-OPERATORS
AND VOLUNTEERS AND OUTSIDERS
(ATTACHED TO FACTORIES, MILLS
AND OTHER PRIVATE UNDERTAKINGS).

The Committee realised that there was need for setting up Regional Training Centres in the country and desired that the Government of India may examine this question. Members, however, observed that if the Home Ministry could not set up such Regional Centres, it should at least explore the possibility for utilising the State Training Centres for this purpose.

ITEM NO.11:- PROPOSAL TO CONSULT THE FIRE
SERVICES WHILE ORGANISING WATER
WORKS SCHEME IN ANY TOWN,
MUNICIPALITY, FACTORY AND MILLS
ETC., SO THAT PROVISION FOR WATER
FOR FIRE-FIGHTING PURPOSES CAN BE
INCLUDED WITH DRINKING WATER-
SUPPLY AT THE VERY BEGINNING OF
SUCH SCHEME IN ORDER THAT BOTH CAN
BE ECONOMICALLY IMPLEMENTED AND
CATERED FOR.

Members observed that the Committee has already made certain recommendations in this connection in the past and these should be followed by the authorities concerned.

Shri Chatterjee stated that no Hydrants were installed while laying new Water Lines with the result that extra expenditure has to be incurred at a later stage for laying such Hydrants. The members felt that the State Governments should be requested that whenever new Water Works Schemes were being worked out, the authorities should consult and take the advice of the Local Fire Officers for laying Water Hydrants and as far as possible take necessary steps.

ITEM NO.12:- COLOUR CODE FOR FIRE EXTINGUISHERS.

The Committee felt that before finalising the Colour Code for different types of portable Fire Extinguishers, it would be better to obtain details in this connection from other countries as well as from the internal users through the Indian Standards Institution, New Delhi. After collecting such details, the matter can later on be considered and the colour scheme for these extinguishers could be finalised. The Committee also recommended the feasibility of prescribing different distinctive extinguishers even in the dark. It was, however, felt that two types of extinguishers, viz. Soda Acid and the Foam Type require such distinctive shapes in the first instance.

ITEM NO.13 - AUTOMATIC FIRE DETECTION AND FIRE ALARM.

The Committee agreed as regards (a) viz. to advise the Indian Standards Institution to prepare some standard specifications for the introduction of Fire Alarm System, automatic as well as manually operated type for all large industrial estates or establishments. Dr. Visvesvaraya of the I.S.I. was requested to prepare these standard specifications.

As regards (b), members were of the opinion that the rules for installation of such Fire Alarm System in industrial establishments, factories etc., could only be laid down after the specifications were framed, as they felt that the rules will be dependent on what area can be covered by such standard specifications.

(3)

ITEM NO.14 - GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DANGEROUS
PETROLEUM ACT (1934) AND EXPLOSIVE
RULES (1940)

The Committee resolved that the Secretary should take up this matter with the Chief Inspector of Explosives in India along with the matter referred to at Item No.3 above.

ITEM NO.15:- STANDARD MARKING FOR HELMETS
FOR VARIOUS RANKS.

It was generally felt by members that suitable markings for helmets for various ranks on the lines of the marking of the National Fire Service, U.K., should be evolved with modifications, to suit the need in this country. The Secretary was requested to prepare drawings and put them up to the Standing Fire Advisory Committee.

ITEM NO.16:- ADOPTION OF EMBROIDERED BADGES
OF RANK ON SHOULDER.

In view of observations made by certain members regarding this, Shri Advani withdrew this item.

ITEM NO.17:- INTRODUCTION OF MEDALS/RIBBONS.

Members observed that the present system of common medals, viz. the President's Police and Fire Services Medal and the Indian Police Medal issued to the Police and the Fire Services should be split separately for the two services and the Fire Services should have distinctive medals of their own for gallantry, devotion to duty, long service, good conduct, etc., known as President's Fire Services Medal and Indian Fire Services Medal, which should not be mixed with the Police medals. The colour, shape, ribbon etc., should also be different from those used for Indian Police Services. It was resolved that the Home Ministry might consider this matter in consultation with the appropriate authority and rules framed for the same which could then be considered by the Standing Fire Advisory Committee.

ITEM NO.18:- COMPILATION OF VOLUME AS 'INDIAN
FIRE SERVICE MANUAL'

The Committee felt that it was too early to think of having a Manual of this kind at this stage and deferred this matter.

ITEM NO.19:- ASSISTANCE TO HOME GUARDS IN
RESPECT OF FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT
TO IMPROVE THEIR FIRE SERVICES.

The Committee recommended that the undermentioned equipment should be allotted to the respective Home Guards Organizations for their auxiliary Fire Services:-

(A) PUNJAB HOME GUARDS:

Jeep Fire Engine with
118" wheelbase with
400 GPM capacity pump. One

(B) GUJARAT HOME GUARDS:

Jeep Fire Engines with
118" wheelbase with
400 GPM capacity pump. Two

(C) BIHAR HOME GUARDS:

Motor fire engine with
400 GPM capacity pump
with 400 gallons water tank. One

(D) MAHARASHTRA HOME GUARDS:

Motor Fire Engine with
400 GPM capacity pump
with 400 gallons water tank One

Jeep Fire Engine with 118"
wheelbase with 400 GPM
capacity pump. One

ADDITIONAL ITEM NO.1:- STANDING FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE -
PERIODICAL MEETINGS -
ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS - TRAVEL BY
AIR WHENEVER REQUIRED -

In view of the recent decision of the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, with regard to payment of T.A. and D.A. to members on Central and State Committees being individually borne by the respective Governments, no action on this item was considered necessary.

ADDITIONAL ITEM NO.2:- MADRAS FIRE SERVICE - AMBULANCE -
RIGHT OF WAY IN TRAFFIC DURING
EMERGENCIES - PROVISION OF
WARNING SYSTEM TO AMBULANCE -
REGARDING -

The Committee observed that under the Motor Vehicles Act it was not possible to recommend right of way in traffic for ambulances as also to provide warning systems on them. It was, however, felt that the local police may be approached by the Services and individual systems evolved for securing right of way to ambulances in traffic during emergencies.

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ADDITIONAL ITEM NO.3:- BRIEF DESCRIPTION WITH
TECHNICAL DETAILS OF
'TRIBHUI' FIRE ALARM
SYSTEM MANUFACTURED BY
M/S. PRAKASH SECURITY
DEVICES (INDIA) OF ALLAHABAD.

Members considered the details supplied by the Secretary and his comments as regards this Fire Alarm and stated that it was too difficult for them to express any opinion without first having a demonstration. Dr. Visvesvaraya of the Indian Standards Institution stated that he was approached by the firm regarding this device, when they were advised to stage a demonstration on a scientific basis, as was required for such alarm system, when the matter could be considered further. The Chairman observed that we may ask the firm to stage a demonstration some times later before the Standing Fire Advisory Committee members, when the Committee meets at Allahabad in future.

The Secretary expressed thanks on behalf of the Committee to Shri S.C. Chatterjee, Director of Fire Services, West Bengal, who was the host on this occasion, for the excellent arrangements, he had made for holding the meeting and for arranging most instructive and educative visits to some of the Industrial Establishments in and around Calcutta and also for showing round his Fire Services.

VENUE AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

To be notified later.

Sd/- M.G. PRADHAN,
SECRETARY,
S.F.A. Committee.

Sd/- M.J.B. Maneckji
Chairman,
S.F.A. Committee.

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