

investment in agriculture. One major achievement in this respect was the establishment of a grand experimental station in Tel-Aviv in 1922. Other extension stations were also founded in various settlements.

Built with an estimated 85 thousand Palestinian Lira, the Tel-Aviv station became the centre of agricultural instruction for all Jewish settlements. In 1930, the station was staffed by 40 scientists, had 3 laboratories, seven field divisions and devised 9 district instructors to cover all settlements. (8)

Agricultural schools and research centres were also established in various Jewish settlements. Besides the well known Mikveh-Yisrael (an agriculture school and research centre) which by 1929 was catering to over 160 students, the Jewish Agency with the support of the government established five additional agricultural schools. (9)

In contrast, by the early 1930s, the Palestinian rural population which formed over 90 per cent of the total had access to only one agricultural school providing space for less than 40 students per year. (10)

Research centres and scientific expertise including chemists and analysts were also provided by the Hebrew University and the Technion, now Israel's largest technical institute. (11)

The application of technology and science, it must be added, was not solely the fruit of Jewish capital and human resources. A great deal of assistance was in fact provided by the British colonial government.

Government Role in Advancing Agriculture

The role played by government in advancing agriculture was evident at virtually all levels. At the legal level, with an eye to