STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING

(2022-2023)

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING)

'DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2023-24)'

{Action Taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Fifty-Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2022-23)}

SIXTY - THIRD REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT NEW DELHI AUGUST 2023 / SRAVANA,1945 (SAKA)

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{Action Taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Fifty-Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2022-23)}

Presented to Lok Sabha on 10.08.2023

Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 10.08.2023



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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING (2022-23)

Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar- Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

- 2. Shri Horen Sing Bey
- 3. Shri A. Ganeshamurthi
- 4. Shri Kanakmal Katara
- 5. Shri Abu Taher Khan
- 6. Shri Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu
- 7. Shri Mohan Mandavi
- 8. Shri Devji Mansingram Patel
- 9. Smt. Sharda Anilkumar Patel
- 10. Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao Patil
- 11. Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb Patil
- 12. Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut
- 13. Shri Pocha Brahmananda Reddy
- 14. Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy
- 15. Mohammad Sadique
- 16. Shri Devendra Singh alias Bhole Singh
- 17. Shri Virendra Singh
- 18. Shri V.K. Sreekandan
- 19. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav
- 20. VACANT[#]
- 21. VACANT*

RAJYA SABHA

- 22. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
- 23. Shri Masthan Rao Beeda
- 24. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde
- 25. Shri S. Kalyanasundaram
- 26. Shri Surendra Singh Nagar
- 27. Shri Kailash Soni
- 28. Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala
- 29. Shri Ram Nath Thakur
- 30. Shri Vaiko
- 31. Shri Harnath Singh Yadav

[#] Vacant w.e.f. 10.10.2022 due to demise of Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav on 10.10.2022 [Bulletin- Part II, Para No. 5316 dated 14.10.2022].

^{*} Vacant w.e.f. 29.04.2023 due to disqualification of SHri Afzal Ansari from Lok Sabha Membership from the date of his conviction in terms of provision of Article 102(1)(e) of the Constitution of India read with the Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 [Notification No. 21/4(6)/2023 TO(B) dated 01.05.2023].

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Shiv Kumar - Additional Secretary

2. Shri Uttam Chand Bharadwaj - Director

3. Shri Prem Ranjan - Deputy Secretary

4. Ms. Divya Rai - Assistant Executive Officer

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and

Food Processing (2022-23), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the

Report on their behalf, present this Sixty Third Report on Action-taken by the

Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Fifty Fourth

Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal

Husbandry and Food Processing (2022-23) on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24)'

pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of

Animal Husbandry and Dairying).

2. The Fifty Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee

on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2022-23) on 'Demands for

Grants (2023-24)' pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and

Dairying (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying) was presented to Lok Sabha

on 13.03.2023 and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 14.03.2023. The Action Taken

Notes on the Report were received on 12.06.2023.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held

on 08.08.2023.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the Observations /

Recommendations contained in the Fifty Fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of

the Committee is given in **Appendix**.

NEW DELHI;

08 August, 2023

17 Sravana, 1945 (Saka)

P.C. GADDIGOUDAR Chairperson,

Standing Committee on Agriculture,

Animal Husbandry and Food Processing

(v)

CHAPTER - I

REPORT

This Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing deals with the Action-taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Fifty Forth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2022-23) on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24)' pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying), which was presented to Lok Sabha on 13th March, 2023 and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 14th March, 2023.

- 1.2 The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying) has furnished Action-taken Replies in respect of all the 13 Observations / Recommendations contained in the Report. These Replies have been scrutinized and thereafter categorized as under:-
- (i) Observations / Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government: Recommendation Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10

Total 08 Chapter - II

(ii) Observations / Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply:

Recommendation No. NIL

Total 00

Chapter - III

(iii) Observations / Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee:

Recommendation Nos. 7 and 12

Total 02

Chapter – IV

(iv) Observations / Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited :

Recommendation Nos. 9, 11 and 13

Total 03 Chapter - V

- 1.3 The Committee desire that utmost importance be given by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying) to implement the Observations / Recommendations accepted by the Government. In cases where it is not possible for the Department to implement the Recommendations in letter and spirit, for any reason, the matter should be intimated, in writing, to the Committee with reasons for non-implementation. The Committee also desire that further Action-taken Notes on the Observations / Recommendations contained in Chapter-I and the Final Action-taken Replies to the Observations / Recommendations contained in Chapter-V of this Report be furnished to them at an early date.
- 1.4 The Committee will now deal with the Action-taken by the Government on some of the Observations / Recommendations in the succeeding paragraphs.

A. National Livestock Mission (NLM) (Recommendation No. 7)

1.5 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

"The Committee note that the Physical Targets set under the National Livestock Mission had to be revised as the Department could utilize only 34.14% funds of RE stage allocation during the year 2022-23. The Committee have also noticed less utilization of funds by the States released to them under this scheme during the years 2019-20 to 2021-22. The Committee further note that Utilization Certificates amounting to Rs. 482.57 Crore under NLM from the year 2014-15 up to 2022-23 have been found pending with the States / UTs.

The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to develop a mechanism so that the pendency of Utilization Certificates with the States could be reduced and delay in releases of funds to States/UTs in future is avoided. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps in this regard.

The Committee further note that National Livestock Mission has six Sub-Components and under the Livestock Insurance component, not even a single livestock

has been insured during the year 2022-23, whereas during the previous year i.e. 2021-22, a total of 1,74,061 animals were insured. The Committee were informed of the hardships faced by the livestock owners in getting their livestock insured and also about the measures being taken to ease the process of livestock insurance. Expressing concern over the NIL Insurance during the year 2022-23, the Committee recommend the Department to take effective steps so that the process of insurance of livestock is made easy for the beneficiaries. The Committee would also like the Department to explore the possibility of developing an App-based Livestock Insurance facility for livestock owners. The Committee would like to be apprised of the total progress made by the Department in this regard."

1.6 In its Action taken reply, the Department has stated as under :-

"Under National Livestock Mission, 71.26% of RE has been utilized during the FY 2022-23. States/UTs are continuously being reminded through National Review Meetings, Regional Review Meetings, Field Visits and Video Conferences to liquidate the pending Utilization Certificates.

Under Livestock Insurance of National Livestock Mission, an amount of Rs. 1011.80 lakh has been released to 3 States/UTs with a physical target of 3,44,602 animals. The releases were made in the last 2 quarters of financial year 2022-23. The States are facing difficulties in implementing Livestock insurance scheme because of no participation by the Insurance Companies. As a result, there is huge amount of unspent balances with the States resulting no release of fund to the States/UTs under livestock Insurance scheme. In this regard, the Department conducted a meeting on Livestock Insurance on 05.04.2023 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister (FAHD) with the concerned Stakeholders. As per the suggestions given by the Stakeholders, necessary steps are being taken for effective implementation of the Scheme."

1.7 Taking note of the huge pendency of the Utilization Certificates with the States / UTs under the National Livestock Mission (NLM), the Committee had recommended the Department to develop a mechanism so that the pendency of Utilization Certificates with the States could be reduced and delay in future releases of funds to States/UTs could be avoided. Further, taking note of the fact

that not even a single livestock was insured during the year 2022-23 under the Livestock Insurance component of NLM, the Committee had also recommended the Department to take effective steps for making the process of insurance of livestock easier for the beneficiaries and also to explore the possibility of developing an App-based Livestock Insurance facility for livestock owners.

In its Action-taken reply, the Department has informed about the measures being taken to liquidate pending Utilization Certificates. Further, the Department has stated that States are facing difficulties in implementing Livestock Insurance Scheme because of non-participation of the Insurance Companies and this has resulted in unspent balances with States and UTs and stalled further release of funds to them under the Livestock Insurance Scheme. The Department has further informed that a meeting on Livestock Insurance was conducted with concerned stakeholders in this regard and as per their suggestions, necessary steps are being taken for effective implementation of the Scheme.

The Committee, however, note that the reply of the Department is silent about the progress achieved in the liquidation of pending Utilization Certificates with States and UTs under the National Livestock Mission as a result of its efforts. Further, the Committee feel that regardless of the reasons behind non-participation of Insurance companies in the Livestock Insurance Scheme, it is the livestock owners who end up as the ultimate sufferers. The Committee also note that the Department has stayed silent over the idea of developing an App-based Livestock Insurance facility for livestock owners.

The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation to develop an effective mechanism for liquidation of Utilization Certificates pending with States and UTs under the National Livestock Mission; to address the issue of NIL insurance by ascertaining the causes behind non-participation of Insurance Companies under the Livestock Insurance Scheme; and to take necessary steps to explore the possibility of developing an App-based Livestock Insurance facility for livestock owners in the country. The Committee would like to be apprised of the progress made in each of these areas.

B. <u>Establishment of an Institution like AIIMS in Veterinary Services</u> (Recommendation No. 9)

1.8 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

"The Committee note that there is shortage of specialized and trained manpower in Veterinary Services in the country. The Committee have been apprised that in addition to already existing 55 Veterinary Colleges recognized to impart Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry (B.V.Sc. & A.H.) Degree, 13 more Colleges have been provisionally recognized and the number of seats in each recognized college have been increased from 60 to 80. The Committee have also been apprised that in pursuance of the recommendation contained in their 30th Report on the subject 'Status of Veterinary Services and Availability of Animal Vaccines in the country, a high level meeting with Specialists, Experts, VC, Directors, HoDs of Institutes, etc. was held under the Chairmanship of Secretary AHD on 18th January, 2023, for establishment of a Veterinary College on the lines of AIIMS (AIIMS - VET) and subsequently the Veterinary Council of India (VCI) was directed to allocate the subject matter to an Expert Committee constituted for the purpose of establishment of an Institute like AIIMS in Veterinary Sciences. The Committee, while appreciating the efforts of the Department regarding establishment of AIIMS like Institute in Veterinary Sciences, desire that necessary formalities in this regard may be completed at the earliest and a model Veterinary Research and Education Institute be established to cater to the vast majority of livestock in the country on a priority basis. The Committee would like to apprised of the progress made in this direction."

1.9 In its Action taken reply, the Department has stated as under :-

"At present, there are 56 recognized veterinary colleges to impart B.V.Sc. & A.H. degree and there are 14 provisionally recognized veterinary colleges. As regards the

progress regarding creation of national level institute in lines of AIIMS (AIIMS - VET), a preliminary meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Shri R.K. Singh, the then Secretary (AHD) on 18.1.2023 wherein specialist Experts, Vice-Chancellors, Directors were called to deliberate on the aforesaid issue. After detailed deliberation, it was decided that the aforesaid subject matter would be given to the Veterinary Council of India (VCI) and VCI shall constitute an Expert Committee for the purpose of Establishment of Institutions like AIIMS in Veterinary Services. Accordingly, this Department vide letter dated 23rd February, 2023, directed the Secretary, VCI for taking necessary steps in the matter.

The matter was considered by the Executive Committee of the Council in its meeting held on 02.3.2023 and the Executive Committee after detailed deliberation decided to constitute a Committee which shall examine the scope, the requirement of staff and offices, specialist, the role that the institutions could eventually play, the regulations linkage to other agencies like IVRI, ICAR, DAHD, VCI etc. The proposed expenditure for establishment of such education and nature of education and research to be conducted by the proposed institutions shall also be examined by this Committee. Hence, Executive Committee constituted the Committee consisting of following persons:

- 1. Dr. Umesh Chandra Sharma, President, VCI Chairman
- 2. Dr. Abhijit Mitra, Animal Husbandry Commissioner, DAHD, GOI Member
- 3. Dr. N.H. Kelawala, Vice-Chancellor, Kamdhenu University, Gujarat Member
- 4. Dr. Ashwani Raut Member
- 5. Dr.Vinod Bhat, Secretary, VCI Member Secretary.

This decision was approved by the Council in its meeting held on 14.3.2023. Necessary steps are being taken for holding a meeting of the experts in this regard."

1.10 The Committee, while appreciating the efforts of the Department regarding establishment of AIIMS like Institute in Veterinary Sciences, had desired that necessary formalities in this regard be completed at the earliest and a model Veterinary Research and Education Institute be established to cater to the vast majority of livestock in the country on a priority basis.

In its Action-taken reply, the Department has informed that the subject matter on setting-up of an Institute like AIIMS in Veterinary Sciences has been allocated to the Veterinary Council of India (VCI) with the direction to set up an Expert Committee. The Department has further informed that, as directed, the VCI has constituted a Committee, the mandate and composition of which have been furnished in the reply. The Committee, however, note that the Department has not provided any information about the timeline by which the Expert Committee constituted by VCI would submit their Report and by when the subsequent action for establishment of AIIMS-like Institute in Veterinary Sciences would be taken up. Sensing the urgency to cater to the vast majority of livestock and the rising need for trained veterinary manpower in the country, the Committee feel that setting up a model Veterinary Education and Research Institute needs to be accorded topmost priority. The Committee, therefore, reiterate that necessary formalities for setting up of AIIMS-like Institute in Veterinary Sciences be completed at the earliest and that a timeline be fixed in this regard. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken and progress made in this regard.

C. <u>Inclusivity in Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sector</u> (Recommendation No. 11)

1.11 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

"While appreciating the efforts of the Department regarding earmarking of funds under the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-plan (TSP), the Committee, however, note that the utilization of RE Stage allocations for the year 2022-23 under Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) has been only 20.95% and 24.87%, respectively. Further, the Committee are constrained to note that in States like Rajasthan where there is a considerable population of both, SC and ST communities, there have been chronic issues of non-receipt of proposals from the State

Government under the SCSP and TSP components. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to take active steps to ensure optimal utilization of funds allocated under these Components and to take necessary steps to encourage State Governments to submit proposals under these plans so that benefits of the Schemes being run by the Department can reach intended beneficiaries and contribute to their economic upliftment effectively."

1.12 In its Action-taken reply, the Department has stated as under :-

"As all the schemes of the Department are demand-driven, 16.6% and 8.60 % of funds have been fixed under Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub-Plan category respectively. Accordingly, the Department earmarked Rs. 616.62 crore and Rs. 327.20 crore at BE Stage under SCSP & TSP category respectively which was Rs. 453.51 crore and Rs. 244.40 crore at RE Stage. The actual expenditure was Rs. 312.05 crore (69% over RE Stage) and Rs. 166.48 crore (68% over RE Stage) under SCSP & TSP Category respectively.

The Department continuously follows up with States/UTs through National Review Meetings, Regional Review Meetings, Field Visits and Video Conferences to utilize the fund released under SCSP and TSP heads under schemes of the Department and submit fresh proposal for further release of fund so as to achieve the desired targets under various Schemes being implemented by the Department and to avoid the issues of under-utilization of funds under the SCSP & TSP head."

1.13 Taking note of the low utilization of RE Stage allocations under the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP), the Committee had recommended the Department to take active steps to ensure optimal utilization of funds allocated under these Components and also to encourage State Governments to submit proposals under these Plans so that benefits of the Schemes being run by the Department could reach intended beneficiaries and contribute to their economic upliftment effectively.

In its Action-taken reply, the Department has stated that 69% and 68% of the RE Stage allocations under the SCSP and TSP Components have been

utilized respectively. Besides, the Department has also apprised about the followup actions being taken up with the States and UTs to avoid the issue of underutilization of funds released under these Components.

The Committee, however, feel that the utilization of funds earmarked under the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) is still low and not upto the mark desired. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Department take active steps to ensure optimal utilization of funds allocated under these Components and that the State Governments be encouraged to submit proposals under these Components so that benefits of the Schemes being run by the Department are able to percolate to the intended beneficiaries and contribute to their economic upliftment effectively.

D. <u>Inclusivity in Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sector</u> (Recommendation No. 12)

1.14 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

"The Committee are concerned to note that despite being asked to submit details regarding expenditure incurred under the Gender Budget from the year 2021-21 to 2022-23, the Department failed to submit any details in this regard. The Committee are further dissatisfied with the denial of the Representative, during evidence, of there being a Gender Budget Cell, when the same has been explicitly mentioned in the Annual Report (2021-22) of the Department. The Committee also note that no direct replies were submitted by the Department on being questioned about its initiatives regarding the constituents of 'Gender Inclusiveness' and 'Gender Budgeting & Gender disaggregated Data' for specific Schemes, as pointed out by the Development Monitoring & Evaluation Office (DMEO) of NITI Aayog in its Thematic Report on 'Gender Mainstreaming in Governance'.

While expressing appreciation with the assurance of the Department regarding enrolment of up to 50% Women Milk Producers in the Dairy Business under the Scheme on Dairy Processing Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF), the Committee, however, are concerned that no timeline was specified for achievement of this target of

50% women milk producers in the Dairy business. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to implement in letter and spirit, the policy of earmarking 30% of allocated funds towards women under the Schemes being implemented by the Department and also to specify the timeline by when the Department aims to achieve the target specified under the Scheme on Dairy Processing Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF)."

1.15 In its Action taken reply, the Department has stated as under :-

"Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF) is not beneficiary oriented scheme. It is a credit linked demand driven scheme with the objective to create/ modernize the milk processing, chilling, and value-addition infrastructure. Further, as per CCEA approval dated 19.02.2020, 2022-23 was the last year for funding under DIDF. However, based on the recommendation of Ministry of Finance and NITI Ayog, DIDF is proposed to be merged with AHIDF. The objective and targets of the scheme are to be continued under AHIDF. The process of merging the scheme is under process.

There is no separate budget allocation for Gender Budgeting. However, the Department is requesting the States to allocate 30% of the total fund release for the women beneficiaries."

1.16 The Committee had recommended the Department to implement in letter and spirit the policy of earmarking 30% of the allocated funds towards women beneficiaries under the Schemes being implemented by the Department and also to specify the timeline by when the Department aims to achieve the target of enrolment of up to 50% Women Milk Producers in the Dairy Business under the Scheme on Dairy Processing Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF).

In its Action-taken reply, the Department has informed that DIDF is not a beneficiary oriented Scheme but a credit linked demand driven Scheme and it is proposed to be merged with the Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) with the same objectives and targets. Further, the Department while

stating that there is no separate budget allocation for Gender Budgeting, has informed the Committee about requesting States to allocate 30% of the released funds for the women beneficiaries.

The Committee, however, note that the Department has not furnished any information with respect to the timeline for achieving the target of enrolment of up to 50% Women Milk Producers in the Dairy Business under the Dairy Processing Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF). Further, the reply of the Department is also silent on the recommendation of the Committee for earmarking 30% of allocated funds towards women under the Schemes of the Department.

The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the timeline for achievement of the specified target of enrolment of up to 50% Women Milk Producers in the Dairy Business under the Scheme on Dairy Processing Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF) be specified and also that the policy for earmarking at least 30% of the allocated funds towards women beneficiaries be implemented in letter and spirit in the Schemes of the Department. The Committee would like to be apprised of the progress made in achievement of the respective targets.

E. <u>Credit flow in Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sector</u> (Recommendation No. 13)

1.17 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

"While appreciating the achievement of disbursement of credit of Rs. 1,72,115 Crore against the target of Rs. 1,04,580 Crore towards Allied activities, the Committee note with concern the regional disparity in disbursement of credit in Animal Husbandry Sector. The Committee are of the view that the growing importance of Allied Sectors in the national economy calls for increased access of credit to Livestock Farmers. The

Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to work towards removing this disparity in credit availability, especially with respect to the North Eastern and Eastern Regions and to ensure that awareness is created in this regard through various awareness programmes including through print and electronic media."

1.18 In its Action-taken reply, the Department has stated as under :-

"Regional variation in the Ground Level Credit (GLC) is the product of disparity in the credit flow across the States. Region-wise GLC with details like share of Gross Cropped Area (GCA), Gross Irrigated Area (GIA) and branch network in rural/ semi urban areas with GLC achievement during 2021-22 and 2022-23 are given in the Table below.

Regions	Share in GCA (%)	Share in GIA (%)	Share in rural / semi-urban outlets (%)	Region- wise GLC Disb. (%) to total during 2021-22	Region- wise GLC Disb. (%) during 2022-23 (p) (up to 31 Mar 2023)*	Region-wise Animal Husbandry Disb. (%) during 2022- 23 (p) (up to 31 Mar 2023)*	%age livestock (as per 20 th Livestock Census)
Northern	20.55	25.38	14.80	16.27	17.90	12.19	15.65
NER	3.21	0.91	3.66	0.76	0.61	0.78	4.54
Eastern	12.16	13.14	18.47	10.83	8.91	8.30	21.60
Central	28.63	34.83	18.69	12.84	13.65	9.17	24.02
Western	18.37	10.72	23.09	12.18	12.79	10.17	11.21
Southern	17.09	15.02	21.30	47.13	46.15	59.39	22.98

^{*}Source; NABARD

The data for 2022-23 is provisional

Similar trend is also observed in the case of Animal husbandry sector, as seen in the Table, higher credit absorption capacity of Southern region may be because of the availability of better infrastructure facilities, better banking network and credit availability leading to improvement in its share. Normally, low density of credit delivery outlets and weak financial health of Rural Financial Institutions could be the constraints for increasing credit flow in credit starved regions. Central and Eastern regions account for around 21% and 19% share in rural and semi urban bank branches, respectively, pointing towards demand side bottlenecks in the regions. Therefore, one way to stimulate the demand for agriculture credit including credit for animal husbandry and allied activities is to develop the credit absorption capacity in credit deficient region viz. Central, Eastern and North Eastern. Accordingly, share of credit starved regions in

agriculture credit target has been increased to alleviate the growing regional imbalance in agriculture credit without dissuading the Southern and Northern states.

The Department has prepared brochures, videos for AHDF-KCC and disseminated through all the social media platforms of the Department. These have been also distributed and disseminated in the major events of the Department across the country. Farmers have been given information on how to avail KCC and its benefits through Awareness camps organized by this Department through Common Service Centers (CSC) across the country."

Having noted the regional disparity in disbursement of credit in Animal **Husbandry Sector, the Committee recommended the Department to work towards** removing this disparity, especially with respect to the North Eastern and Eastern Regions and also to raise awareness in this regard. In its Action-taken reply, the Department has attributed higher credit absorption of the Southern region to availability of better infrastructure facilities, better banking networks and credit availability. The Department has further informed that credit starvation of the Central and Eastern Regions could be due to low density of credit delivery outlets, weak financial health of Rural Financial Institutions and regional demandside bottlenecks and that demand for credit in Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Allied sectors in the Central, Eastern and North Eastern regions could be stimulated through development of credit absorption capacity. Accordingly, the Department has stated that share of credit starved regions in the Agriculture credit target has been increased to alleviate the growing regional imbalance in Agriculture credit without dissuading the Southern and Northern States.

While noting the instant position of the Department, the Committee, however, feel that unless the credit absorption capacity of the Central, Eastern and North Eastern Regions is enhanced, increasing the credit share will have

little impact as the problem of demand-side bottlenecks will remain largely unaddressed. The Committee, therefore, reiterate that the Department recalibrate its approach and work towards addressing necessary factors at the micro-level in these Regions. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps taken and progress made in this regard.

CHAPTER - II

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Financial Planning & Expenditure

Recommendation No. 1

The Committee note that against the BE Stage allocations proposed by the Department from the year 2020-21 to 2023-24, the actual allocations at BE Stage have always been on lower side as compared to the amount proposed by the Department. The Committee also note that the RE Stage allocations for the said years have been further revised downwards. Further, the Department has repeatedly stated that for each of the years from 2020-21 to 2022-23, Physical Targets under various Schemes and Non-Schemes have been revised owing to reduction of allocation at the RE Stage. Even during the revision and realignment of various Components of existing Schemes of the Department for a duration of 5years, against a proposed allocation of Rs. 26222.85 crore from 2020-21 to 2024-25, Cabinet approval was given for only Rs. 9800 crore for 5 years starting from 2021-22. Further, with the constant rise in contribution of the Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sector in the national economy, the Committee are constrained to note that with such drastic cut in allocations towards the Department at both, the BE and RE Stages, the momentum of contribution of this Sector will be severely affected. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to make sure that adequate funds are allocated at the RE Stage for the year 2023-24 so that the proposed physical targets under the Schemes and Non-Schemes do not have to be revised and their implementation does not suffer for want of funds.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNEMNT

The recommendation of the Committee is noted for compliance. The Department has been continuously pursuing with Ministry of Finance on the matter of increasing the budget allocation for the Department so as to be able to achieve the desired targets and also for more effective implementation of the various Schemes / Programmes of the Department. Further, the Department will again follow up the matter with Ministry of Finance not to cut allocation of the Department at RE stage for the FY 2023-24.

[Letter No. 25-5(1)/2023-AHD (Coord) dated 12.06.2023]

Share of the Department in the Total Central Outlay Recommendation No.2

The Committee note that the percentage share of BE Stage allocations of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying vis-a-vis Total Central Outlay has declined from 0.12% in the year 2020-21 to 0.10% in 2023-24 and from 0.09% in 2020-21 to 0.08% in 2022-23 at the RE Stage. During evidence, the Representative of the Department informed the Committee that the CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate) of the Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sector is 8%. The Committee further note that as per the Economic Survey, 2022-23, Allied Sectors, i.e. the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sectors have registered a higher growth compared to the Crop Sector and are also being recognised as emerging Sectors based on their performance and growth.

Furthermore, the Committee note that constant reduction in the RE Stage percentage share of the Department in the total Central Outlay, directly impacts the performance of Schemes. The Committee have been informed that despite repeated requests for enhancing the Budgetary Allocation at the higher level, no positive response has so far been received from the Ministry of Finance. Having taken a comprehensive view of the situation in entirety, the Committee recommend the Ministry of Finance to re-introspect its allocation strategy for the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying and to ensure that future allocations towards this Department are commensurate with the contributions of this Sector to the national economy.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The recommendation of the Committee is noted for compliance. Keeping in view the importance of the animal husbandry and dairying sector in the socio-economic development of the country, the Department has been seriously and continuously pursuing the matter at the level of Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, and Secretary, AHD with Ministry of Finance for enhanced budgetary allocation for the Department. However, Ministry of Finance allocates the funds to Departments/Ministries keeping in view the overall resources position and priorities for allocation among competing demands from different sectors inter se.

[Letter No. 25-5(1)/2023-AHD (Coord) dated 12.06.2023]

Financial Performance of the Department

Recommendation No.3

The Committee note that during the years 2020-21 and 2021-22, the expenditure pattern of the Department was 98.7% and 98.5% of the RE Stage allocations, respectively. However, during the ongoing financial year 2022-23, after imposition of financial discipline by the Ministry of Finance regarding releasing of funds, the Department (DAHD) could spend only 56.07% of the RE Stage funds (up to 20.02.2022). The Committee were apprised that the pace of expenditure was hampered due to opening of Single Nodal Agency (SNA) and Central Nodal Agency (CNA) Accounts as per the allocation strategy of the Ministry of Finance, strictly limiting the Quarterly Expenditure Plan to 25% for each Quarter (3 months). The Committee also note that despite RE Stage allocation being revised downwards to Rs. 3440.97 crore during the 2022-23, the Department could utilize only 26.73% of the funds under Schemes and 74.03% under Non-Schemes components till January 2023.

The Committee further note that despite extensive consultations with stakeholders before working out financial requirements, the Department has substantial under-utilization of funds allocated at RE Stage during the year 2022- 23. Moreover, the Committee find that Rs.877.99 Crore unspent balance with the States from previous releases up to the year 2020-21 indicates towards lacunae within the strategy of the Department regarding financial planning and execution. Taking note of the expenditure pattern of the Department, the Committee recommend the Department to recalibrate its strategy and planning regarding proposal, utilization and monitoring of funds under various Schemes of the Department.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The recommendation of the Committee is noted for strict compliance. States / UTs and Implementing Agencies are continuously being reminded through National Review Meetings, Regional Review Meetings, Field Visits and Video Conferences to liquidate the pending Utilization Certificates and submit proposal for release of fund so as to achieve the desired targets under various Schemes being implemented by the Department.

The Department also regularly follows up with States/UTs to expedite the project implementation under the schemes of the Department.

[Letter No. 25-5(1)/2023-AHD (Coord) dated 12.06.2023]

Surrender of Funds

Recommendation No.4

The Committee are concerned to note that during the course of three years from 2019-20 to 2021-22, the Department has surrendered an amount of Rs. 1545.78 Crore. As regards the reasons for surrender of funds, the Department has vaguely stated "reduction of RE", as the reason for surrender, without furnishing any proper explanation thereto. The Committee further observe that despite having surrendered such huge quantum of funds each year during the last three years, the Department has been requesting for an increase in budgetary allocation.

Having taken a holistic view of the situation, the Committee are of the considered opinion that surrender of allocated funds restrains the Department from making a compelling case before the Ministry of Finance for enhancing Budgetary Allocation. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to undertake regular monitoring of the flow of funds and the pace of expenditure so as to avoid surrender of funds and also to identify and address appropriately the factors leading to heavy under-utilization of funds. The Committee would like to be apprised of the strategy devised by the Department to tackle this particular issue.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The recommendation of the Committee is noted for strict compliance. Keeping in view the importance of the animal husbandry and dairy sector & the need to strengthen efforts in increasing the coverage of vaccination for animal disease and to strengthen socio - economic significance of the sector, the department has been seriously and continuously pursuing the matter with Ministry of Finance for increasing the budget allocation for the department as to achieve the desired targets and also more effective implementation of the various schemes/Programmes of the Department.

With effect from the financial year 2019-20 to 2021-22 programme divisions have taken necessary steps to achieve the target, but due to covid-19 in schemes such as NADCP/LHDCP, sum of Rs. 770.19 crore during 2019-20 to 2021-22 had to be surrendered. This is because the Vaccination programme could not be fast tracked due to quality issues of vaccine & due to longer time required for procurement & fabrication of Mobile Vaccination Units. Further, due to unspent balances with implementing agencies, funds could not be released during 1st and 2nd quarter of 2019-20 & 2020-21 period. Therefore, the Ministry of Finance reduced the budget allocation at RE stage. However, these issues have now been sorted out. Now, the Department is undertaking regular monitoring of the flow of funds and the pace of expenditure both at the Secretary Levels. The Department is also keeping a close watch on unspent balances & on the physical/financial outcomes of the schemes, so as to avoid surrender of funds in future.

[Letter No. 25-5(1)/2023-AHD (Coord) dated 12.06.2023]

Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM)

Recommendation No. 5

The Committee note that Rs. 942.40 Crore were released to the States out of the sanctioned amount of Rs.1348.03 Crore from the year 2019-20 to 2022-23. Accordingly, Physical Targets were also revised and the same were achieved.

The Committee were apprised that States of Assam, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Punjab, Sikkim and Tripura did not receive any fund release for the years 2019-20 and 2020-21 under this RGM Scheme because they could not spend their unspent balances available with them released previously. The Committee further note that no Union Territory except Puducherry received any fund under RGM for the year 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22. The Committee do acknowledge the importance of this innovative Scheme, where breeds of livestock are improved through state-of-the-art technology.

The Committee, having analyzed the cause of unspent balances with States under the RGM Schemes for the last three years, recommend the Department to vigorously pursue with these States to liquidate the unspent balances so that further

funds be released seamlessly under this Scheme to these States. The Committee would like to appreciate the efforts made by the Department to persuade these States to utilize the unspent balance, however, simultaneously, they urge the Department to put in some extra efforts to get these unspent balances lying with the States liquidated at the earliest.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

All schemes including Rashtriya Gokul Mission was reviewed for all States/UTs by the Department during the regional review meetings held on 18th November 2022 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi for Northern Region States, on 24th November 2022 in Goa for Western and Southern States and on 28thNovember 2022 in Kolkata for Eastern and North Eastern states. Further, the Department also organizes State review meetings and video conferencing sessions at regular intervals. The issue of unspent balance is also being addressed during visit of senior level officers to the States. For handholding the States in successful implementation of the scheme, detailed component-wise guideline with model proposals were shared with the States and reminders related to submission of Utilization Certificates with Physical Progress report are issued to the States.

[Letter No. 25-5(1)/2023-AHD (Coord) dated 12.06.2023]

National Programme for Dairy Development

Recommendation No. 6

The Committee observed that the utilization of RE Stage allocation under the scheme on National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD) for the year 2022-23 is 52.67% only. However, the Committee have been assured by the Department that this RE Stage allocation of Rs. 340.01 crore under the NPDD Scheme will be utilized completely.

The Committee are, however, concerned to note that the allocation towards this Scheme was revised downwards at the RE Stage during 2022-23 owing to unspent balances with the States from previous releases which has adversely impacted the achievement of physical targets set under this Scheme.

The Committee further note that since the year 2020-21, the Department has accorded priority to strengthening of village level milk chilling and testing infrastructure under the scheme and has planned to utilize a part of the increased BE stage allocation for 2023-24 to expedite the strengthening of village level milk infrastructure. However, the less utilization of funds released to States under the Scheme during the years 2021 to 2023 raises concerns with the Committee.

The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to pursue with the States to ensure full utilization of unspent balances pending with them so that Physical Targets set under the Scheme are fully achieved.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

BE, RE and Actual Expenditure details (as on 31.03.2023) under the NPDD are as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	BE allocated	RE allocated	Actual Expenditure	% utilization of RE allocation
2020-21	300.00	286.00	285.98	99.99
2021-22	255.00	403.00	402.91	99.97
2022-23	340.01	220.01	219.40	99.72
2023-24	345.93		0.00	

Under National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD) scheme, 99.72 % of funds allocated at RE stage have been released to State Implementing Agencies during 2022-23. Projects under NPDD scheme are capital intensive and envisage creation of dairy infrastructure. Generally, these projects are approved with 2-4 years of implementation period. Therefore, utilization of funds takes time. However, Department regularly follows up with States to expedite the project implementation & to ensure submission pending fund utilization certificates under the scheme through Regional review meetings / Video Conferences / field visit etc.

[Letter No. 25-5(1)/2023-AHD (Coord) dated 12.06.2023]

National Animal Disease Control Programme Recommendation No.8

The Committee note that in the year 2021-22, two Schemes, namely, the Livestock Health & Disease Control (LH&DC) and National Animal Disease Control Programme (NADCP) allocations were merged and renamed as Livestock Health & Disease Control Programme (LHDCP). Prior to the merger, the National Animal Disease Control Programme (NADCP) was being implemented as a separate Scheme for control of Foot & Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis. The Committee also note the underutilization of funds allocated under NADCP from the year 2019-20 to 2021-22 and the drastic reduction of the BE Stage allocation of Rs. 1300 Crore to Rs. 858.00 Crore at the RE Stage during the year 2020-21. The Committee were apprised that this was due to under-implementation of various Programmes owing to COVID-19 Lockdown situation and also due to the inability of manufactured vaccines to meet the quality control criteria.

The Committee are further worried to note that despite the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) being categorized as an important economic disease, the States of Bihar and West Bengal recorded nil vaccinations in round I of FMD vaccination and regarding Brucella vaccination programme the States of Bihar, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu along with the Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Puducherry have recorded nil vaccinations till date. The Committee note that this shortfall in administration of Brucella vaccination was attributed to shortage of human resources available with the States for the purpose of carrying out vaccination activities. The Committee also note with constraint that there is a pendency of Rs. 393.46 Crore with the States under NADCP. Regarding the issue of shortage of manpower, the Committee are of the considered view that adequate manpower and training of available manpower is a necessary pre-requisite for successful completion of vaccination activities against livestock disease in the country. Therefore, taking a holistic view of the entire situation, the Committee recommend the Department to ensure optimum utilization of allocated funds for the intended purpose, to have a strict monitoring mechanism for manufacturing of quality vaccine, to follow up with States and UTs regarding meeting physical targets set for vaccination under FMD and Brucellosis and also to take necessary steps to recruit and train manpower required for vaccination

activities across the country. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps taken and progress made by the Department in this direction.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

To ensure optimum utilization of allocated funds, regular follow-up are being undertaken with State Implementing Agencies and State Animal Husbandry Departments by the Department through Video conferencing and review meetings. In addition to the meetings, reminders regarding important topics are communicated through DO letters and frequent follow-ups are done through phone calls. In case, the States/UTs have utilized the funds, the States/UTs are advised to share Utilization Certificate at the earliest.

For FMD vaccine quality control, regular meetings are held with scientists and experts from various ICAR research institutions with the Department. The committee meet on regular basis and evaluate the process of quality control of FMD vaccine and suggest necessary changes that need to be done.

To ensure the quality of the vaccines, a well documented mechanism is in place to carry out vaccine testing before the vaccine is supplied to State for use in vaccination campaigns. The project Logistic Agency of NADCP (i.e. NSC) collects vaccine samples as per sample plan and send it to any of the three laboratories designated by DAHD for testing the standard and quality of FMD vaccine. These designated laboratories are ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Bengaluru (Karnataka), National Institute of FMD (NIFMD), Bhubaneswar (Odisha) and Chaudhary Charan Singh National Institute of Animal Health National Institute of Animal Health (CCSNIAH, DAHD), Baghpat (UP). The vaccines are tested for safety, sterility, potency and purity as per the extant protocol. Once the vaccine samples passed the quality control tests in aforementioned ICAR or CCSNIAH laboratories, and then only the vaccines are supplied to the States.

After the vaccination, the sero-conversion level in animal is also studied through well designed sero-montoring plans developed by ICAR-Directorate of FMD, Bhubaneswar (Odisha).

In order to achieve physical targets, set for FMD and Brucellosis, regular follow ups are done with States/UTs through Video Conferencing. All States/UTs are advised to share daily/weekly progress report in order to keep the reporting updated. As the vaccination are being done on campaign mode hence the States/UTs have been advised to submit the weekly target of vaccination and close monitoring of the program is done by the Department. So far, 35 States have completed round-II of FMD vaccination program. Round-III of FMD vaccination program has been initiated by 7 States, out of which 2 States have already completed the round III FMD vaccination program.

Vaccination against Brucellosis is going on in 26 states and so far 62% vaccination coverage has been achieved in entire nation.

Recruitment and training of manpower for vaccination are being done by the States/UTs. Detail guidelines have been issued by the Department to all States/UTs in this regard and the Department also provides funds to all the States/UTs towards remuneration to the vaccinators.

[Letter No. 25-5(1)/2023-AHD (Coord) dated 12.06.2023]

Inclusivity in Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sector Recommendations No.10

The Committee note with concern that utilization pattern of the Department regarding allocations towards the North Eastern Areas (NER) is 39.97% of the RE Stage allocation during the year 2022-23. The Committee are also concerned to note that a total amount of funds amounting to Rs. 1447.61 Crore have been re-appropriated by the Department during the last three years and major re-appropriations have been under the North Eastern Region Head. Perplexed with such contradicting trends of utilization and re-appropriation, the Committee recommend the Department to ensure that the issue of under-utilization of funds under the NER Head during the financial year 2022-23 is addressed and that funds allocated for this region are used optimally. The Committee also recommend the Department to revisit their priorities while allocating funds under various Heads so to avoid such vast re-appropriations as it renders the planning, prioritizing and strategizing exercise of the Department futile.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The recommendation of the Committee is noted for strict compliance. The Department continuously follows up with NER region through National Review Meetings, Regional Review Meetings, Field Visits and Video Conferences to utilize the fund released under various schemes of the Department and submit fresh proposals for further release of fund so as to achieve the desired targets under various Schemes being implemented by the Department and to avoid the issues of under-utilization of funds under the NER Head.

[Letter No. 25-5(1)/2023-AHD (Coord) dated 12.06.2023]

CHAPTER - III

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES

NIL

CHAPTER - IV

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

National Livestock Mission (NLM) Recommendation No. 7

The Committee note that the Physical Targets set under the National Livestock Mission had to be revised as the Department could utilize only 34.14% funds of RE stage allocation during the year 2022-23. The Committee have also noticed less utilization of funds by the States released to them under this scheme during the years 2019-20 to 2021-22. The Committee further note that Utilization Certificates amounting to Rs. 482.57 Crore under NLM from the year 2014-15 up to 2022-23 have been found pending with the States / UTs.

The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to develop a mechanism so that the pendency of Utilization Certificates with the States could be reduced and delay in releases of funds to States/UTs in future is avoided. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps in this regard.

The Committee further note that National Livestock Mission has six Sub-Components and under the Livestock Insurance component, not even a single livestock has been insured during the year 2022-23, whereas during the previous year i.e. 2021-22, a total of 1,74,061 animals were insured. The Committee were informed of the hardships faced by the livestock owners in getting their livestock insured and also about the measures being taken to ease the process of livestock insurance. Expressing concern over the NIL Insurance during the year 2022-23, the Committee recommend the Department to take effective steps so that the process of insurance of livestock is made easy for the beneficiaries. The Committee would also like the Department to explore the possibility of developing an App-based Livestock Insurance facility for livestock owners. The Committee would like to be apprised of the total progress made by the Department in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Under National Livestock Mission, 71.26% of RE has been utilized during the FY 2022-23. States/UTs are continuously being reminded through National Review Meetings, Regional Review Meetings, Field Visits and Video Conferences to liquidate the pending Utilization Certificates.

Under Livestock Insurance of National Livestock Mission, an amount of Rs. 1011.80 lakh has been released to 3 States/UTs with a physical target of 3,44,602 animals. The releases were made in the last 2 quarters of financial year 2022-23. The States are facing difficulties in implementing Livestock insurance scheme because of no participation by the Insurance Companies. As a result, there is huge amount of unspent balances with the States resulting no release of fund to the States/UTs under livestock Insurance scheme. In this regard, the Department conducted a meeting on Livestock Insurance on 05.04.2023 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister (FAHD) with the concerned Stakeholders. As per the suggestions given by the Stakeholders, necessary steps are being taken for effective implementation of the Scheme.

[Letter No. 25-5(1)/2023-AHD (Coord) dated 12.06.2023]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No.1.7 of Chapter I of this Report.

<u>Inclusivity in Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sector</u> Recommendation No. 12

The Committee are concerned to note that despite being asked to submit details regarding expenditure incurred under the Gender Budget from the year 2021-21 to 2022-23, the Department failed to submit any details in this regard. The Committee are further dissatisfied with the denial of the Representative, during evidence, of there being a Gender Budget Cell, when the same has been explicitly mentioned in the Annual Report (2021-22) of the Department. The Committee also note that no direct replies were submitted by the Department on being questioned about its initiatives regarding the constituents of 'Gender Inclusiveness' and 'Gender Budgeting & Gender disaggregated Data' for specific Schemes, as pointed out by the Development Monitoring & Evaluation Office (DMEO) of NITI Aayog in its Thematic Report on 'Gender Mainstreaming in Governance'.

While expressing appreciation with the assurance of the Department regarding enrolment of up to 50% Women Milk Producers in the Dairy Business under the Scheme on Dairy Processing Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF), the Committee, however, are concerned that no timeline was specified for achievement of this target of 50% women milk producers in the Dairy business. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to

implement in letter and spirit, the policy of earmarking 30% of allocated funds towards women under the Schemes being implemented by the Department and also to specify the timeline by when the Department aims to achieve the target specified under the Scheme on Dairy Processing Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF).

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF) is not beneficiary oriented scheme. It is a credit linked demand driven scheme with the objective to create/modernize the milk processing, chilling, and value-addition infrastructure. Further, as per CCEA approval dated 19.02.2020, 2022-23 was the last year for funding under DIDF. However, based on the recommendation of Ministry of Finance and NITI Ayog, DIDF is proposed to be merged with AHIDF. The objective and targets of the scheme are to be continued under AHIDF. The process of merging the scheme is under process.

There is no separate budget allocation for Gender Budgeting. However, the Department is requesting the States to allocate 30% of the total fund release for the women beneficiaries.

[Letter No. 25-5(1)/2023-AHD (Coord) dated 12.06.2023]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to **Para No.1.16** of Chapter I of this Report.

CHAPTER - V

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED

Establishment of an Institution like AIIMS in Veterinary Services Recommendation No. 9

The Committee note that there is shortage of specialized and trained manpower in Veterinary Services in the country. The Committee have been apprised that in addition to already existing 55 Veterinary Colleges recognized to impart Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry (B.V.Sc. & A.H.) Degree, 13 more Colleges have been provisionally recognized and the number of seats in each recognized college have been increased from 60 to 80. The Committee have also been apprised that in pursuance of the recommendation contained in their 30th Report on the subject 'Status of Veterinary Services and Availability of Animal Vaccines in the country, a high level meeting with Specialists, Experts, VC, Directors, HoDs of Institutes, etc. was held under the Chairmanship of Secretary AHD on 18th January, 2023, for establishment of a Veterinary College on the lines of AIIMS (AIIMS - VET) and subsequently the Veterinary Council of India (VCI) was directed to allocate the subject matter to an Expert Committee constituted for the purpose of establishment of an Institute like AIIMS in Veterinary Sciences. The Committee, while appreciating the efforts of the Department regarding establishment of AIIMS like Institute in Veterinary Sciences, desire that necessary formalities in this regard may be completed at the earliest and a model Veterinary Research and Education Institute be established to cater to the vast majority of livestock in the country on a priority basis. The Committee would like to apprised of the progress made in this direction.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

At present, there are 56 recognized veterinary colleges to impart B.V.Sc. & A.H. degree and there are 14 provisionally recognized veterinary colleges. As regards the progress regarding creation of national level institute in lines of AIIMS (AIIMS - VET), a preliminary meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Shri R.K. Singh, the then Secretary (AHD) on 18.1.2023 wherein specialist Experts, Vice-Chancellors, Directors were called to deliberate on the aforesaid issue. After detailed deliberation, it was decided that the aforesaid subject matter would be given to the Veterinary Council of India (VCI) and VCI shall

constitute an Expert Committee for the purpose of Establishment of Institutions like AIIMS in Veterinary Services. Accordingly, this Department vide letter dated 23rd February, 2023, directed the Secretary, VCI for taking necessary steps in the matter.

The matter was considered by the Executive Committee of the Council in its meeting held on 02.3.2023 and the Executive Committee after detailed deliberation decided to constitute a Committee which shall examine the scope, the requirement of staff and offices, specialist, the role that the institutions could eventually play, the regulations linkage to other agencies like IVRI, ICAR, DAHD, VCI etc. The proposed expenditure for establishment of such education and nature of education and research to be conducted by the proposed institutions shall also be examined by this Committee.

Hence, Executive Committee constituted the Committee consisting of following persons:

- 1. Dr. Umesh Chandra Sharma, President, VCI Chairman
- 2. Dr. Abhijit Mitra, Animal Husbandry Commissioner, DAHD, GOI Member
- 3. Dr. N.H. Kelawala, Vice-Chancellor, Kamdhenu University, Gujarat Member
- 4. Dr. Ashwani Raut Member
- 5. Dr. Vinod Bhat, Secretary, VCI Member Secretary.

This decision was approved by the Council in its meeting held on 14.3.2023. Necessary steps are being taken for holding a meeting of the experts in this regard.

[Letter No. 25-5(1)/2023-AHD (Coord) dated 12.06.2023]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to **Para No.1.10** of Chapter I of this Report.

Inclusivity in Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sector Recommendation No. 11

While appreciating the efforts of the Department regarding earmarking of funds under the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-plan (TSP), the Committee, however, note that the utilization of RE Stage allocations for the year 2022-23 under Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) has been only 20.95% and 24.87%, respectively. Further, the Committee are constrained to note that in States like Rajasthan where there is a considerable population of both, SC and ST communities, there have been chronic issues of non-receipt of proposals from the State Government under the

SCSP and TSP components. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to take active steps to ensure optimal utilization of funds allocated under these Components and to take necessary steps to encourage State Governments to submit proposals under these plans so that benefits of the Schemes being run by the Department can reach intended beneficiaries and contribute to their economic upliftment effectively.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

As all the schemes of the Department are demand-driven, 16.6% and 8.60 % of funds have been fixed under Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub-Plan category respectively. Accordingly, the Department earmarked Rs. 616.62 crore and Rs. 327.20 crore at BE Stage under SCSP & TSP category respectively which was Rs. 453.51 crore and Rs. 244.40 crore at RE Stage. The actual expenditure was Rs. 312.05 crore (69% over RE Stage) and Rs. 166.48 crore (68% over RE Stage) under SCSP & TSP Category respectively.

The Department continuously follows up with States/UTs through National Review Meetings, Regional Review Meetings, Field Visits and Video Conferences to utilize the fund released under SCSP and TSP heads under schemes of the Department and submit fresh proposal for further release of fund so as to achieve the desired targets under various Schemes being implemented by the Department and to avoid the issues of under-utilization of funds under the SCSP & TSP head.

[Letter No. 25-5(1)/2023-AHD (Coord) dated 12.06.2023]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to **Para No.1.13** of Chapter I of this Report.

<u>Credit flow in Animal Husbandry and Dairying Sector</u> Recommendation No. 13

While appreciating the achievement of disbursement of credit of Rs. 1,72,115 Crore against the target of Rs. 1,04,580 Crore towards Allied activities, the Committee note with concern the regional disparity in disbursement of credit in Animal Husbandry Sector. The Committee are of the view that the growing importance of Allied Sectors in the national economy calls for increased access of credit to Livestock Farmers. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to work towards removing this disparity in credit availability, especially with respect to the North Eastern and Eastern Regions and to ensure

that awareness is created in this regard through various awareness programmes including through print and electronic media.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Regional variation in the Ground Level Credit (GLC) is the product of disparity in the credit flow across the States. Region-wise GLC with details like share of Gross Cropped Area (GCA), Gross Irrigated Area (GIA) and branch network in rural/ semi urban areas with GLC achievement during 2021-22 and 2022-23 are given in the Table below.

Regions	Share in GCA (%)	Share in GIA (%)	Share in rural / semi-urban outlets (%)	Region-wise GLC Disb. (%) to total during 2021- 22	Region-wise GLC Disb. (%) during 2022-23 (p) (up to 31 Mar 2023)*	Region-wise Animal Husbandry Disb. (%) during 2022-23 (p) (up to 31 Mar 2023)*	%age livestock (as per 20 th Livestock Census)
Northern	20.55	25.38	14.80	16.27	17.90	12.19	15.65
NER	3.21	0.91	3.66	0.76	0.61	0.78	4.54
Eastern	12.16	13.14	18.47	10.83	8.91	8.30	21.60
Central	28.63	34.83	18.69	12.84	13.65	9.17	24.02
Western	18.37	10.72	23.09	12.18	12.79	10.17	11.21
Southern	17.09	15.02	21.30	47.13	46.15	59.39	22.98

^{*}Source ; NABARD

The data for 2022-23 is provisional

Similar trend is also observed in the case of Animal husbandry sector, as seen in the Table, higher credit absorption capacity of Southern region may be because of the availability of better infrastructure facilities, better banking network and credit availability leading to improvement in its share. Normally, low density of credit delivery outlets and weak financial health of Rural Financial Institutions could be the constraints for increasing credit flow in credit starved regions. Central and Eastern regions account for around 21% and 19% share in rural and semi urban bank branches, respectively, pointing towards demand side bottlenecks in the regions. Therefore, one way to stimulate the demand for agriculture credit including credit for animal husbandry and allied activities is to develop the credit absorption capacity in credit deficient region viz. Central, Eastern and North Eastern. Accordingly, share of credit starved regions in agriculture credit target has been increased to alleviate the growing regional imbalance in agriculture credit without dissuading the Southern and Northern states.

The Department has prepared brochures, videos for AHDF-KCC and disseminated through all the social media platforms of the Department. These have been also distributed

and disseminated in the major events of the Department across the country. Farmers have been given information on how to avail KCC and its benefits through Awareness camps organized by this Department through Common Service Centers (CSC) across the country.

[Letter No. 25-5(1)/2023-AHD (Coord) dated 12.06.2023]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to **Para No.1.19** of Chapter I of this Report.

NEW DELHI; <u>08 August, 2023</u> 17 Sravana, 1945 (Saka) P.C. GADDIGOUDAR
Chairperson
Standing Committee on Agriculture,
Animal Husbandry and Food Processing

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING BRANCH (2022-23)

MINUTES OF THE NINETEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 08 August, 2023 from 1500 hrs. to 1530 hrs. in Hon'ble Chairperson's Chamber, Room No. 103, 1st Floor, Block-B, PHA Extn., New Delhi - 110001.

PRESENT

Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar, Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

- 2. Shri A. Ganeshamurthi
- 3. Shri Mohan Mandavi
- 4. Shri Devji Mansingram Patel
- 5. Smt. Sharda Anilkumar Patel
- 6. Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao Patil
- 7. Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb Patil
- 8. Mohammad Sadique
- 9. Shri Devendra Singh alias Bhole Singh
- 10. Shri Virendra Singh
- 11. Shri V.K. Sreekandan

RAJYA SABHA

- 12. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
- 13. Shri Masthan Rao Beeda
- 14. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde
- 15. Shri Kailash Soni
- 16. Shri Ram Nath Thakur
- 17. Shri Vaiko

SECRETARIAT

Additional Secretary

Shri Shiv Kumar

1.

	2. 3.	Shri Uttam C Shri Prem Ra	Chand Bharadwaj anjan	-	Director Deputy Secretary	
	4.	Shri N. Amaı	rathiyagan	-	Under Secretary	
2.	At the	outset, the C	hairperson welcome	d the N	Members to the Sitting of the Committee	Э.
There	eafter, t	he Committee	took up for conside	ration t	the following Draft Action Taken Report	ts
:						
*(i)	XXXX	,	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX;	
*(ii)	XXXX		XXXX	XXXX	XXXX;	
*(iii)	XXXX	,	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX;	
*(iv)			•	•	the Government on the Observations	
				•	Fourth Report of the Committee of	
			, , ,	Ŭ	to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying);	al
	Tiusbe	andry and Dai	rying (Department of	Allillic	ai Husbanury and Danying),	
*(v)	XXXX	,	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX;	
*(vi)	XXXX		XXXX	XXXX	XXXX;	
3.	Δftor	some deliber	ations the Commit	taa ad	opted the Draft Action Taken Report	te
					orized the Chairperson to finalize an	
			n Reports to Parliam		onzed the ondisperson to initialize an	u
P						
The Sitting of the Committee then adjourned.						
		1116	onling of the com	muce	tileli aujourneu.	
* Ma	tter not r	elated to this Rep	port.			

APPENDIX

(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE FIFTY FOURTH REPORT (17th LOK SABHA) OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING (2022-23)

Total number of Recommendation	13			
Observations / Recommendations that have been				
Accepted by the Government				
Recommendation Nos.	1,2,3,4,5,6,8 and 10			
Total		08		
Percentage		61.54%		
Observations / Recommendations	which the Committee			
do not desire to pursue in view of	the Government's replies			
Recommendation No.	NIL			
Total		00		
Percentage		00.00%		
Observations / Recommendations	in respect of which replies			
of the Government have not been a	accepted by the Committee			
Recommendation Nos.	7 and 12			
Total		02		
Percentage		15.38%		
Observations / Recommendations	in respect of which			
final replies of the Government are still awaited				
Recommendation Nos.	9, 11 and 13			
Total		03		
Percentage		23.07%		
	Observations / Recommendations Accepted by the Government Recommendation Nos. Total Percentage Observations / Recommendations do not desire to pursue in view of Recommendation No. Total Percentage Observations / Recommendations of the Government have not been a Recommendation Nos. Total Percentage Observations / Recommendations of the Government have not been a Recommendation Nos. Total Percentage Observations / Recommendations final replies of the Government are Recommendation Nos. Total	Accepted by the Government Recommendation Nos. 1,2,3,4,5,6,8 and 10 Total Percentage Observations / Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies Recommendation No. NIL Total Percentage Observations / Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee Recommendation Nos. 7 and 12 Total Percentage Observations / Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited Recommendation Nos. 9, 11 and 13 Total		