

17

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON AGRICULTURE

(1997-98)

ELEVENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING)

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (1996-97)

*[Action taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in
the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (1996-97)]*

SEVENTEENTH REPORT



सत्यमेव जयते

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

November, 1997/Agrahayana, 1919 (Saka)

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02 DEC 1997

Presented to Lok Sabha on.....

Laid in Rajya Sabha on.....



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COMPOSITION OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(1997-98)

Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar —*Chairman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Pandurang Fundkar
3. Shri Ramesh Bais
4. Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot
5. Shri Padamsen Chaudhary
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(iv)

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SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
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| 1. Shri S.N. Mishra | — | <i>Additional Secretary</i> |
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| 4. Shri K.L. Arora | — | <i>Assistant Director</i> |
| 5. Smt. Anita Jain | — | <i>Under Secretary</i> |
| 6. Smt. Ratna Bhagwani | — | <i>Committee Officer</i> |

INTRODUCTION

1. The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (1997-98) having been authorised by the Committee to submit Report on their behalf, present this Seventeenth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (1996-97) (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying).

2. The Third Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (1996-97) on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying) was presented to Lok Sabha on 29th August, 1996. The Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying) was requested to furnish action taken replies of the Government to recommendations contained in the Third Report. The replies of the Government to all the recommendations contained in the Report were received.

3. The Committee considered these action taken replies furnished by the Government and approved the draft comments in its sitting held on 24th October, 1997 and adopted the Seventeenth Report.

4. An analysis of the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Third Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in Appendix II.

NEW DELHI;
November, 1997

Agrahayana, 1919 (Saka)

SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Agriculture.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

This Report of the Committee on Agriculture deals with the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report (Eleventh Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (1996-97) on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying) which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 29th August, 1996.

1.2 Action taken notes have been received from the Government in respect of all the 25 recommendations contained in the Report. These have been categorised as follows:—

- (i) Recommendations/Observations that have been accepted by the Government (Chapter II of the Report)—

Recommendation Nos. 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, 3.13, 3.17, 3.18, 3.19, 3.20, 3.22 and 3.23

(Total 14)

- (ii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies (Chapter III of the Report)—

Recommendation Nos. 3.11, 3.16 and 3.21

(Total 3)

- (iii) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which reply of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee (Chapter IV of the Report and commented upon in Chapter I of the Report)—

Recommendation Nos. 3.9, 3.12, 3.14, 3.15 and 3.24

(Total 5)

- (iv) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited (Chapter V of the Report)—

Recommendation Nos. 3.5, 3.10 and 3.25

(Total 3)

1.3 The Committee will now deal with the recommendations which have not been accepted by the Government and have been included in Chapter IV of the Report.

Recommendation (No. 3.9)

Artificial Insemination Centres under EFST Programme

1.4 The Committee note that only 54.68 per cent of the Eighth Plan physical target of setting up of Artificial Insemination Centres under the Extension of Frozen Semen Technology Programme could be achieved, although there has been complete utilisation of the funds made available in the first years of the Plan period. The Government have explained that due to rise in costs of machinery and equipment, the physical targets could not be achieved. Despite this explanation, the Committee find that the Department have fixed an ambitious target of establishing 900 centres in 1995-96. The Committee find that the element of rise in costs of production have not been properly taken into account while computing the total Eighth Plan outlay and while setting the physical targets, which is an example of bad planning. The Committee expect that such practices would be eschewed while formulating the Ninth Plan proposals and only realistic projections would be made. Since the Artificial Insemination centres form the most crucial terminal input in the delivery system, it is imperative to have them in large numbers and all over the country for wise coverage and to make available the fruits of technology to the farmers. AICs are the first contact points for the farmers to gain access to technology and therefore the Committee recommend that suitable higher allocations should be made in 1996-97 itself at the Revised Estimates stage to realise the target of 900 centres instead of waiting for the saving element at the last few days of the financial year.

Reply of the Government

1.5 A demand for higher allocation has been proposed in Revised Estimates under EFST. The target for the 8th Plan for establishing A.I. centres as per EFC on EFST is 3500 out of which 1914 A.I. centres have already been sanctioned up to 1995-96 and remaining 1586 A.I. centres are likely to be achieved by the end of 8th Plan i.e. 1996-97 year ending.

Further Reply of the Government

1.6 In accordance with the recommendation of the Planning Commission to have larger numbers of artificial insemination all over the country, it is propose to set up an additional 60 thousands artificial insemination centres, to provide door step services to the farmers during the Ninth Plan. Provision of Rs. 415.10 crore has been made for the Scheme Extension Frozen Semi Technology for this purpose in the Ninth Plan.

Pending a decision of the Planning Commission a demand of Rs. 2550 lakh has been made for the Scheme in the Budget for 1997-98 as against the revised estimate of Rs. 43 lakh during 1996-97.

Comments of the Committee

1.7 The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of the Government. In spite of recommendation made by the Committee for higher allocations at

the revised stage (1996-97) to realise the targets of 900 A.I. Centres, no such enhanced allocations have been made.

The Committee also wish to point out that Department have already explained that due to rise in costs of machinery and equipment, the physical targets could not be achieved in the initial years of the plan period. They have also explained that the target for Eighth Plan for establishing A.I. Centres is 3500 out of which 1914 A.I. Centres have been sanctioned and the remaining target of 1586 A.I. Centres will be achieved by the end of Eighth Plan. The Committee fail to understand as to how the Government will be able to achieve the remaining target of 1586 A.I. Centres with an allocation of only Rs. 4.30 crores for 1996-97 while Rs. 17.48 crores were spent for establishing 1914 Centres. The Committee also note from the notes on Demands for Grants (1997-98) that the Department has placed a Demand for Rs. 25.50 crores for the establishment of only 100 Centres.

The Committee do not find any logical co-relationship between the expenditure incurred and the number of artificial insemination centres to be established and desire a cogent explanatory note on the entire issue within two months of presentation of this Report. The Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation that artificial insemination centres should be established in large numbers all over the country by making suitable higher allocations for the purpose.

Recommendation (No. 3.12)

National Poultry Development Board

1.8 The Committee note that huge funds to the tune of Rs. 13.50 crores have been allocated in the Budgets from 1992-93 to 1996-97 for setting up the National Poultry Development Board and these precious funds remained unutilised all these five years. The Committee note that pending the formation of the Board, a proposal was made to utilise Rs. 2.60 crores earmarked for the Board in 1995-96 for setting up Poultry Complexes on pilot basis in six States. The Committee have now been informed that the entire question of forming the National Poultry Development Board is again being reconsidered in the light of the factors like the role of NCDC, the growth of organised private sector poultry, the schemes of States etc. the Committee have also been informed that the central assistance for the proposed poultry complexes in the States could not be provided to them in view of the reservations expressed by the Ministry of Finance.

The Committee now observe that the net result of this long drawn out futile exercise for five years is that the country could get neither a National Poultry Development Board nor any Poultry Complexes in lieu thereof and an amount of Rs. 13.50 crores was parked idle at the disposal of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, while many essential developmental schemes of the Government could not be taken up at all due to resource crunch. The Committee regret to point out that it was due to the delay in taking decisions, there was four-fold loss and this is a classic

example to show as to how the lethargic functioning can have manifold adverse impact (both intended and in-intended) on the other programmes, on the other departments, on the welfare of the target group and ultimately on the whole country.

The Committee, therefore, expect the Government to shake off its lethargy and swing into purposeful action and ensure the setting up of the National Poultry Development Board, the need for which was justifiably being pursued all these years. The Committee do not appreciate any nasty-turn-about in the matter at the last minute and they expect the Government to act decisively and positively to take the matter to its logical conclusion without developing any could feet. They also recommend that the funds earmarked for the proposed Poultry Complexes in the States should be immediately released, as the States have spent a lot of time and energy and scarce resources in formulating their proposals and denial of funds at this stage would render all their efforts into waste and nullity.

Reply of the Government

1.9 The proposal for establishment of National Poultry Development Board is under consideration and decision is likely to be taken shortly. The scheme of Poultry Complexes has been turned down by the IFD of the Ministry with the recommendation that it be considered afresh in the Ninth Plan.

The proposal for the National Poultry Development Board remained pending mainly because it was felt necessary to consult all the State Governments and despite reminders from time to time it took a long time before all the responses could be obtained from the States. In the meanwhile those activities of the proposed Board which related to the development of small scale poultry were brought together in a new scheme for "setting up poultry complexes" in the backward States. However, this scheme was also not agreed to by the Ministry of Finance and efforts to persuade the Ministry of Finance are continuing. As far as Board is concerned it has become necessary to once again look into the fundamental issue of its jurisdiction/responsibilities and the matter is not expected to be finalised before the beginning of the 9th Plan.

Comments of the Committee

1.10 The Committee are unhappy to note that the Government is unable to take any definite decision on the question of setting up of the National Poultry Development Board in the last five years. It appears to the Committee that Government itself does not know what it wants in the first instance and yet it chose to go ahead with the plan of having a Board without deciding at first whether it was even necessary to have such a Board. The tragedy of the whole issue is that even at the terminal year of the Eighth Five Year Plan, the Government has not finally decided the matter one way or the other and probably it wants to carry this

indecisiveness on into the Ninth Plan as well. The Committee strongly deplore this kind of wavering tendency on the part of the Government in a vital matter which affects one of the most important economic activities undertaken by the poor and marginal farmers. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the planners should bid a farewell to their indecisiveness and start a process of pragmatic planning and implementation of a fruitful scheme in this important sector to demonstrate that they really mean business.

Recommendation (No. 3.14)

Central Poultry Training Institute

1.11 The Committee note that in the Central Poultry Training Institute, the construction work for important facilities like Dressing Plant, Library building, Auditorium and the purchase of Dressing Plant equipment etc. have not been taken up at all, despite making provisions for them in the Eighth Plan. The Committee take strong exception to the neglect of these facilities and recommend that adequate funds should be provided for them in 1996-97 itself so that these facilities are made available to the Institute as envisaged in the Eighth Plan. The Committee also wish to point out that the least concern shown by the Government for these components of the plan scheme would result in the cost escalation of these facilities and therefore this should not stand in the way of providing these facilities.

Reply of the Government

1.12 Due to constraints of resources and requirement of funds to the extent of Rs. 150 lakhs for provision of Dressing Plants, library building and auditorium, it was decided to keep these items for implementation in the 9th Plan.

Comments of the Committee

1.13 The Committee are surprised at the reply given by the Department. They find it mutually contradictory to note that the Department has surrendered Rs. 73.82 crores as unspent on the one hand, while on other it says that due to constraints of resources and requirement of funds the work in the Poultry Training Institute has suffered. The Department has not thought of re-appropriation of funds.

The Committee take a serious view of the lack of perspective on the part of the Government in the efficient management of the funds at their disposal and also their tendency to postpone every activity to the Ninth Plan, although provisions have already been made in the current Eighth Plan

itself. The Committee, therefore, recommend that these components of the Eighth Plan Scheme should be positively taken up and completed in the first year of the Ninth Plan itself.

Recommendation (No. 3.15)

Regional Poultry Feed Analytical Laboratories

1.14 The Committee note that against the Eighth Plan outlay of Rs. 2.20 crores for the Regional Poultry Feed. Analytical Laboratories, only Rs. 1.46 crore was the budgetary allocation and even out of this amount, only Rs. 0.89 crore was spent in the first four years of the Plan and the allocation for 1996-97 is only 0.32 crores. There was under utilisation of funds due to not taking up experimental sheds, purchase of laboratory equipments and chemicals, and not filling up 12 out of the 16 sanctioned posts due to ban. The Committee fail to understand as to how the laboratories could function effectively without adequate laboratory equipments, chemicals, experimental sheds and manpower. They feel that all these items are essential for the proper working of a scientific institution and therefore recommend that all the facilities envisaged in the Eighth Plan should be made available before the end of the Plan period without any further delay by seeking sufficient revised budget estimates in 1996-97 itself and a compliance report should be submitted to the Committee within three months of presentation of this Report.

Reply of the Government

1.15 In order to furnish the laboratory with necessary equipments and chemicals the Department has asked for an additional amount of Rs. 22.05 lakhs over and above the budget provision of Rs. 32.00 lakhs under RE 1996-97 to procure the NIR instrument. Necessary sanction of Finance have been obtained to this effect. It is hoped that by the end of the financial year these items would be replaced.

Comments of the Committee

1.16 The Committee note that the reply of the Government is completely silent on the aspect of lifting of ban on filling up of the 12 posts out of the 16 posts sanctioned. The Committee take a serious view of the attempt of the Ministry to furnish an evasive reply and not subject itself to any accountability in respect of a matter on which a Parliamentary Committee has handed down its considered recommendation. The Committee fail to understand as to how the entire infrastructure of a laboratory could be put to use if sufficient manpower is not provided to the laboratory. The Committee, therefore, recommend that there should be no ban in filling up any post in respect of any scientific / research institution under the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying and they desire that a specific reply should be furnished to the Committee on this matter within two months of presentation of this Report.

Recommendation (No. 3.24)*Milk Production in Non-Operation Flood Areas*

1.17 The Committee note that only a sum of Rs. 20.12 crores have been allocated to the scheme meant for development of dairies in Non-Operation Flood Areas, Hilly and Backward Areas and the total allocation during the entire Eighth Plan period for this important schemes is only Rs. 83.64 crores against an original outlay of Rs. 200 crores. The Committee are very much disappointed to note that the Ministry of Finance had not appreciated the concern of the Committee expressed about the continued inadequate allocations. The Committee desires that at the revised estimate stage the original demand of Rs. 80 crores for 1996-97 should be granted in order to ensure the improvement of the social nutritional and economic status of the residents of these disadvantaged areas.

Reply of the Government

1.18 As desired by the Committee, the matter was taken up with the Ministry of Finance, but it has not been possible to get a higher allocation for the year 1996-97.

Comments of the Committee

1.19 The Committee are disappointed to note that the Ministry of Finance has continued to disregard the concern expressed by the Committee about the continued inadequate allocations made under the Scheme meant for the development of dairies in hilly and backward areas and also in areas not covered by Operation Flood Scheme. The Committee wish to point out that the Scheme is very important to improve the nutritional and economic status of the residents of the most disadvantaged areas of the country and this has been time and again impressed upon the Ministry of Finance which has remained totally unmoved and insensitive to the problems of the poor. The Committee wish to point out that the Ministry of Finance had already committed itself to make an expenditure of Rs. 200 crores during the 8th Plan period for the scheme when the 8th Plan was finalised. It is unfortunate that the Ministry of Finance has now chosen to retrace its steps and has not bothered to attach any importance to the considered opinion of a Parliamentary Standing Committee. The Committee, therefore, direct that the observations of this Committee should be brought to the notice of the Ministry of Finance and they recommend that this Scheme should always be allocated the amount agreed upon in the plan document in future.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (No. 3.1)

General-Plan Outlay for Animal Husbandry Sector

2.1 The Committee note that by way of budgetary outlays, a total sum of Rs. 326.83 crores were made available to the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying for implementing both the Central Sector Plan Schemes and Centrally Sponsored Plan Schemes in the Animal Husbandry Sector in the first four years of the Eighth Plan period from 1992-93 to 1995-96. Out of this total budgetary outlay of Rs. 326.83 crores, the Committee find that only a sum of Rs. 13.82 crores unutilised and this unutilised portion forms 22.59 percent of the total plan budgetary outlay for the Animal Husbandry Sector. The Committee are unhappy to find that precious budgetary outlays could not be fully utilised in the Animal Husbandry Sector and they observe that it speaks volumes of the lack of will on the part of both the Central Government and also the State Governments to sincerely implement the plan schemes for animal welfare. The Committee find that for 1996-97, the budget outlay for the plan schemes in the Animal Husbandry Sector is Rs. 103.19 crores and they desire that there should be 100 percent utilisation of the entire budgetary allocation under each scheme leaving no shortfalls at all in order to demonstrate the sincerity and commitment of the Government towards animal welfare and to their task of uplifting the rural economy through this crucial sector.

Reply of the Government

2.2 In accordance with the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has made all possible efforts to ensure full utilisation of the Budgetary outlays (BE) of Rs. 103.19 crores for the AH Sector during 1996-97. However, due to pending clearance of the project "National Poultry Development Board" (BE Rs. 2.60 & RE Rs. 0.00 crores), low pace of utilisation by the States under the scheme establishment of modern abattoirs/meat units (BE Rs. 4.00 crores reduced to RE of Rs. 2.80 crores) and exemption in custom duty on imported equipments (gifted by EEC under NPPE) resulting in reduction of BE Rs. 36.79 crores to RE Rs. 29.75 crores in respect of NPPE, and ~~simultaneously~~ increasing provisions at RE in Central Cattle Breeding Farm, Central Poultry Breeding Farm etc., the total budgetary outlay

has been reduced at the RE stage to Rs.94.92 crores against the BE Rs. 103.19 crores during 1996-97.

Recommendation (No. 3.2)

Animal Health

2.3 The Committee note that the trend of expenditure on Animal Health Services had been on an average a sum of around Rs. 18 crores per year and that the allocations for 1995-96 and 1996-97 are Rs. 34.6 crores and Rs. 46.22 crores respectively. Going by the previous trend of expenditure, the Committee apprehend that there should be heavy shortfalls in these two years and the Department may not be able to absorb the funds. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department should redouble its efforts to utilise all the funds allocated properly and should avoid making indiscriminate and unplanned expenditure to exhaust the funds.

Reply of the Government

2.4 The observations and directions of the Committee with regard to expenditure for animal health have been noted for guidance and implementation during the current financial year.

Recommendation (No. 3.3)

National Veterinary Biological Products Quality Control Centre

2.5 The Committee note that the Eighth Plan envisaged the setting up of a National Veterinary Biological Products Quality Control Centre at Bhubaneswar and budgetary allocations were being made year after year since 1992-93. A sum of Rs. 1.45 crores was allocated from 1992-93 to 1994-95 and not a single rupee was spent on the project, as the Government could not get land allotted for the purpose for more than three years and actually the land was by mistake allocated to ICAR and it took time to sort out the issue. At last, when the scheme could be started only in 1995-96 only a paltry sum of Rs. 0.20 crore was allocated, although even in 1992-93 itself the Government made a higher budget outlay of Rs. 0.65 crore. The allocation for the year 1996-97 is again an insignificant amount of Rs. 0.10 crores.

The Committee strongly deprecate the passive and lethargic attitude adopted by the Government in getting the land allotted from the Orissa Government and feel that this could have been avoided, had the matter been pursued with sincerity and with sense of responsibility. The Committee feel that even the matter of construction which started quite late, no sense or urgency had been displayed as is evident from the paltry allocation of Rs. 30 lakhs only in two years while the order of allocation was to Rs. 65 lakhs in 1992-93 itself. The token allocation of Rs. 10 lakhs in 1996-97 is indicative of the fact that the project has been condemned to a chronic-starter from the very beginning and the Eighth Plan target of having a Centre by 1996-97 would only remain a dream. The Committee desire that the construction of the Centre should be completed within a period of two years from now and it should be made operational soon

thereafter. The Committee recommend that the budget allocation of 1996-97 should be revised substantially from the token amount of Rs. 10 lakhs and made a demand for a higher sum at Revised Estimate stage and also in the Ninth Plan. The Committee would like to be apprised of the Schedule for construction and design details within two months of presentation of the Report and a quarterly progress report should be sent for the information of the Committee in this regard.

Reply of the Government

2.6 In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee, the proposals to establish National Veterinary Biological Products Quality Control Centre was discussed in a high level meeting with representatives of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, NDDB and Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare informed that the proposed laboratory will have to take into account factors like the type of drugs, vaccines/biologicals to be tested for quality control as well as specifications for the same. The Department was advised to consider obtaining technical and financial assistance from some international agencies as the project would be costing around Rs. 130 crores at current prices.

The Department has already discussed the issue with Dr. Wandermissen of European Economic Community on 26th November, 1996, who wanted specific proposal to be made. Accordingly the scheme has been included in the WORK PLAN for 1997—2001 which has been sent to the Commission HQrs in Brussels.

The Construction of a Drug and Vaccine Quality Control Laboratory is going to pose several problems as the country does not have adequate expertise in this field. As such the need for the obtaining assistance of expert external agencies for design etc. cannot be ruled out. Depending upon the response of the EEC further action with regard to designing etc. of the laboratory will be taken.

Further Reply of the Government

2.7 As desired by the Committee, a substantially higher allocation of Rs. 10.00 crore has been proposed for the National Veterinary Biological Quality Control Centre in the Department's Ninth Plan proposal. Pending a decision of the Planning Commission on the Ninth Plan proposal, a demand of Rs. 100 lakh has been made for the Centre in the Budget for the year 1997-98 as against the Revised Estimates of Rs. 10 lakh during 1996-97. The Department has already indicated steps for obtaining technical and financial assistance from EEC for taking up the construction of the Centre.

Recommendation (No. 3.4)

Central Disease Diagnostic Laboratory

2.8 The Committee note that the idea of having a Central Disease Diagnostic Laboratory had been there even in the Seventh Plan as a sanctioned scheme. Even in the Eighth Plan it remained only as a

sanctioned scheme and the Government could never gather the will to have this centre par excellence which could function as a referral laboratory for the entire country and also to the neighbouring countries. The importance of the laboratory could be gauged from the main objectives of it enumerated in the Performance Report. But unfortunately, all these objectives remained only in print in the last ten years never to be realised in concrete terms. The Committee feel that the Expenditure Finance Committee has failed to appreciate its importance and no specific outlay for this scheme was earmarked in the Eighth Plan. Even the alternative proposal of strengthening some existing units under ICAR and SAUs has never taken off and only some semblance of an effort could be seen only in 1995-96 at the fag end of the Eighth Plan with a meagre allocation of Rs. 10 lakhs which means almost nothing when it is distributed among five laboratories.

The Committee observe that the direction of the proposal has been completely diverted from its original course and the new paths struck in its place do not appear to lead to the achievement of the original goals. The Committee are of the firm to opinion that our country should have the pride of having a super-speciality facility in the form of a Centre disease Diagnostic Laboratory and they feel that adequate funds should be laid out for this facility in the Ninth Plan positively. The Committee desire to be apprised of the steps taken by the ICAR and the SAUs towards the proper utilisation of funds in strengthening the chosen laboratories and the time-frame within which the task of strengthening could be completed.

Reply of the Government

2.9 The Department had asked for additional fund of Rs. 90 lakhs at RE stage which has been approved. This will be released to IVRI which has been identified as a Central Disease Diagnostic Laboratory. In the 9th Plan adequate provision would be made for strengthening the laboratory. Terms of reference for the task force to identify suitable laboratories for being upgraded as regional referral laboratories has been approved and it has been asked to submit its report within 2 months *i.e.* by 20.04.1997.

Depending on the availability of funds and the level of infrastructure of selected laboratories efforts will be made to complete strengthening by the end of financial year 1998-99.

Further Reply of the Government

2.10 In accordance with the recommendation of the Committee, a provision of Rs. 10.00 crore has been made for the Central Disease Diagnostic Laboratory for the Ninth Plan pending a decision of the Planning Commission on the Ninth Plan proposals, a demand of Rs. 200 lakh has been laid out for the centre for the year 1997-98 which is double the Revised Estimates of Rs. 100 lakh during 1996-97.

Recommendation (No. 3.6)

National Project on Rinderpest Eradication

2.11 The Committee observed that the Central Project monitoring unit of the National Rinderpest Eradication Scheme, out of the total VIII Plan outlay (96.13 crore) only 58% could be spent on the programme in the last four years. A provision of Rs. 35.79 crores has been kept for the year 1996-97. The Committee had sought to know the special steps being contemplated to ensure that the funds allocated are fully utilised. The department has been unable to delineate the steps taken/contemplated for this. In view of serious lapses on account of understaffing of the Central project monitoring unit, the donor agency EEC had not released funds during last two years.

The Committee would like to know what steps are being taken to recruit the technical staff so that the objective of the scheme be met as agreed upon by 1997. It was not clear why the Department cannot get on deputation the staff from ICAR/SAUs which have large pool of scientists. Whatever relaxation is necessary in this regard must be sought. The Committee are not satisfied with the way the department has handled this nationally important scheme in which international commitments also form part. The Committee would like a confirmation that the objective will be met within the given time frame.

The Department in future must refrain from the practice of providing incomplete and vague information which often tantamount to misleading the honourable members of the Committee. The members also feel that within the next three months Committee must be informed of the progress made on the basis of these observations.

The Committee in their 21st Report presented in May, 1995 had recommended that emergency recruitment should be made and the posts in the Central Project Monitoring Unit on National Rinderpest Eradication should be filled up in three months. However, it is seen that against the five vacant posts only one post of Joint Commissioner was filled on 9-1-1996. The Committee take a serious view of the matter that the Govt. could not fill up the vacancies for three years continuously and because of this during 1993-94 to 1995-96 the flow of funds was stopped by E.E.C. The Committee do not understand as to how the rinderpest disease could be eradicated completely by the end of 1997 when the Government is unable to recruit technical personnel at the desired level. The Committee deprecate this kind of casual consideration shown to the recommendations of Parliamentary Committee by the Government and they seek immediate compliance with their recommendation on this externally aided project.

Reply of the Government

2.12 A sum of Rs. 50.42 crores has been earmarked under external aid component for 1993-94, 1994-95 & 1995-96. The above funds are meant

mainly for procurement of equipment through restricted global tenders and the same was to be funded by European Union (EU). Since EU did not release aid funds during 1993-94 and 1994-95 and agreed to do so only towards the end of 1995-96 the amount could not be utilised. However, tenders have been floated for procurement of equipment and vehicles during 1995-96 and the procurement process is still going on. Further negotiations are going on to procure additional equipments. Further the department has approached EC for the extension of the project for another 3 years i.e. upto 30th June 2001 and in principal EC agreed to the same. Hence the entire EC funds would be fully utilised within the extended period of the project.

Dr. A.K. Mukhopadya has joined as NPC on 31.01.97. Assistant Commissioner (Rinderpest), Dr. A. Baumik joined the project on 13th December, 1996. Efforts are being made to fill up the post of Director Information on deputation either from AIR or Doordarshan for which a letter has been addressed to UPSC seeking relaxation. Dr. D.B. Singh an officer with extension experience has joined the project on 01.01.97.

In spite of delay in release of funds by EEC and shortage of technical staff, the project has made reasonably good progress. Government of India has declared the following States provisionally free from rinderpest.

Tripura, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram & Assam (Zone A States). Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Orissa, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Sikkim, Goa.

Further the disease is at present mainly confined to zone 'C' States. In this zone also the last reported incidence was in May, 1995 in Tamil Nadu. In the other States such as Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka they did not report the disease from February, 1995 onwards.

After the commencement of the project, selected State Vety. Officers are trained in ELISA technique at ELISA Training and Data Management Centre, Hebbal, Bangalore. The scheme has helped in strengthening the State Veterinary Services in many areas. During the year 1996-97 State Officers were given advanced training in ELISA, Immunocapture ELISA and revised sampling frame.

Recommendation (No. 3.7)

Supply of Bulls by Central Cattle Breeding Farms

2.13 It has been stated in the Annual Report (1995-96) that the cattle and buffalo bulls produced at the Central Cattle Breeding Farms are supplied for large scale breeding to the State Governments for use in artificial insemination programmes. Some bulls are also supplied for natural breeding. Out of the total bulls produced, only selected bull calves are supplied to the State Breeding Agencies. The Committee note that the Government targeted to supply 756 bulls from 1993-94 to 1995-96 whereas it could supply only 535 bulls to the States. It appears that out of the total

bull calves produced, only a certain number are found worthy of distribution. In view of this situation, the Committee recommend that the target for bull production in the Central Cattle Breeding Farms should be suitably raised so that sufficient number of worthy bull calves are available for distribution to States as per targets fixed for the purpose. The Committee feel that supply of sufficient number of bulls to States alone could help in the breeding of quality cattle. Therefore, the Committee recommend that the Government should increase the target for bull production and come up with higher revised estimates for 1996-97. While formulating the Ninth Plan, the need for enhanced bull calves production in the Central Cattle Breeding Farms should be kept in mind and higher plan outlays should be earmarked for the purpose.

Reply of the Government

2.14 The Department is procuring high yielding bull mothers to increase the production of good quality bull calves in order to supply more bull calves to the State Governments. The Department has also proposed higher allocation in the Revised Estimate 1996-97. Higher target of bull calves production and higher allocations in the 9th Plan will also be proposed by the Department.

Further Reply of the Government

2.15 In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee substantially higher target of 1750 bull calves production with a provision of Rs.30.00 crore has been proposed for the Ninth Plan. Pending a decision of the Planning Commission on the Ninth Plan proposals, a higher demand of Rs. 570 lakh for production of 350 bull calves has been made for the year 1997-98 as against the Revised Estimates of Rs. 395 lakh for production of 350 bull calves during 1996-97.

Recommendation (No. 3.8)

Production of Frozen Semen in Hessergatta Central Institute

2.16 The Committee note that against the total Eighth Plan target of production of 34 lakh doses of frozen semen in the Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute, the total achievement in the first four years of the Plan was 17.09 lakh doses and with the target of 10 lakh doses for 1996-97, the maximum total production could only 27.09 lakh doses leaving a shortfall of 6.91 lakh doses which is 20.32 per cent of the target. The Committee, however, have been informed that the target of 10 lakh doses in 1996-97 could be fully achieved with the arrival of imported bulls from abroad. The Committee recommend that the Government should plan the import of bulls well in advance to avoid in future situations of shortage in production. The Committee feel that the Department could have made use of the spare capacity available in the existing facilities of military dairy farms and ICAR Institute Farms to produce proven bulls and to produce frozen semen doses to tide over the situation and the

Committee would like the Department to come up with a proper programme to make use of their spare capacities in a regular manner.

Reply of the Government

2.17 The Department has imported 21 bulls during December, 1996. Murrah bulls are being procured from indigenous sources. The department has already entered into a collaborative programme for production of bulls by the Military Farms, Central Cattle Breeding Farm, Almadhi of the Department has also joined in an associated herd progeny testing for Murrah bulls being run by the ICAR. Such steps have been taken by the Department to make fuller use of the facility in the Military Farms and ICAR.

Recommendation (No. 3.13)

Egg Production

2.18 The Committee note with concern that the expected egg production for 1995-96 is only 26.6 billions against the Eighth Plan target of 30 billions per annum. The Committee note that the growth rate in egg production in the last four years had ranged from 4.3% to 6.7% and averaged around 5% against the growth rate of 7% aimed at in the Eighth Plan. The Committee have been informed that the price available for egg is not commensurate with the steep rise in cost of various inputs and therefore the production has become stagnant. The Committee feel that the situation is alarming and therefore recommend that immediate steps should be taken to chalk out remedial measures and implement them to ensure that the producers get remunerative prices for their eggs and save the industry from a slump.

Reply of the Government

2.19 One of the main constraints in the growth rate in egg production has been a steep rise in the cost of poultry feed without commensurate rise in egg prices. For some time past sizeable export of feed material like maize, soyabean, oilcakes has taken place resulting in higher prices. The Department has taken up the matter of rationalising export of these items with the Ministry of Commerce. Since the egg prices are subject to operation of market process, the Government can only indirectly help the poultry activity. The Department has also, therefore, taken up the issue of subsidising export of poultry products with APEDA which is an organisation under the Ministry of Commerce.

Recommendation (No. 3.17)

Duck Production

2.20 With regard to the replies given by the Department for Duck Production, the Committee wanted to know how and in what manner the department plans to replace the present population of ducks in the eastern region by improved Khaki Campbell duck available in their Bangalore

Farm. The Committee recommend that the demands for grants for this farm must be linked with such a scheme as the purpose of the farm is to replace the Duck Population of India by improved variety at this farm.

Reply of the Government

2.21 The Central Duck Breeding Farm is supplying the breeding stock to various State Duck Farms which in turn produce and supply commercial ducklings to farmers. This farm is further being strengthened by taking up production of meat type ducks.

The outlay for duck production programme in the 9th Plan will be suitably hiked.

Recommendation (No. 3.18)

Sheep and Wool Development

2.22 The Committee observe that the Eighth Plan target for wool production is 50 million kgs per annum envisaging an annual growth rate aimed at 2.78 per cent and the Eighth Plan outlay is Rs.21.25 crores for sheep development. The total budgetary allocations are 17.89 crores which works out to 85.2% of the total plan target. It is also seen that the average production of wool during Eighth Plan during the first four years is about 40 million kgs against the target of 50 million kgs per annum during the Eighth Plan outlay.

The Committee during the evidence pointed out the Department that carpets worth Rs. 1200 crores are exported from the country and around 41 million kgs of wool is produced. Present production per animal per year is 900 gm. While our neighbour Pakistan produced 2kg/head/year. The Department in a written note stated in this regard that the wool production would be strengthened with additional financial allocations. The Committee strongly recommend that the Department should ask for the higher allocations in revised Budget for this important sector in 1996-97 and also in the Ninth Five Year Plan. The Committee also feels that if the Department could increase the wool production to match that of Pakistan, we would save nearly Rs. 700 crores in the import of wool for carpet production. The Committee desire that the Department should come up with the scheme to meet this objective.

The Committee had raised the question with regard to improvement in wool production from present 900 grams to 2 kg from sheep in the northern plains. It wanted an action plan for this in the short run which would essentially call for improvement in the health status, nutrition and management rather than through breeding. The Department gave vague and unsatisfactory replies as if the problem did not exist. In view of this, the Committee wants the department to put up an action plan for improvement in wool yield. In the Indo-Gangetic plains, in association with Ministry of Textiles, it should be tied up with the cess on carpet exports for sheep improvement.

Reply of the Government

2.23 Higher allocation have been made in 1996-97 over 1995-96. This Department had set up a Task Force in 1993 to look into all aspects relating to the development of sheep, goats and rabbits in the country, including various measures for improving production/productivity of wool. The Task Force has since submitted its final report. The report has been examined in this Department and the recommendations contained in the report have been accepted. The said report has covered all the aspects of the sector including breeding, feed resources and nutrition, health, marketing etc. The Task Force has also provided State-wise recommendations on the development of sheep in different States including the strategies and approach to be followed and a detailed action plan for improvement of wool yield.

The recommendations have been discussed at a High Level Meeting on 5.2.97. Based on the discussion, strategy is being worked out which shall be kept in view while formulating proposals for the Ninth Plan.

Further Reply of the Government

2.24 As desired by the Committee, proposals worth Rs. 54.50 crores has been formulated for increasing the wool production by improving the efficiency of the Sheep Development Scheme during the Ninth Plan. These include a proposal for establishing the National Sheep and Goat Development Board, worth Rs. 250 lakh, to coordinate all developmental activities in the field of Sheep Development. Pending a decision of the Planning Commission on the Ninth Plan proposals, substantial higher demand of Rs.610 lakh has been made for the sector in the budget for the year 1997-98 as against the Revised Estimates of Rs. 499 lakh during 1996-97.

Recommendation (No. 3.19)

Feed and Fodder Development

2.25 The Committee note that out of the total Eighth Plan outlay of Rs. 35.25 crores, the department could utilise Rs. 24.96 crores which is 70.09% of the total plan outlay for this sector.

The Committee also note that the total physical achievement in seed production during the Eighth Plan is 10.83 quintals against a total plan target of 12.07 quintals and the number of actual demonstrations during Eighth Plan. The reasons for shortfall in the vital sector is shortage of funds. The Committee expect that in the last year of Eighth Plan the budget allocation are fully utilised and the Budget estimate for 1996-97 are made higher so that the targets of Eighth Plan are achieved.

Reply of the Government

2.26 During the Eighth Five Year Plan the Department could utilise Rs. 25.76 crores instead of Rs. 24.96 crores for feed and fodder development which is 73.08% of the total plan outlay.

The physical achievement in seed production during the 8th Plan is 1080 MTs against the total plan target of 1204 MTs. The reason for shortfall in seed production was unfavourable climate and natural hazard at Hissar, Gandhinagar, Madras, Hyderabad and local disturbances in Kashmir Valley, besides shortage of funds.

The total number of demonstrations during Eighth Plan is 6005 against the target of 6220. Less demonstration number was due to local disturbances in Kashmir Valley.

The department has made higher allocation during 1996-97 as compared to 1995-96 for feed and fodder development.

Revised Estimates 1996-97 is Rs. 7.25 crores against the actual expenditure/RE of Rs. 6.55 crores for 1995-96.

Recommendation (No. 3.20)

Assistance for States for Development of Technology and Infrastructure for Export Oriented Livestock Product Units

2.27 The Committee note that this Central Sector Plan scheme has been taken up during the Eighth Plan at an outlay of Rs. 19.75 crores, to promote meat exports at higher unit value realisation. The Committee are concerned about the late start of the implementation of the scheme and the shortfall in expenditure which is only Rs. 2.35 crores during the first four years of the Eighth Plan. The financial achievement is only 22.75%. The Committee, therefore, expect the Government to implement the scheme with redoubled vigour to realise the physical targets of the Eighth Plan.

Reply of the Government

2.28 Due to the controversies associated with meat sector adequate number of suitable proposals were not received for assistance. Two proposals from Punjab and Uttar Pradesh which are eligible for assistance have been processed and assisted as per the scheme guidelines. An expenditure of Rs. 3.76 crores has been made under the scheme till date. The project in Punjab is complete and started functioning commercially. The project in Uttar Pradesh is proposed for commissioning in February 1997 and a balance grant of Rs. 89 lakhs has to be released after commissioning of the project. Three other project proposals from Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh remained at initiation stage and have not completed the requirements of the scheme to be come eligible for grant. In accordance of the recommendations of the Committee efforts were made to implement the scheme by encouraging the promoters of the projects to pursue the projects and seek grants under the scheme. However, until RE stage no proposal has come up requiring higher allocation under the scheme. The scheme provides assistance at different stages after completion of the works. Only proposals actively pursued and

implemented are assisted to ensure effective implementation of the scheme.

Recommendation (No. 3.22)

Delhi Milk Scheme

2.29 The Committee are disappointed to note that most of key posts in the senior most management levels in Delhi Milk Scheme are still lying vacant despite repeated recommendations of the Committee in this regard in their 21st and 33rd Reports. The Committee take a serious view of the vague and incomplete information supplied by the Government. Instead of furnishing the exact and specific details of vacant posts, the Department has tried to act smart by a vague and unconvincing reply. The Committee recommend that all the vacant posts should be immediately filled by promoting the next available DMS officers within a period of two months and they should hold these positions till the regular incumbents take charge. This would increase the efficiency of the organisation as all the essential departments will not any longer remain head less. The Committee also desire that recruitment rules should be framed in respect of all the posts within a time-frame and the Committee should be immediately apprised of the details of vacant posts, the dates from when each post was kept vacant, the dates on which each post was filled and date on which the interim appointments were made to each vacant post.

Reply of the Government

2.30 There are 11 posts at the level of Manager and above in DMS. These are: General Manager; Deputy General Manager (Admn.); Deputy General Manager (Technical); FA & CO; Senior Dairy Engineer; Manager (Distribution); Manager (Processing); Manager (Quality Control); Manager (Transport); Manager (Procurement); and Manager Store & Purchase. Presently the mode of recruitment in the existing recruitment rules for these posts is either promotion / transfer on deputation; or by transfer on deputation or by direct recruitment. Keeping in view the recommendations of the Committee action has been initiated to the amend recruitment rules so as to keep promotion as the main method of recruitment. Proposed amendments for various posts are as per Annexure I. Details of the vacant posts, the date from which each post was kept vacant, date from which interim arrangements was made and the date on which the post was filled, is as per Annexure II.

ANNEXURE I

Statement indicating the opening of promotion channels for the post at the level of Managers and above in the Delhi Milk Scheme

Sl. No.	Name & Pay Scale (Rs.) of the post	Mode of Recruitment as per existing R / Rs.	Proposed provisions for R. / Rs.
1	2	3	4
1.	General Manager 4500-5700	Promotion / transfer on deputation.	Promotion failing which by Transfer on deputation (including short-term contract)
2.	Dy. G.M. (Admn.) 3700-5000	By transfer on deputation.	Promotion failing which by transfer on deputation, failing both by direct recruitment.
3.	Dy. G.M (Tech.) 3700-5000	By promotion / transfer on deputation including short term failing which by direct recruitment.	By promotion failing which by transfer on deputation.
4.	F.A. & C.A.O. 3700-5000	By transfer on deputation.	FA & CO no change is proposed.
5.	Sr. Dairy Engg. 3000-5000	By promotion / transfer on deputation including short term failing which by direct recruitment.	By promotion failing which by transfer on deputation including short-term contract failing both by direct recruitment.
6.	Manager (Distt.) 3000-5000	By direct recruitment.	By promotion failing which by transfer on deputation failing which by direct recruitment.

1	2	3	4
7.	Manager (Processing) 3000-5000	By direct recruitment.	By promotion failing which by transfer on deputation failing both by direct recruitment.
8.	Manager (PCL) 3000-5000	By direct recruitment.	By promotion failing which by deputation failing both by direct recruitment.
9.	Manager (Transport) 3000-5000	By promotion / transfer on deputation.	By promotion failing which by deputation failing both by direct recruitment.
10.	Manager (Procurement) 3000-5000	By direct recruitment.	By promotion failing which by deputation failing both by direct recruitment.
11.	Manager (S&P) 3000-5000	By promotion / transfer on deputation including short term contract.	By promotion failing which by deputation failing both by direct recruitment.

ANNEXURE-II

Details of the senior management level vacant posts in the Delhi Milk Scheme, arrangement made to man and the present position

Sl. No.	Nomenclature of the post with pay scale.	Date from which the post was kept vacant		Date from which interim arrangement was made	Date on which post was filled.	Present position	Remarks	
		From	To					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	General Manager Rs. 4500—8700-	7-5-92	Till date.	i) 7-5-92 4-3-92 Shri Brijeshwar Singh, Director, additional charge as General Manager. ii) 5-5-92 19-10-92 Shri K.K. Bhasin, Dy. Secy., additional charge as General Manager. iii) 20-10-92 1-11-93 Shri Dipak Jain, DGM(A), DMS additional charge as GM. iv) 2-11-93 3-1-94, Shri M.P. Nagpal, Dy. Commissioner, additional charge as G.M. v) 4-1-94 11-12-95, Sh. S. Sodhi, DANI CIVIL Services, appointed as OSD. vi) 12-12-95 29-12-95, Shri M. P. Nagpal, Dy. Commissioner, additional charge as General Manager. vii) 30-12-95 16-4-96, Shri Kanwarjit Singh, Dy. Secy., additional charge as G.M./OSD viii) 17-4-96 till date, Sh. R. Chaubhan, FA&CAO(DMS), additional charge as O.S.D.	—	—	FA & CAO is holding the additional charge O.S.D.	
2.	Dy. G.M. (Adm.) Rs. 3700—5000	20-12-93	31-10-96	i) 5-11-93 20-5-94 Shri R.J. Singh, Asstt. Commissioner, additional, charge as DGM(A).	1-11-96		Post is filled up. (Sh. R. K. Mitra,	

3.	Dy. G.M. (Tech.) Ra. 3700—5000	1-2-94	till date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii) 4-6-94, 31-7-95 Shri A. Manoharan, Shift Mgr./Mgr. Procurement, DMS additional charge as DGM(A). iii) 1-3-95 30-10-96 Shri B. B. Garg. Mgr. (QCL), additional charge as DGM(A). i) 1-2-94 3-1-95, Shri A. Manoharan, Shift Mgr./Mgr. (Procurement, DMS additional charge as DGM(T). ii) 4-1-95 till date, Shri. Ashok Bansal, Manager, (CD), DMS additional charge as DGM(T). 	—	M(CD) is holding the additional charge of the post.
4.	Ra. 3700—5000	29-1-93	5-3-96	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) 29-1-93 to 14-6-93, Shri K. C. Kohli, Dy. Dir. (Cost) holding additional charge ii) 15-6-93 to 15-7-93, Shri S. K. Gupta, DD (Cost) holding additional charge. iii) 16-7-93 to 12-9-93, Shri L. N. Anchal, Personnel Officer (DMS). iv) 13-9-93 to 28-9-93, Shri A. Manoharan, Mgr. (Procurement), DMS. v) 29-9-93 to 4-1-94, Shri L. N. Anchal, Personnel Officer (DMS). vi) 6-1-94 to 3-2-94, Shri K. L. Barra, IAO (DMS). vii) 4-2-94 to 12-4-94, Shri R. J. Singh, Asstt. Commissioner, Min. of Agri. viii) 13-4-94 to 3-1-95, Shri A. Manoharan, Manager (Procurement) DMS. ix) 4-1-95 to 7-3-95, Shri B. B. Garg, Manager (QCL), DMS. x) 3-3-95 to 31-10-95, Shri R. K. Jain, DD (Cost), DMS. xi) 1-11-95 to 5-3-96, Shri B. B. Garg, Manager (QCL), DMS. 	6-3-96	Sh. R. Chauhan has been appointed as PA&CAS.
5.	Sr. Dairy Engineer Ra. 3000-5000	1-5-90	till date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) 1-5-90 to 12-12-90, Shri G. S. Mann, Advisor to GM., DMS. 	—	UPSC has sir selected an

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
					ii) 13-12-90 to 10-9-91, Shri R. K. Bhargava, M(CB), DMS.				
					iii) 11-9-91 to 2-12-91, Shri G. S. Mann, Advisor to GIM, DMS.				
					iv) 3-12-91 to 16-2-92, Shri R. K. Bhargava, M(CD), DMS.				
					v) 17-2-92 to 6-5-93, Shri S. K. Bhattacharya, Shift Manager, DMS.				
					vi) 7-5-93 to till date, Shri M.I. Akhtar, A/E/ Dairy Engg. DMS.				
6.	Manager (Distt.) Rs. 3000—5000	1-1-94	14-3-95		i) 1-1-94 to 14-3-95, Smt. Kamla Dhingra, Dy. M. (Distt.), DMS.	15-3-95			Sh. Ram Sarup has been appointed as Manager (Distt.)
7.	Manager (Processing) Rs. 3000—5000	1-12-92	13-2-94		i) 1-12-92 to 30-6-93, Sh. S. K. Bhattacharya, Shift Manager.	14-2-94			Sh. Ashok Bansal has been appointed as Manager (Processing).
8.	Manager (QCL) Rs. 3000—5000	28-12-89	18-5-94		ii) 1-7-93 to 13-2-94, Sh. H.M. Bhatnagar, Shift Manager.				
					i) 28-12-89 to 18-5-93, Shri Manoharan, Dy. Mgr. (QCL) on additional charge basis as well as on adhoc basis w.e.f. 1-10-93 to 18-5-94.	19-5-94			Sh. B. B. Garg has been appointed as M(QCL).
9.	Manager (Transport) Rs. 3000—5000	28-12-89	till date						
10.	Manager (S&P) Rs. 3000—5000	1-5-93	till date		i) 1-5-93 to 19-5-96, Shri C. E Socrates, Dy. Mgr. (S&P) on additional charge basis as well as on adhoc basis w.e.f. 22/3/95 to 19-5-96.				
					ii) 7-6-96 to till date, Shri J. S. Rathore, Mgr. (Procurement).				
11.	Manager (Proc.) Rs. 3000-5000	7-7-90	23-1-96		i) 7-7-90 to 1-5-91, Shri K.D.P. Sinha, DGM(T) on additional charge basis.	23-1-96			Sh. J. S. Rathore has been appointed as M (Proc.)
					ii) 2-5-91 to 28-2-93, Sh. V.B. Saran, M.(D). to assign the work.				
					iii) 1-3-93 to 24-6-93, Shri K.C. Kohli, DD (Cost) on additional charge basis.				

- iv) 25-6-93 to 17-11-93, Shri A. K. Gupta,
AD (Cost) on additional charge basis.
 - v) 18-11-93 to 31-7-94, Sh. A. Manoharan,
Shift Manager appointed on adhoc basis.
 - vi) 1-8-94 to 31-7-95, Shri R. C. Punj, AAO
 - vii) 1-8-95 to 31-10-95, Shri R. K. Jain,
DD (Cost)
 - viii) 1-11-95 to 22-1-96, Shri Ashok Bansal,
Mgr. (CID) on additional charge basis.
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Recommendation (No. 3.23)***Operation Flood-III***

2.31 The Committee note that the NDDB could manage to achieve a rural dairy processing capacity of 180.95 lakh litres per day. The committee note that it is still lower than the actual of 191.70 lakh litres per day achieved in 1994-95. The Committee recommend that during 1996-97, the rural processing capacity of 205.75 lakh litre per day as originally targeted should be achieved by undertaking a special drive so that the achievement could be well past the Eighth Plan target of 200 lakh litre per day.

Reply of the Government

2.32 Rural dairy processing capacity as on 31.10.96 has already reached 204.44 LLPD and it is expected to reach 205.75 LLPD by the close of 1996-97.

CHAPTER III

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

Recommendation (No. 3.11)

National Bull Production Programme

3.1 The Committee note that the Centrally Sponsored Scheme—National Bull Production Programme has been launched in order to increase the number of genetically superior bulls of indigenous breeds which are required to cover the cattle population in various agro-climatic regions of the country. The Committee find that the physical achievement under the programme are not satisfactory although the entire financial allocation has been fully utilised in the first four years of the Plan. The Committee find that no physical targets for the whole of the Eighth Plan period and for each annual plan have been fixed for this programme. No Embryo transfer Centre could be set up during 1992-93 and 1995-96. The Performance Report does not give the details of the bulls produced, their quality and their cost of production in the State Cattle Breeding Farms and in the cow-sheds in order to assess the impact of the assistance extended to them. The Committee desire that this information should be furnished to them and also published in the Annual Report, Performance Budget documents every year. The Committee recommend that definite physical targets should be fixed in respect of each activity and financial outlays should be made accordingly, although the entire budgetary allocations have been fully utilised, the Committee regret to note that physical targets could not be achieved.

Reply of the Government

3.2 The targets set in the EFC for sanction of scheme ETT and Associated Herd Progeny Testing Programme to States was two projects each in the financial years 1993-94 and 1994-95. These targets have been fulfilled by sanctioning one project each for Kankrej and Haryana during 1993-94 and for Gir and Sahiwal in 1994-95. The EFC target of a ETT project for red sindhi cattle has also been fulfilled by sanctioning the project in 1994-95. The progress of implementation of the above sanctioned projects is being monitored.

The activities required for full implementation of the sanctioned project include beside others; construction of buildings and importation of

equipment. The time required for which is such that the actual production of bulls under this programme would start in the year 1997-98.

Recommendation (No. 3.16)

Central Poultry Breeding Farms

3.3 The Committee find that the Central Poultry Breeding Farms have supplied 3.42 lakh egg-type parent chicks in the first four years of the Eighth Plan against the total plan target of 2.25 lakhs and in the same period, they could supply only 1.50 lakh meat type chicks against a target of 2.25 lakhs. the physical achievement in the first four years in respect of meat type chicks is only 66.65 per cent of the Eighth Plan target. The Committee recommend that the physical achievement in respect of meat type chicks should be improved by taking up suitable remedial measures. The Committee recommend that these farms should establish suitable links with AICRP in Poultry of ICAR and may undertake joint action plan on research to avoid duplication of efforts and for proper exchange of the technical innovations.

Reply of the Government

3.4 Due to rise of feed cost many small farmers discontinued farming. Also there was Lichi disease out break for the first time in the country in the North Eastern States resulting in less demand. Now the out break has subsided and supply of chicks has improved. Central poultry Breeding Farms are not engaged in any basic research in poultry and its main objective is to upgrade and acclimatise the local stock and meet the demands of the small and marginal farmers by supplying quality chicks.

Recommendation (No. 3.21)

Piggery Development

3.5 The Committee note that against the total Eighth Plan outlay of Rs. 10 crores for piggery development, the total budgetary allocation made was only Rs. 6.90 crores during the entire plan. Since Pig-rearing has a special significance for the North-Eastern States where pig meat is the staple food and every household rears pigs for their daily requirements, the Committee desired higher allocations. But the Committee are disappointed to note that the allocations for 1996-97 has been kept at the level of allocation for 1995-96. The Committee recommend that at the revised estimate stage, the Department should come up with a much higher demand and they desire that Ninth Plan should have a separate scheme for piggery development exclusively for the North East.

Reply of the Government

3.6 The expenditure made during the first 4 year period of 8th Plan under the piggery development scheme was Rs. 651.15 lakhs and BE for 1996-97 was Rs. 200 lakhs. Thus the total outlay would be Rs. 851.15 lakhs. However, as suggested by the Standing Committee, the position of

utilisation of funds in 1996-97 was reviewed while preparing revised estimates. It was found that utilisation certificate were pending with the States for amounts sanctioned in different years as under and it was not possible to seek higher allocations at RE stage pending utilisation of funds by most of the States.

State	Unspent balance (Rs. lakhs) as on 01.04.1996
Andhra Pradesh	21.75
Arunachal Pradesh	5.50
Assam	9.00
Bihar	32.50
Goa	6.00
Haryana	6.50
Karnataka	4.50
Kerala	97.85
Madhya Pradesh	12.00
Manipur	26.50
Meghalaya	13.85
Mizoram	28.70
Nagaland	5.00
Orissa	10.95
Punjab	20.00
Rajasthan	4.50
Sikkim	18.25
Tamil Nadu	50.00
Tripura	60.10
Uttar Pradesh	34.15
West Bengal	60.05
Andman & Nicobar Islands	4.00

A separate scheme during Ninth Plan for piggery development exclusively for the North East has not been proposed as the North East has been adequately covered during 8th Plan and would continue to be assisted on priority during the Ninth Plan as the 8th Plan scheme is proposed for continuation. Out of the total release of Rs. 739.48 lakhs till date an amount of Rs. 292.58 lakhs has been released to North East States forming 39.57% of the total releases made.

However, suitable modifications in the guidelines of the existing scheme will be done to facilitate effective implementation of the scheme during 9th Plan.

CHAPTER IV

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

Recommendation (No. 3.9)

Artificial Insemination Centres under EFST Programme

4.1 The Committee note that only 54.68 per cent of the Eighth Plan physical target of setting up of Artificial Insemination Centres under the Extension of Frozen Semen Technology Programme could be achieved, although there has been complete utilisation of the funds made available in the first years of the Plan period. The Government have explained that due to rise in costs of machinery and equipment, the physical targets could not be achieved. Despite this explanation, the Committee find that the Department have fixed an ambitious target of establishing 900 centres in 1995-96. The Committee find that the element of rise in costs of production have not been properly taken into account while computing the total Eighth Plan outlay and while setting the physical targets, which is an example of bad planning. The Committee expect that such practices would be eschewed while formulating the Ninth Plan proposals and only realistic projections would be made. Since the Artificial Insemination Centres form the most crucial terminal input in the delivery system, it is imperative to have them in large numbers and all over the country for wise coverage and to make available the fruits of technology to the farmers. AICs are the first contact points for the farmers to gain access to technology and therefore the Committee recommend that suitable higher allocations should be made in 1996-97 itself at the Revised Estimates stage to realise the target of 900 centres instead of waiting for the savings element at the last few days of the financial year.

Reply of the Government

4.2 A demand for higher allocation has been proposed in Revised Estimates under EFST. The target for the Eighth Plan for establishing A.I. Centres as per EFC on EFST is 3500 out of which 1914 A.I. centres have already been sanctioned up to 1995-96 and remaining 1586 A.I. centres are likely to be achieved by the end of Eighth Plan *i.e.* 1996-97 year ending.

Further Reply of the Government

4.3 In accordance with the recommendation of the Planning Commission to have larger numbers of artificial insemination all over the country, it is propose to set up an additional 60 thousands artificial insemination centres, to provide door step services to the farmers during the Ninth Plan. Provision of Rs. 415.10 crores has been made for the Scheme Extension Frozen Semi Technology for this purpose in the Ninth Plan.

Pending a decision of the Planning Commission a demand of Rs. 2550 lakh has been made for the Scheme in the Budget for 1997-98 as against the revised estimate of Rs. 43 lakh during 1996-97.

Comments of the Committee

4.4 For Comments please see Para No. 1.7 of Chapter-I of this Report.

Recommendation (No. 3.12)

National Poultry Development Board

4.5 The Committee note that huge funds to the tune of Rs. 13.50 crores have been allocated in the Budgets from 1992-93 to 1996-97 for setting up the National Poultry Development Board and these precious funds remained unutilised all these five years. The Committee note that pending the formation of the Board, a proposal was made to utilise Rs. 2.60 crores earmarked for the Board in 1995-96 for setting up Poultry Complexes on pilot basis in six States. The Committee have now been informed that the entire question of forming the National Poultry Development Board is again being reconsidered in the light of the factors like the role of NCDC, the growth of organised private sector poultry, the Schemes of States etc. the Committee have also been informed that the central assistance for the proposed poultry complexes in the States could not be provided to them in view of the reservations expressed by the Ministry of Finance.

The Committee now observe that the net result of this long drawn out futile exercise for five years is that the country could get neither a National Poultry Development Board nor any Poultry Complexes in lieu thereof and an amount of Rs. 13.50 crores was parked idle at the disposal of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, while many essential developmental schemes of the Government could not be taken up at all due to resource crunch. The Committee regret to point out that it was due to the delay in taking decisions, there was four-fold loss and this is a classic example to show as to how the lethargic functioning can have manifold adverse impact (both intended and in-intended) on the other programmes, on the other departments, on the welfare of the target group and ultimately on the whole country.

The Committee, therefore, expect the Government to shake off its lethargy and swing into purposeful action and ensure the setting up of the National Poultry Development Board, the need for which was justifiably being pursued all these years. The Committee do not appreciate any nasty-turn-about in the matter at the last minute and they expect the Government to act decisively and positively to take the matter to its logical conclusion without developing any cold feet. They also recommend that the funds earmarked for the proposed Poultry Complexes in the States should be immediately released, as the States have spent a lot of time and energy and scarce resources in formulating their proposals and denial of funds at this stage would render all their efforts into waste and nullity.

Reply of the Government

4.6 The proposal for establishment of National Poultry Development Board is under consideration and decision is likely to be taken shortly. The scheme of Poultry Complexes has been turned down by the IFD of the Ministry with the recommendation that it be considered afresh in the Ninth Plan.

The proposal for the National Poultry Development Board remained pending mainly because it was felt necessary to consult all the State Governments and despite reminders from time to time it took a long time before all the responses could be obtained from the States. In the meanwhile those activities of the proposed Board which related to the development of small scale poultry were brought together in a new scheme for "setting up poultry complexes" in the backward States. However, this scheme was also not agreed to by the Ministry of Finance and efforts to persuade the Ministry of Finance are continuing. As far as Board is concerned it has become necessary to once again look into the fundamental issue of its jurisdiction/responsibilities and the matter is not expected to be finalised before the beginning of the Ninth Plan.

Comments of the Committee

4.7 For Comments please see Para No. 1.10 of Chapter-I of this Report.

Recommendation (No. 3.14)

Central Poultry Training Institute

4.8 The Committee note that in the Central Poultry Training Institute, the construction work for important facilities like Dressing Plant, Library building, Auditorium and the purchase of Dressing Plant equipment etc. have not been taken up at all, despite making provisions for them in the Eighth Plan. The Committee take strong exception to the neglect of these facilities and recommend that adequate funds should be provided for them in 1996-97 itself so that these facilities are made available to the Institute as envisaged in the Eighth Plan. The Committee also wish to point out that the least concern shown by the Government for these components of the plan scheme would result in the cost escalation of these facilities and therefore this should not stand in the way of providing these facilities.

Reply of the Government

4.9 Due to constraints of resources and requirement of funds to the extent of Rs. 150 lakhs for provision of Dressing Plants library building and auditorium, it was decided to keep these items for implementation in the Ninth Plan.

Comments of the Committee

4.10 For Comments please see Para No. 1.13 of Chapter I of this Report.

Recommendation (No. 3.15)

Regional Poultry Feed Analytical Laboratories

4.11 The Committee note that against the Eighth Plan outlay of Rs 2.20 crores for the Regional Poultry Feed Analytical Laboratories, only Rs. 1.46 crore was the budgetary allocation and even out of this amount, only Rs. 0.89 crore was spent in the first four years of the Plan and the allocation for 1996-97 is only 0.32 crores. There was under utilisation of funds due to not taking up experimental sheds purchase of laboratory equipments and chemicals, and not filling up 12 out of the 10 sanctioned posts due to ban. The Committee fail to understand as to how the laboratories could function effectively without adequate laboratory equipments, chemicals, experimental sheds and manpower. They feel that all these items are essential for the proper working of a scientific institution and therefore recommend that all the facilities envisaged in the Eighth Plan should be made available before the end of the Plan period without any further delay by seeking sufficient revised budget estimates in 1996-97 itself and a compliance report should be submitted to the Committee within three months of presentation of this Report.

Reply of the Government

4.12 In order to furnish the laboratory with necessary equipment and chemicals the Department has asked for an additional amount of Rs. 22.05 lakhs over and above the budget provision of Rs. 32.00 lakhs under RE 1996-97 to procure the NIR instrument. Necessary sanctions of Finance have been obtained to this effect. It is hoped that by the end of the financial year these items would be replaced.

Comments of the Committee

4.13 For Comments please see Para No. 1.16 of Chapter-I of this Report.

Recommendation (No. 3.24)

Milk Production in Non-Operation Flood Areas

4.14 The Committee note that only a sum of Rs. 20.12 crores have been allocated to the scheme meant for development of dairies in Non-Operation Flood Areas, Hilly and Backward Areas and the total allocation

during the entire Eighth Plan period for this important scheme is only Rs. 83.64 crores against an original outlay of Rs. 200 crores. The Committee are very much disappointed to note that the Ministry of Finance had not appreciated the concern of the Committee expressed about the continued inadequate allocations. The Committee desires that at the revised estimate stage the original demand of Rs. 80 crores for 1996-97 should be granted in order to ensure the improvement of the social, nutritional and economic status of the residents of these disadvantaged areas.

Reply of the Government

4.15 As desired by the Committee, the matter was taken up with the Ministry of Finance, but it has not been possible to get a higher allocation for the year 1996-97.

Comments of the Committee

4.16 For Comments please see Para No. 1.19 of Chapter-I of this Report.

CHAPTER V

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

Recommendation (No. 3.5)

Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme

5.1 The Committee observe that the physical achievement in respect of vaccinations carried out under the scheme have substantially come down although the financial allocations have been on the increase, right from 1992-93 onwards against the total 8th Plan physical target of 130 million vaccinations. The reasons for the huge shortfall in the achievement is the rise in the cost of vaccine per dose every year. It is seen that even after utilising the full allocations the Government could achieve only 101.5 million vaccinations against the target of 130 million vaccination. Since the programme is valuable for the protection of high yielding indigenous, crossbred and exotic livestock the government should seek higher budgetary allocations instead of slashing down the Eighth Plan physical targets.

The Committee find that the element of expected price-rise had not been taken into account while arriving at the financial outlays and the physical targets for the Eighth Plan and due to this faulty planning, poor animals have been made to suffer. The Committee recommend that both the financial outlay and physical targets for 1996-97 should be stepped up to be in tune with the Eighth Plan physical targets and the department should come up with suitable revised estimates. The Committee recommend that the Ninth Plan Scheme should be formulated with adequate financial outlays and taking a cue from the past experience.

Reply of the Government

5.2 In accordance with the observations and recommendations of the Committee the progress of the scheme and physical and the financial targets for the current year were discussed in a meeting of Secretaries of the States and UTs on 17th December, 1996. A large number of States reported that the concerned Departments are not getting the budget provisions for FMD in their respective States due to various reasons. They suggested that the Central Government should consider changing the pattern of assistance. It was therefore felt that in this scheme where the States have to share 25% of the cost of vaccines it will not be enough if only the Central Government increase the outlay. Because in such a situation without a matching 25% share of State, the Central share would

remain unutilised. As such for the 9th Five Year Plan proposals have been formulated to raise the share of Central Govt. to 100%. Observations of the Committee have been noted.

For the present the Planning Commission has discussed only the Annual Plan 1997-98. After the guidelines are received for formulation of the Ninth Plan, adequate financial outlays will be provided.

Further Reply of the Government

5.3 As desired by the Committee, the scheme of Foot and Mouth Disease Control has been formulated at a substantially higher allocation of Rs. 30.00 crore for the Ninth Plan, to protect the high yielding valuable animals of the poor livestock owners. The scheme is proposed to be implemented on 50:50 grant basis as against the existing pattern of 25:25:50 basis, where 50% of the cost of the vaccine was to be borne by the livestock owner. Pending a decision of the Planning Commission on the Ninth Plan proposals a higher demand of Rs. 300 lakh has been made for the Scheme in the budget for the year 1997-98, as against the Revised Estimates of Rs. 265 lakh during 1996-97.

Recommendation (No. 3.10)

Progeny Testing Programme

5.4 The Committee note that Rs. 4.10 crores was allocated for Progeny Testing Programme in the first four years of the Eighth Plan period and the actual expenditure incurred out of this is Rs. 3.28 crores, leaving a shortfall of Rs. 0.82 crores. The Committee have been informed that it was originally planned to set up five new units during the Eighth Plan. But only one unit could be set up out of the five proposed for want of proposals from the States. Moreover, due to poor performance, one of the five ongoing projects were closed down. The Committee are disappointed to note the original scheme of expanding the test network has not all fructified and at the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan, the Government finds itself from where it started at the beginning of the Plan. The Committee are surprised to note as to how the States did not come forward to set up new projects while 100% Central assistance is provided to the participating States towards recurring and non-recurring costs for running the field testing programme. Since this scheme aims at production of progeny tested cross-bred bulls by adopting field progeny testing methods and the proven bulls produced in the programme are used in the frozen semen network in the entire country, the Committee recommend that some extra efforts at the highest levels should be made by Centre to persuade the States to take up this programme. The Committee should be apprised of the details of such efforts and the results achieved thereof within a period of three months of presentation of this Report.

Reply of the Government

5.5 Success of a field progeny testing programme is dependent upon several factors, the most important of which are identification and selection

of bulls to be put to test, selection of females for performance, recording based on information on production and reproduction parameters of the project population, reliable arrangements for field recording supported by constant monitoring.

Many of the States which have taken up this programme have not been able to successfully organise the above mentioned basic requirements with the result that the programme had not made the intended impact. Therefore, in view of the recommendation of the committee, it is proposed to devise a detailed technical plan for implementation of field progeny testing programme and re-organise the implementation of the programme according to that plan.

Recommendation (No. 3.25)

Filling up of the Vacant Technical Posts

5.6 The Committee had expressed its serious concern about the various continuing vacancies of several technical positions including that of Animal Husbandry Commissioner. It sought to know how in the absence of the technical inputs, programmes envisaged were implemented and also whether there would be any worthwhile achievements at all in their absence.

The Department has stated that it is trying to get the best minds and the process is on. One wonders how despite their best efforts, worthy candidates are not available for the last three years. The committee was informed of the 103 posts sanctioned in various projects at various levels only 12 posts were created, and only 4 positions were filled. The committee desires that there should be no attempts to delay the process of filling up the vacancies. Such lapses on the part of those responsible for creating the position would be viewed very seriously and responsibility should be fixed for not creating and filling up the posts. The committee find that the department has not sought any relaxation from the Government for filling up important technical posts and schemes have been allowed to run without necessary staff. The committee would like to be informed on a quarterly basis about the position of creation and filling up of the posts.

Reply of the Government

5.7 Keeping in view the recommendation of the Committee, vigorous efforts have been taken to fill up all the vacant posts. The progress of the filling up of the post with major Constraints/Problems concerning each post are indicated in the following paragraphs:—

Para A

1. Animal Husbandry Commissioner

The post is vacant since 31.05.94. Since then Deptt. has tried two times to fill up the post of regular basis as well as on *ad hoc* basis as per the

existing R/Rs. However, the post could not be filled up either for want of a suitable candidate or due to non approval of ACC for *ad hoc* appointment. Thereafter a proposal to amend the R/Rs has been initiated and with the concurrence of DOPT and after taking approval of UPSC, vetting by the Law Deptt. It is been sent to Department of Official Language for vetting. The proposal to fill up the post on regular basis will be sent to UPSC shortly.

2. *National Project Coordinator, NPRE*

Filled up

3. *Director (Vaccine Production) NPRE*

Filled up

4. *Coordinator (Quality Control and Cold Chain) NPRE*

The post is vacant since 9.2.1993. The UPSC *vide* their letter dated 21.8.1995 recommended Dr. S.N. Saha, Senior Scientist, IVRI., Bangalore for this post. The proposal to appoint Dr. Saha on this post was approved by the ACC *vide* their OM dated 19.10.1995. Dr. Saha, however accepted the offer of appointment on certain conditions. The Deptt. tried to accommodate him to the extent possible. Since Dr. Saha did not join the Deptt. or sent any further communication till July, 1996, offer of appointment made to him was cancelled with the approval of MOS(AH&D). Now ACC has also approved the cancellation of his appointment. The matter has been taken up with UPSC to allow the Deptt. to fill up this post again on transfer on deputation basis (*vide* letter No. 11013/5/93-Admn. I dated 31.10.1996). The UPSC has allowed the Deptt. to re-circulate the post as per mode of Rectt. determined by UPSC. Action to re-circulate the post is in progress.

5. *Director (Information and Communication) NPRE*

The post is vacant since its inception w.e.f. 9.2.1993. A proposal was sent to UPSC to fill up the post on transfer on deputation basis *vide* this Department's letter dated 9.12.1993. However, UPSC has intimated *vide* their letter dated 17.5.1995 that none of the candidates who applied for the post of Director (Information and Communication) on transfer on deputation was found eligible to be considered for the post. Since then the Department is requesting UPSC to allow the post to be filled up on the basis of one time exemption given by UPSC, i.e. the post is allowed to be filled up on transfer on deputation basis. But the UPSC is insisting on framing the recruitment rules for the post. The project is likely to be completed by 31.3.1998, hence Deptt. feels that there is no need to frame R/Rs for the post in NPRE and has accordingly requested the Commission to allow the Deptt. to fill up this post on transfer on deputation basis. Their response is awaited.

6. *Joint Commissioner (LH)*

The post is vacant since 29.6.1994. UPSC, has recommended the name of Dr. K.R. Vishwanathan for appointment to the post. The proposal to appoint Dr. Viswanathan is pending with ACC. ACC, however, has directed the Deptt. to obtain relaxation of R/Rs so far as maximum period of deputation is concerned. Now DOPT has also given its concurrence for relaxation of R/Rs. The Deptt. has conveyed the concurrence of DOPT to UPSC, with whom Departmental proposal for giving relaxation in the R/Rs was pending on 06.11.1996. The UPSC has turned down the proposal. However the matter was referred to DOPT to seek approval of ACC.

7. *Deputy Commissioner (Sero-Monitoring)*

The post is lying vacant since 01.06.1993. The proposal to fill up the post on transfer on deputation basis was furnished to UPSC vide letter No. F. 11013/3/93 A.I dated 15.12.93. The matter remained under correspondence with the Commission for long time. The UPSC has intimated vide their letter dated 1st August, 1995 that personal talk will be held on 05.09.95 for making selection to the post of DC (SM). It is mentioned that the Deptt. has sent names of six officers to the UPSC along with the proposal dated 15.12.93. Since three Departmental officers i.e. Dr. V. Sethuraman, Dr. K.R. Viswanathan and Dr. D. Krishanan whose names were also sent to UPSC were subsequently selected on other higher posts, the Deptt. had been writing to UPSC to allow the Deptt. to recirculate the post as per the R/Rs earlier approved by the Commission so that the post could be filled up on transfer on deputation basis. Neither any reply from UPSC has been received on above mentioned requests nor UPSC has intimated the outcome of the personal talk held on 18.07.95 for selection to the post of DC(SM). The last communication was sent to UPSC on 21st August 1996. In the meantime the post is presently filled up on *ad hoc* basis by appointing Dr. R.P.N. Nair to the post.

8. *Deputy Commissioner (Herd Book)*

The post is lying vacant since 01.01.96. The proposal to fill up the post to TOD basis was sent to UPSC. The Commission has sought certain clarifications and additional documents from the employers of two candidates. Action has already been taken and employers of two candidates were requested to furnish the information/documents desired by the Commission. They have been reminded telegraphically.

9. *Deputy Commissioner (Poultry)*

The post is lying vacant since 19.12.95. A proposal to fill up the post on TOD basis after inviting applications from all concerned was sent to UPSC vide letter No. 12025/5/95-A.I dated 22.10.1996. UPSC has sought some clarifications. Reply has been sent on 17.02.97.

10. *Deputy Commissioner (Sheep)*

The post is lying vacant since 24.07.97 on retirement of Dr. Surinder Kumar who was appointed to the post on *ad hoc* basis. The post of D.C. (Sheep) is a newly created post by downgrading the post of JC (Sheep). Initially the post was filled up by promotion on *ad hoc* basis and Dr. Surinder Kumar was appointed to the post. He was appointed to the post in the absence of R/Rs. Action was long back initiated for approving R./Rs. for the post of DC (Sheep). After obtaining approval of DOPT, the approved R/Rs were sent to UPSC *vide* letter No. 12018/1/95-A.I. dated 30.10.1995 for their approval. After UPSC approves the R/Rs and after their notification in the Gazette, action to fill up the post on regular basis will be initiated.

11. *Assistant Commissioner (LH)*

The post is lying vacant since 01.07.96. Recruitment action is in progress.

12. *Assistant Commissioner (RP)*

Filled up.

13. *Assistant Commissioner (AQ)*

Dr. Govind Narain Purohit has been recommended for appointment to the post of AC (AQ) *vide* UPSC's letter dated 11.09.96. The Chairman, North Rajasthan Milk Union has been requested *vide* letter dated 30.10.96 to send his character, antecedents and medical report in order to enable the Deptt. to issue offer of appointment to him. Response is still awaited. Reminded telegraphically.

14. *Assistant Commissioner (DD)*

Filled up.

15. *Assistant Commissioner (Poultry)*

The post is lying vacant since 01.01.96. A proposal to fill up the post on Transfer on Deputation basis has since been sent to UPSC *vide* their letter No. A. 12025/3/95-Adm.I dated 6-11-96. UPSC had sought some clarifications. Since only one candidate is eligible, it is being examined if it needs recirculation.

16. *Assistant Commissioner (Sheep)*

The post is lying vacant since 1.11.1995. A proposal to fill up the post on regular basis was sent to UPSC *vide* letter No. A. 12025/2/95-A.I dated 22.12.1995. The matter is still pending with UPSC. No reply has been received.

17. *Assistant Commissioner (CD)*

One post of AC (CD) is lying vacant since 04.03.94 and other post w.e.f. 01.08.94. A proposal to fill up the post on regular basis was sent to

UPSC *vide* letter No. A. 12025/2/95-A.I dated 22.12.95. The UPSC has already conducted interview for the post on 17.02.97.

2. Promotion : Recruitment action is in progress.

18. Dairy Engineer (Mechanical)

A proposal to fill up one post of Dairy Engineer (Mechanical) by direct recruitment was sent to UPSC on 16.7.1993. The UPSC has recommended the name of Shri S. B. Ambedkar for this post *vide* their letter dated 7.4.1995. Shri Ambedkar as well as his employer (National Airports Authority) were requested *vide* letter dated 2.7.1995 to furnish attested copies of medical fitness reports and character antecedents verifications, which were pre-requisite, for offering him appointment for the said post. Since Shri Ambedkar has not responded till July, 1996, with the approval of MOS (AH&D), his candidature was cancelled and the UPSC was requested *vide* letter dated 23.7.1996 to recommend another suitable candidate available in the panel for appointment to the post of Dairy Engineer (Mechanical). UPSC has since agreed and sent second name in the Panel. The appointment has been approved and appointment letter has since been issued.

19. Assistant Livestock Officer (2 Vacant)

The vacancy has recently occurred as result of death of Dr. Triloki Nath w.e.f. 1.11.1996. Recruitment action is initiated. Second vacancy is due to a newly created post. Recruitment action is in progress.

20. Senior Technical Assistants

	Sanctioned strength	Filled up	Vacant
(1) Livestock	7 posts	2	5
(2) Poultry	2 posts	—	2

Five posts of STA (Livestock) and two posts of STA (Poultry) are presently vacant. The incumbents of two posts of STA (Livestock) i.e. Shri R.K. Gupta and Shri R.P. Mishra are holding posts of RO in Planning Commission and ALO at the Headquarters on *ad hoc* basis respectively. The vacant posts could not be filled up as the Departmental proposal to amend the R./Rs and grant of scale of pay of Rs. 2000-3500 is still pending and could not be finalised as the Ministry of Finance did not agree to the departmental proposal. Now action is in progress to fill up the posts on *ad hoc* basis.

21. Law Officer

The post of Law Officer has been created recently w.e.f. 1.5.1996. This is an isolated post. Recruitment action has since been started by way of framing of R/Rs for the post of Law Officer.

Para B**1. Coordinator (Quality Control & Cold Chain), NPRE**

The post is vacant since 09.02.1993. The UPSC *vide* their letter dated 21.08.95 recommended Dr. S.N. Saha, Senior Scientist, IVRI, Bangalore for this post. The proposal to appoint Dr. Saha on this post was approved by the ACC *vide* their OM dated 19.10.95. Dr. Saha, however, accepted the offer of appointment on certain conditions. The Deptt. tried to accommodate him to the extent possible. Since Dr. Saha did not join the Deptt. or sent any further communication till July, 1996, offer of appointment made to him was cancelled with the approval of MOS (AH&D). Now ACC has also approved the cancellation of his appointment. The matter has been taken up with UPSC to allow the Deptt. to fill up this post again on transfer on deputation basis (*vide* letter No. 11013/5/93—Adm. I) dated 31.10.1996. The UPSC has allowed the Deptt. to recirculate the post as per mode of Rectt. determined by UPSC. Action to recirculate the post is in progress.

2. Director (Information & Communication), NPRE

The post is vacant since its inception w.e.f. 09.02.93. A proposal was sent to UPSC to fill up the post on transfer on deputation basis *vide* this Department's letter dated 09.12.93. However, UPSC has intimated *vide* their letter dated 17.05.95 that none of the candidates who applied for the post of Director (Information & Communication) on transfer on deputation were found eligible to be considered for the post. Since then the Deptt. is requesting UPSC to allow the post to be filled up on the basis of one-time exemption given by UPSC, *i.e.* the post is allowed to be filled up on transfer on deputation basis. But the UPSC is insisting on framing the recruitment rules for the post. The project is likely to be completed by 31.03.98, hence Deptt. feels that there is no need to frame R/Rs for the post in NPRE and has accordingly requested the Commission to allow the Deptt. to fill up this post on transfer on deputation basis. The Commission has sought detailed justification which was furnished *vide* JS(H)'s D.O. letter dated 31.09.96.

3. Deputy Director, Central Livestock Extension Directorate

Action is initiated to fill up the post on ad-hoc basis.

4. Assistant Commissioner (Development) Milk and Milk Product Order

Action has already been initiated to fill up the post on promotion basis.

5. Technical Officer, Milk and Milk Product Order

Action is nearly complete to fill up the post on ad-hoc basis.

Comments of the Committee

5.8 The Committee desire that the Department should take more vigorous efforts to liaise with the U.P.S.C. and in recirculation of vacancies so that the posts are filled up at the earliest. The Committee should also be informed of the results of the efforts made for filling up of the posts.

NEW DELHI;
November, 1997

Agrahayana, 1919 (Saka)

SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Agriculture.

APPENDIX I

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY NINTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE HELD ON THURSDAY THE 24TH OCTOBER, 1997 AT 1100 HRS. IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'D' PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI

The Committee sat from 1100 hrs. to 1215 hrs.

PRESENT

Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot
3. Shri Padamsen Chaudhary
4. Shri Manibhai Chaudhuri
5. Shri Sohanveer Singh
6. Smt. Ratna Singh
7. Shri Madan Patil
8. Shri Gangadhar Kunturkar
9. Shri Bajuban Riyan
10. Shri Mahaboob Zahedi
11. Dr. K.P. Ramalingam
12. Shri Sydaiah Kota

Rajya Sabha

13. Maulana Habibur Rahman Nomani
14. Shri Suresh Pachouri
15. Shri Jagir Singh Dard
16. Dr. Ranbir Singh
17. Shri Anil Kumar
18. Shri O.S. Manian
19. Shri Devi Prasad Singh
20. Shri Sharief-ud-din Shariq

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri S. Bal Shekar — *Deputy Secretary*
2. Smt. Anita Jain — *Under Secretary*
3. Shri K.L. Arora — *Assistant Director*

Chairman (AC) welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and requested them to take up for consideration the draft report on Action

Taken by the Government in respect of the recommendations/observations made by the Committee in their 3rd Report on Demands for Grants (1996-97) in respect of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying). The draft report was adopted with slight changes.

2. The Committee, then authorised the Chairman to present the Action Taken Report on the recommendations contained in the 3rd Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (1996-97) in respect of Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying), to the House on a date and time convenient to him.

3. Thereafter, the Chairman informed the Members that the Committee may visit the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Pusa, New Delhi in connection with the examination of subject "Research and Development in Horticulture and related Post Harvest Technology". The Committee decided to undertake the Study visit to Bareilly and Mukteshwar from 11th to 13th November, 1997.

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX II

(Vide Para No. 4 of the Introduction of the Report)

Analysis of Action Taken by Government on the 3rd Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (11th Lok Sabha)

I.	Total number of recommendations	25
II.	Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government (Para Nos. 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, 3.13, 3.17, 3.18, 3.19, 3.20, 3.22 and 3.23)	
	Total	14
	Percentage	56%
III.	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies (Para Nos. 3.11, 3.16 and 3.21)	
	Total	3
	Percentage	12%
IV.	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee (Para Nos. 3.9, 3.12, 3.14, 3.15 and 3.24)	
	Total	5
	Percentage	20%
V.	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies are still awaited (Para Nos. 3.5, 3.10 and 3.25)	
	Total	3
	Percentage	12%