TWENTY SIXTH REPORT

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (1995-96)

(TENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & DAIRYING

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (1994-95)

[Action taken by Government on the Recommendations/ Observations contained in the NinthReport of the Standing Committee on Agriculture]



Presented to Lok Sabha on16th May, 1995 Laid in Rajya Sabha on 16th May, 1995

> LOK SACHA SECRETARIAT NEW DELHI

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

(1995-96)

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| | | | |

- 7. Kum. Pushpa Devi Singh
- 8. Shri Govindrao Nikam

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (1995-96) having been authorised by the Committee to submit Report on their behalf, present this 26th Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 9th Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture 1994-95 (Tenth Lok Sabha) Demands for Grants (1994-95) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying).

2. The Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (1994-95) on Demands for Grants (1994-95) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying) was presented to Lok Sabha on 22nd April, 1994. The Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying) was requested to furnish action taken replies of the Government to recommendations contained in the Ninth Report. The replies of the Government to all the reommendations contained in the Report were received.

3. The Ministry was also requested to furnish the extent to which the Demands for Grants (1995-96) have been modified in the light of recommendations of the Committee contained in the Ninth Report on Demands for Grants (1994-95) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying). The replies in this regard were also received.

4. The Committee considered these action taken replies and subsequent replies furnished by the Government in its sitting held on 9.5.1995 and approved the draft comments and adopted the 26th Report.

5. An analysis of the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 9th Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in Appendix II.

NEW DELHI ; NITISH KUMAR, <u>12 May, 1995</u> Chairman, <u>22 Vaisakha, 1917 (Saka)</u> Standing Committee on Agriculture (1995-96).

CHAPTER I

REPORT

1.1 This report of Standing Committee on Agriculture (1995-96) deals with the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in their Ninth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on the Demands for Grants (1994-95) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying). The Ninth Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 22nd April, 1994. It contained 22 recommendations/observations. Action taken notes have been received in respect of all the 22 recommendations/observations. The Committee have categorised as under :

1.2(i) Recommendations/observations which have been accepted by Government : Recommendation Nos. 2.2, 2.7-2.8, 2.10, 2.14, 2.21, Major Head 2404, Major Head 3601, Major Head4404, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, 3.9

(Total 16)

 (ii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's reply : Recommendation No. 2.18

(Total 1)

 (iii) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee : Recommendation Nos. 2.24, 2.27-2.28, 3.7, 3.10

(Total 4)

(iv) Recommendations/observations in respect of which replies of Government are awaited : Recommendation No. 2.4

(Total 1)

1.3. The Committee will now deal with action taken by the Government on some of the recommendations/observations.

Sub. Head-B.5 Piggery Development

D-3(4) (1) Assistance to states for Integral Piggery Development

Recommendation (Para 2.24, page 9)

1.4 The Committee in para 2.24 in the 9th Report had observed that Pig farming plays an important role in improving the socio-economic status of a sizeable section of the weaker rural communities especially

in North Eastern States. So efforts may be made to pursuade the States and also improve the production and multiplication of exotic breding stock at the States Pig Breeding Farms.

The Government in their reply have stated as under :

1.5. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme entitled "Assistance to States for Integrated Piggery Development" envisages 100% grant for strengthing infrastructure facilities of the Pig Breeding Farms run by the State Governments as well as for the purchase and transport of exotic pigs.

Assistance provided under the scheme during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 is as follows :

| SI. No. | Year | Expendi- ture (Rs. in lakhs) | Number of Fa r ms Assisted |
|------------|---------|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. | 1991-92 | 35.00 | 12 |
| 2. | 1992-93 | 60.25 | 13 |
| 3. | 1993-94 | 191.25 | 23 |

It will be seen that the expenditure has steadily increased during these three years. Out of the total expenditure of Rs. 289.50 lakhs, funds released to the North Eastern States is Rs. 97.75 lakhs (33.76%).

Efforts have been, and will continue to be, made to increase Pig Production activities for improving the socio-economic status of the rural communities dependent on pig farming.'

Subsequent Reply

1.6. Every effort is being made to get proposals under this scheme from the States for providing assistance to pig farms. The State Governments have been informed of the recommendations of the Standing Committee. This was followed by a DO. letter from Secretary (AH & D) to the Chief Secretaries of all the States. All proposals received for assistance have been attended promptly.

An amount of Rs. 3.00 crores was proposed under this scheme to the Planning Commission. However, in view of the cuts imposed by the Planning Commission on the proposals of this Department, the final allocation has been kept at the R.E. of the previous year." 1.7. The Committee are not satisfied with the general nature of the reply of the Government. The asistance to States for Integrated Piggery development has remained static and the Government's Plan during 1994-95 is to assist only 13 farms as against 23 farms in 1993-94. This shows that what is stated in the reply does not conform to the reality on the ground. Pig Farming has a great significance and can play an important role in improving the socio-economic status of sizeable section of the weaker rural community. Pig rearing has a special significance for the North Eastern States, where pig meat is the main staple food.

The Committee recommend that efforts should be made to persuade the States to produce more number of exotic piglets for crossbreeding with local breed.

The Committee also recommend that specific emphasis should be given to increase the import of exotic piglets and to increase the extent of training imparted to the producers in the North Eastern States on Pig Farming.

Sub-Head-B.8 Meat Processing

Recommendation (Para 2.27-2.28 page 10)

1.8. The Committee in para 2.27-2.28 in the 9th Report had observed that efforts made for establishment of new slaughter houses/meat plants and also improve the hygienic condition and modernise the xisting slaughter houses and to establish carcass utilisation centres to provide safe and wholesome meat, gainfully utilise animal by products safeguard workers health and prevent environment pollution and cruelty to animals. The Committee are unhappy to note that not much progress have been made int his direction.

The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the scheme and programmes under this head may be implemented effectively under a time bound-programme, in order to increase in the export of meat and meat products.

The Government in their reply have Stated as under :-

1.9. "A Working Group for effective co-ordination of the modernisation programme has been constituted with the following composition, namely :

| (i) | Animal Husbandry Commissioner | Chairman |
|-------|---|----------|
| (ii) | Financial Adviser | Member |
| (iii) | Joint Commissioner (Meat & Meat Products) | Member |

| (iv) | Adviser (Agriculture) Planning Commission (or his nominee) | Membe r |
|-----------|---|----------------------|
| (v)-(vii) | Representatives of the State Government/ The Municipal Body/the Project Implementing Agency | Members |
| (viii) | Assistant Commissioner (Carcass Utilisation) | Member- Secretary |

The Working Group will monitor the implementation of the projects for modernisation of slaughter houses and estblishment of carcass utilisation centres for which financial assistance is provided by the Central Government and ensure their implementation in accordnace with the time schedule and within the cost estimates of the sanctioned project. The Working Group will also identify the constraints, if any, in the timely implementation of the projects and recommend suitable measures for the removal of such constraints.

The recommendations of the Standing Committee on Agriculture regarding establishment of new slaughter houses/meat plants contained in the 4th and the 9th Report have been brought to the notice of all State Governments. They have been advised to review the conditions of the existing slaughter houses, carcass utilisation centres and primary flaying unit and formulate the proposals for modernising the existing units and for establishing new units and avail the financial and technical assistance provided by the Central Government under the plan scheme. The State Governments have also been advised to monitor at their level implementation of the projects already approved for Central assistance."

Subsequent Reply

1.10. "The recommendations of the Standing Committee on Agriculture have been brought to the notice of all the State Governments and Union Territories administration through a D.O. letter sent by Secretary (AH & D) to all the Chief Secretaries. They were advised to review the conditions of the existing slaughter houses, carcass utilisation centres and primary flaying units and to formulate proposals under the schemes.

The plan outlay for the scheme has been increased from Rs. 7 crores in 1994-95 to Rs. 9 crores for 1995-96."

1.11. The Committee note that the action taken reply of the Government does not give any details about the efforts made for establishment of new slaughter houses/meat plants and also to improve hygenic conditions and modernize the existing slaughter houses. The Ministry is silent on this matter. The reply given is sketchy and incomplete.

The Committee take a serious view of this kind of inadequate and incomplete reply on the part of the Government and desire that in future the Government should come forth with complete action taken replies on all aspects of the recommendations of the Committee.

The Committee desire that expeditious action should be taken to review the conditions of the existing slaughter houses and Carcass utilisation Centres and to implement all the proposals under the scheme.

Recommendation Para No. 3.7

1.12. The Committee have noted that the prices paid to the milk producers, farmers in the rural areas are not remunerative and thus not conductive to further increase in the milk production. The Committee recommend for necessary support price which may be required to ensure the producers of milk to get remunerative price. This matter may be referred to Commission on cost and prices for recommending minimum support price to be paid to milk producers.

The Government in their reply have stated as follows :

1.13. "The matter regarding support price for milk was taken up with the Commission for agricultural Costs and Prices. Commission informed that it is not feasible to fix minimum support price of milk as it is a highly perishable commodity and bulk of the surplus is handled in the un-organised sector."

1.14. The Committee are not satisfied with the answer and we deduce that the CACP in expressing inability to take up the matter of fixing cost of production and remunerative price paid for milk produced by farmer,s is working on a premise that the Government would not be able to ensure minimum support prices to the farmers as the Government may not be in a position to guarantee buying all the surplus milk produced by farmers. The Committee do realise the limitation of the Government. But the concern of the Committee emanates from the fact that the majority of milk producing farmers are not getting remunerative prices and consequently dairying as a vocation has over a period of time has become economically unviable.

The essential consequences that dairying which is the most important source of supplemental income to the farmers especially farmers of the Rainfed Areas, Marginal farmers as well as landless farmers, has not been developing at the desired pace.

The NDDB have bene successful in putting restrictions on milk processing industry which could have taken care of the surplus milk, available in the so called Operation Flood Areas, the fact is that only a small share of the total milk produced in these Operation Flood Areas is lifted by the NDDB and the State Cooperative Organisations.

The remaining stocks are lifted by small contractors and milk suppliers, who are exploiting the small milk producers by paying them unremunerative prices.

The Committee wish to emphasize that all the points listed here and above must be studied in detail and the Government should come out with a clear-cut strategy whereby it should ensure minimum support price to all the farmers falling under Operation Flood Areas or should allow Milk Processing Industry to put up plants without any restrictions.

Recommendation Para No. 3.10

1.15. The Committee are also unhappy to note that this monitoring mechanism for implementation of programmes/schemes have not been very effective. The reported mismanagement and non implementation of programmes and schemes in the Chota Nagpur region of Bihar may be inquired into by the Department of Animal Husbandry and a report submitted to this Committee regarding the remedial action taken to ensure the schemes/funds allocated by the Department reach the intended beneficiaries.

Subsequent Reply

1.16. "Animal Husbandry and Dairying is a State subject. The Government of India is only assisting the State Government in strengthening and the augmentation of their efforts in the development of this vital sector. For this purpose funds are directly released to the State Government and the same are monitored through the existing comprehensive monitoring system, based on feed back on prescribed periodical reports from the State and the interaction with the State Government.

Regarding the mismangement and non-implementation of the scheme in Chota Napgur, the State Government is being pursued at the level of Chief Secretary to provide necessary feed back/report in the matter. However, a detailed report is still awaited from the Government of Bihar. After a report is received, it would be examined and suitable measures would be evolved by the Department to ensure that the schemes/funds allocated by the Department reach the intended beneficieries.

1.17. The Committee is not satisfied with the reply of the Ministry. The matter should be seriously pursued by the Ministry and they should inform the Committee the result of the report received and action taken thereon.

Implementation of Recommendations

1.18. The Committee would like to emphasise that the greatest importance has to be attached to the implementation of the recommendations by Government. They, therefore, expect the Government would implement such recommendations expeditiously. In case, it is not possible to implement any recommendation in letter and spint for any reasons, the matter should be reported to the Committee in time with reasons for a non-implementation.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation No.1 (Para No. 2.2)

A-1 (1) (1) -Travel Expenses

2.1 The Committee recommend that effective measures may be taken by the Department to observe utmost economy under this head.

Reply of the Government

2.2 The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying came into existence with effect from 1.2.1991.

During the financial years 1991-92 and 1992-93, the travel expenses reflected in the budget pertained to the staff posted in the Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development Divisions of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

The bifurcation of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation which included the Animal Husbandry and the Dairying Divisions and the creation of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying was effected on the Ist June, 1993 and new units for Administration and International Cooperation in the new Department created with staff of about 30 officials. The increase in expenditure during 1993-94 is largely on account of this as also the normal annual increase.

The actual expenditure for travel expenses during 1993-94 was Rs.13.63 lakhs.

The budget estimate of Rs. 18.50 lakhs for 1994-95 is based on the revised estimates for 1993-94.

While preparing the Budget Estimates and the Revised Estimates, as also while incurring expenditure, utmost care is taken to effect economy.

Subsequent Reply

2.3 Although the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying came into existence with effect from 1st February, 1991, the actual bifurcation of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, which included the Animal Husbandry and Dairy Divisions, was effected on the 1st June, 1993. New units for Administration and International Cooperation in the newly created Department with a staff of about 30 officials were established. The increase in expenditure during 1993-94 was mainly on account of this as also the normal annual increase.

Revised estimates for 1994-95 and budget estimates for 1995-96 have been kept at the same level of Rs. 18.5 lakhs. Utmost care is being taken to effect economy.

Recommendation Para No. 2.7-2.8

B.1(4)-Systematic Control of Livestock Diseases of National Importance in Union Territories without Legislation.

2.4 The Committee feel that this may have been due to lack of effective monitorning mechanism to ascertain the implementation of the scheme by the Union Territories.

The Committee hope that the Department would take effective steps to ensure that the Union Territories are mobilised to implement the scheme and effectively utilize the resources allocated to them.

Reply of the Government

2.5 The increase in allocation of budget during 1992-93 and 1993-94 was due to the establishment of a canine rabies control unit by Delhi to control rabies, one of the most important zoonatic diseases in an intensive manner. The Union Territory of Delhi was provided Rs. 7.80 lakhs during 1992-93 and Rs. 19.00 lakhs during 1993-94. As the control of this disease is of national importance, the budget provision has been increase.

U.T.wise funds provided during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 are as follows:

| SN | U.T. | 1992-92 | 1992-93 | 1993 -94 |
|------------|--------------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| 1. | A.N. Islands | _ | 1.00 | 0.50 |
| 2. | Chandigarh | _ | | 1.00 |
| 3 . | D.N. Haveli | _ | 0.30 | 0.15 |

| 4. | Delhi | 3.60 | 7.80 | 19.00 | |
|----|-------------|------|-------|-------|--|
| 5. | Lakshadweep | 0.50 | 4.78 | _ | |
| 6. | Pondicherry | | _ | | |
| 7. | Daman & Diu | | _ | | |
| | Total | 4.10 | 13.88 | 23.65 | |

During 1992-93 the scheme was implemented in all the Union Territories except Chandigarh, Daman & Diu and Pondicherry. During 1993-94, the scheme was implemented in four UTs. namely, A&N Islands, D & N Haveli, Delhi and Chandigarh. The Department has taken steps to implement the scheme in the remaining three UTs., namely, Lakshadweep, Daman & Diu and Pondicherry during the year 1994-95.

Subsequent Reply

2.6 This recommendation did not suggest any modification in the Demands for Grants. However, as required by the Standing Committee the monitoring mechanism is proposed to be strenghtened, *inter alia*, be holding a separate meeting with Union Territories to review the implementation of Plan scheme.

This recommendation did not suggest any modification in the Demands for Grants. However, as required in the recommendation, the Department actively persued with Union Territories to formulate proposal under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes and effectively utilise the funds.

Recommendation Para No. 2.10

B.1(5) - Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme.

2.7 The Committee are of the view that special efforts may be made to help the weaker sections of the society to improve their livestock. The Committee hope that targets fixed to vaccinate 28 million cattles during 1993-94 be achieved. This will over the years help in increasing the export of milk and milk products from our country.

Reply of the Government

2.8 Under the Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme, Rs. 98.35 lakhs, Rs. 161.65 lakhs, Rs. 219.87 lakhs were released to the States and the Union Territories during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively. The estimated vaccinations carried out were 11.5 million, 19.0 million and 25.8 million respectively during these years. Considering the importance of the Scheme the Department has been regularly enhancing the budget allocation to this Scheme so that the weaker sections of the Society are benefited. A budget allocation of Rs. 245.00 lakhs has been provided for the year 1994-95 for this scheme.

Subsequent Reply

2.9 This recommendation does not suggest any modifications in the Demands for grants.

Recommendation Para No. 2.14

B.1(6) — Animal Disease Surveillance.

2.10 The Committee recommended that this scheme may be implemented expeditiously. The Union Territories which till now have not implemented this scheme may be persuaded to implement the scheme.

The Committee hope that the Department would monitor and guide the epidemiological units at States and Union Territories in this regard.

However, the Surveillance System have to be improved considerably land diagnostic services at States and Central level needs further strengthening to achieve the above objective.

Reply of the Government

2.11 The Animal Disease Suveillance Scheme is being implemented in all the Union Territories from 1994-95 onwards. Funds released to the U.Ts, during 1994-95 (upto September, 1994) is as follows:

| S.No. | Union Territory | Funds released 1991-95 (upto September, 1994) | |
|-------|-----------------|---|--|
| 1. | A.N. Islands | 1.12 lakhs | |
| 2. | Chandigarh | _ | |
| 3. | D.N. Haveli | 0.10 lakhs | |
| 4. | Delhi | 2.00 lakhs | |
| 5. | Lakshadweep | _ | |
| 6. | Pondicherry | 3.00 lakhs | |
| 7. | Daman & Diu | 0.10 lakhs | |

The Union Territories of Chandigarh and Lakshadweep have been requested to submit necessary proposals. All the U.T's are submitting monthly animal disease surveillance reports regularly.

A format for collection of information from the States and the Union Territories, based on the guidelines given by the office International Des Epezooties (OIE) was prepared by this Department and communicated to the States and the Union Territories.

The States and the Union Territories provide disease outbreak reports once in a month to the Ministry where this is compiled and published as Animal Disease Surveillance Bulletin for the entire country and communicated to the States and the Union Territories for their information and for taking appropriate control measures to prevent of diseases from neighbouring States/Union Territories. Further, the Ministry studies the disease situation in a State/Union Territory as to whether it is progressing or controlled. In the event a disease is found to be spreading the States/Union Territories are advised to take appropriate control measures.

A separate Central Sector Scheme namely, Animal Disease Management and Regulatory Medicine has been approved for implementation during the Eighth Five Year Plan. The main objective of the Scheme is to improve the disease diagnosis and reporting of diseases by the States to the central unit. One of the major components of the Scheme is establishing a referal laboratory at the Central level.

Subsequent Reply

2.12 Animal Disease Surveillance Scheme is in the process of being computerised. Softwares have already been developed and proposal has been sent to States and UTs. It is expected that a great deal of improvement will take place after computerisation and line through the NICNET is completed.

There are not budgetary implications Funds in the Scheme are available.

Recommendation Para No. 2.21

2.13 For 1992-93 against a target of 1.50 lakh doses only 3.94 lakh doses were produced. Similarly, against a target of training 50 persons only 21 persons were trained for this purpose.

The target fixed for producing frozen semen doses and training the personnel in this regard have not been achieved during the year 1992-93.

Reply of the Government

2.14 There has been a shortfall in the production of semen and training personnel in frozen semen technology during the year 1992-93. There are 3 senior technical posts for these activities in the Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute. Of these, two posts, namely, Senior production Officer and Assistant Research Officer were vacant which affected the activities of the Institute and the achievement of the targets in 1992-93. However, the Junior Technical Officers were trained in the production and processing of frozen semen and consequently during 1993-94, 4.56 lakhs doeses of semen were produced as compared to the target of 4.5 lakhs and 138 technical personnel were trained compared to the target of 50 personnel.

The Assistance Research officer who was on Study Leave has since joined duties and the post of Senior Production Officer has been filled up.

Recommendation Major head 2404

C.1(5) - Grants - in aid for Swiss aided Dairy Development Project in North Kerala. C.1(5) (1) - Externally aided project.

2.15 The Scheme is being implemented with financial assistance from the Government of Switzerland. On the basis of claims filled by NDDB the Swiss Development Corporation is approached for disbusement of funds which are then released to NDDB. For 1994-95 the amount of Rs. 110.00 lakhs for the implementation of North Kerala Diary Project.

The Committee hope that project would be implemented on time and the objective of the scheme fully realised.

Reply of the Government

2.16 This project is being implemented by the Kerala Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation. A Swiss Expert is advising the Federation in the implementation of the project. The North Kerala Dairy project is being implemented since 1987. 384 Dairy Co-operative Societies (DCS) having 80,975 milk producers as member have been organised. The average milk procurement during 1993-94 was 1,15,000 litres per day with a peak of 1,25,700 litres per day. The Malabar Regional union is marketing about 1,25,000 litres of milk per day in all the major towns of Northern Kerala. The construction of new dairy of 60,000 litres per day at Kozhikode is in progress. The expansion of the existing dairy plan at palakkad up to 40,000 litres per day is expected to be completed by January, 1995. The targetted objective with regard to augmenting and utilising the existing milk yield potential in order to improve the increase milk production and procurement and to strengthen the co-operative structure are expected to be met by the end of the project period. The key physical targets and achievements are as follows:

| S.No. | Particulars | Target March'95 | Achievement March'94 |
|------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | Organisation of Diary Co-operative Societies | 478 | 384 |
| 2. | Membership | 85,000 | 80,975 |
| 3. | Milk Procurement (thousand litres per day) | 135.40 | 115.00 |
| 4 . | Milk Marketing (thousand litres per day) | 155.00 | 125.70 |
| 5. | Processing capacity (thousand litres per day) —Chilling —Dairy | 59.00 140.00 | 59.00 59.00 |
| 6. | Funds disbursement (crores of rupees) | 17.21 | 9.50 |

Subsequent Reply

2.17 The Swiss Development Corporation is routing the funds for the project through National Dairy Development Board. It has also deputed a Swiss Expert to oversee implementation which is being done by the Kerala Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation.

The North Kerala Dairy Project is being implemented since 1987. The programme has reached 1.03 lakh milk producers during Feb., 1995 through 384 Dairy Cooperative Societies with an average milk procurement of 1.21 lakh litres of milk per day. The Malabar Union is marketing about 1.15 lakh litres of milk per day in all major towns of Northern Kerala. The new diary at Kozhikode of 60.00 litres per day has been commissioned in Feb., 1995. The expansion of the existing dairy plant at palakkad upto 40,000 litres per day is nearing completion.

The project is likely to be extended upto 31st March, 1996 as a proposal has been received from Swiss Development Corporation.

Recommendation Major Head 3601

Major Head 3601, D.2 (4) (1)-Integrated Dairy Development Projects in Non-Operation Flood Hills and backward areas.

2.18 Under the Head no funds were released for the year 1992-93. However, in RE of 1993-94 under plan expenditure Rs. 10.00 crores was provided. In the BE for 1994-95, Rs. 24.91 crores have been agreed. The State Government have been directed to constitute State level Technical Management Committees (TMC) to monitor physical and financial progress of the project and to review the policy matters been directed to send quarterly. Apart from the concerned officers of the State Government, TMCs would include a representative of NDDB, Ministry of Agriculture and Planning Commission, Government of India. The State Government have further progress report indicating the quarterly targets and achievements to this Department.

The Committee hope that the Department would be able to monitor the implementation of the scheme effectively by involving the cooperation of the State Government.

Reply of the Government

2.19 As earlier reported to the Committee, all the State Governments where the integrated Diary Development Project have been sanctioned, have been directed to constitute State level Technical Management Committees (TMC) under the chairmanship of the Secretary incharge of Dairying in the respective States to monitor the overall progress of the project. The union department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying and the Planning Commission are also represented in the Committee.

Out of the ten States where such schemes have been apporoved TMCs have already been constituted in eight states. The matter is being followed up with the remaining two states, namely, Nagaland and Madhya Pradesh. Meetings of TMC have since been held in seven States. Detailed quraterly progress report in prescribed format are being received form the States and are being scrutinised in the Ministry.

Subsequent Reply

2.20 No modification in Demands for Grants was suggested by the recommendations of the Committee.

All efforts are being made to monitor the progress of the project through quarterly progress reports, Technical Management Committees and regional meetings.

Recommendation Major Head 4404

2.21 The Committee feels that the objective of replicating 'Anand Pattern' of milk cooperatives have not yet made much of an head way in other regions of the country.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that special emphasis may be laid on strengthening the existing milk cooperatives and establishment of new ones in other parts of the country.

The Committee also feel that to achieve greater productivity superior breed of cattle/farm animals may be provided at a faster rate and raising awareness of cooperatives/farmers to adopt modern technology and farm management methods.

The Committee strongly recommend that ICMR Report in this regard may kindly be studied and steps takne to monitor that high quality of Milk is produced and provided to the consumers.

Reply of the Government

2.22 The Operation Flood-III programme has a target to organise 70,000 "Anand Pattern" dairy cooperative societies by December, 1994 of which approximately 67,000 societies have been established by September, 1994. Anand Pattern Diary Cooperative Societies are organised in those villages which have good potential for milk production, adequate marketable surplus of milk, necessary feed and fodder resources and road network. It is not considered advisable to organise cooperative societies in areas other than in potential milksheds.

For the other regions of the country which are not covered by Operation Flood-III, a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme titled Integrated Dairy Development Project (IDDP) has been approved during the 8th Five Year Plan period. Under this programme comprehensive dairy development projects can be taken up in non-operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas, 15 project have already been sanctioned under IDDP for 10 States. More project proposals for inclusion in this scheme are under consideration. For production and supply of superior cattle and other farm animals such as Sheep, Poultry, Pig etc., a Special Livestock Breeding Programme is being implemented in the State sector. The State Governments and the State Milk Federations are encouraging farmers to adopt modern technology and management systems for production of high yielding animals. Awareness programmes for Co-operatives and for farmers are also undertaken by the State Governments and the State Co-operative Milk Federations, as part of the extension activity.

Subsequent Reply

2.23 For strengthening milk cooperatives a new scheme titled 'Assistance to Cooperatives' is proposed to be introduced.

The State Governments and State Milk Federations are encouraging farmers to adopt modern technologies and management systems for production of high yielding animals. Awareness programmes for cooperatives and for farmers are also undertaken by the State Governments and the State Cooperative Milk Federations as part of their extension activity. The Centre is assisting the States by supplying frozen semen of high pedigree bulls so as to improve the breed quality of the animals supplied by them to other end users. The plan outlay for the scheme titled 'Extension of Frozen Semen Technology' has been increased from Rs. 4 crores in BE 1994-95 to Rs. 4.99 crores in RE 1994-95. The BE for 1995-96 has further been increased to Rs. 5.50 crores.

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)'s report was referred to Agriculture Department & NDDB and it was indicated that controlled use of pesticide in Agriculture & other apllications through education & extension service will result in the levels of pesticide being brought down. The Department of Agri. & Coopn. has intimated that stringet action has already been taken to prevent pesticidal contamination particularly of DDT & HCH.

Recommendation (Para No. 3.1)

2.24 The Committee have observed that the Budget Estimate for 1994-95 of Rs. 383.89 crores is less than the Revised Estimate of 1993-94 i.e. Rs. 558.11 crores. The Committee are of the veiw that the cut in Plan and Non-Plan allocations may adversely affect the ongoing programmes and schemes and also the proposed new programmes. As one of the major objectives in the VIII Plan is to generate more employment in the rural sector and also suplement the rural farm income the scaling down of the Budget allocation for the Department of Animal husbandry and Dairying would adversely affect this.

Reply of the Government

2.25 The Budget allocation for 1995-96 of Rs. 482.33 crores comprises Rs. 344 crores a plan outlay and Rs. 138.33 crores as non-plan provision. Regarding the plan outlay it will be seen that this is less by about Rs. 1.36 crores as compared to RE of 1993-94 but more by Rs. 12.60 crores than the RE of 1994-95. In 1995-96 this Department had submitted plan proposals to the extent of Rs. 559 crores keeping in mind the recommendations in the 9th Report of the Standing Committee. Further, the Planning Commission was also informed of the Standing Committee's recommendations that the plan outlay should be increased. This matter was vigorously argued in the Plan meeting chaired by Member-Secretary, Shri Arjun Sen Gupta. However the Planning Commission regretted their inability to increase the plan allocation in the light of Finance Ministry's instructions to impose a 10% cut in the non-externally aided component of the Plan. As far as the non-plan provision is concerned, the reduction is primarily because the budgetary support CMS is being reduced by the Finance Ministry.

Recommendation (Para No. 3.2)

2.26 Further, it is observed that the expenditure during the financial year is not evenly spread over. It is seen that a large amout of money is spent in the last half/quarter of the year. The Committee feel that this may result also in unnecessary expenditures. The Committee, therefore, recommended that a proper assessment may be made in advance of the schemes programmes and allocation made in a manner that would ensure timely availability of funds.

Reply of the Government

2.27 All efforts are being made to spread out more evenly the expenditure on the plan schemes by persuading the States and other implementing agencies to send their proposals early in the financial year. Detailed guidelines are being prepared to enable the States and Union Territories administration to formulate their proposals under the schemes properly.

Recommendation (Para No.3.3)

2.28 The Committee are concerned to note that expenditure on establishment and related activities have gone up sharply over the years. The Committee would like to the Department to observe economy and to curb such increasing expenditure.

Reply of the Government

2.29 The expenditure on the Secretariat has increased marginally by Rs. 10 lakhs. This is mainly because of salary increases.

Recommendation (Para No. 3.4)

2.30 It is observed that exotic/hybrid varieties of milch animals are more susciptible to diseases and maintenance of these varieties turns out to be more expensive compared to the indigenous variety. The Committee, would therefore, recommend that adequate funds may be made available for research and development of indigenous breed of milch animals to enhance more economic and higher production of milk.

Reply of the Government

2.31 The indigenous breeds of cattle are sturdy, disease resistant, head tolerant and productive in tropical conditions of feed and fodder deficiency. The maintenance and management of indigenous milch animals is comparatively easier. For preservation, improvement and propagation fo the indigenous cattle and buffalo breeds Central herd Registration Programme have been taken up by the Department. Adequate funds have been provided under Central Cattle Development Organisation and National bull production Programme for development of these components during the Eighth Plan period. Regarding research on genetic improvement of indigenous milch breeds the matter has been taken up with ICAR for allocation of more funds for such research studies.

Rocommendation (Para No. 3.5)

2.32 The Committee strongly recommend that a special cell may be set up for preparing an inventory of traditional Indian medicinal practices codify them and start undertaking emperical study for verifying their efficacy in controlling cattle ailments, vigorous research and development of this age old indigenous system must also be persued.

Reply of the Government

2.33 The Department has initiated action to set up a small cell for collecting the requisite information on alternative systems (Indian system of Medicine) and undertaking the emperical study. Concurrence has been sought from three eminent scientists and one representative from industry. As soon as the concurrence is received along with information for formulating the terms of reference, formal orders setting up of the cell will be issued.

2.34 The Committee are concerned about the poor quality of veterinary services available in most parts of the country. They strongly recommend that adequate resources may be made available to augment the supply of medicine and services of qualified veterinary staff in this regard.

The Committee are also very unhappy to note that the setting up of coperatives on the Anand Pattern has not made much headway. The Committee recomended that restrictions on setting up of more than one cooperative in a village should be removed and the model law on this subject which has been pending for long should be brought before the Parliament immediately.

Reply of the Government

2.35 This Department has constituted a Committee to study the existing hospital facility with infrastructures and available manpower in the state so as to suggest as to how the existing hospital can function more efficiently.

The organisation of cooperative society in a village is based upon the milk production potential, available marketable surplus after rural consumption, agriculture resource base and a proper road network. A cooperative society should be able to procure sufficient milk in order to operate viably. Experience has shown that if more than one society is organised in a revenue village, both of them turn out to be unviable. At present about 95% Anand Pattern DCSs are financially viable.

The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is actively engaged in formulation of a National Policy on cooperatives.

Recommendation (Para No. 3.8)

2.36 The Committee also desired that the information dissemination strategy of the Department may be reviewed, to make them more effective. The Department may in this regard allocate funds for publication and its informative journals and literature in other Indian languages for the benefit of the farmers in different regions of the country.

Reply of the Government

2.37 The Department has recently created a Central Livestock Extension Directorate and efforts are being made to get adequate number of posts created for effective implementation of extension activities.

Recommendation (Para No. 3.9)

2.38 The Committee also recommend that 'Draft Breeding Policy' may be finalised soon after taking into consideration the views expressed in the proposed national convention to be convened shortly by Department.

Reply of the Government

2.39 National Breeding Policy has to examine the issues concerning preservation and improvement of nationally important indigenous breeds of cattles and baffaloes for milk, drought and duel purpose as also improvement of non-descript cattle. This requires consultations with experts, States and other agencies involved. An expert Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Animal Husbandry Commissioner to examine all relevant issues and make suitable recommendation.

CHAPTER III

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

Recommendation (Para No. 2.18)

B.3(2) Poultry Development, Central Poultry Training Institute, Hessarghatta.

3.1 The Committee can not but express their concern over the under utilisation of funds by the Department.

Reply of the Government

3.2 A sum of Rs. 19.81 lakhs was utilised by the Central Poultry Training Institute, hessarghatta, Bangalore during 1993-94. In the Revised Estimates 1993-94 a sum of Rs. 34.00 lakhs was provided to meet the cost of a protein Digester and an Amino Acid Analyser. As detailed technical evaluation of these sophisticated equipments took time, it was not possible to effect the purchase during 1993-94. Sanction for the purchase of Protein Digester has been issued and that for Amino Acid Analyser will be issued during 1994-95 and it is expected that both these items will be purchased during 1994-95.

Subsequent Reply

3.3 The amount of Rs. 52 lakhs was provided in RE for the year 1994-95 and both items, namely, Protein Digester and Amino Acid Analyser have been purchased.

CHAPTER IV

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

Recommendation (Para No. 2.24)

B.5. Piggery Development.

D. 3. (4) (1) Assistance to States for Integrated Piggery Development.

4.1. The Committee feels that Pig farming plays an important role in improving the socio-economic status of a sizeable section of the weaker rural communities especially in North Eastern States. So efforts may be made to pursuade the States and also improve the production and multiplication of exotic breeding stock at the States Pig Breeding Farms.

Reply of the Government

4.2. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme entitled "Assistance to States for Integrated Piggery Development" envisages 100% grant for strengthning infrastructure facilities of the Pig Breeding Farms run by the State Governments as well as for the purchase and transport of exotic pigs.

Assistance provided under the scheme during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 is as follows :

| SI No. | Year | Expendi- ture (Rs. in lakhs) | Number of Farms Assisted |
|-----------|---------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. | 1991-92 | 35.00 | 12 |
| 2. | 1992-93 | 60.25 | 13 |
| 3. | 1993-94 | 194.25 | 23 |
| | | | |

It will be seen that the expenditure has steadily increased during these three years. Out of the total expenditure of Rs. 289.50 lakhs, funds released to the North Eastern States is Rs. 97.75 lakhs (33.76%).

Efforts have been, and will continue to be, made to increase Pig Production activities for improving the socio-economic status of the rural communities dependent on pig farming.

Subsequent Reply

4.3. Every effort is being made to get proposals under this scheme from the States for providing assistance to pig farms. The State Governments have been informed of the recommendations of the Standing Committee. This was followed by a D.O. letter from Secretary (AH & D) to the Chief Secretaries of all the States. All proposals received for assistance have been attended promptly.

An amount of Rs. 3.00 crores was proposed under this scheme to the Planning Commission. However, in view of the cuts imposed by the Planning Commission on the proposals of this Department, the final allocation has been kept at the R.E. of the previous year.

Recommendation Para (Nos. 2.27 2.28)

4.4. The Committee strongly recommended that efforts be made for establishment of new slaughter houses/meat plants and also improve the hygienic condition and modernise the existing slaughter house and to establish carcass utilisation centres to provide safe and wholesome meat, gainfully utilise animal by-products safegurd workers health and prevent environment pollution and cruelty to animals. The Committee are unhappy to note that no much progress have been made in this direction.

The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the scheme and programmes under this head may be implemented effectively under a time bound programme. In order to inccrease in the export of met and meat products.

Reply of the Government

4.5. A Working Group for effective co-ordination of the modernisation programme has been constituted with the following composition, namely :

| (i) | Animal Husbandry Commissioner | Chairman | | |
|---|--|----------------------|--|--|
| (ii) | Financial Adviser | Member | | |
| (iii) | Joint Commissioner (Meat & Meat Products) | Member | | |
| (i v) | Adviser (Agriculture) Planning Commission (or his nominee) | Member | | |
| (v)-(vii) Representatives of the State Government/the | | | | |
| | Municipal Body/the Project Implementing-Agency | Members | | |
| (viii) | Assistant Commissioner (Carcass Utilisation) | Member- Secretary | | |

The Working Group will monitor the implementation of the projects for modernisation of slaughter houses and establishment of carcass utilisation centres for which financial assistance is provided by the Central Government and ensure their implementation in accordance with the time schedule and within the cost estimates of the sanctioned project. The Working Group will also identify the constraints, if any, in the timely implementation of the projects and recommend suitable meausres for the removal of such constraints.

The recommendations of the Standing Committee on Agriculture regarding establishment of new slaughter houses/meat plants contained in the 4th and 9th Report have been brought to the notice of all State Governments. They have been advised to review the conditions of the existing slaughter houses, carcass utilisation centres and primary flaying unit and formulate the proposals for modernising the existing units and for establishing new unit sand avail the financial and technical assistance provided by the Central Government under the plan scheme. The State Governments have also been advised to monitor at their level implementation of the projects already approved for Central assistance.

Subsequent Reply

4.6. The recommendations of the Standing Committee on Agriculture have been brought to the notice of all the State Governments and Union Territories administration through a D.O. letter sent by Secretry (AH & D) to all the Chief Secretaries. They were advised to review the conditions of the existing slaughter houses, carcass utilisation centres and primary flaying units and to formulate proposals under the schemes.

The plan outlay for the scheme has been increased from Rs. 7 crores in 1994-95 to Rs. 9 crores for 1995-96.

Recommendation Para No. 3.7

4.7 The Committee have noted that the prices paid to the milk producers, farmers in the rural areas are not remunerative and thus not conductive to further increase in the milk production. The Committee recommend for necessary support price which may be required to ensure the producers of milk to get remunerative price. This matter may be referred to Commission on cost and prices for recommeding minimum support price to be paid to milk producers.

Subsequent Reply

4.8 The matter regarding support price for milk was taken up with the Commission for Agricultural Cost and Prices. Commission informed that it is not feasible to fix minimum support price of milk as it is a highly perishable commodity and bulk of the surplus is handled in the un-organised sector.

Recommendation Para No. 3.10

4.9 The Committee are also unhappy to note that this monitoring mechanism for implemention of programmes/schemes have not been very effective. The reported mismangement and non implementation of programmes and schemes in the Chota Nagpur, region of Bihar may be inquired into by the Department of Animal Husbandry and a report submitted to this committee regarding the remedial action taken to ensure the schemes/funds allocated by the Department reach the intended beneficiaries.

Subsequent Reply

4.10 Animal Husbandry and Dairying is a State subject. The Government of India is only assisting the State Government in strengthening and the augmentation of their efforts in the development of this vital sector. For this purpose funds are directly released to the State Government and the same are monitored through the existing comprehensive monitoring system, based on feed back on prescribed periodical reports from the State and the interaction with the State Government.

Regarding the mismanagement and non-implementation of the scheme in Chota Nagpur, the State Government is being pursued at the level of Chief Secretary to provide necessary feed back/report in the matter. However, a detailed report is still awaited from the Government of Bihar. After a report is received, it would be examined and suitable measures would be evolved by the Department to ensure that the schemes/funds allocated by the Department reach the intended beneficieries.

CHAPTER V

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

Recommendation No. 2 (Para 2.4, Page 6)

B.1 (1) Animal Quarantine Certification Services.

5.1 The Committee desire that an evaluation of the progress made under this scheme which was initiated as early as the Fourth Plan to achieve the main objective of preventing the entry of any exotic disease through import of livestock and livestock products and to issue export health certification as per International law for livestock and livestock products originating from India, may be prepared and presented to this Committee.

Reply of the Government

5.2 A committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of the Animal Husbandry Commissioner to evaluate the progress of the ongoing scheme of Animal Quarantine and Certification Services. The other members of the Committee are the Director of Animal Husbandry, Tamil Nadu, The Director of Veterinary Services, West bengal, the Deputy Superintendent, Bombay City Harbour and the District Animal Husbandry Officer, Aarey Milk Colony, Bombay, the Deputy Commissioner (Livestock Health), Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Agriculture (Member-Secretary). The Committee has been requested to submit its report within a period of three months from the date of its first meeting.

Subsequent Reply

5.3 The evaluation of the scheme is in progress and will be submitted to the Committee on finalisation. If evaluation reveals that any change in the scheme is required, necessitating modifications in budget provision, it would be carried out.

| New Delhi ; | NITISH KUMAR, |
|-------------------------|--|
| 12 May, 1995 | Chairman, |
| 22 Vaisakha 1917 (Saka) | Standing Committee on Agriculture (1995-96). |

APPENDIX I

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTY FIRST SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE HELD ON TUESDAY, THE 9TH MAY, 1995 AT 15.30 HRS. IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'C', PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI

The Committee sat from 15.30 hrs. to 17.40 hrs.

PRESENT

Shri Nitish Kumar —

Chairman

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

- 2. Shri Birbal
- 3. Shri Nathuram Mirdha
- 4. Shri G. Ganga Reddy
- 5. Shri Govindrao Nikam
- 6. Shri Tara Singh
- 7. Shri Uttamrao Deorao Patil
- 8. Shri Rajvir Singh
- 9. Dr. Gunawant Rambhau Sarode
- 10. Shri Zainal Abedin
- 11. Shri Upendra Nath Verma

Rajya Sabha

- 12. Shri Govindrao Adik
- 13. Shri H. Hanumanthappa
- 14. Shri David Ledger
- 15. Shri Bhupinder Singh Mann
- 16. Shri N. Thangaraj Pandian
- 17. Dr. Ranveer Singh
- 18. Shri Som Pal

SECRETARIAT

| 1. | Shri S.N. Mishra | — | Additional Secretary |
|----|----------------------|---|----------------------|
| 2. | Smt. Roli Srivastava | | Joint Secretary |
| 3. | Shri P.D.T. Achary | - | Director |

At the outset Chairman (AC) welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and requested them to take up the adoption of the Draft Action Taken Reports on the Demands for Grants for 1994-95 in respect of all five Departments/Ministries.

2. Members drew the attention of chairman (AC) to the shortage of staff in the Agriculture Committee Branch and expressed the hope that the shortage will be fulfilled without any further delay failing which they would address the Hon'ble Speaker in the matter.

3. The Draft Reports were considered one by one and adopted with certain modifications. The Members of the Committee, thereafter, authorised the Chairman to present the Action Taken Reports on Demands for Grants 1994-95 in rspect of Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agricultural Research & Education), Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying), Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Cooperation), Ministry of Water Resources and Ministry of Food Processing Industries to the House on a date convenient to him.

The meeting then adjourned.

APPENDIX II

| | (Vide Introduction of the Report) | |
|------|---|-------|
| Anai | lysis of Action Taken by Government on the 9th Report of Star Committee on Agriculture (10th Lok Sabha) | nding |
| I. | Total number of Recommendations | 22 |
| Ш. | Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government (Nos. 2.2, 2.7-2.8, 2.10, 2.14, 2.21, Major Head 2404, Major Head 3601, Major Head 4404, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, 3.9) | |
| | Total | 16 |
| | Percentage | 72.8% |
| ш | Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies (No. 2.18) | |
| | Total | 1 |
| | Percentage | 4.6% |
| IV | Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee (Nos. 2.24, 2.27,2.28, 3.7, 3.10) | - |
| | Total | 4 |
| | Percentage | 18% |
| v | Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies are still awaited (No. 2.4) | |
| | Total | 1 |
| | Percentage | 4.6% |