

TWENTY FIRST REPORT
STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2015-2016)

(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES)

‘DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2015-2016)’

*[Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/
Recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report
(Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee
on Agriculture (2014-2015)]*

Presented to Lok Sabha on 16.12.2015

Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 16.12.2015



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

December, 2015/Agrahayana, 1937 (Saka)

COA No. 331

Price : ₹ 71.00

© 2016 BY LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

Published under Rule 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Fifteenth Edition) and printed by Anupam Art Printers, New Delhi.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE	(iii)
INTRODUCTION	(v)
CHAPTER I Report	1
CHAPTER II Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government	20
CHAPTER III Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	38
CHAPTER IV Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	39
CHAPTER V Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited.....	42
ANNEXURE	
Minutes of the 11th Sitting of the Committee held on 10.12.2015	48
APPENDIX	
Analysis of Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2014-2015)	50

COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2015-2016)

Shri Hukm Deo Narayan Yadav – *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Prof. Ravindra Vishwanath Gaikwad
3. Prof. Richard Hay
4. Shri Sanganna Karadi
5. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
6. Md. Badaruddoza Khan
7. Shri C. Mahendran
8. Dr. Tapas Mandal
9. Shri Janardan Mishra
10. Shri Ajay Nishad
11. Shri Dalpat Singh Paraste
12. Shri Nityanand Rai
13. Shri Mukesh Rajput
14. Shri Konakalla Narayana Rao
15. Shri C.L. Ruala
16. Shri Arjun Charan Sethi
17. Shri Satyapal Singh (Sambhal)
18. Shri Virendra Singh
19. Shri Dharmendra Yadav
20. Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav
21. Shri B.S. Yeddyurappa

Rajya Sabha

22. Shri A.W. Rabi Bernard
23. Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury
24. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa
25. Shri Janardan Dwivedi

26. Shri Vinay Katiyar
27. Shri Mohd. Ali Khan
28. Shri Rajpal Singh Saini
29. Shri Ram Nath Thakur
30. Shri Shankarbhai N. Vegad
31. Shri Darshan Singh Yadav

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri U.B.S. Negi — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri Arun K. Kaushik — *Director*
3. Shri C. Vanlalruata — *Deputy Secretary*

INTRODUCTION

1, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture (2015-16), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Twenty First Report on action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2014-15) on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries).

2. The Eleventh Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2014-15) on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 27 April, 2015. The Action Taken Notes on the Report were received on 08 August, 2015.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 10.12.2015.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in **Appendix**.

NEW DELHI;
14 December, 2015
23 Agrahayana, 1937 (Saka)

HUKM DEO NARAYAN YADAV,
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

This Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture deals with the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2014-15) on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) which was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 27 April 2015.

1.2 The Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) have furnished Action Taken Replies in respect of all the 26 Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report. These replies have been categorized as under:—

- (i) Observations/Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government:

Recommendation Para Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25 and 26

(Chapter II - Total 17)

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

Recommendation Para No. NIL

(Chapter III - NIL)

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

Recommendation Para Nos. 2, 7 and 9

(Chapter IV - Total 03)

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

Recommendation Para Nos. 6, 8, 11, 13, 18 and 23

(Chapter V - Total 06)

1.3 The Committee trust that utmost importance would be given to implementation of the Observations/Recommendations accepted by the Government. In cases, where it is not possible for the

Department to implement the Recommendations in letter and spirit for any reason, the matter should be reported to the Committee with reasons for non-implementation. The Committee desire that further Action Taken Note on the Observations/Recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Final Action Taken Replies to the Observations/Recommendations contained in Chapter-V of this Report be furnished to them at an early date.

1.4 The Committee will now deal with the action taken by the Government on some of the Recommendations in the succeeding paragraphs.

A. Share of Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries in Central Plan

Recommendation (Para No. 2)

1.5 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

“Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries activities along with agriculture continue to be an integral part of human life since the process of civilization started. These activities have contributed to the food basket, draught animal power and also helped in maintaining ecological balance. These activities also play a significant role in generating gainful employment to more than 70.5 million in the rural sector, particularly among the landless, small and marginal farmers and women besides providing cheap and nutritious food to millions of people. The Committee find that farmers, marginal, small and semi medium operational holdings area less than 4 hectare are about 87.7% of the livestock.

However, the Committee note with concern that when the issue of distribution of financial resources crops up, the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries sector gets neglected. This is evident from the fact that the percentage share of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries stands at just 0.33% in the Twelfth Plan *vis-a-vis* 0.38% in the Eleventh Plan. Although, the allocation in monetary terms has increased from Rs. 8174.00 crore in the Eleventh Plan to Rs. 14,179.00 crore in the Twelfth Plan, yet the Committee are of the firm opinion that this too is woefully inadequate. Keeping in view the importance of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sector in supplementing the income of our farmers, the Committee recommend that the Government increases the share of the Department in the Central Plan at the earliest if it is really committed towards the development of this vital sector of our economy.”

1.6 In its Action Taken reply, the Department has stated as under:—

“Department had requested Ministry of Finance for quantitatively enhancing the share of Department in the Plan allocation for supplementing the efforts of States for providing the additional means of sustenance in terms of wealth/security and employment to the farming community mostly comprising of small and marginal farmers residing in the rural areas.

However, the allocation for the year 2015-16 has been lowered by about 31.41% due to higher devolution of funds to the States on account of acceptance of the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission. Further, two schemes of the Department namely National Livestock Mission and Veterinary Services and Animal Health have been transferred to the State sector from the current year.”

1.7 The Committee had observed that though the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sector (AHDF) plays a pivotal role in supplementing the income of our farmers, allocation of funds was grossly inadequate. Accordingly, the Committee had recommended that the Government should increase the share of the Department at the earliest if it was really committed towards the development of this vital sector of our economy. However, the Committee regret to note from the Action Taken Reply of the Department that the Department has not been able to convince the Ministry of Finance about the concern raised by the Committee with the seriousness it deserves. As a result thereof, the AHDF Sector could not get quantitative increase in the Plan Allocation of funds to supplement the efforts of the States to augment the income of the farmer community. Deprecating the present state of affairs, the Committee, therefore, would like the Department to take up the issue vigorously with the Ministry of Finance and impress upon them to augment the Plan Allocation to AHDF Sector so that various activities undertaken by Department do not suffer for want of adequate funds. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps taken/being taken by the Department in this regard.

B. Allocation and Utilization of Funds

Recommendation (Para No. 6)

1.8 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

“While agreeing with the sentiments of this increased share of States in terms of fund allocation so as to increase their share in

the funds pie, they are concerned to note that the revised contribution of States in Centrally Sponsored Schemes has not been arrived at. Rather, it is under discussion of a high level Committee in the NITI Aayog. Deprecating this haste in reduction of funds even before the quantum of State's contribution is finalised, the Committee desire that the high level Committee work out all modalities and arrive at the percentage share of States expeditiously. In their view the Government should have completed this task well before revising the funding pattern of CSS Schemes. The Committee would like to be apprised of the views of the State Governments/ UTs regarding the re-allocated share of Centre versus State Government in the funds pie as well as revised contribution of States in Centrally Sponsored Schemes."

1.9 In its Action Taken reply, the Department has stated as under:—

"The recommendation of the Committee is noted. The report of the High level Committee is still awaited from NITI Aayog."

1.10 The Committee had observed that the Government had reduced the allocation of the Central Ministries/Departments on the pretext of increasing the share of States in the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs), although the matter to work out percentage share of States in CSS was under discussion of a High Level Committee in the NITI Aayog. In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has informed the Committee that the report of the High Level Committee is still awaited from NITI Aayog. In view of the foregoing, the Committee would like that the Department should impress upon NITI Aayog to expedite their report on the issue without further delay and the progress made in this regard may also be conveyed to the Committee.

C. Utilization of Funds

Recommendation (Para No. 7)

1.11 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

"The Committee note that out of the RE figures of Rs. 5400.00 crore for the first three fiscals, the actual expenditure as on 02.03.2015 amounts to Rs. 4960.04 crore only, which in percentage terms is 91.85% of the RE. They further note that the Department have been submitting time and again that the present allocation is inadequate. However, judging by their actual utilization of funds which has been lower than the RE figures, the Committee recommend that the Department firstly set its own house in order by motivating

the implementing agencies to furnish fresh proposals as well as utilization certificates of past utilization on a timely basis to ensure optimum utilization of allocated funds. Once the Department is able to ensure this, then only they should request the Ministry of Finance for additional funds.”

1.12 In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated as under:—

“The Department is pursuing with the State Governments and Implementing Agencies for timely submission and liquidation of pending Utilization Certificates.”

1.13 The Committee express their dissatisfaction with the reply of the Department that it is pursuing with State Governments and implementing agencies for timely submission and liquidation of pending utilization certificate as the Department has not been able to utilize even the Revised Estimate funds, which are lower than the Budget Estimates, on a regular basis. The Committee are of the considered opinion that the Department needs to adopt a proactive approach ensuring optimum utilization of funds and timely submission of Utilization Certificates by the State Governments/Implementing Agencies. However, it would also be imperative for the Department to find out the various constraints which are affecting the timely and optimum utilization of funds by the State Governments and Implementing Agencies. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard.

D. Results Framework Document (RFD)

Recommendation (Para No. 8)

1.14 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

“The Committee are well aware that Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries being a State subject, the role of Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries generally gets restricted to a broad policy formulation and the implementation of Schemes lies with the implementing agencies *i.e.* the States and Union Territories, who are independent constitutional entities. However, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries cannot just resort to passing the buck when asked to furnish reasons for drop in composite score from a high of 95.48% in 2012-13 to 91.97% in 2013-14. In view of the above, as also to see the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries perform, the Committee desire that the Department undertake a proper introspection of its

performance so as to address the problematic areas. They further impress upon the Cabinet Secretariat to forward the composite score for the Fiscals 2014-15, so that requisite remedial action can be initiated by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to further fine tune the implementation of its schemes and thereby increase their viability.”

1.15 In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated as under:—

“It may be mentioned that the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries drops in composite score from a high of 95.48% in 2012-13 to 91.97% in 2013-14. There is a shortfall to achieve targets over and above the set targets to get excellent score of 100% in RFD due to reduction in budgetary allocation at RE stage from Rs. 2025 crore to Rs. 1800 crore during 2013-14.

As regards the composite score for the year 2014-15, the final achievement against the RFD targets are uploaded within a time frame prescribed by the Cabinet Secretariat. The composite score for the year 2014-15 has not been communicated by the Cabinet Secretariat, till date.”

1.16 The concept of Results Framework Document (RFD) is to measure the performance of Ministries/Departments against the targets set in a given financial year and based on the RFD score awarded by the Cabinet Secretariat, Ministries/Department can take a stock of the situation and work upon self-improvement. However, the Committee are unhappy to note that RFD score in respect of DAHDF for the year 2014-15 is still awaited from the Cabinet Secretariat which according to the opinion of the Committee defeats the very purpose of the concept of RFD as the Department does not get a chance to undertake holistic review of the performance of various schemes implemented by the Department. The Committee, therefore, impress upon the Cabinet Secretariat to furnish the RFD score within a fixed time frame without further delay. With regard to the candid admission of the Department that there is a shortfall in achieving targets over and above the set targets to get excellent score of 100% in RFD due to reduction in budgetary allocation at RE stage from Rs. 2025 crore to Rs. 1800 crore during 2013-14, the Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard, so as to ensure an increase in its RFD score in the years to come.

E. Outstanding Utilization Certificates

Recommendation (Para No. 9)

1.17 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

“In spite of repeatedly pursuing the case of liquidation of pending UCs, the Committee are anguished to be apprised that no positive outcome has been forthcoming. The Committee are concerned to note that during the period 01.04.2014 to 31.12.2014 none of the 630 outstanding utilization certificates amounting to Rs. 1634.54 crore have been liquidated. The Committee express their displeasure at this pervading morass, as it is abundantly clear that the follow-up mechanism currently in place is unable to provide a lasting solution to this vexed issue. The Committee, therefore, felt that there is an urgent need to relook the extant mechanism and put in place necessary correctives at the earliest so that States/UTs are persuaded to adopt financial discipline and take cogent measures to liquidate these outstandings in a time bound manner and thereby ensure that the flow of Central funds continues unhindered. They, therefore, recommend that Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries initiate corrective measures in this respect in good time and apprise them of the action initiated in this regard.”

1.18 In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated as under:—

“The recommendation of the Committee is noted. The Department is pursuing with the State Governments and Implementing Agencies for timely submission and liquidation of pending Utilization Certificates.”

1.19 The issue of non-submission of Utilization Certificate by Implementing Agencies has been a cause of continuous and serious concern to the Committee. This is epitomized by the fact that during the period 01.04.2014 to 31.12.2014, none of the 630 outstanding utilization certificates amounting to Rs. 1634.54 crore have been liquidated. This lack of financial discipline on the part of the Implementing Agencies adversely affect the rapid growth and development of the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sector, as a result of which the benefits of the various schemes, implemented by the Department do not percolate down to the intended beneficiaries. The Committee also feel that outstanding Utilization Certificates clearly indicate the lackadaisical approach and inaction on the part of the Implementing Agencies as well as absence of any institutional mechanism at the apex level to rigorously monitor timely

utilization of funds. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Department needs to take corrective measures at the earliest so that outstanding Utilization Certificates amounting to Rs. 1634.34 crore are liquidated without further delay. The Committee would like to be apprised of the concrete action taken by the Department in this regard.

F. Food Safety and Traceability

Recommendation (Para No. 11)

1.20 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

“The Committee express their concern over the fact that the scheme for animal identification and traceability system that was to be done with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) via a Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) has not even started till date. The main reason attributed for this being that FAO submitted a recommendation in October, 2012, which was not giving any workable strategy for implementing the scheme in a pilot phase. This has compelled the Department to approach the Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) to devise a strategy for implementation of Animal Identification and Traceability System (AI & TS) in one or two States (Punjab/Haryana), initially covering aspects on meat safety and later, for dairy products. Strongly deprecating this state of affairs, the Committee hope that FSSAI would be able to deliver the goods and would pave way for successful albeit delayed implementation of this scheme.”

1.21 In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated as under:—

“Finding that FAO recommendation in October, 2012 did not give any workable strategy for implementing the scheme in a pilot phase, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was requested to suggest a strategy for putting in place a system of Animal Identification and Traceability Systems (AI & TS) on pilot basis in one State (say, Punjab or Haryana). However, there was no response from FSSAI; they were reminded thrice, the latest being on 21st May, 2015. FSSAI has just now informed that animal identification and live animal traceability does not fall under the ambit of FSSAI and they have already taken a step forward by developing a plan for traceability of animal food products *i.e.* meat and milk. Matter was again taken up with FSSAI since traceability of meat & milk would require identification of source animals for their genetic makeup & health status.”

1.22 The Committee are distressed to note that an important issue involving FSSAI to work out a strategy for putting in place a system of Animal Identification and Traceability System is pending since 2012 without any significant progress and the issue is shuttling between the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries and the FAO/FSSAI. This also shows the escapist attitude of FSSAI as well as of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, which is strongly deprecated by the Committee. Since the issue is pending for quite some time, the Committee urge the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries and FSSAI to sit together and work out the outlines and modalities to setup a system of Animal Identification and Traceability System in the country with clear cut demarcation with regard to the role and responsibilities of the two Departments viz. FSSAI and the Department of AHDF. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps taken by the Department on the issue and the progress made therein.

G. National Control Programme for Classical Swine Fever

Recommendation (Para No. 13)

1.23 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

“Noting that piggery farming is an important vocation in the North Eastern States of the country for augmentation of income by the people residing in these States, the Committee express satisfaction that the Government is implementing a scheme which would insulate the pig population of the region against the deadly Swine Fever, which is a highly devastating disease of the pigs. However, they express their concern on noting that this scheme is being implemented in the States of Manipur, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh only. This leaves the pig population of the remaining NE States, namely Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura highly susceptible and vulnerable to Swine Fever. Taking note of this important factor, the Committee recommend that the implementation of this scheme be extended to the remaining four NE States also at the earliest. They further desire that check points be established at the border areas to screen pigs before they enter the NE States.”

1.24 In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated as under:—

“The scheme is being implemented in whole of NE States, however, all NE States did not send the proposals during 2014-15. Only State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura

submitted the proposals during 2014-15. Hence the funds could be released to these four States only. During 2015-16, all the States have been requested to send their proposals under the scheme so that the necessary releases can be done.”

1.25 While expressing satisfaction over the schemes being implemented by the Government which would insulate the pig population against the deadly swine fever, the Committee had recommended that National Control Programme for Classical Swine Fever Scheme, which is being implemented in the States of Manipur, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh be extended to the remaining North-Eastern States. In its reply, the Department has stated that the scheme is being implemented in the whole of NE States. However, during the year 2014-15, proposals were received only from the four States namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura. Hence, funds could be released to these four States only. During 2015-16, all the States have been requested to send their proposals under the scheme so that necessary releases could be done by the Department. Taking into consideration the importance of piggery farming in the economy of NE States, the Committee desire that all NE States be impressed upon to actively participate under the scheme so as to insulate their pig population from the deadly Swine Fever disease. However, the Department is conspicuously silent on the issue of establishing check points at the border areas to screen pigs before they enter the NE States. The Committee reiterate that these check points be established at the earliest. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Department in this regard.

H. Establishment and Strengthening of Existing Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries

Recommendation (Para No. 14)

1.26 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:–

“In spite of the presence of 11,101 veterinary hospitals/poly clinics, 22745 veterinary dispensaries and 27050 veterinary aid centres, stockman centres and mobile dispensaries in the country, the Committee feel that the present infrastructure is not adequate to take care of the sheer size of our animal wealth. This compels our farmers to travel huge distances along with their animals in order to gain access to primary animal health centres be it vet hospitals/polyclinics/dispensaries. Herein too, the healthcare facilities are at a minimal level with no option for hospitalization of the sick animal. The Committee, therefore, strongly feel that the time has come to augment our animals health care paraphernalia by increasing the number of vet hospitals/polyclinics/dispensaries/mobile dispensaries

so as not only to bring an increase in their numbers and reach, but also improve the quality of services they have to offer. They, therefore exhort the Government to act upon their instant recommendation and go for a quantum expansion of animal health care sector at the earliest.”

1.27 In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated as under:—

“Veterinary hospitals, dispensaries, polyclinics etc. are set up by the States/Union Territory (UT) Governments depending upon the livestock population in a particular area and availability of resources. However, in order to address the need to set up new veterinary hospitals/dispensaries by the States/UTs and to strengthen/equip the existing ones, the Department started a scheme, ‘Establishment and Strengthening of existing Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries (ESVHD)’, in August, 2010 as part of Centrally Sponsored Scheme ‘Livestock Health and Disease Control (LH&DC)’ during 11th Plan Period. The scheme has been well accepted by the States. Scheme envisages assistance for construction/renovation of veterinary hospitals/dispensaries and for providing equipments for strengthening the quality of veterinary service delivery in the States. The scheme is continued during 12th Plan Period. For providing doorstep delivery of veterinary services, provision for financial assistance to States for setting up of Mobile Veterinary Clinics has also been envisaged under the scheme. The Budgetary provision for this Scheme at Budget Estimates (B.E.) stage is kept at Rs. 1300.00 lakhs for Financial Year 2015-16. Moreover, States are also availing assistance for strengthening veterinary infrastructure under other schemes such as RKVY.”

1.28 While elaborating Establishment and Strengthening of Existing Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries scheme to address the need to set up new veterinary hospitals and dispensaries and to strengthen/equip the existing ones, the Department has stated that the scheme has been well accepted by the States. Further, provision for financial assistance to States for setting up of Mobile Veterinary Clinics has also been envisaged under the Scheme for providing doorstep delivery of veterinary services. States are also availing assistance for strengthening veterinary infrastructure under this scheme such as RKVY. Notwithstanding the position stated by the Department, the response of the Department lacks its resolve to strengthen the animal healthcare infrastructure to render prompt and quality veterinary service. The Committee, therefore, feel that the Department needs to make vigorous efforts in coordination with all concerned including States/UT Governments to augment, strengthen and improve the animal healthcare infrastructure in the country. The Committee are of the firm opinion that animal health infrastructure and service delivery mechanism are too little and grossly inadequate to address

the various issues concerning animal healthcare in the country effectively and comprehensively. If felt necessary, the Department should also strive for augmenting the financial assistance to the State for effective implementation of the schemes for the purpose. The Committee, therefore, reiterate its earlier recommendation that the Government should go for a quantum expansion of animal health care sector at the earliest and also strive for improving the quality of veterinary service being provided by the Veterinary Hospitals/ Dispensaries. The Committee would like to be apprised of the remedial steps taken by the Department in this regard.

I. Development of Dairy Sector

Recommendation (Para No. 18)

1.29 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

“Dairy Sector has experienced a substantial growth over the years owing to prudent policy intervention by the Government. This has resulted in India being the global leader in milk producing nations, with production of 138 million tonnes during the fiscal 2013-14. Also, dairying has become an important secondary source of income for women and marginal farmers. Appreciating the efforts of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, the Committee urges the Government to continually strive for the overall development of this vital sector in terms of enhanced allocation that would help in proper and effective implementation of Schemes and lead to increased production of milk and its consumption in the years to come.”

1.30 In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated as under:—

“The budget allocation for dairy development schemes during 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as under:

Allocation of fund statement under NPDD, DEDS and NDP-I scheme during 2014-15 & 2015-16

Sl. No.	Name of scheme	2014-15 BE	2014-15 RE	2015-16 BE
1.	NPDD	105.00	90.00	74.00
2.	DEDS	229.99	228.18	127
3.	NDPI	215.05	164.00	300
	TOTAL	550.04	482.18	501.00

The budget allocated for dairy development schemes viz. National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD), Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) and National Dairy Plan (NDP-I) during 2014-15 was Rs. 550 crore which was reduced to Rs. 482.18 crore at RE stage, while for year 2015-16 the budget allocation for dairy development scheme is Rs. 501 crore Department has sent a proposal to Ministry of Finance for:—

- (i) Changing NPBBDD into State Sector Scheme as composite scheme.
- (ii) Enhancement of allocation at RE stage under NPDD, DEDS and NDP-I scheme.”

1.31 While noting that Dairy Sector has experienced a substantial growth over the years, the Committee had urged the Government to strive for overall development of this sector in terms of enhanced allocation which would help in effective implementation of schemes. From the action taken reply of the Department, the Committee are anguished to note that the BE figures of Rs. 501.00 crore for the Dairying Development Sector for the fiscal 2015-16 are lower than the BE figures of Rs. 550.04 crore for the previous fiscal *i.e.* 2014-15. Even BE 2014-15 for the sector was reduced to Rs. 482.18 crore at RE stage. The Committee are of the strong opinion that the overall growth and development of the sector will be adversely affected unless requisite funds as demanded by the Department are allocated for effective implementation of its various schemes. However, the Committee further note that the Department has sent a proposal to the Ministry of Finance for enhancement of allocation at RE stage under NPDD, DEDS, NDP-I and changing NPBBDD into State Sector Scheme as composite scheme. The Committee would like the Department to pursue with Ministry of Finance relentlessly for allocation of funds as per their demand. The Committee would like to be apprised of the concrete steps taken/being taken by the Department in this regard.

J. Availability of Green and Dry Fodder

Recommendation (Para No. 21)

1.32 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

“The Committee are aware that the most important factor for the milch animals is the availability of green and dry fodder for these animals. During the course of examination the Committee find that

there is 35% shortage of fodder in the country. Furthermore, it is a matter of concern that there is a lack of latest data of availability of fodder *vis-a-vis* demand. As the figures quoted by the Department pertains to data furnished by NABCONS for the year 2007, the Committee feel that without an authentic data of demand and availability of fodder the Department will not be able to bridge the yawning gap. Since this is a State matter, the Committee feel that the Department should pursue the matter pro-actively with the State Governments and implementing agencies so as to ensure that the gap between demand and availability of fodder is bridged at the earliest. The Committee may be kept abreast of the developments in this regard. The Committee desire the Department should also approach the State Governments, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Urban Development to find out ways for optimum use of the unused lands for fodder cultivation as an alternative as the grazing areas in villages and towns are diminishing with passage of time due to upgradation and encroachments etc. The Committee recommend that the Department should also approach the ICAR for enhancing the nutritive value of green fodder and dry fodder as it is directly linked to the productivity of the livestock. The Committee desire that the Government should conduct field studies region-wise to study the impact of fodder nutritional balanced food and fodder on their productivity and metabolic profile of lactating cows and buffaloes. Based on the study the Department can chalk out comprehensive programme to apprise the dairy farmers about it.”

1.33 In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated as under:—

1. “The matter regarding collection of data related to fodder was taken up with Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation through Animal Husbandry Statistic Division of this Department *vide* letters dated 12.07.2012 and 17.07.2012 for inclusion of data regarding green fodder, dry fodder concentrate and fodder seeds. A detailed and exhaustive and mutually exclusive classification was also provided. Through them the information was supplied to Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for the use of NSS 70th round. They have now mentioned that they have incorporated separate and additional column in the revised schedule of Integrated Sample Survey for collecting the data on production of green fodder only. However, they are being requested to collect the data as was originally envisaged. In this regard, regular meetings are held with the Statistic Division of this Department. Therefore, it is submitted that the Department is trying hard to institutionalize the data collection of various types of fodder since 12.07.2012.

2. To increase the availability of fodder/feed Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has launched a National Livestock Mission (NLM) from the year 2014-15 with one Sub-Mission of Feed and Fodder Development. Grants are provided to the State Governments and UTs for various components of Feed and Fodder Development. The scheme is monitored by meetings with State Governments/UTs officials, field visits, etc. All the components ensure that the gap between demand and availability of fodder is bridged.
3. The Additional Director General (Animal Nutrition), ICAR has been requested for improving the nutritive value of dry fodder/green fodder and concentrate as it is directly linked to the productivity of livestock. They have also been requested to conduct field studies in various parts of country, region-wise, to evaluate the impact of feeding nutritionally balanced feed on improvement of productivity and metabolic profile of lactating cows and buffaloes. Based on the outcome of the appraisal, a comprehensive programme will be chalked out.
4. The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) on 7th July 2015 launched a mobile application named Pashu Poshan which will boost dairy farmers' financial gain by raising milk yield and cutting feed cost. The application can suggest a balanced diet for cows and buffaloes. It will be accessed by registering on the INAPH portal <http://inaph.nddb.coop>. To use this application, the farmer needs to provide complete animal profile including breed, age, milk production, fat content in milk aside from food items being presently fed to the animal along with the cost in order to formulate the balanced ration formula.
5. The matter regarding removal of encroachment has been taken up from time to time with the State Governments and UTs in the past from pastures/grazing lands. Letters have been written to draw the attention of all the Chief Secretaries to all States/UTs for intervening and to take effective recourse to protect and also retrieve community pasture lands.
6. The Department is implementing various components for pastures/grazing lands Development *i.e.* Fodder Production from Non-Forest Wasteland/Rangeland/Grassland/Non-arable land, Fodder Production from Forest Land under Feed and Fodder Development submission of NLM.

7. Earlier a letter was written to Chairman, Railway Board regarding allowing for growing of grass to be used as fodder for livestock feeding along the sides of Railway tracks. They have replied that it is not feasible due to safety of train operations.
8. Letters have been written to Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Urban Development regarding suggesting alternative spots/ unused lands which could be utilized for cultivating animal fodder.”

1.34 The Committee felt that in the absence of an authentic data on availability of fodder and its demand, it would be difficult for the Department to bridge the yawning gap between the demand and availability of fodder. Being well aware that availability of green and dry fodder is paramount for milch animals, the Committee also felt that the Department should pursue the matter proactively with the State Governments and implementing agencies in the matter. However, the Committee note from the Action Taken Reply of the Department that the Department has taken up this issue with the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and regular meetings are held with the Statistic Division of the Department. According to the Department, they are making efforts to institutionalize the data collection of various types of fodder since 12 July, 2012. However, the Committee are not satisfied with the progress made in the matter as the data related to fodder since 12.07.2012 is still to be institutionalised. The Committee, therefore, recommend that rigorous efforts may be made by the Department in coordination with all concerned to collect the data related to fodder within definite time frame and be put in the public domain at the earliest. The Committee would like to be apprised of the efforts made by the Department in this regard.

The Committee note that the Department has approached ICAR for enhancing the nutritive value of green/dry fodder and concentrate as it is directly linked to the productivity of livestock and to conduct region-wise field studies to study the impact of feed and fodder on productivity and metabolic profile of lactating cows and buffaloes. The Department has also approached the Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Urban Development with a view to explore alternative spots/unused lands for fodder cultivation. The Committee express their satisfaction on various initiatives undertaken by the Department in coordination with other organizations/institutions. However, the Committee would like to be apprised of the progress made by the Department on the various initiatives undertaken by them.

K. Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS)

Recommendation (Para No. 22)

1.35 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

“The Committee express satisfaction on being informed that consequent to the implementation of the Dairying Entrepreneurship Development Scheme, there has been an increase of around 123% in overall average production per beneficiary entrepreneur, leading to a corresponding increase in the ownership of livestock assets by the beneficiaries of this scheme and has lowered their dependence on borrowed money, helped in creation of new assets and generated employment for 1.86 lakh persons at least. Considering these to be small but significant steps in the empowerment and economic development of the rural masses, the Committee recommend that the Government continue to work towards incentivising this scheme by providing institutional support to ensure that the implementation aspects of this scheme are further fine-tuned and results in significant increase of dairying entrepreneurs.”

1.36 In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated as under:—

“The budgetary allocation for the current financial year is Rs. 127 crore against the requirement of Rs. 400 crore (31.75% of the required fund) Department has requested M/o Finance for enhancement of allocation at RE stage under DEDS scheme.”

1.37 The rationale/wisdom of the Ministry of Finance in allocating BE funds of Rs. 127.00 crore for Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) against the requirement of Rs. 400 crore for the current fiscal, which works out a mere 31.75 percentage of the required fund, is not understood by the Committee. Expressing its anguish over the action of Ministry of Finance for non-allocation of much needed funds to the Department for effective implementation of DDE Scheme, the Committee would like to urge the Ministry of Finance to allocate requisite funds as proposed by the Department so that, an important scheme like DED Scheme does not suffer for want of funds. The Committee would also like the Department to pursue rigorously with Ministry of Finance and impress upon them to allocate the funds as proposed by them. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard.

L. Increased Budgetary Allocations for Fisheries Sector

Recommendation (Para No. 23)

1.38 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

“India occupies the second position globally. 5.69% of global share in fish production after China with a production of 9.58 million tonnes during the year 2013-14. However, the Committee observe that much remains to be done especially in the inland and deep sea fishing in order to stem the decline in marine fishery sector. For this, the Government needs to increase the allocation to the fisheries sector. But, the converse has been taking place in the fisheries sector, wherein out of the XII Plan Outlay of Rs. 2483.00 crore, the BE allocation for the first four fiscals amounts to Rs. 1670.11 crore. The BE figures were then reduced at RE stage to Rs. 996.05 crore for the first three fiscals. The variation between the Plan Outlay and actual allocation in the first three fiscals is Rs. 1486.95 crore. Concerned to note that though the fisheries sector exported 9,83,756 tonnes valued at Rs. 30,213.00 crore during 2013-14, thus recording an increase of 5.98% in quantity and 60.23% in rupees over the previous year is not getting its due encouragement from the Government, in terms of funding, the Committee recommend that the Government go for a quantum enhancement of funds at RE level for this year and higher allocation in future, so as to boost the available resources for overall growth of this sector, at the earliest.”

1.39 In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated as under:—

“It may be mentioned that the financial allocation to the Department were decided by the Planning Commission (now not in existence) and Ministry of Finance depending upon the overall resources available. Even after utilization of 97% of funds allocated under RE during the past three years of the 12th Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Finance has allocated an amount of Rs. 476.94 crore to the fisheries sector for the year 2015-16. As suggested by the Committee, higher allocation shall be proposed at RE stage.”

1.40 While observing that the Fisheries Sector was not getting its due encouragement in terms of funding, inspite of exhibiting continuous growth during the course of the Twelfth Plan Period, the Committee had recommended that Government go for a quantum enhancement of funds at RE level. In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated that even after utilization of 97% of funds allocated under RE during the past three years of the 12th Five Year

Plan, the Ministry of Finance has allocated an amount of Rs. 476.94 crore to the fisheries sector for the year 2015-16. The Committee would like to be apprised of the reasons due to which BE funds were reduced at RE stage during the first three fiscals of the Twelfth Plan. The Department has also stated that higher allocation shall be proposed at RE Stage. Accordingly, the Committee would like to be apprised of about the response of the Ministry of Finance in this regard.

CHAPTER II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Implementation of Committee's Recommendations

Recommendation (Para No. 1)

The Committee note that the Action Taken Replies regarding the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fifth Report of the Committee were furnished by the Government on 24th March, 2015. They further note that the statement of the Minister under Direction 73-A of Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha is due on June, 2015. The Committee are hopeful that the Government would have made all efforts to act upon their recommendations contained in the Fifth Report and that the Ministers statement under Direction 73-A of Directions by Speaker, Lok Sabha would be made within the stipulated time.

Reply of the Government

The observations of the Committee are noted. The Department have taken the action on recommendations/observations of the Committee on Fifth Action Taken Report. The Ministers statement under Direction 73-A of Directions by Speaker, Lok Sabha will be made in the monsoon session in Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha. In future, the Department will ensure laying the status of implementation of the recommendations of the report in the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha within the stipulated time.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Mismatch between Proposed and Actual Allocation

Recommendation (Para No. 3)

During the course of the examination of Demands for Grants (2015-16) of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, the Committee have observed that during the first four years of the Twelfth Plan *i.e.* 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 a huge variation exists between amount proposed by the Department and the amount

allocated by the erstwhile Planning Commission/Ministry of Finance. In the year 2012-13 against a proposal of Rs. 3497.50 crore, the allocation was Rs.1910.00 crore (54.61%). During the year 2013-14 the Department was allocated Rs. 2025.00 crore against the proposal of Rs. 3025.00 crore (66.94%). In 2014-15 the proposal was for Rs. 3535.00 crore, but the allocation was Rs. 2174.00 crore (61.49%). During the current fiscal year, against a proposal of Rs. 4527.79 crore, the allocation was a meager Rs. 1491.14 crore (32.93%). This mismatch between the proposed allocation and the actual allocation is a cause of concern to the Committee and makes them ponder over the efficacy of the extant planning process or the lack of it. The Committee are well aware that allocations are decided on the inter-sector priorities as well as availability of resources, yet they are of the firm view that some degree of parity needs to exist between the proposed/actual allocation figures. They, therefore, impress upon all the concerned agencies to come together and discuss threadbare this issue to ensure that in the future the variation in proposed allocation and actual allocation is narrowed down to the extent possible.

Reply of the Government

Department agrees with the observations of the Committee. Accordingly, the Department had requested Ministry of Finance for increase in allocation for remaining two years of the XII Plan and at least ensure that the full quota of allocated funds are actually provided to the Department in the remaining annual allocations of the XII Plan for effectively implementing the schemes of livestock and fisheries sector for benefit of the animal rearers and fisher folk mostly comprising of small and marginal farmers.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Mismatch between Proposed and Actual Allocation

Recommendation (Para No. 4)

Guided by the admission of the Department that in order for agriculture sector to attain a growth rate of 4%, it is essential that animal husbandry and dairying sector attain a growth rate of 6% and for this, the Department definitely needs increased budgetary allocation. The Committee exhort upon the agencies involved in the planning process to wake up to this reality and ensure immediate quantum enhancement of funds to the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sector, otherwise

the sub-par performance of this sector would in turn impede the performance of the agriculture sector which would have a negative spiralling impact on our economy.

Reply of the Government

Department agrees with the recommendations of the Committee. Finance Ministry had been requested to provide increased allocation to Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries sector for achieving the avowed objective of attaining a growth rate of 6% in this sector.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Allocation and Utilization of Funds

Recommendation (Para No. 5)

The Committee note with concern that consequent to the award of the 14th Finance Commission the grant made to States from Central Divisible Pool has been hiked from 32% to 42%, which has resulted in reduction of BE for 2015-16 of Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, which is to the tune of Rs. 1491.14 crore as compared to Rs. 1910.00 crore, Rs. 2025.00 crore and Rs. 2174.00 crore for the fiscals 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively. Furthermore, the allocated amount is as less as 33.93% of the funds sought by Ministry after making considered assessment of their projects and priorities. The Department have also submitted that with this reduced allocation they would neither be able to achieve their targets nor be able to substantially contribute towards the rural economy and the present allocation is grossly inadequate and they need atleast an additional allocation of Rs. 1.5-2 thousand crore. The Committee, therefore, desire the Department to pursue the Ministry of Finance for more funds at RE stage so as to implement their projects/schemes effective during the year.

Reply of the Government

The Department agrees with the recommendation of the Committee. The Ministry of Finance would be requested to make an additional allocation to the tune of Rs. 1500 to Rs. 2000 crore at the RE stage for enabling this Department to achieve the targets laid down.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Allocation to Animal Husbandry Sector

Recommendation (Para No. 10)

The Committee are aware that Animal Husbandry Sector play an important role in the national economy and in the socio-economic development of the country, especially, in terms of supplementing family incomes and generating fruitful employment in rural sector. It provides economic and social security to the landless labourers, small & marginal farmers and women, besides providing nutritional food to them. However, the small marginal farmers having less than four hectares of land holding own 87.7% of the livestock. The livestock is an immense support to these strata of our population in the context of declining agricultural landholdings and best form of insurance against the vagaries of nature like drought, famine and floods etc. The Committee are perturbed to note that the Animal Husbandry Sector is not getting its due in terms of monetary allocations and this is hampering the implementation of various important schemes of the Department. In the first three fiscals of the XII Plan BE allocation figures of Rs. 1063.10 crore (2012-13), Rs. 1051.49 crore (2013-14) and Rs. 1118.57 crore (2014-15) were curtailed at RE stage to Rs. 909.43 crore, Rs. 932.85 crore and Rs. 960.62 crore respectively. The actual release has been to the tune of Rs. 880.80 crore (2012-13), Rs. 916.16 crore (2013-14) and 773.00 crore (2014-15) which in percentage terms is 82.85% (2012-13), 87.12% (2013-14) and 80.46% (2014-15) of BE respectively. This has hampered the implementation of the vital schemes of the sector in the first three years of the XII Plan period. The Committee, therefore, desire the planners and policy makers to provide fair allocation to this Sector not only as per the traditional significance of this sector, but also its importance in the changed scenario in terms of rising incomes, change in dietary preferences, consumption of high value food and diversion towards animal based protein besides rising processed animal products. The situation of hampered implementation of the Schemes of this Sector year after year for want of funds is like strangling a very vital and growing area of our economy. They, therefore, strongly recommend that the yawning gap between the policy formulation and implementation be bridged by emphatically persuading the Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance to enhance allocation to this sector. They further desire the Department to tone up their implementation apparatus so that they are in a better position to absorb the allocated funds resulting in attainment of set targets. The Committee also urge the Government to allocate the funds to the Department uniformly over the Plan period so that the funds are optimally utilized by the Department in their schemes and activities.

Reply of the Government

Department agrees with the recommendation of the Committee. Ministry of Finance would be requested to provide additional allocation at RE Stage. Every effort would be made to absorb the allocated funds so as to optimally achieve the desired targets.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Food Safety and Traceability

Recommendation (Para No. 12)

Grounding a note of caution, the Committee desire that before venturing into Technical Cooperation Programme with third parties, the Department do a detailed background work so as to avoid repeat of the failure of the TCP with the FAO.

Reply of the Government

The recommendation of the Committee has been noted.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Establishment and Strengthening of Existing Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries

Recommendation (Para No. 14)

Inspite of the presence of 11,101 veterinary hospitals/polyclinics, 22,745 veterinary dispensaries and 27,050 veterinary aid centres, stockman centres and mobile dispensaries in the country, the Committee feel that the present infrastructure is not adequate to take care of the sheer size of our animal wealth. This compels our farmers to travel huge distances alongwith their animals in order to gain access to primary animals health centres be it vet hospitals/polyclinics/dispensaries. Herein too, the healthcare facilities are at a minimal level with no option for hospitalization of the sick animal. The Committee, therefore, strongly feel that the time has come to augment our animals health care paraphernalia by increasing the number of vet hospitals/polyclinics/dispensaries/mobile dispensaries so as not only bring an increase in their numbers and reach, but also improve the quality of services they

have to offer. They, therefore exhort the Government to act upon their instant recommendation and go for a quantum expansion of animal health care sector at the earliest.

Reply of the Government

Veterinary Hospitals, dispensaries, polyclinics etc. are set up by the States/Union Territory (UT) Governments depending upon the livestock population in a particular area and availability of resources. However, in order to address the need to set up new veterinary hospitals/dispensaries by the States/UTs and to strengthen/equip the existing ones, the Department started a scheme, 'Establishment and Strengthening of existing Veterinary Hospitals & Dispensaries (ESVHD)', in August, 2010 as part of Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Livestock Health & Disease Control (LH&DC)' during 11th Plan Period. The scheme has been well accepted by the States. Scheme envisages assistance for construction/renovation of veterinary hospitals/dispensaries and for providing equipments for strengthening the quality of veterinary service delivery in the States. The scheme is continued during 12th Plan Period. For providing doorstep delivery of veterinary services, provision for financial assistance to States for setting up of Mobile Veterinary Clinics has also been envisaged under the scheme. The Budgetary provision for this Scheme at Budget Estimates (B.E.) stage is kept at Rs. 1300.00 Lakhs for Financial Year 2015-16. Moreover, States are also availing assistance for strengthening veterinary infrastructure under other schemes such as RKVY.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.28 of Chapter I of this Report.

Establishment and Strengthening of Existing Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries

Recommendation (Para No. 15)

The Committee are concerned to note the glaring shortage of veterinary doctors/para veterinarians in the country. Although the Government is apprised of the situation and already initiated a slew of measures like increase the number of seats in veterinary colleges,

setting up of new veterinary colleges. However, these measures would at least take about 5-10 years to fructify. The Committee is aware that there is a requirement of approx 1,15,000 veterinarians whereas there are only 60,000 to 70,000 available. However, the current shortage of veterinarians of about 60,000 to 70,000 would take a minimum of 10-15 years to fill this void. As informed by the Government their proposal of starting a model para-veterinary course of 15 months duration has not been responded to positively by the States and thus still remains a proposal. The way out here as submitted by the Government is to popularize the 3 month course of Multi-purpose Artificial Technician in Rural India (MAITRI) which would augment the para-vet staff at the primary level. The Committee further desire that the Government work towards attracting youth towards the veterinary sector and also ensure that as and when the model para-vet course is implemented, the MAITRI are also enrolled in it to enhance their education and job prospects.

Reply of the Government

In order to address the shortage of veterinarians and to attract the youth to veterinary sector, the following steps have been taken:—

- (a) In AIPVT-2015 online application have been invited for 15% seat reserved on All India basis.
- (b) 15% reservation has been given to SC/ST candidature appearing in AIPVT exam 2015.
- (c) AIPVT examination shall be conducted in Hindi and English both bilingual language to attract more youth from remote areas.
- (d) Increase in number of annual admissions from existing 60 to 100 in veterinary colleges/institutions having requisite infrastructure and manpower.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Establishment of MAITRIs under NPBBDD

Recommendation (Para No. 16)

The Ministry has informed the Committee that they have proposed to establish 30,000 multi-purpose AI technicians in rural India under NPBBDD Scheme during the XII Plan. According to MAITRI uniform training module is developed by the Government of India for a three months'

duration which will help them in taking up veterinarians at vaccination agent for life insurance, ration, planning milk regarding, data entry in national data basis, demonstration of feed management, health management, breeding management besides this the trainees will be agent for distribution of fodder seeds, root slips and stem slips etc. The Committee feel that local rural youths should be involved in such projects. While appreciating the proposal of MAITRI they recommend that these 30,000 MAITRI should be established under NPBBDD scheme in a time bound manner. They also suggest that the available registered veterinary doctors and MAITRI para veterinarians could make visits on the few surrounding villages on fixed days so that the animal owners could benefit from their services. The Committee also recommend that the indigenous traditional methods of diagnosis and treatment of the animal diseases could be shared with veterinary doctors who in turn could prescribe these alongwith their medical prescriptions.

Reply of the Government

Multipurpose AI technicians in Rural India (MAITRIs) are being established under National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development to deliver quality breeding inputs at farmers' doorstep. In addition to artificial insemination MAITRIs are also trained in veterinary first aid, vaccination, castration, animal identification, data recording in INAPH data base, milk recording and ration balancing. Provision has been made under NPBBDD for organization of fertility camps on fixed days in order to provide expert services to the farmers of the area. Indigenous Technical Knowledge (ITKs) is also promoted by the Department during organization of camps.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Increasing the Success Rate of Artificial Insemination

Recommendation (Para No. 17)

The Committee are aware that the major challenges faced in animal breeding is about genetic upgradation of cattle and buffalo, conservation of their local breeds, production and upgradation of breeding inputs, quality control of goods and services, lack of trained human resources and incongruent institutional and policy framework. They are most concerned about the sordid state of affairs because the focus of the Department remains on quantitative and not the qualitative artificial insemination. So far as the conservation of indigenous breeds is

concerned the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has proposed establishment of two national Kamdhenu Centres as repository germplasm of indigenous breeds in the country. The Committee also urge the Department for making necessary efforts to conserve the livestock of indigenous breed such as Murrah, Ongole, Punganur etc., which is superior in quality, resistant to diseases and can withstand climatic aberrations. Efforts should also be made to emphasize on genetic improvement of the indigenous varieties so that the poor and marginal farmers who cannot afford exotic breeds get an opportunity for their economic sustenance. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to shift their focus and emphasis on increasing the success rate of artificial insemination so as to provide some relief to the farmers for rearing the livestock. Last but not the least, the Committee desire that professional training and expert scientific guide should be imparted to the technicians and inseminators about the methods of preservation, storage and transfer of semen to the field under the prescribed weather conditions so that the success rate of artificial insemination is enhanced.

Reply of the Government

Looking towards the importance of indigenous breeds in national economy following initiatives have been taken by the Department:

- (a) **“Rashtriya Gokul Mission”** an initiative under National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development has been launched with the aim to conserve and develop indigenous bovine breeds in a focused and scientific manner. All indigenous breeds are covered under the scheme.
- (b) **National Kamdhenu Breeding Centres (NKBC)** are being established one in Andhra Pradesh and one in Madhya Pradesh. The NKBC will not only act as repository of indigenous germplasm but also be source of certified germplasm in the form of bulls, semen and embryos.
- (c) **National Dairy Plan-I** covers development and conservation of 6 indigenous breeds of cattle (Sahiwal, Gir, Rathi, Kankrej, Tharparkar and Hariana) and 6 breeds of buffaloes (Murrah, Mehsani, Jaffarabadi, Nili Ravi, Pandharpuri and Banni).

In order to produce disease free high genetic merit indigenous bulls, Department has finalized Minimum Standard Protocol and Standard Operating Procedure for:

- (a) Pedigree selection and
- (b) Production of bulls for natural service.

Following initiatives have been taken by the Department in order to improve Artificial Insemination delivery system and success rate of AI:

- (a) Formulation of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for AI technicians;
- (b) Minimum Standard Protocol (MSP) and SOP for training of AI technicians;
- (c) MSP and SOP for AI training institutes; and
- (d) Uniform syllabus/training module for AI training.

Department has constituted Central Monitoring Unit (CMU) for evaluation and accreditation of AI training institutes in the country. Funds are being released to States for extension of AI network through establishment of Multi Purpose AI Technicians in Rural India (MAITRIs) and strengthening of existing AI network.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

National Dairy Development Board

Recommendation (Para No. 19)

Availability of adequate number of disease free High Genetic Merit (HGM) bulls of different breeds of cow and buffalo is a must for production of high quality disease free semen doses. The Animal breeding activities under National Dairy Development Board envisages to produce 2000 HGM bulls to meet this requirement. At present 3 cattle breeds and 2 buffalo breeds have been selected for Progeny Testing Programme and 4 cattle breeds and 3 buffalo breeds have been selected under Pedigree Selection Programme. The Committee desire that the scope of Progeny Testing and Pedigree Selection Programme should be widened so as to bring under its umbrella more cattle and buffalo breeds so that the pool of High Genetic Merit (HGM) bulls can be enhanced.

Reply of the Government

Apart from the 5 breeds (Gir, Kankrej, Hariana, Rathi and Tharparkar) of cattle included under Pedigree Selection, Sahiwal breed of cattle has also been included in Pedigree selection Project. Two sub projects, one submitted by Punjab Livestock Development Board (PLDB), Punjab and another by Shree Ganganagar Milk Union, Rajasthan have been approved for funding under NDP-1. Similarly, apart from the 3 breeds (Jaffarabadi, Pandharpuri and Nili Ravi) of buffalo, it is planned to also include Banni breed of buffalo in Pedigree Selection Project under NDP-1.

Under NDP-1 only major milch/dairy animals have been included and the remaining 33 breeds of cattle and 7 breeds of buffalo are covered under National Programme for Bovine Breeding (NPBB) and Rashtriy Gokul Mission.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

National Dairy Development Board

Recommendation (Para No. 20)

The Committee also note that at present there are 45 A&B graded semen stations against 14 in 2004-05. Also under National Dairy Plan-I 22 sub-project plans have been for strengthening of semen station. Keeping into focus the vital role played by these semen stations in the successful implementation of the Scheme, the Committee desire that special focus be given to strengthening the existing semen station *via* adequate infrastructure and adequate trained staff as well as increasing the number of these semen stations.

Reply of the Government

Till 31 March, 2015, 22 Sub Project Plans received from 20 EIAs in 14 States have been approved for strengthening of semen stations under NDP-1. The list of approved sub projects is attached.

DADF has formulated Minimum Standard Protocol (MSP) for semen production and undertaking evaluation of semen station by Central Monitoring Unit (CMU). Only 'A' and 'B' graded semen stations are eligible for strengthening under NDP-I. Under NDP-I, about 1400 persons have been trained under the strengthening of Semen stations till the end of March 2015. EIAs have been advised to keep sufficient number of qualified manpower at all semen stations being strengthened under NDP-I and not transfer frequently.

List of sub-project plan approved for Strengthening of Semen Stations under NDP-I till March, 2015

Sl.No.	State	Activity	EIA Name	CMU Grade	PSC Approval Date
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Gujarat	SSS-SAG Bidaj	Sabarmati Ashram Gaushala	A	12.10.2012
2.	Uttar Pradesh	SSC- ABC Salon	Animal Breeding Research Organisation	A	16.11.2012

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Tamil Nadu	SSS-DLF Ooty	Tamil Nadu Livestock Development Agency	B	16.11.2012
4.	Karnataka	SSS- Nandini Sperm Station	Karnataka Milk Federation	A	18.12.2012
5.	Punjab	Punjab SSS-Nabha	Punjab Livestock Development Board	A	18.12.2012
6.	Andhra Pradesh	SSS - Banavasi	Andhra Pradesh Livestock Development Agency	B	11.02.2013
7.	Gujarat	SSS Jagudan	Mehsana Milk Union	A	11.02.2013
8.	West Bengal	SSS-Haringhata	Paschim Banga Go-Sampad Bikash Sanstha	A	11.02.2013
9.	Karnataka	SSS-CFSP&TI	CFSP&TI	A	11.03.2013
10.	West Bengal	SSS-Salboni	Paschim Banga Go-Sampad Bikash Sanstha	A	11.03.2013
11.	Telangana	SSS-Karimnagar	Telangana State Livestock Development Agency	A	11.03.2013
12.	Uttarakhand	SSS-Rishikesh	Uttarakhand Livestock Development Board	B	19.08.2013
13.	Kerala	SSS-Mattupatty	Kerala Livestock Development Board	A	19.08.2013
14.	Kerala	SSS-Dhoni	Kerala Livestock Development Board	A	19.08.2013
15.	Madhya Pradesh	SSS-Bhadbhada	MP State Livestock and Poultry Development Corporation	B	19.08.2013
16.	Gujarat	SSS-Ode	Amul Research and Development Association, Anand	A	06.12.2013
17.	Maharashtra	SSS-BAIF	BAIF Development Research Foundation	A	24.01.2014
18.	Gujarat	SSS-Patan	Gujarat Livestock Development Board	A	24.01.2014
19.	Rajasthan	SSS-Bassi	Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation	B	25.02.2014

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Gujarat	SSS-Dama	Banaskantha Milk Union	A	14.06.2014
21.	Tamil Nadu	SSS-NJF Ooty	Tamil Nadu Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation Limited	B	19.11.2014
22.	Haryana	SSS-Hissar	Haryana Livestock Development Board	A	09.01.2015

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Availability of Green and Dry Fodder

Recommendation (Para No. 21)

The Committee are aware that the most important factor for the milch animals is the availability of green and dry fodder for these animals. During the course of examination the Committee find that there is 35% shortage of fodder in the country. Furthermore, it is a matter of concern that there is a lack of latest data of availability of fodder *vis-a-vis* demand. As the figures quoted by the Department pertains to data furnished by NABCONS for the year 2007, the Committee feel that without an authentic data of demand and availability of fodder the Department will not be able to bridge the yawning gap. Since this is a State matter, the Committee feel that the Department should pursue the matter pro-actively with the State Governments and implementing agencies so as to ensure that the gap between demand and availability of fodder is bridged at the earliest. The Committee may be kept abreast of the developments in this regard. The Committee desire the Department should also approach the State Governments, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Urban Development to find out ways for optimum use of the unused lands for fodder cultivation as an alternative as the grazing areas in villages and towns are diminishing with passage of time due to upgradation and encroachments etc. The Committee recommend that the Department should also approach the ICAR for enhancing the nutritive value of green fodder and dry fodder as it is directly linked to the productivity of the livestock. The Committee desire that the Government should conduct field studies region-wise to study the impact of fodder nutritional balanced food and fodder on their productivity and metabolic profile of lactating cows and buffaloes. Based on the study the Department can chalk out comprehensive programme to apprise the dairy farmers about it.

Reply of the Government

1. The matter regarding collection of data related to fodder was taken up with Ministry of Statistics and PI through Animal Husbandry Statistic Division of this Department *vide* letters dated 12.07.2012 and 17.07.2012 for inclusion of data regarding green fodder, dry fodder concentrate and fodder seeds. A detailed and exhaustive and mutually exclusive classification was also provided. Through them the information was supplied to Ministry of Statistic and PI for the use of NSS 70th round. They have now mentioned that they have incorporated separate and additional column in the revised schedule of Integrated Sample Survey for collecting the data on production of green fodder only. However, they are being requested to collect the data as was originally envisaged. In this regard, regular meetings are held with the Statistic Division of this Department. Therefore, it is submitted that the Department is trying hard to institutionalize the data collection of various types of fodder since 12.07.2012.
2. To increase the availability of fodder/feed Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has launched a National Livestock Mission (NLM) from the year 2014-15 with one Sub-Mission of Feed and Fodder Development. Grants are provided to the State Governments and UTs for various components of Feed and Fodder Development. The scheme is monitored by meetings with State Governments/UTs officials, field visits, etc. All the components ensure that the gap between demand and availability of fodder is bridged.
3. The Additional Director General (Animal Nutrition), ICAR has been requested for improving the nutritive value of dry fodder/green fodder and concentrate as it is directly linked to the productivity of livestock. They have also been requested to conduct field studies in various parts of country, region-wise, to evaluate the impact of feeding nutritionally balanced feed on improvement of productivity and metabolic profile of lactating cows and buffaloes. Based on the outcome of the appraisal, a comprehensive programme will be chalked out.
4. The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) on 7th July 2015 launched a mobile application named Pashu Poshan which will boost dairy farmers' financial gain by raising milk yield and cutting feed cost. The app can suggest a balanced diet for cows and buffaloes. It will be accessed by registering

on the INAPH portal <http://inaph.Nddb.Coop>. To use this application, the farmer needs to provide complete animal profile including breed, age, milk production, fat content in milk aside from food items being presently fed to the animal along with the cost in order to formulate the balanced ration formula.

5. The matter regarding removal of encroachment has been taken up from time to time with the State Governments and UTs in the past from pastures/grazing lands. Letters have been written to draw the attention of all the Chief Secretaries to all States/UTs for intervening and to take effective recourse to protect and also retrieve community pasture lands.
6. The Department is implementing various components for pastures/grazing lands Development *i.e.* Fodder Production from Non-Forest Wasteland/Rangeland/Grassland/Non-arable land, Fodder Production from Forest Land under Feed and Fodder Development sub-mission of NLM.
7. Earlier a letter was written to Chairman, Railway Board regarding allowing for growing of grass to be used as fodder for livestock feeding along the sides of Railway tracks. They have replied that it is not feasible due to safety of train operations.
8. Letters have been written to Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Urban Development regarding suggesting alternative spots/unused lands which could be utilized for cultivating animal fodder.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.34 of Chapter I of this Report.

Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS)

Recommendation (Para No. 22)

The Committee express satisfaction on being informed that consequent to the implementation of the Dairying Entrepreneurship Development Scheme, there has been an increase of around 123% in

overall average production per beneficiary entrepreneur, leading to a corresponding increase in the ownership of livestock assets by the beneficiaries of this scheme and has lowered their dependence on borrowed money, helped in creation of new assets and generated employment for 1.86 lakh persons at least. Considering these to be small but significant steps in the empowerment and economic development of the rural masses, the Committee recommend that the government continue to work towards incentivising this scheme by providing institutional support to ensure that the implementation aspects of this scheme are further fine-tuned and results in significant increase of dairying entrepreneurs.

Reply of the Government

The budgetary allocation for the current financial year is Rs. 127 crore against the requirement of Rs. 400 crore (31.75% of the required fund). Department has requested M/o Finance for enhancement of allocation at RE stage under DEEDS scheme.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.37 of Chapter I of this Report.

Increased Budgetary Allocations for Fisheries Sector

Recommendation (Para No. 24)

Simultaneously, the Committee desire that Department to motivate all the implementing agencies to come forward and subscribe to the schemes being implemented by them by sending fresh proposals and timely furnishing utilization certificates of past allocations. This would not only ensure optimum utilization of funds but also lead to reduction of approved funds is confined to the bare minimum.

Reply of the Government

The Department sensitizes the State Governments and Union Territories through notification of Schemes, State Minister's/Secretary level conferences, zonal level meetings besides regular monitoring and field visits etc. for speedy implementation of the schemes, projects and utilization of funds by them.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Directorate of Aquatic Animal Health and Quarantine (DAAHQ)

Recommendation (Para No. 25)

The Committee note that based on the recommendation of the National Farmers' Commission to strengthen the Bio-Security of Livestock and Marine Sector a new sub-component of setting-up of Aquatic Animal Quarantine Units and Disease diagnostic labs were introduced under the component of Animal Quarantine and Certification Services of the Central Sector Scheme on Directorate of Animal Health in the Eleventh Plan. They further note that with the increase in movement of aquatic animals within the country and across the borders, the risk of transmission of diseases which could impact both the aquatic animals as well as those who come in contact with them and its possible impact on the biodiversity and on the habitat is another emerging concern. Being well aware that a casual approach to the issues of contamination and cross contamination and species introductions can have devastating effect on the economic activity of aquaculture and food security in general, the Committee are of the firm opinion that the edifice DAAHQ would be a real help in maintaining aquatic animal health and also act as a strong quarantine body. They, therefore, recommend that this organization be made fully operational in a quick time with adequate infrastructure, manpower and zonal offices.

Reply of the Government

To make the Department of Aquatic Animal Health and Quarantine (DAAHQ) functional, following steps have been taken by the Department so far:

- (a) The boundary wall of the acquired site at Padappai Village, Chennai has been constructed. The technical design for further construction of Aquatic Animal Quarantine Unit (AAQU) and Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (DDL) are being developed through a constituted Expert Committee.
- (b) Matter regarding transfer of identified land at Palghar, near Mumbai to Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is being persistently pursued with the Government of Maharashtra for expediting the Government resolution in this regard.
- (c) As regards the staffing of the Head Quarter Unit, one post of Fisheries Research Investigator (Quarantine) has already been filled up by direct recruitment through Staff Selection Commission (SSC) and the post of Deputy Director (Aquatic Quarantine) and Assistant Director (Aquatic Quarantine) have been advertised for recruitment on deputation basis.

- (d) The proposal for creation and filling up the posts at regional units, have been initiated and after due departmental clearances, the recruitment to these posts may be initiated.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Directorate of Aquatic Animal Health and Quarantine (DAAHQ)

Recommendation (Para No. 26)

While perusing the documents furnished by the Department in context of examination of Demands for Grants (2015-16), the Committee came across an instance wherein a variation in numerical terms was witnessed. In their Background Material, the Department submitted that the outlay for agriculture sector in 2015-16 has been increased to 2.01% of the total Central Plan Outlay of Rs. 5,78,302 crore; during the course of evidence, the representative of the Department stated that the allocation to Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries for the fiscal 2015-16 was Rs. 16,466.35 crore which in percentage terms is 2.8% of the Central Plan Outlay of Rs. 5,78,382 crore, while in their Post-Evidence written replies, the Department again submitted that outlays for the entire agriculture and allied sectors for the year was Rs. 11,675.00 crores, which is 2.01% of the total Central Plan Outlay of Rs. 5,78,382.00 crore. The Committee strongly deprecate this variance in figures regarding allocation to Agriculture and allied sectors out of the Central Plan Outlay for the fiscal 2015-16 as it is reflective of their callous attitude while furnishing any information to Parliament. They, therefore, caution the Department that in future, extreme care should be taken before furnishing any document to Parliament to ensure uniformity in data on a particular topic across all documents to avoid repeat of this incident.

Reply of the Government

The discrepancy in figures, if any, is deeply regretted. However, it is mentioned that based on Statement 12 of Expenditure Budget Vol. I. 2015-16, Central Plan Outlay for the entire agriculture and allied sectors for the year 2015-16 is Rs. 10,669.99 crores, which is 1.84% of the total Central Plan Outlay of Rs. 5,78,381.67 crores, whereas allocation to Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries for the year 2015-16 is Rs. 1133.14 crores, which is approximately 0.20% of the total Central Plan Outlay of Rs. 5,78,381.67 crores.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

CHAPTER III

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

-NIL-

CHAPTER IV

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

Share of Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries in Central Plan

Recommendation (Para No. 2)

Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries activities alongwith agriculture continue to be an integral part of human life since the process of civilization Started. These activities have contributed to the food basket, draught, animal power and also helped in maintaining ecological balance. These activities also play a significant role in generating gainful employment to more than 70.5 millions in the rural sector, particularly among the landless, small and marginal farmers and women besides providing cheap and nutritious food to millions of peoples. The Committee find that farmers, marginal, small and semi medium operational holdings area less than 4 hectare on about 87.7% of the livestock. However, the Committee note with concern that when the issue of distribution of financial resources crops up, the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries sector gets neglected. This is evident from the fact that the percentage share of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries stands at just 0.33% in the Twelfth Plan *vis-a-vis* 0.38% in the Eleventh Plan. Although, the allocation in monetary terms has increased from Rs. 8174.00 crore in the Eleventh Plan to Rs. 14,179.00 crore in the Twelfth Plan, yet the Committee are of the firm opinion that this too is woefully inadequate. Keeping in view the importance of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sector in supplementing the income of our farmers, the Committee recommend that the Government increase the share of the Department in the Central Plan at the earliest if it is really committed towards the development of this vital sector of our economy.

Reply of the Government

The Department had requested Ministry of Finance for quantitatively enhancing the share of Department in the Plan allocation for supplementing the efforts of States for providing the additional means of sustenance in terms of wealth/security and employment to the farming community mostly comprising of small and marginal farmers residing in

the rural areas. However, the allocation for the year 2015-16 has been lowered by about 31.41% due to higher devolution of funds to the States on account of acceptance of the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission. Further, two schemes of the Department namely National Livestock Mission and Veterinary Services and Animal Health have been transferred to the State sector from the current year.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Comments of the Committee

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

Utilization of Funds

Recommendation (Para No. 7)

The Committee note that out of the RE figures of Rs. 5400.00 crore for the first three fiscals, the actual expenditure as on 02.03.2015 amounts to Rs. 4960.04 crore only, which in percentage terms is 91.85% of the RE. They further note that the Department has time and again submitted that the present allocation is inadequate. However, judging by their actual utilization of funds which has been lower than the RE figures. The Committee, therefore recommend that the Department first set its own house in order by motivating the implementing agencies to furnish fresh proposals as well as utilization certificates of past utilization on a timely basis to ensure optimum utilization of allocated funds. Once the Department is able to ensure this, then only they should request the Ministry of Finance for additional funds.

Reply of the Government

The Department is pursuing with the State Governments and Implementing Agencies for timely submission and liquidation of pending Utilisation Certificates.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Comments of the Committee

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

Outstanding Utilization Certificates

Recommendation (Para No. 9)

In spite of repeatedly pursuing the case of liquidation of pending UCs, the Committee are anguished to be apprised that no positive outcome has been forthcoming. The Committee are concerned to note during the period 01.04.2014 to 31.12.2014 none of the 630 outstanding utilization certificates amounting to Rs. 1634.54 crore have been liquidated. The Committee express their displeasure at this pervading morass, as it is abundantly clear that the follow-up mechanism currently in place is unable to provide a lasting solution to this vexed issue. The Committee, therefore, feel that there is an urgent need to relook the extant mechanism and put in place necessary correctives at the earliest so that States/UTs are persuaded to adopt financial discipline and take cogent measures to liquidate these outstandings in a time bound manner and thereby ensure that the flow of Central funds continues unhindered. They, therefore, recommend that Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries initiate corrective measures in this respect in good time and apprise them of the action initiated in this regard.

Reply of the Government

The recommendation of the Committee is noted. The Department is pursuing with the State Governments and Implementing Agencies for timely submission and liquidation of pending Utilisation Certificates.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Comments of the Committee

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

CHAPTER V

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

Allocation and Utilization of Funds

Recommendation (Para No. 6)

While agreeing with the sentiments of this increased share of States in terms of fund allocation so as to increase their share in the funds pie, they are concerned to note that the revised contribution of States in Centrally Sponsored Schemes has not been arrived at. Rather, it is under discussion of a high level Committee in the NITI Ayog. Deprecating this haste in reduction of funds even before the quantum of State's contribution is finalised, the Committee desire that the high level Committee work out all modalities and arrive at the percentage share of States expeditiously. In their view the Government should have completed this task well before revising the funding pattern of CSS Schemes. The Committee would like to be apprised of the views of the State Governments/UTs regarding the reallocated share of Centre versus State Government in the funds pie as well as revised contribution of States in Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

Reply of the Government

The recommendation of the Committee is noted. The report of the High level Committee is still awaited from NITI Aayog.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Comments of the Committee

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

Results Framework Document (RFD)

Recommendation (Para No. 8)

The Committee are well aware that Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries being a State subject, the role of Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries generally gets restricted to a broad

policy formulation and the implementation of Schemes lies with the implementing agencies *i.e.* the States and Union Territories, who are independent constitutional entities. However, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries cannot just resort to passing the buck when asked to furnish reasons for drop in composite score from a high of 95.48% in 2012-13 to 91.97% in 2013-14. In view of the above, as also to see the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries perform, the Committee desire that the Department undertake a proper introspection of its performance so as to address the problematic areas. They further impress upon the Cabinet Secretariat to forward the composite score for the Fiscals 2014-15, so that requisite remedial action can be initiated by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to further fine tune the implementation of its schemes and thereby increase their viability.

Reply of the Government

It may be mentioned that the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries drops in composite score from a high of 95.48% in 2012-13 to 91.97% in 2013-14. There is a shortfall to achieve targets over and above the set targets to get excellent score of 100% in RFD due to reduction in budgetary allocation at RE stage from Rs. 2025 crore to Rs.1800 crore during 2013-14.

As regard the composite score for the year 2014-15, the final achievement against the RFD targets are uploaded within a time frame prescribed by the Cabinet Secretariat. The composite score for the year 2014-15 has not been communicated by the Cabinet Secretariat, till date.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Comments of the Committee

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

Food Safety and Traceability

Recommendation (Para No. 11)

The Committee express their concern over the fact that the scheme for animal identification and traceability system that was to be done with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) *via* a Technical

Cooperation Programme (TCP) has not even started till date. The main reason attributed for this being that FAO submitted a recommendation in October, 2012, which was not giving any workable strategy for implementing the scheme in a pilot phase. This has compelled the Department to approach the Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) to devise a strategy for implementation of Animal Identification and Traceability System (AI & TS) in one or two States (Punjab/Haryana), initially covering aspects on meat safety and later, for dairy products. Strongly deprecating this state of affairs, the Committee hope that FSSAI would be able to deliver the goods and would pave way for successful albeit delayed implementation of this scheme.

Reply of the Government

The finding that FAO recommendation in October, 2012 did not give any workable strategy for implementing the scheme in a pilot phase, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was requested to suggest a strategy for putting in place a system of Animal Identification and Traceability Systems (AI & TS) on pilot basis in one State (say, Punjab or Haryana). However, there was no response from FSSAI; they were reminded thrice, the latest being on 21st May, 2015. FSSAI has just now informed that animal identification and live animal traceability does not fall under the ambit of FSSAI and they have already taken a step forward by developing a plan for traceability of animal food products *i.e.* meat and milk. Matter has again been taken up with FSSAI since traceability of even of meat & milk would require identification of source animals for their genetic makeup & health status.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.22 of Chapter I of this Report.

National Control Programme for Classical Swine Fever

Recommendation (Para No. 13)

Noting that piggery farming is an important vocation in the North-Eastern States of the country for augmentation of income by the people residing in these States, the Committee express satisfaction that the Government is implementing a scheme which would insulate the pig

population of the region against the deadly Swine Fever, which is a highly devastating disease of the pigs. However, they express their concern on noting that this scheme is being implemented in the States of Manipur, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh only. This leaves the pig population of the remaining NE States, namely Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura highly susceptible and vulnerable to Swine Fever. Taking note of this important factor, the Committee recommend that the implementation of this scheme be extended to the remaining four NE States also at the earliest. They further desire that check points be established at the border areas to screen pigs before they enter the NE States.

Reply of the Government

The scheme is being implemented in whole of NE States; however, all NE States did not send the proposals during 2014-15. Only State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura submitted the proposals during 2014-15. Hence, the funds could be released to these four states only. During 2015-16, all the States have been requested to send their proposals under the scheme so that the necessary releases can be done.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.25 of Chapter I of this Report.

Development of Dairy Sector

Recommendation (Para No. 18)

Dairy Sector has experienced a substantial growth over the years owing to prudent policy intervention by the government. This has resulted in India being the global leader in milk producing nations, with production of 138 million tonnes during the fiscal 2013-14. Also, dairying has become an important secondary source of income for women and marginal farmers. Appreciating the efforts of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, the Committee urge the government to continually strive for the overall development of this vital sector in terms of enhanced allocation that would help in proper and effective implementation of Schemes and lead to increased production of milk and its consumption in the years to come.

Reply of the Government

The budget allocation for dairy development schemes during 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as under:

Allocation of funds statement under NPDD, DEDS and NDP-I scheme during 2014-15 & 2015-16

Sl.No.	Name of scheme	2014-15 BE	2014-15 RE	2015-16 BE
1.	NPDD	105.00	90.00	74.00
2.	DEDS	229.99	228.18	127
3.	NDP-I	215.05	164.00	300
	Total	550.04	482.18	501.00

The budget allocated for dairy development schemes viz. National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD), Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) and National Dairy Plan (NDP-I) during 2014-15 was Rs. 550 crore which was reduced to Rs. 482.18 crore at RE stage, while for year 2015-16 the budget allocation for dairy development scheme is Rs. 501 crore. Department has sent a proposal to Ministry of Finance for:

- (i) Changing NPBBDD into State Sector Scheme as composite scheme.
- (ii) Enhancement of allocation at RE stage under NPDD, DEDS and NDP-I scheme.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.31 of Chapter I of this Report.

Increased Budgetary Allocations for Fisheries Sector

Recommendation (Para No. 23)

India occupies the second position globally 5.69% of global share in fish production after China with a production of 9.58 million tonnes during the year 2013-14. However, the Committee observe that much

remains to be done especially in the inland and deep sea fishing in order to stem the decline in marine fishery sector. For this, the Government needs to increase the allocation to the fisheries sector. But, the converse has been taking place in the fisheries sector, wherein out of the XIIth Plan Outlay of Rs. 2483.00 crore, the BE allocation for the first four fiscals amounts to Rs. 1670.11 crore. The BE figures were then reduced at RE stage to Rs. 996.05 crore for the first three fiscals. The variation between the Plan Outlay and actual allocation in the first three fiscals is Rs. 1486.95 crore. Concerned to note that though the fisheries sector exported 9,83,756 tonnes valued at Rs. 30,213.00 crore during 2013-14, thus recording an increased of 5.98% in quantity and 60.23% in rupees over the previous year is not getting its due encouragement from the Government, in terms of funding, the Committee recommend that the Government go for a quantum enhancement of funds at RE level for this year and higher allocation in future, so as to boost the available resources for overall growth of this sector, at the earliest.

Reply of the Government

It may be mentioned that the financial allocation to the Department were decided by the Planning Commission (now not in existence) and Ministry of Finance depending upon the overall resources available. Even after utilization of 97% of funds allocated under RE during the past three years of the 12th Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Finance has allocated an amount of Rs. 476.94 crore to the fisheries sector for the year 2015-16. As suggested by the Committee higher allocation shall be proposed at RE stage.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Letter No. 25-5(1)/2015-AHD (Coord.), dated 8th August, 2015]

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.40 of Chapter I of this Report.

NEW DELHI;
14 December, 2015
23 Agrahayana, 1937 (Saka)

HUKM DEO NARAYAN YADAV,
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture.

ANNEXURE

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2015-16)

MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee sat on Thursday, the 10th December, 2015 from 1000 hrs. to 1050 hrs. in Chamber of the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Room No. 138 (Third Floor), Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Hukm Deo Narayan Yadav – *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Prof. Richard Hay
3. Shri Sanganna Karadi
4. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
5. Md. Badaruddoza Khan
6. Shri C. Mahendran
7. Dr. Tapas Mandal
8. Shri Janardan Mishra
9. Shri Ajay Nishad
10. Shri Mukesh Rajput
11. Shri Satyapal Singh (Sambhal)
12. Shri B.S. Yeddyurappa

Rajya Sabha

13. Shri Mohd. Ali Khan
14. Shri Rajpal Singh Saini
15. Shri Ram Nath Thakur

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Shri U.B.S. Negi | – | <i>Joint Secretary</i> |
| 2. Shri Arun K. Kaushik | – | <i>Director</i> |
| 3. Shri C. Vanlalruata | – | <i>Deputy Secretary</i> |
| 4. Shri Sumesh Kumar | – | <i>Under Secretary</i> |

2. At the outset, Chairperson welcomed the Members to the Sitting of the Committee. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration the following draft Reports:

- * (i) XXX XXX XXX XXX XXX
- * (ii) XXX XXX XXX XXX XXX
- * (iii) XXX XXX XXX XXX XXX
- * (iv) XXX XXX XXX XXX XXX

(v) Draft Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the 11th Report (16th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2014-15) on 'Demands for Grants (2015-16)' of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries).

3. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the draft Reports without any modification. They authorized the Chairperson to finalize and present these Reports to Parliament after getting them factually verified from the concerned Departments/Ministry.

- *4. XXX XXX XXX XXX XXXX

The Committee then adjourned.

*Matter not related to this Report.

APPENDIX

(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY TJE GOVERNMENT ON THE ELEVENTH
REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (2014-15)
ON 'DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2015-16)' OF THE MINISTRY
OF AGRICULTURE (DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES)

(i) Total number of Recommendations:	26
(ii) Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by the Government: Para Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25 and 26	
Total	17
Percentage	65.40%
(iii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies: Para No. Nil	
Total	NIL
Percentage	0%
(iv) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee: Para Nos. 2, 7 and 9	
Total	03
Percentage	11.53%

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

Para Nos. 6, 8, 11, 13, 18 and 23

Total 06

Percentage 23.07%

