

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2005-2006)

FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA

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

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2006-2007)

TWENTIETH REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

MAY, 2006/, VAISAKHA, 1928 (Saka)

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

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Presented to Lok Sabha on 19.05.2006

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 19.05.2006



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
*NEW DELHI***

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<CONTENTS>

	PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE.....	(iii)
INTRODUCTION.....	(v)
PART - I	
CHAPTER I Introduction	1
CHAPTER II Sector-wise Analysis	12
PART - II	
CHAPTER II Recommendations/Observations.....	56
APPENDICES	
Appendix – I Minutes of the Eleventh Sitting of the Committee held on 12 April, 2006	72
Appendix – II Minutes of the Fourteenth Sitting of the Committee held on 2 May, 2006.	74
Appendix – III Minutes of the Seventeenth Sitting of the Committee held on 18 May, 2006	77

Composition of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2005-2006)

Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav – Chairman

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3. Shri Manoranjan Bhakta
4. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava
5. Shri Kuldeep Bishnoi
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17. Shri M.P. Veerendra Kumar
- 18.* Shri Deepender Singh Hooda
- 19 # Vacant
20. ^ Vacant
21. @ Vacant

Rajya Sabha

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23. Shri Harish Rawat
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SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri A.K.Singh | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Hardev Singh | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 3. | Shri N.S.Hooda | - | Under Secretary |
| 4. | Shri N.K. Touthang | - | Executive Assistant |

-
- * Shri Deepender Singh Hooda nominated as a Member of the Committee on 9 December, 2005 vice Shri Prakash V.Patil expired on 21 October, 2005.
- # Shri Lal Chandra Kol ceased to be a member of this Committee due to his expulsion from Lok Sabha w.e.f. 23 December, 2005.
- ^ Shri Mahboob Zahedi ceased to be the member of this Committee owing to his demise on 8 April, 2006.
- @ Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan has resigned his seat in Lok Sabha on dated 10th May, 2006.

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Standing Committee on Agriculture, having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Twentieth Report on the Demands for Grants (2006-2007) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries).

2. The Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture were laid on the table of the House on 14th March, 2006. Under Rule 331E of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, the Committee has to consider the Demands for Grants of the concerned Ministries/Departments under its jurisdiction and make a report on the same to both the Houses of Parliament.
3. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) at their sitting held on 12th April 2006. The Committee also took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission along with the Ministry of Agriculture on 2nd May 2006.
4. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Planning Commission for giving evidence and for placing before the Committee the study material and information desired in connection with the examination of Demands for Grants of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries.
5. The Committee considered and adopted the report at their sitting held on 18th May 2006.
6. For facility of reference, the observations/recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters and placed as Part II of the Report.

NEW DELHI;
18 May, 2006
28 Vaisakha, 1928 (Saka)

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Agriculture

PART-I
CHAPTER – I

Introduction

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (AHD&F) under the Ministry of Agriculture came into existence with effect from 1 February 1991 by converting two Divisions of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Co-operation) namely, Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development, into a separate Department. The Fisheries Division of the Department of Agriculture and Co-operation and a part of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries was later transferred to the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries with effect from 10 October 1997.

1.2 The value of output from livestock and fisheries sectors together according to Central Statistic Organisation (CSO) was about Rs. 2,08,027 crores at current prices during 2005-06 which is about 35.7 per cent of the value of the output Rs. 5,82,773 crore from total Agriculture & Allied Sector. The Contribution of these sectors in the total GDP during 2004-05 was 5.40%.

Functions

1.3 The major functions of the Department relates to livestock production, preservation, protection and improvement of stocks and dairy development and also for matters relating to the Delhi Milk Scheme and the National Dairy Development Board. It also looks after all matters pertaining to fishing and fisheries-both inland and marine.

1.4 The Department advises the State Governments/Union Territories in the formulation of policies and programmes in the field of animal husbandry, dairy development and fisheries. The main focus of the activities is on (a) development of

requisite infrastructure in States/UTs for improving animal productivity, (b) preservation and protection of livestock through provision of health care, (c) strengthening of central livestock farms (cattle, sheep and poultry) for development of superior germplasm for distribution to States; (d) expansion of aquaculture in fresh, brackish water; and (e) welfare of fisherfolk, etc.

1.5 Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries activities alongwith Agriculture have sustained their contribution to food basket, drought animal power and for maintaining ecological balance and play a significant role in generating gainful employment in the rural sector, particularly among the landless, small and marginal farmers and women besides providing cheap and nutritious food to millions of people. India is endowed with 57 per cent of the buffalo and ranks first in respect of cattle and buffalo, second in goat, third in sheep and seventh in poultry population in the world. Similarly, a coastline of over 8,000 km. and immense inland water resources provide for vast fishery resources.

1.6 According to the National Sample Survey Organisation's (1999-2000) survey the employment in the livestock sector was approximately 19 million both in principle and subsidiary status which is 5% of the total working population of the country. Livestock and Fishery Sectors provide milk, eggs, meat and fish to meet the animal protein requirements of the large human population. According to estimates of the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), the value of output from livestock and fisheries sectors together at current prices was about Rs. 2,08, 027 crore at current prices during 2004-05 (Rs. 1,73,350 crore for livestock and Rs. 34,677 crore for fisheries). The contribution of these sectors in the total GDP during 2004-05 was 5.40%. The trends indicate that the animal protein requirement both in India and the world is growing at a faster rate than

other sources. The present availability of animal protein in an Indian diet is around 10 gm per person per day, as against a world average of 25 gm. Keeping in view the growing population, the animal protein availability has to increase at least two-fold for maintaining the nutritional level of growing children and nursing mothers in India. India continues to be the largest producer of milk in the world with the production reaching 90.7 million tones during 2004-05. The country has shown steady progress with regard to poultry development. The egg production in India has been 45.2 billion in 2004-05 and India now ranks fifth in egg production in the world.

Contribution of Livestock and Fisheries Sector to GDP

1.7 The livestock and Fisheries besides, providing employment opportunities specially to the rural segments such as small and marginal farmers and landless labourers, also play an important role in the national economy and in the socio-economic development of the country.

1.8 The value of output from livestock and fisheries sector together according to Central Statistic Organisation (CSO) was about Rs. 2,08,027 crore at current prices during 2005-06 which is about 35.7 per cent of the value of the output Rs. 5,82,773 crore from total Agriculture and Allied Sector. The contribution of these sectors in the total GDP during 2004-05 was 5.40%. Besides, it also provides cheap and nutritive food to the masses.

1.9 Demand No. 3 relates to the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture. The Demand provides for implementation of various Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes together for Plan and Non-Plan activities.

The Budget Estimates for the year 2006-07 are Rs. 819.86 crore which include Rs.777.00 crore for Plan Schemes and Rs. 42.86 crore for Non-Plan activities.

Share of Allocation of Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

1.10 The year-wise details of the allocation of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries along with total Central Plan outlay and Budgetary Support earmarked by Government of India (GOI) and Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources (IEBR) of Central Ministries during the Ninth and Tenth Plan are given below :

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Period	Central Plan Outlay of GOI			Allocation of DAHD	%share of DAHD	
		Total	IEBR*	Budgetary Resources		Total	Budgetary Resources
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Ninth Plan	489361	285379	203982	2345.64	0.48	1.1
2.	1997-98	91839	55709	36130	319.15	0.35	0.88
3.	1998-99	105187	62723	42464	381.90	0.36	0.90
4.	1999-2000	103521	59521	44000	381.90	0.37	0.87
5.	2000-2001	117334	66058	51276	300.00	0.26	0.58
6.	2001-02	130181	70725	59456	300.00	0.23	0.50
7.	Tenth Plan	893183	487448	405735	2500.00	0.28	0.61
8.	2002-03	144038	77167	66871	300.00	0.21	0.45
9.	2003-04	147893	75741	72152	300.00	0.20	0.41
10.	2004-05	163720	75834	87886	500.00	0.30	0.57
11.	2005-06	211253	100868	110385	669.08	0.32	0.61
12.	2006-07	254041	122756	131284	777.00	0.31	0.59

* IEBR (Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources)

1.11 The Central Plan Outlay for the Tenth Plan has been fixed at Rs. 8.93,183 crore which consists of Rs. 4,87,448 crore from IEBR and Rs. 4,05,735 crore from budgetary resources. The plan outlay of the Department has been fixed at Rs. 2,500 crore which is wholly to be met from the domestic budgetary resources. The scheme of Livestock Census has also been taken as a new scheme after its transfer from the Department of Agriculture and Co-operation and adjustments were made in the budgetary allocations to accommodate the scheme. The share of the Department to the Central Plan outlay is 0.28 percent and is 0.49 percent to the total Central budgetary resources.

1.12 The share of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has been on the decline since the 9th Plan. During the year 1997-98 the Department's share to the total Central Plan of Government of India was 0.35% while it further decline to 0.23% in 2001-02. It further came down to 0.20% during 2003-04. There was however, a slight improvement since 2004-05 from 0.30% to 0.31 for the year, 2006-2007.

1.13 It is observed that the allocation of DAHDF during the Ninth Plan was 0.48% of the total Plan of the GOI and 1.1% of the Budgetary Resources. The percentage share of the Department during the Tenth Plan has drastically come down to 0.28% of the total Plan and 0.61% of the Budgetary Resources, although in absolute terms, these has been a nominal increase.

1.14 Asked how much the Department had proposed for the Tenth Plan to the 10th Plan Working Group and the actual amount allocated to it, the Department in its reply has stated that :-

“The Department had proposed an allocation of Rs.3250.00 crore for the 10th Plan and was allocated Rs.2500.00 crore. The 10th Plan Working Group had recommended Rs.10,800.00 crore (Rs.9000.00 crore for animal husbandry and dairying sectors and Rs.1800.00 crore for fisheries sector).

Keeping in view the importance of the animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries, the Department has been seeking enhanced allocation over the years. The Department sought an allocation of Rs.1262.37 crore for the Annual Plan 2006-07, which is significantly higher than the allocation of Rs.469.50 crore proposed for the Annual Plan 2002-03. Against the proposal of Rs.1262.37 crore, the Planning Commission has allocated Rs.777.00 crore for implementing various schemes in these sectors during 2006-07.”

Thrust Areas

1.15 Animal Husbandry and Dairying will receive high priority in the efforts for generating wealth and employment, increasing the availability of animal protein in the food basket and for generating exportable surplus.

The emphasis during the 10th Five Year Plan is on the following areas :-

1. Removing policy distortions that is hindering the natural growth of livestock production.
2. Creating an environment in which farmers will increase investments in ways that will improve productivity in the livestock sector.
3. Promoting effective regulatory institutions to deal with the threat of environmental and health crisis stemming from livestock.
4. Rapid genetic upgradation of cattle and buffaloes and improvement in the delivery mechanism of breeding inputs and services to farmers.
5. Extension of dairy development activities in non-Operational Flood, hilly and backward areas, including clean milk production.
6. Promotion of fodder crops and fodder trees to improve animal nutrition.
7. Provision of adequate animal health services with special emphasis on creation of disease free zones and control of foot and mouth disease.

8. Improvement of small ruminants and pack animals
9. Development of backyard poultry in rural areas
10. Provision of credit facility to farmers for viable activities
11. Development of reliable database and management information system
12. Adoption of integrated approach to marine and inland fisheries, designed to promote sustainable aquaculture practices
13. Strengthening of infrastructure for production of fish seed, berthing and landing facilities for fishing vessels
14. Mechanization of fishing boats
15. Development of the deep sea fishing industry to take advantage of the vast potential of country's exclusive economic zone.

1.16 Development of backyard poultry, breed improvement, fodder development, promotion of extension programme, clean milk production, development of inland fishing insurance for fishermen and formulation of integrated dairy development scheme have also been identified as the thrust area. Steps were proposed to be taken to incorporate these in the implementation of schemes during the 10th Plan.

Annual Plan 2006-07

1.17 The Department formulated the Annual Plan proposals 2006-07 at Rs. 1262.3 crore without any funding from External Aided Project (EAP) or Internal Extra Borrowed Resources (IEBR), again which the Planning Commission has agreed to allocate Rs. 777.00 crore. This includes Rs. 415.00 crore for the development of animal husbandry sector, Rs. 79.00 crore for dairy development and Rs. 277.00 crore for fisheries development. The provision for Secretariat and Economic Services has been kept at Rs.

6.00 crore. The total allocation for 2006-07 is to be financed from Domestic, Budgetary Support.

1.18 The Department proposed to implement 22 schemes which also include the new centrally sponsored scheme of Livestock Insurance that was proposed by the Department as per the objectives of the National Common Minimum programme. These schemes also comprised of the 4 new schemes viz. Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme, Dairy/ Poultry venture capital fund, Strengthening of infrastructure for quality and clean milk production and strengthening of Database and Information Networking for Fisheries. The Department also proposed to adopt macro-management approach in respect of Centrally sponsored schemes and accordingly 4 schemes on macro-management approach are being implemented to enhance the productivity of support programmes. Three schemes viz. Modernisation of Slaughter Houses/Carcass Utilisation Centre, Directorate of Animal Health and Delhi Milk Scheme were approved conditionally. However, on the Department's persuasion, Planning Commission agreed to continue the Scheme of Directorate of Animal Health for the Tenth Plan.

1.19 The Sector-wise and year-wise break-up of 10th Plan allocation is as below:

Sector	Outlay 10 th Plan	<u>Annual Plan 2002-03</u>			Annual Plan 2003-04			Annual Plan 2004-05			Annual Plan 2005-06			Annual Plan 2006- 07
		BE	RE	Exp.	BE	RE	Exp.	BE	RE	Exp.	BE	RE	Exp. (till Feb. 04)	BE
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)
A.H. Sector	1384.00	156.48	122.48	125.36	172.10	181.79	181.20	284.38	348.91	348.73	397.91	337.50	244.50	415.00

Dairy Dev.	361.00	37.02	31.02	34.99	29.90	19.97	19.61	51.62	74.12	63.66	92.00	91.58	56.63	79.00
Fisheries	740.00	102.00	82.00	75.98	95.00	70.24	68.72	160.00	148.97	150.51	174.36	166.11	134.23	277.00
Sectt. & Eco Services	15.00	4.50	4.50	2.57	3.00	3.00	2.23	4.00	3.00	3.07	4.81	3.81	2.53	6.00
Grand Total	2500.00	300.00	240.00	238.90	300.00	275.00	271.76	500.00	575.00	565.97	669.08	599.00	437.89	777.00

1.20 Asked how many schemes have since been approved and implemented during the first four years of the Tenth Plan, the number of schemes that have since been completed and also the number of schemes that are in the process of implementation, the Department in their reply has stated that :-

“(i) The Department had proposed to implement 18 schemes for the 10th Plan, which comprised of the four new schemes viz. Creation of Disease Free Zones (later on renamed as Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme – a component scheme under the macro management scheme ‘Livestock Health’), Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund, Strengthening of Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production and Strengthening of Database and Information Networking for fisheries. Three schemes viz. Modernization of Slaughter Houses/Carcass Utilization Centre (a component scheme under the macro scheme ‘Livestock and Poultry Improvement Programme’ now modified as ‘National Project for Improvement of Poultry and Small Animals’), Directorate of Animal Health and Delhi Milk Scheme were approved conditionally. However, on the Department’s persuasion, Planning Commission agreed to continue the scheme of Directorate of Animal Health for the 10th Plan and the scheme of Delhi Milk Scheme till the matter of transferring it to NCT of Delhi or its corporatization is settled. The scheme on Modernization of Slaughter Houses/Carcass Utilization Centre was continued till 2004-05 in order to meet the carry over liabilities.

(ii) In addition to the 18 schemes proposed, the Department has introduced two more schemes viz. ‘Livestock Insurance’ formulated in accordance with the National Common Minimum Programme and ‘National Fisheries Development Board’. Also, the scheme of Livestock Census was transferred to the Department during 2002-03. Further certain schemes/activities proposed to be merged could not be merged. In all, 22 schemes are in the process of implementation. These are ongoing schemes and are expected to continue during the 11th Plan also. However, a final view will be taken based on the recommendations of the Working Group for the 11th Plan.”

Under Utilisation of Funds

1.21 Following are the details of allocation and expenditure during Tenth Plan :-

(Rs. in crore)

Total Tenth Plan Outlay = Rs. 2500 crore

Year	Allocation	Expenditure
2002-03	240.00	238.90
2003-04	275.00	271.76
2004-05	575.00	565.97
2005-06	599.00	437.89 (till feb. 2006)
Total	1689	1514.52
2006-07	777.00	

1.22 From the above table it can be observed that there is underutilization of budgetary allocations during the first four years of the Tenth Plan. The total expenditure during the first four years of the 10th Plan was Rs. 1514.52 crore which contribute barely 60.58% of the total 10th Plan outlay of Rs. 2,500 crore with only one year to go. It is also noted that there is huge underutilization of funds in some of the individual schemes such as (i) Assistance to Co-operatives (only 69%); (ii) Dairy Development (39%); (iii) Fisheries sector (42%); (iv) Infrastructure Development and Post Harvest operations (60%) and (v) Database and Information Networking (74%).

1.23 When the Committee desired to know the reasons for such a low utilization of funds and also claiming of more funds in the absence of full utilization of the allocated funds, the Department replied as under :-

“During 2005-06, the Department has incurred an expenditure of around Rs.594.00 crore, which is over 99% of RE of Rs.599.00 crore. Therefore, the total expenditure during the first four years of the 10th Plan is around Rs.1671.00 crore, which leaves a balance of Rs.829.00 crore for the terminal year i.e. 2006-07 of the 10th Plan. The Department has been allocated Rs.777.00 crore for Annual Plan 2006-07. The new scheme of Livestock Insurance, formulated in accordance with the National Common Minimum Programme, has been initiated recently and

funds to the tune of Rs.24.21 crore have already been released to various State Implementing Agencies. The new scheme of National Fisheries Development Board for which an outlay of Rs 15 crore has been made is expected to take off during 2006-07. The Department will make all possible efforts to fully utilize the allocated funds for 2006-07. The total expenditure during the 10th Plan, including the Plan allocation for 2006-07, is thus expected to be around Rs.2450.00 crore. In fact the Department will try to get additional allocation in the course of the year, so as to reach the full 10th Plan outlay of Rs 2500 crore. This is a significant improvement in comparison to the 9th Plan utilization, which was around Rs.1040.00 crore (about 62% of the total allocation of Rs.1682.95 crore for the 9th Plan).

It is true that the extent of utilization in the first 4 years of 10th Plan on certain components and schemes is less than normal. The reasons for under-utilization in Dairy Development in general and Assistance to Cooperatives in particular are that there were many restrictions for taking up projects under IDDP before the scheme was revised in March 2005 and that it has not been possible to assist as many cooperatives as envisaged earlier because of the inability of the State Governments to share 50% of the cost, non-availability of viable proposals etc. As far as fisheries sector is concerned there has been a shortfall but with the proposed setting up of National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), for which an allocation of Rs 151 crore has been made in the Annual Plan for 2006-07, the position will improve substantially.

It is, however, pointed out here that, it is because of likely savings in certain schemes that the Department is able to include in the Plan altogether new schemes like Livestock Insurance and NFDB, as otherwise it would not have been possible to accommodate the requirement for these schemes within the sanctioned 10th Plan outlay. As mentioned above, it shall be the endeavor of the Department to fully utilize the 10th Plan outlay.”

CHAPTER – II

Sector-wise Analysis

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

2.1 The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has been operating 18 Central Livestock Organisations and allied Institutions for production and distribution of superior germ plasms to the State Governments for cross breeding and genetic upgradation of the stocks. Besides, the Department has been implementing 12 Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the development of requisite infrastructure and supplementing the efforts of the State Governments for achieving the accelerated growth of animal husbandry sector.

2.2 Following are the budgetary allocations and expenditure on Animal Husbandry :-

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actuals
2002-03	156.48	122.48	125.36
2003-04	172.10	181.79	181.93
2004-05	284.38	348.91	348.73
2005-06	397.91	337.50	244.50 (up to Feb. 2006)

Cattle and Buffalo Development

2.3 Cattle and Buffalo development is the most important component in Animal Husbandry Sector because of the contribution of these two species in terms of value of output, employment generation, supplementing household nutrition and alleviation of rural poverty. Major emphasis in Cattle and Buffalo Development over various Plan periods have been on enhancement of productivity through genetic improvement of non-descript low producing animals and conservation of important indigenous breed. The

Department operated a number of schemes for this purpose which has resulted in creation of a formidable infrastructure of artificial breeding and a sizeable population of genetically upgraded cattle and buffalo. These achievements culminated in large increase in milk production making India the highest producer of milk in the world.

2.4 The Department located continues to operate seven Central Cattle Breeding Farms (CCBFs) in different regions of the country and one Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute (CFSPTI) in order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in production of good quality breeding material and training of personnel engaged in cattle and buffalo breeding. The Department also operates a four Central Herd Registration Units engaged in registration of elite animals of a few important cattle and buffalo breeds, activities of which are being integrated with NPCBB for wider coverage.

The following schemes are in operation:

A. Central Plan Schemes

Central Cattle Development Organisation

2.5 The Central Cattle Development Organisation has the following three components:-

- (i) Central Cattle Breeding Farms
- (ii) National Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute
- (iii) Central Herd Registration

B. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme

1.31 National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding

National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB)

2.6 The National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding which was launched from October 2000 for over a period of 10 years, in two phases with an allocation of Rs. 402 crore for Phase-I. The Department has informed that EFC Memo for Phase-II of the NPCBB is under preparation. The project envisages genetic upgradation on priority basis and aims at thorough re-organisation and re-orientation of the cattle and buffalo breeding operation in the country. The project provides 100% grant in aid to the State Implementary Agencies. The mandate of the scheme is to :-

- (a) arrange delivery of vastly improved artificial insemination service at the farmer's doorstep;
- (b) bring all breedable females among cattle and buffalo under organized breeding through artificial insemination or natural service by high quality bulls within a period of 10 years;
- (c) undertake breed improvement programme for indigenous cattle and buffaloes so as to improve the genetic makeup as well as their availability.

The components of the schemes are :-

- (a) Streamlining storage and supply of Liquid Nitrogen by sourcing supply from industrial gas manufacturers and setting up bulk transport and storage systems for the same
- (b) Introduction of quality bulls with high genetic merit
- (c) Promotion of private mobile A.I service for doorstep delivery of A.I
- (d) Conversion of existing stationary government centers into mobiles centers

- (e) Quality control and certification of bulls and services at sperm stations, semen banks and training institutions
- (f) Study of breeding systems in areas out of reach of A.I. and
- (g) Institutional restructuring by way of entrusting the job of managing production and supply of genetic inputs as well as Liquid Nitrogen to a specialized autonomous and professional State Implementing Agency.

2.7 The Department informed that 26 states participating in the project have been provided financial assistance of Rs. 283.76 crore so far. During 2005-06, an amount of Rs. 81.24 crores has been released till December, 2005 for strengthening of 3220 AI centers, 5 semen stations, 23 semen banks and 11 training centers.

The Department further informed that since inception of the Project in October, 2000, twenty one SIA's have been constituted under the project. These agencies are implementing the project with professional approach. In case of small States who are unable to constitute viable SIA's, funds are released to the State Governments for implementation of the project. Participation by Karnataka, Tamil Nadu in 2003-04 and by Gujarat and Maharashtra in 2004-2005 has increased the coverage of the Project. However, Bihar and Jharkhand are yet to participate in the Project. Semen production in the country has increased from 22 million straws (1999-2000) to 35 million straws (2004-05) and the number of inseminations has increased from 20 million to 34 million. As per the impact analysis report submitted by NABARD for the four states (Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Uttranchal, Madhya Pradesh), overall conception rate has increased from 20% to 35%. The coverage of the breedable bovine population has increased from 16% to 34%.

Phase II of NPCBB, EFC memo for which in is progresss, aims to consolidate the gains made during Phase-I of the NPCBB.

Issues to be addressed during Phase-II :

- * Large cattle population and its low productivity per animal.
- * More emphasis on conservation of dwindling indigenous cattle and buffalo breeds.
 - Setting up of farmers' organizations and breeders societies in the country
 - More effective extension work

2.8 Following are the details of allocation and expenditure in respect of NPCBB during the 10th Plan

Total outlay for the Tenth Plan = Rs. 375 crore
(Rs. in crore)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
BE	50.00	48.00	55.00	95.00	106.00
RE	30.00	35.00	71.10	96.50	
Exp.	41.04	35.99	67.95	85.24 (till Feb. 2006)	

Total expenditure = Rs. 230.2 crore

2.9 The Committee note that the total expenditure during the first 4 years of the 10th Plan i.e. (2002-05) is only Rs. 230.2 crore which comes to only 61.4% of the total allocation of Rs. 375.00 crore.

When the Committee enquired how the Department would fully absorb the amount of Rs. 106 crore allocated for 2006-07 since they could spend only Rs. 230 crore

during the first four years of the 10th Plan and also to furnish the details of the targets fixed during each of the last three years and whether the fixed targets were achieved, the Department in their written reply stated that :-

“The main reason for shortfall in expenditure in the first two years is that many States particularly some of the States with very high cattle and buffalo population, joined the programme late. It is only by 2004-05 that practically all the States (barring one or two) could join the programme. The expenditure in 2004-05 was Rs.67.95 crore and the expenditure in 2005-06 is about Rs.90.90 crore.

NPCBB was to be implemented in two phases. Phase-I was to be implemented during 2000-2005 and Phase-II during 2005-2010. As many States joined the programme late, Planning Commission has permitted extension of Phase-I by two years viz. up to March 2007. However, it is found that out of 27 participating States/UTs, Phase-I will be practically completed in 13 States/UTs by 2006-07. It is, therefore, proposed to continue Phase-I only in the remaining States/UTs during 2006-07. An EFC Memo for taking up Phase-II of the programme (from 2006-07 in 13 States where Phase-I is completed and from 2007-08 in the remaining States) is being submitted. Considering that the expenditure in 2005-06 was Rs.90.90 crore and also that Phase-II will be initiated in 2006-07, the Department does not anticipate any problem in fully utilizing the outlay of Rs.106.00 crore during 2006-07. The details of targets fixed in respect of main parameters and achievements during the last three years are given in the table annexed. It is true that there has been shortfall in respect of strengthening of semen stations in 2002-03 and 2003-04. This is because of many States joining the programme late as indicated above.

S. No.	Activity	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005	
		T	A	T	A	T	A
1.	Conversion/ setting up of AI centres to enable mobile practice	5000	6913	6500	5457	6000	6751
2.	Strengthening of semen station/ acquisition of AI bulls	20	10	10	5	14	15
3.	Strengthening/ establishment of semen banks	25	28	16	31	58	47
4.	Establishment/ strengthening of training center	3	15	10	17	22	23

Note: T - Target
A - Achievement

Livestock Health

2.10 With the improvement in the quality of livestock through launching of extensive cross-breeding programmes, the susceptibility of the stock to various diseases including exotic diseases has increased. In order to reduce morbidity and mortality, efforts are being made by the State/Union Territory Governments to provide better health care through polyclinics/veterinary hospitals/dispensaries/first-aid dispensaries. A network of 26,717 Polyclinics/Hospitals/Dispensaries and 28,195 Veterinary Aid Centres (including Stockmen Centres/mobile dispensaries) which are supported by about 250 disease diagnostic laboratories, are functioning in the States and Union territories for quick and reliable diagnosis of diseases. Further, for control of major livestock and poultry diseases by way of prophylactic vaccination, the required quantity of vaccines are produced in the country at 29 veterinary vaccine production units. Of these, 22 are in the public sector and 7 are in private sector. Import of vaccines by private agencies is also permitted as and when required.

A. Central Plan Scheme

Directorate of Animal Health

The following Schemes are in operation in the 10th Plan :

This Scheme has got four components namely:-

- (i) Directorate of Animal Health Services (Headquarters Cell);
- (ii) National Veterinary Biological Products Quality Control Centres;
- (iii) Central/Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratories;
- (iv) Animal Quarantine and Certification Services

B. Centrally Sponsored Scheme

The following schemes are in operation in 10th Plan

Sl. No.	Central Sponsored Schemes	10 th Plan allocations in crore
1.	Assistance to States for control of Animal Disease (ASCAD)	Rs. 255.00
2.	National Project on Rinderpest Eradication	Rs. 40.00
3.	Professional Efficiency Development	Rs. 30.00
4.	Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme	Rs. 200.00

Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD)

2.11 Till the end of 9th Plan, there was an independent scheme called Assistance to States for Control of Livestock Diseases having three components namely (i) Systematic Control of Livestock Diseases of National Importance (ii) Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme and (iii) Animal Disease Surveillance with an objective to control livestock disease mainly of zoonotic importance. With some modifications these three components are included in Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD) which is a component of 10th Plan Centrally Sponsored Macro Management Scheme “Livestock Health and Disease Control”. Its aim is to undertake immunization of livestock and poultry against economically important disease, strengthening of State veterinary biological production centres, strengthening of disease diagnostic laboratories and in-service training to veterinarians and Para-veterinarians for upgradation of their technical knowledge.

2.12 Placed below is the year-wise allocation and actual expenditure with regard to ASCAD during the 10th Plan:

Total outlay = Rs. 255 crore
(Rs. in crore)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
BE	15.30	21.00	43.00	55.00	65.00
RE	15.85	33.27	50.75	67.80	
Actuals	18.14	33.21	54.50	57.03 (till Feb. 2006)	

Total expenditure = Rs. 162.88 crore
i.e. 63.87% of the total plan allocation

2.13 The above table indicate a very low utilization of funds during the first four years of the Tenth Plan. Asked how the Department would utilized the unspent balance of Rs. 92.12 crore which is more than 36% of the total allocation of Rs. 255 crore in the fifth year, the Department in their reply stated that :-

“Against 10th Plan total outlay of Rs.255.00 crore during the first four years, actual expenditure under the programme is Rs 177.72 crore including about Rs 71 crore in 2005-06. Against the balance amount of Rs 77 crore, the proposed outlay in 2006-07 is Rs 65 crore. The actual requirement is likely to be more particularly on account of the control and containment operations for bird flu. The additional requirement will be met by re-appropriation.”

Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme

2.14 The Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme which was earlier one of the components of ‘Assistance to States for Control of Livestock Diseases’ during the Ninth Plan, is now a component of the Centrally Sponsored Macro Management Scheme ‘Livestock Health and Disease Control’. Its main objective is to protect the exotic,

crossbred and high yielding indigenous cattle belonging to weaker sections of the society by vaccination against Foot and Mouth Disease.

2.15 The cost of vaccine was shared by the Centre, the States and the beneficiaries in the ratio of 25:25:50. In order to give thrust for complete control of Foot and Mouth Disease in specific areas, a location specific programme was taken up (100% Central assistance) during Tenth Plan as a component of Centrally Sponsored Macro Management Scheme “Livestock Health and Disease Control” in the areas/tracks of most important breeds of cattle and buffaloes, which need special attention for conservation of germ-plasm for production and productivity.

Following are the budgetary allocations for this Scheme

Rs. in crore

Total outlay Rs. 200.00 crore

Year	BE	RE	Actuals
2002-03	30.00	---	---
2003-04	40.00	30.43	30.59
2004-05	50.00	50.00	50.99
2005-06	35.00	35.00	25.90
2006-07	35.00	32.00	53.74

2.16 From the above table it is noted that the actual expenditure under this programme during 2004-05 was 50.99 crore, whereas the allocation for the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 is Rs. 35 crore and Rs. 32 crore, respectively which is much lesser than the actual expenditure during 2004-05.

When asked about the reasons for the allocation for lesser funds for the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 then the actual expenditure of 2004-05 and also the number of

livestock converted under this programme during the case three years, the Department in their reply stated that :-

“Under Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme, all the susceptible cattle/buffalo population in the 54 identified districts is being covered. The main reason for increase in expenditure in 2004-05 was that two rounds of vaccination (out of the five rounds required to be done) had to be carried out in that year.

The details of the number of livestock covered under the programme during the past three years are as follows:

Year & round	Number of animals covered (in lakhs)
2003-04 (1 st round)	277
2004-05 (2 nd round)	280
2004-05 (3 rd round)	270
2005-06 (3 rd round)	10
2005-06 (4 th round)	221

National Livestock Policy

2.17 Livestock and poultry plays a vital role in improving the socio-economic conditions of the rural masses. India, with its vast resources of Livestock and Poultry ranks first in respect of cattle and buffalo, second in goats, third in sheep and seventh in poultry population in the world. Poultry Development specially has taken a quantum leap in the last three decades emerging from a near backyard practice to a venture of industrial promotion. About 19 million people are engaged and work in livestock sector, the contribution by the livestock sector to agriculture and allied activities is, thus very significant. It is, therefore, imperative that a long term policy is formulated for the development of this sector.

2.18 When the Department were asked if the Government had formulated a National Livestock Policy and also to furnish the salient features of the Policy, the Department stated as under :-

“National Livestock Policy is being formulated by the Department and is at draft stage. However, formulation of National Livestock Policy is a time consuming exercise, as it involves consultation with various experts on the sector as well as the State Governments to obtain their views before finalizing the Policy. In brief, the following are the salient features of the National Livestock Policy: -

- a) to attain qualitative and quantitative improvement in livestock, livestock products, feed and fodder resources.
- b) to provide for a better interface between modern technologies and management practices regarding breeding, nutrition and health care and also through Animal Husbandry Extension Programmes.
- c) the policy also aims to guide the future programmes in the above areas.”

Asked when the final livestock policy will be ready and also whether all the stake holders have been consulted in the drafting of the policy the Department in their reply has stated that :-

“The formulation of the National Livestock Policy involves detailed consultations with the various experts/scientists/veterinarians/representatives of the farmers and other stakeholders from different organizations. The draft National Livestock Policy so prepared is at the stage of consultation with eminent experts for their suggestions. The Department is putting all efforts to finalise the National Livestock Policy at the earliest.”

Livestock Insurance

2.19 The Department has prepared a new Centrally sponsored scheme ‘Livestock Insurance’ with the objective of protecting the farmers against losses due to untimely death of their animals. The scheme has been proposed to be implemented for promotion of the livestock sector, besides supportive interventions from the Government in terms of

increasing the availability of genetically improved animals, control of animal diseases, etc. The scheme proposes for providing subsidy to the tune of 50% of the premium by the Central Government. This scheme has been approved by the Department on pilot basis.

2.20 Asked if the scheme was already in operation and also to elaborate the mechanism that has been put up in place for implementation of the scheme, the Department in their reply stated that :-

“Implementation Status: The Livestock Insurance Scheme is already in operation. The States have started negotiations with the various insurance companies, both private as well as public sector for successful and efficient implementation of the scheme and popularizing the scheme amongst the livestock owners. Funds to the tune of Rs. 24.21 crores have been released during 2005-06 to various State Implementing Agencies for implementing the scheme in 100 selected districts across the country.

Mechanism for implementation: The scheme is being implemented through the State Livestock Development Boards, which are involved in implementation of the National Project of Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB) programme of the Department. The crossbred and high yielding cattle and buffaloes will be insured under the scheme for maximum of their current market value. Animals covered under any other insurance scheme/ plan scheme will not be covered under this scheme.”

2.21 When the Department was further asked about the premium amount being paid to the farmers with the subsidy amount given by the Government and also to furnish details indicating interalia, the financial and physical targets fixed and achieved, the Department replied as under :-

“Payment and subsidy in premium: The Centre will provide subsidy on the premium amount to the tune of 50% and the rest will be borne by the beneficiary. Benefit of subsidy is to be restricted to two animals per beneficiary and is to be given for one time insurance of an animal up to a maximum period of three years. The Veterinary Practitioners will be paid an honorarium of Rs.50/- per animal at the stage of insuring the animal and Rs. 100/- per case at the stage of issuing veterinary certificate (including conducting post-mortem, if any) in case of any claim. Central Government will meet the entire expenses on payment of honorarium and publicity of the scheme.

Target: It is targeted to insure 9 lakh animals under the scheme with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 75.21 crore during 2005-06 and 2006-07 of the Tenth Five Year Plan. Quarterly review of the achievement of targets under the scheme will be undertaken. The achievement of total physical targets will be known only after one year of implementation of the scheme.”

2.22 The Committee also enquired about the reasons for the non-utilisation of funds under the scheme till Feb., 2006 when an amount of Rs. 50 crore was provided and further asked the Deptt. how it proposed to utilize Rs. 51 crore provided for the year 2006-07, the Department stated that

“Reasons for non-utilization of funds till February 2006: The Department received the approval of the competent authority in the first week of March 2006. Only thereafter, the action for implementing the scheme was initiated and an amount of Rs 24.21 crores was released during 2005-06 to the various State Implementing Agencies.

Proposal for utilization of funds in 2006-07: The Department has already received proposals from most of the State Implementing Agencies pertaining to number of animals to be insured during 2006-07 and the cost involved. The amount involved in these proposals is more than the funds available for the scheme for the year 2006-07. Hence, the Department will be able to fully utilize the allocation of Rs. 51.00 crore for 2006-07.”

2.23 The Department were further asked to elaborate the result of the negotiations with the various insurance companies and also about measures that have been taken to popularize the scheme amongst the livestock owners, the Deptt. replied as under :-

“The Department held discussions with various public and private sector insurance companies for implementing the Livestock Insurance Scheme in 100 selected districts across the country. They have expressed their willingness to do the insurance work in the areas where they have a strong presence. In order to get maximum benefit in terms of premium rates, easier procedures of issue of policy and settlement of claims, the state implementing agencies were asked to call meeting of the insurance companies depending on their area of operation and other factors like lowest premium rates, are to be involved in insurance work by the State implementing agencies.

In order to create awareness amongst the public, separate provision for publicity has been made in the scheme for each selected district and, accordingly, funds have been made available to the state implementing agencies. The village panchayats will be involved in a big way for popularizing the scheme amongst the livestock owners by disseminating information on the scheme and inviting farmers to offer their animals for identification for insurance. Steps would also be taken by this Department for spreading the messages through various media.”

2.24 Asked about the actual implementation of the scheme, the representatives of the Department stated as under :-

“We have released funds. Of course, the first policies are yet to be issued. We hope that within three months’ time, we will be able to start issuing policies to the farmers for protecting the livestock. The Government thought if fit to approve it as a pilot scheme in about hundred districts of the country which have a substantial population of highly productive cattle. Based on the experience which we have gained in these two years, we will be able to extend it and take up a more comprehensive scheme covering all the districts and all types of animals in the Eleventh Plan.”

Conservation of Threatened Livestock Breeds

2.25 The ‘Conservation of Threatened Livestock Breeds’ of small ruminants, pack animals, pigs and equine is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme which aims at conserving and protecting threatened breeds of livestock, whose population is less than 10,000. This was initiated during the first year of the 10th Plan to conserve near extinct and threatened breeds involving modern scientific conservation tools. Several species of goats, sheep, yak, etc. are threatened breeds. There is also the danger of some more species of animals being left-out due to non-availability of information or ignorance of people who were supposed to inform about these vanishing species to the concerned authorities.

When the Committee enquired the Department if the Department has any data base to know about the number of threatedened livestock breeds of species and if so to

provide the details thereof and further asked whether the Department has identified as the threatened breeds without any species being left-out, the Department replied that :-

“(i) & (ii): The Department has sourced information about the threatened breeds of livestock from the National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR) Karnal, the species specific institutions/research centre of the ICAR, and State Governments. The list of threatened breeds of livestock based on the information received from the NBAGR and the State Governments etc. is enclosed. In this regard, it may, however, be mentioned that cataloging of all threatened breeds of livestock in a country of continental size is a mammoth task. The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations is engaged in a programme ‘State of the World Animal Genetic Resources’ in this regard. India is also a signatory to this Programme.”

2.26 The Committee further asked the Department with regard to steps that are being formulated for a fool-proof identification of these threatened breeds along with measures that are being initiated for the conservation of these threatened breeds and also to furnish the effects and positive results of these initiations, the Department in reply has stated as under :-

- (iii) “Preparation of an exhaustive list of threatened breeds would involve an extensive breed survey. It is proposed to approach the ICAR for conducting a breed survey through the NBAGR with a view to compiling a foolproof identification of threatened breeds.
- (iv) The Department is implementing a Scheme ‘Conservation of Threatened Breeds of Livestock’ since 2002-03. The relevant details of the Projects sanctioned, year-wise, under this scheme are as below:

Name of the States/UTs	Species	Breed	Year
Gujarat	Horse	Kathiwari	2002-03
Karnataka	Sheep	Bandur	2002-03
Rajasthan	Horse	Marwari	2002-03
Tripura	Goat	Black Bengal	2002-03
Tripura	Pig	Dome	2002-03
Tripura	Pig	Malli	2002-03
Punjab	Horse	Gray Sindhi	2002-03, 2005-06
Mizoram	Pig	Zovawk	2003-04

Arunachal Pradesh	Pony	Bhutia Pony	2004-05
Arunachal Pradesh	Yak	Yak	2004-05
H. Pradesh	Yak	Yak	2004-05
H.Pradesh	Pony	Spiti	2004-05
Kerala	Goat	Malabari	2004-05
Kerala	Pig	Angamaly	2004-05
Manipur	Manipuri	Pony	2004-05
Mizoram	Mithun	Mithun	2004-05
Nagaland	Goat	Long haired	2004-05
Sikkim	Yak	Hazi	2004-05
West Bengal	Sheep	Bonpala Sheep	2004-05, 2005-06
West Bengal	Pig	Ghoongro	2004-05, 2005-06
Andaman & Nicobar	Goat	Terresa Goat	2005-06
J&K	Horse	Zanskari	2005-06
J&K	Camel	Double Hump	2005-06
Maharashtra	Sheep	Madgyal	2005-06
Uttar Pradesh	Goat	Jamuna pari	2005-06
West Bengal	Goat	Black Bengal	2005-06
West Bengal	Sheep	Garole	2005-06

The conservation is a long-term exercise. It is expected that implementation of these projects will result in saving these breeds from their threatened status.”

Avian Influenza (Bird Flu)

2.27 Avian Influenza also know as Bird Flu has spread to many countries across several continents. The Bird flu which has now reached the country has totally shaken not only the poultry industry which provides almost 50% of the landless labourers income but also the confidence of the consumers. The Committee had earlier raised this point when the outbreak of the disease was first reported in South and South East Asian Countries. The Department in their Reply had stated that after reviewing the situation the ban on import of Grand Parent stock of poultry was lifted to ensure regular supply of day old chicks from those countries which were free from Bird Flu.

2.28 The spreading of Avian Influenza has greatly affected those farmers whose sole livelihood depends on poultry as certain zones which were affected were being culled out. Large scale death of poultry had been reported from different parts of the country specially in some districts of Maharashtra.

When the Committee desired to know the reasons behind the spread of bird flu, plans that are being formulated by the Department to face this outbreak and also the Department's successes in arresting this outbreak, the Department replied as under:

“Avian Influenza has spread to many countries across several continents. In view of the global scenario, India had initiated necessary measures for preparedness, control and containment of Avian Influenza. Import of livestock or products has been banned from HPAI positive countries since 2004. Surveillance of poultry against Avian Influenza was being carried out throughout the country by taking random samples and getting them tested at the High Security Animal Disease Lab (HSADL), Bhopal. After it was confirmed in 2005 that migratory birds can also spread Avian Influenza, the surveillance was extended to migratory birds as well as poultry around water bodies frequented by migratory birds. An Action Plan has been prepared for State Animal Husbandry Departments for control and containment in case of outbreak. The plan was discussed in the meeting of the State Secretaries organized by the Government of India in October 2005. The Action Plan has been circulated to the State Governments. Advisories are being issued regularly to State Governments on related issues and also being hosted on the website of the Department. A Joint Action Group with public health authorities has been created and operationalised since Avian Influenza has concerns for both animal and human health. Coordination with Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF) on surveillance and sampling of migratory birds has been activated. Training is provided to the staff of the State Forest Departments and the Animal Husbandry Departments through the Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratories (RDDL's) on sample collection etc. Interaction with the poultry industry has been initiated. A meeting was chaired by the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister in October 2005. This interaction has further been institutionalized through a Committee set up with industry representatives under chairpersonship of the Animal Husbandry Commissioner. A Central Strategic Reserve of poultry vaccines has been developed by the Government of India. A Central Strategic Reserve of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kit (which was finalized in consultation with Health Department for cullers, vaccinators etc.) has also been developed by the Government of India. State Governments have also procured adequate PPE kits. Rapid Response Teams were constituted by State Governments to undertake operations in case of outbreak. Surveillance and animal disease intelligence has

been tightened. More than 30,000 samples of poultry and migratory birds were tested at High Security Animal Disease Laboratory (HSADL), Bhopal prior to January 2006 and found negative for HPAI. Large-scale death of poultry had been reported from Navapur taluk of district Nandurbar, Maharashtra. Preliminary investigations based on external symptoms, post-mortem reports etc. indicated the possibility of Newcastle (Ranikhet) disease. Samples were sent to High Security Animal Disease Laboratory (HSADL), Bhopal to test for Avian Influenza (AI). The test reports from Bhopal confirmed that the samples were positive for AI (H5N1 strain) in poultry in Nandurbar, Navapur Taluk, Maharashtra. Accordingly, AI was notified in Nandurbar on 18th February 2006. Some samples of farms in Uchchal taluka of Surat district of Gujarat adjoining Navapur also tested positive subsequently. A series of strategic actions were initiated immediately. These actions included declaration of infected and surveillance areas, absolute ban on movement of poultry or its products in infected areas, closure of poultry and egg markets and shops, destruction of affected poultry followed by proper disposal etc. The Government of India rushed to Maharashtra vaccines for poultry, Tamiflu for humans and personal protective equipment. Rapid Response Teams of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare were rushed to the affected areas. The teams of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare carried out surveillance of human population in the area. Poultry within a radius of 10 km from the affected areas were culled after paying compensation to the owners. Other infected materials such as poultry eggs, egg products, trays, feathers, feed, feed materials, protective clothing used by the staff engaged in control operations etc. have also been destroyed. Thereafter cleaning and disinfection of the infected premises is being undertaken. Subsequently samples from 4 villages of Jalgaon district had tested positive for Avian Influenza. The disease was notified in these 4 villages on 14th March 2006. All control and containment operations as indicated above were carried out here also. Simultaneously surveillance was greatly stepped up in Jalgaon district and the adjoining area of Burhanpur district in Madhya Pradesh as the outbreak was detected in backyard poultry and also because of the report of death of poultry from some of these areas. Many samples were collected from different talukas and rushed to HSADL, Bhopal. 8 samples in all from these tested positive. Of these, 7 samples were from six villages of the same district, i.e. Jalgaon and one sample from Burhanpur district of Madhya Pradesh (the affected village in Burhanpur district was within 3 kms of Maharashtra border). Accordingly the disease was notified in these 7 villages on 28th March 2006 and the required control and containment operations carried out. After the detection of the above outbreaks, surveillance throughout the country has been intensified and samples are regularly sent for testing to HSADL, Bhopal. Special intensive surveillance covering each taluka of 38 districts within a distance of 200 km from Navapur or Jalgaon has been carried out and samples sent to Bhopal for testing.”

2.29 In response to the enquiry of the Committee about the steps being initiated by the Department to compensate the affected farmers, the Department in their reply stated that :

“Though the outbreak of Avian Influenza has been confined to a limited part of the country, it has had a very damaging effect on the entire poultry industry in the country as demand for chicken and eggs nosedived causing tremendous suffering to the poultry producers. In order to provide relief to the poultry industry which is thus passing through a severe crisis the Government and Reserve Bank of India have announced a package of measures. These consist of a one-time reduction of four percentage points in the interest payment liability on all bank loans availed of by poultry units, a moratorium of one year on payment of principal and interest, conversion of working capital into term loans, rescheduling of term loans and sanction of additional working capital, wherever necessary.”

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT

2.30 The Indian Dairy Industry acquired substantial growth from Ninth Plan onwards, achieving an annual output of about 90.7 million tonnes of milk during the year 2004-05. This has not only placed the industry first in the world but also represents sustained growth in the availability of milk and milk products for the burgeoning population of the country. The per capita availability of milk has also increased to a level of about 231 gms per day, compared to the world's average of 265 gms per day. Dairying sector not only provides employment and income generating opportunities but has also become an important secondary source of income for millions of rural families.

The Dairy Development sector consists of the following major schemes:

- (i) Assistance to Co-operatives
- (ii) Intensive Dairy Development Programme
- (iii) Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production
- (iv) Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund
- (iv) Delhi Milk Scheme(DMS)

2.31 The outlay and expenditure for the entire sector is as under :-

Total 10th Plan Outlay = Rs. 361 crore

(Rs. in crores)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
BE	37.02	29.90	51.62	92.00	79.00
RE	31.02	19.97	74.12	91.58	
Exp.	34.99	19.61	63.66	56.63 (till feb. 2006)	

Total expenditure till Feb. 2006 = Rs. 174.89

i.e. 48.45% of the total outlay of Rs. 361 crore

2.32 During the course of evidence, the representatives of the Department stated as under :-

“The major activities, which are taking up fall in three categories, namely Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries. Without taking much of the time of the august Committee, I would only like to point out that in Animal Husbandry, two or three major areas which need to be tackled in order to bring about a quantum jump in the productivity of animals in this country are genetic upgradation, disease control and fodder development. As we had submitted earlier, we have the highest cattle population in the world. About 16 per cent of the cattle of the world is in this country. As far as buffaloes are concerned, 57 per cent of the buffalo population is in this country. We have also submitted in the past that for the last couple of years, almost ten years, we have become the first major milk producer in the world. Last years, our milk production was of the order of 90.5 million tones followed by the United States, which was less than 80 million tones. Of course, the productivity of our animals is extremely low. It is still just around half the world’s average. While the world average is about 2050 litres per lactation, ours is still hovering around a thousand litres. Of course, if you look at a country like Israel, productivity is so high. It is 9000 and odd litres./ So, we need to make a determined and concerted effort in order to improve the productivity for which we feel genetic upgradation, disease control and fodder development are the major steps.”

2.33 Considering the importance of this sector in generating employment and other income generating opportunities, when the Committee pointed out the low under utilization of funds wherein the Department could spent on Rs. 174.89 crore of the total allocation of Rs. 361 crore during the first four years of the 10th Plan which comes to only 48.45% of the total allocation, the Department in their reply has stated as under :-

“The utilization of funds of the total allocation has improved significantly particularly during last two years of 10th Plan.

Expenditure under Dairy Development during 10th Plan

	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
	BE	Exp	BE	Exp	BE	Exp	BE	Exp
1.Intensive Dairy Development Programme	20.50	16.32	18.88	16.28	20.00	25.70	50.00	39.91
2.Strengthening Infrastructure for Clean Milk Production	0.02	0.00	1.00	0.00	8.42	24.64	20.00	30.40
3.Assistance to Cooperatives	15.00	16.65	9.00	2.71	15.00	9.82	10.00	5.46
4.Dairy/poultry Venture Capital Fund	0.50	0.00	0.02	0.00	7.20	0.00	12.00	15.80
5.Delhi Milk Scheme	1.00	2.02	1.00	0.62	1.00	3.50	0.00	0.00
Total	37.02	34.99	29.90	19.61	51.62	63.66	92.00	91.57

It may be noted that as against the combined expenditure of Rs.54.60 crore in the first two years of the Plan, the expenditure during 2004-05 was Rs.63.66 crore and during 2005-06 was Rs.91.57 crore, registering a significant increase. The revision of “IDDP” scheme has helped in better utilization of funds and in making impact on dairy development. The funds under the two schemes “Strengthening infrastructure for quality and clean milk production” and “Dairy/ Poultry Venture Capital Fund” have been fully utilized during initial two years of their implementation. The demand for the funds under these schemes is likely to increase due to its popularization in future years. The scheme “Assistance to cooperatives” is under the process of evaluation for its impact and implementation.”

Under Utilisation of Funds

2.34 The Committee has observed that there has been huge under utilization of funds under Dairy Development during the first four years of the 10th Plan under several

schemes. Some of the schemes under which funds could not be fully spent are given below :-

(i) **Assistance to Co-operatives**

Total 10th Plan outlay = Rs. 130 crore

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actuals
2002-03	15.00	13.00	16.65
2003-04	9.00	6.50	2.71
2004-05	15.00	11.00	9.82
2005-06	10.00	4.80	2.13 (till Feb. 2006)
2006-07	5.00	-----	

Total expenditure till Feb. 2006= Rs. 31.31 crore

i.e. 23.7% of Rs. 130 crore

(ii) **Intensive Dairy Development Programme**

Total outlay = Rs. 175 crore

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actuals
2002-03	20.50	17.00	16.32
2003-04	18.88	12.47	16.28
2004-05	20.00	25.00	25.70
2005-06	50.00	30.08	23.89 (till Feb. 2006)
2006-07	23.00		

Total Expenditure – Rs. 82.19 crore

i.e.46.97% of the total outlay of Rs. 175 crore

(iii) **Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund**

Total 10th Plan outlay = Rs. 25 crore

Year	BE	RE	Actual
2002-03	0.50	0.00	0.00
2003-04	0.02	0.00	0.00
2004-05	7.20	7.20	0.00
2005-06	12.00	14.00	12.00 (till Feb. 2006)
2006-07	15.00		

Total expenditure till Feb. 2006 = Rs. 12 crore

i.e. 48% of Rs. 25 crore

2.35 Asked the reasons for gross under utilization of funds during the first four years of the 10th Plan and also how the Department propose to spend the balanced amount of more than 50% of funds in all these schemes only during the fifth and final year of the 10th Plan, the Department has stated as under :-

“The position of utilization under the scheme “**Assistance to Cooperatives**” during the 10th plan up to 2005-06 (till 31st March 2006) is as under:

Total 10th Plan outlay = Rs. 130 crore
(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actuals
2002-03	15.00	13.00	16.65
2003-04	9.00	6.00	2.71
2004-05	15.00	11.00	9.82
2005-06	10.00	4.80	5.46
2006-07	5.00	-	

Total expenditure till 31st March 2006 = Rs. 34.65 crore

i.e. 26.70% of Rs. 130 crore

The 10th Plan outlay for the central sector plan scheme “Assistance to Cooperatives” is Rs. 130.00 crore and the Department has utilized Rs. 34.64 crore during the first four years of the 10th Plan which is 26.7% of the 10th Plan allocation. The scheme is purely demand driven and on an average an amount of

Rs. 5 to 6 crores is required annually to meet the committed liabilities of the projects approved and new proposals.

Intensive Dairy Development Programme: - The allocation for the first four years of Plan under the scheme was Rs.109.38 crores and the expenditure till 2005-06 (31st March,2006) was Rs.98.27 crores. It indicates that about 90% of the allocated funds have been utilized.

Dairy Poultry Venture Capital Fund: - It is a new central Sector Plan Scheme started in Xth five Year Plan with a total outlay of Rs.25.00 crore. After approval of the Scheme by the competent authority, the release of funds actually started in 2005-06. An amount of Rs.15.80 crore, has been released to NABARD during 2005-06 for implementation of the scheme. There is a provision of Rs15.00 crore for the scheme in 2006-07. The scheme has become popular throughout the country with the efforts of the Department and NABARD and it is expected that the provision for the next year will be fully utilized.”

2.36 The Committee further pointed out that there was no coherence in BE, RE and actual expenditure figure of 2003 to 2006 under the heading “Assistance to Cooperatives” during the 10th plan and enquired how the Department could not make realistic proposals so that the amount sanctioned could have been utilized for other developmental schemes of the Government, the Department had stated as under :-

“ The position of utilization under the scheme “Assistance to Cooperatives” during the 10th Plan up to 2005-06 is as under :-

Total plan outlay = Rs. 130.00 crore

Year	BE	RE	Actual
2003-04	9.00	6.00	2.71
2004-05	15.00	11.00	9.82
2005.06	10.00	4.80	5.47

Total expenditure of last three years = Rs. 18.00
i.e. 52.94% of the total BE, Rs. 34.00 crore

The scheme is purely demand driven. Another reasons for under-utilisation is that it has not been possible to assist an many cooperatives as envisaged earlier because of non-availability of viable proposals and inability of the State Governments to share 50% of the cost. National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad has recently submitted the draft report of the Evaluation Study, which is being examined. One of the recommendations of the Evaluation Study is that the funding pattern between

Central and State Governments may be revised from 50:50 to 90:10 or at least 75:25 for more effective participation of the State Governments. The scheme will be revised suitably based on the recommendations of the Evaluation Study.”

2.37 The Department in their reply on the huge balances with regard to Dairy had stated that the revision of `IDDP` scheme would help in better utilization of funds and in making impact on dairy development.

When the Committee asked the Department to elaborate as to how the revision of `IDDP` scheme would help in better utilization of funds and also the reasons for allocation of lesser fund during 2006-07 which is Rs. 79 crore when expenditure in the previous year i.e. 2005-06 was Rs. 91.57 crore, the Department in reply stated that :-

“The revision made in the scheme is expected to facilitate the pace of implementation of the projects approved under the scheme in the following way :

- Direct release of fund to the implementing agency shall eliminate the procedural time taken by the State Governments to release funds to the implementing agency.
- Coverage of the areas has been increased substantially by inclusion of Operation Flood (OF) districts, which have received less than Rs. 50.00 lakh during OF. Out of about 608 districts in the country, 308 were covered under OF and among them about 150 districts received less than Rs. 50.00 lakh. IDDP has already covered 185 districts and under the revised scheme, there is a scope to cover about 250 new eligible districts.
- The implementation of projects by professional agencies i.e. State Milk Federation/Milk Union shall result in timely and better implementation and will result in attaining the underlying objectives of the scheme. Though the expenditure for dairy development during 2005-06 was Rs. 91.57 crore, the be proven for 2006-07 for Dairy Development has been kept at Rs. 79.00 crore due to overriding priorities of the Department.

Delhi Milk Scheme

2.38 Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) which has been functioning since 1959, is a subordinate organization of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries. The main objective of the scheme is to supply wholesome milk and milk products at reasonable prices to the citizens of Delhi as well as provide remunerative prices to milk producers. It also manufacture milk and milk products for sale. The initial installed capacity of Delhi Milk Scheme was for processing/packing of 2.55 lakh litres of milk per day. However, in order to meet the increasing demand for milk in the city, the capacity was expanded in phases to the level of 5.00 lakh litres of milk per day.

DMS has been mainly procuring raw/fresh milk from the State Dairy Federations of the neighboring States and some quantity of milk from the co-operative societies to augment the supplies.

(in lakh kgs)

Year	Total qty. of milk procured	Average/per day
2003-04	756.87	2.07
2004-05	992.16	2.71
2005-06 (upto Dec. 2005)	734.72	2.67

2.39 The present sale of milk by DMS is around 2.75 lakh litre per day. Pending the transfer of DMS to NCT of Delhi, the Department is taking steps for corporatization of DMS under the Companies Act. The Department also propose to continue with minimal plan funding to expand and operationalise the network of DMS.

Sl. No.	Major Component of the Scheme	2004-05		2005-06	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement (upto Dec. 05)
1.	Procurement of milk (in lakh Kgs)	967.79	997.67	1106.00	734.72
2.	Sale of Milk (in lakh litres)	1277.50	1212.70	1460.00	955.71
3.	Production of (i) Ghee (in MT) (ii) Table Butter (in MT)	370.00	483.91 25.17	878.00	490.04 15.42

Total Tenth Plan Outlay = Rs. 1.00 crore
(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actuals
2002-03	1.00	1.00	2.02
2003-04	1.00	1.00	0.62
2004-05	1.00	3.50	3.50
2005-06	0.00	0.00	0.00 (till Feb. 2006)
2006-07	1.00		

2.40 The above table indicates that no allocation has been made to DMS during the year 2005-06. DMS, being a very important and cheaper source of milk and other Dairy products for the citizens of Delhi. The Committee enquired about the reasons for non-allocation of fund during the year 2005-06 and also to elaborate the efforts being made for the upgradation and strengthening of DMS and also measures that are being initiated by the Department to make it a viable self sustained unit.

The Department in reply to the above queries has stated as under :-

“While finalizing the 10th Plan exercise, the Planning Commission allowed a provision of Rs.1 crore for the first six months of the Plan and advised that the scheme may be weeded out from the Plan side keeping in view the decision of the Cabinet that the DMS may be transferred to Govt. of NCT of Delhi.

The matter was taken up with the Planning Commission again and they agreed to continue the DMS in the Plan side for further two years. Subsequently, when the Planning Commission was approached again, they advised the Department to go back to the Cabinet since the Cabinet had earlier approved transfer of DMS to Delhi

Government. The Cabinet Note for obtaining the approval of the Cabinet for handing over management of DMS to an alternate agency is under process. It may, however, be pointed out here that because of various steps taken during the last two years, the performance of DMS has significantly improved. The average milk sale, which was 2.53 litres during 2003-04 increased to 3.32 litres (including the custom packing of Mother Dairy Milk by DMS) during 2004-05 and 3.50 litres (including the custom packing of Mother Dairy Milk by DMS) during 2005-06. Further the cash loss, which was Rs.20.70 crore during 2003-04 was brought down to Rs.5.40 crore during 2004-05 and to about Rs.1.93 crore (provisional) during 2005-06. As regards the upgradation and strengthening of DMS and improvement in the quality of the milk and milk products supplied by DMS, several steps have been taken by the DMS”.

FISHERIES

Under Utilisation of Funds

2.41 Fisheries Sector occupies a very important place in the socio-economy of the country. It is a source of livelihood to about 14.48 million people engaged fully, partially or in subsidiary activities pertaining to the sector and other ancillary activities with fisheries and aquaculture. Most importantly large section of the economically backward population of the country are greatly benefited from this sector. Apart from being a power full employment generator it serves as a source of cheap and nutritious food besides being a foreign exchange earner. There has been steady growth in the export of fish and fish products. With a coastline of around 8118 kms long and an equally large area under estuaries, backwaters, lagoons etc. and also from marine and inland resources India has now become the third largest producer of fish in the world and second largest producer of fresh water fish in the world. According to the information furnished by the Department, fish production during 2004-05 is estimated to be 63.04 lakh tones.

2.42 The following are the on-going schemes under the fisheries sector :-

- (i) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture
- (ii) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations
- (iii) Welfare Programme for Fishermen
- (iv) Fisheries Training and Extension
- (v) Strengthening of Data-base and Information Networking
- (vi) Assistance of Fisheries Institutes

2.43 According to the information furnished by the Department, the RE and actual expenditure incurred since 2002-03 for fisheries sector, is as under :-

Total Tenth Plan outlay = Rs. 740 crore

For fisheries sector

(Rs. in crore)

Year	BE	RE	Actuals
2002-03	102.00	82.00	75.98
2003-04	95.00	70.24	68.72
2004-05	160.00	148.97	150.50
2005-06	174.36	166.11	134.23 (till Feb. 2006)
2006-07	277.00		

Total expenditure = Rs. 429.43 crore

i.e. 58.03% of the total allocation of Rs. 740 crore

2.44 Asked how the Department propose to utilize the huge unspent balance during the fifth year (2006-07) of the 10th Plan and also for furnishing of details about the strategy proposed to be adopted for this, the Department has stated as under :-

“The Department has been taking steps to improve the implementation of the scheme for development of fisheries and also initiated measures to enhance the quantum as well as pace of plan expenditure. Significant expenditure could not be affected during first two years of the Plan since certain preliminary steps were required to be completed. The Department has made an expenditure of Rs.167.71 crore which is 96% of BE (Rs.174.36 crore) and exceeded the RE of Rs.166.11 crore in so far as fisheries is concerned. The Department has, therefore, spent Rs.462.91 crore which is 62.55% of 10th Plan outlay of Rs.740 crore. With the constant monitoring and improved coordination with State Governments in implementation of the schemes and with the proposed setting up of National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), it is expected to make full utilization of funds allocated for 2006-07 and achieve the target of Tenth Plan outlay.”

2.45 The Committee has further observed that there has been under utilization of funds under several schemes in fisheries sector during the first four years of the 10th Plan leading to huge unspent balances in the fifth and final year of the Plan, of which some of the schemes are given below :-

“i) Development of Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations

Total Plan outlay = Rs. 125 crore

(Rs. in crore)

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
BE	12.00	7.00	11.00	23.00	30.00
RE	8.00	5.48	15.00	26.71	
Actuals	10.72	5.45	14.70	18.72 (till Feb. 2006)	

(ii) Training and Extension

Total 10th Plan outlay = Rs. 15.00 crore

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
BE	1.00	1.00	1.50	1.50	1.90
RE	1.00	1.00	1.50	1.70	
Actual Expenditure	1.69	0.92	1.25	1.49 (till Feb. 2006)	

Total expenditure till Feb. 2006 = Rs. 5.37 crore i.e. 35.8% of Rs. 15.00 crore

iii) **Strengthening of Database and Information Networking**

Total 10th Plan outlay = Rs. 45 crore

	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
BE	1.00	2.00	15.00	5.10	5.00
RE	0.50	2.00	4.80	5.10	
Actual Exp.	0.50	1.38	4.99	5.30 (till Feb. 2006)	

Total expenditure till Feb. 2006 = Rs. 12.17 crore

i.e. 27% of Rs. 45 crore

2.46 When the Committee pointed out the huge underutilization of funds wherein the Department could not even spend 50% of the total outlays for these schemes during the first four years of the 10th Plan, the Department in their reply stated as under :-

“Out of the total allocation of Rs. 125 crore for the entire Xth Plan period, a sum of Rs. 56.34 crore has been utilized during first four years of the Xth Plan i.e. till 31.03.2006. Out of this, Rs 25.47 crore was spent in 2005-06 only. The lower utilization of the allocation mainly attributes to (a) non-receipt of techno-economically viable proposals together with confirmation on availability of land, environmental clearance etc. from the State Governments/UTs, (b) slow progress in implementation of approved fishing harbour and fish landing centres projects by the State Governments mainly due to paucity of funds with them for contributing their matching share, (c) late commencement of the restructured macro Centrally Sponsored Scheme on ‘Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations’ as the restructured scheme was approved by the competent authority on 22.01.04.

The Department will make efforts to fully utilize the budget provision in 2006-07. Besides NFDB will also play a major role in this area and the needs of the fishery sector both in physical and financial terms are expected to be taken care of.

Against total outlay of Rs. 15.00 crore to implement training and extension scheme for the entire period of the 10th Plan, a sum of Rs. 5.00 crore has been provided at BE stage during the first 4 years of the Plan. In the light of proposals received from the States/UTs and progress in implementation of the scheme, Central assistance of Rs. 6.02 crore has been extended during the period under report (including Rs 2.12 crore during 2005-06). All efforts will be made to utilize the allocation made during the year 2006-07.

Against the proposed outlay of Rs.45.00 crore for 10th Plan, revised financial implications of the scheme were worked out at Rs.24.50 crore in consultation with the Planning Commission to implement the scheme on Strengthening of Database and Information Networking for the Fisheries Sector. The total expenditure made till March, 2006 is Rs.11.62 crore. The expenditure on this is being incurred on a need basis and the savings available are made use of for other schemes for which the demand is more pressing.”

Welfare of Fishermen

2.47 National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen is being implemented in various States/Union Territories. The Scheme consists of three components – Development of Model Fishermen Villages; Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen and Saving-cum-Relief. The objective of the component is to provide basic civic amenities such as housing, drinking water and construction of community hall for fishermen. A fishermen village may consist of not less than ten houses. The villages would be provided with tube wells at the rate of one tube well for every 20 houses. For recreation and common working place, a fishermen village with at least 75 houses is eligible to avail financial assistance for construction of a community hall. Unit costs under the scheme since 2000-01 is Rs. 40,000/- for a house, Rs. 30,000/- for the tube-well (Rs. 35,000 for North

Eastern Region) and Rs. 1,75,000/- for community hall. The expenditure is shared equally between Central and State Government. In case of Union Territories, the expenditure is fully borne by the Centre. Under the component 'Group Accident Insurance Scheme' the fishermen/fisherwomen who are registered as active fishermen/fisherwomen with State/UT Governments are insured for Rs. 50,000 for one year against accidental death or permanent disability and Rs. 25,000 for permanent partial accident.

2.48 Under the Saving-cum-Relief component, the monthly contribution of marine fisheries is Rs. 75/- for eight months, while that of inland fisher is Rs. 50/- for nine months. A matching amount is provided with equal contribution from Central and State Governments and the accumulated amount is distributed back to the fisher in four/three equal installments at the rate of Rs. 300/- per month to marine/inland fisher.

Asked how many fisherman villages have been developed in the past three years under 'Development of Model Fishermen Villages' especially in the tsunami affected areas and also whether the fixed targets were met, the Department has started as under :-

“Under National Scheme of Welfare of fishermen, financial assistance is provided for development of model fishermen villages to provide basic civic amenities such as housing, drinking water and construction of community hall for the benefit of fishermen. During 2003-04 to 2005-06, an amount of Rs.4487.78 lakh was released for construction of 44683 houses.

The package approved for Tsunami Rehabilitation Programmes covers housing, fisheries, ports and jetties, roads and bridges, social infrastructure, environmental and coastal protection measures. The Rehabilitation Programme has provision of Rs. 3096.88 crore for construction of houses in the Tsunami-affected areas, which will cover fishermen as well.”

2.49 The Committee also enquired the Department about the amount of funds being disbursed under the 'Group Accident Insurance for Active Fisherman' during the last three years and also the number of beneficiaries therein along with the time period within which the insurance money is being paid to the affected fisherman, the Department has replied that :-

“During 2003-04 to 2005-06, central assistance of Rs.299.14 lakh has been released to various states/organizations and 41.60 lakh fishers have been covered under Group Accident Insurance. The insurance company on receipt of the insurance claims settles the same normally within one month. The insurance claims are required to be submitted by the State Governments/UTs to the FISHCOPFED, a nodal agency to implement the insurance component within 9 months from the date of occurrence of accident. The efforts are made to adhere to the schedule in vogue through periodic interaction.”

2.50 With regard to the 'saving-cum-relief' component the committee had pointed out the huge shortfall in the target and achievement thereto and enquired from the Department, the reasons for this shortfall and also the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to cover the short fall the Department in their reply has stated that :-

“Under saving-cum-relief component 3.27 lakh fishers have been covered during 2005-06, which is 77.8% of target of 4.20 lakh fishermen. The annual coverage under the component varies from 3.5 lakh to 4.0 lakh fishermen. In view of this and funds provided under the Budget, target for the year 2006-07 has been fixed at 3.5 lakh. However, efforts will be made to enhance the coverage in the terminal year of the 10th Plan.”

National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB)

2.51 The Department in order to bring all activities related to fisheries and aquaculture under a single umbrella, proposes to set up a National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) so that focused attention could be given and also to improve the production, processing, storage, transport and marketing of products of marine fisheries and

aquaculture. The Department had earlier informed about the initiation of feasibility study for its establishment.

2.52 Asked about the status with regard to the establishment of the Board and to furnish details like the composition of NFDB, its mandate, functions and powers, and also the way the Board would be instrumental in improving the production, processing and marketing of fishing products, the Department has stated as below :-

“After getting in-principle approval from Planning Commission for setting up national Fisheries Development Board, the proposal was approved by Expenditure Finance Committee in its meeting held on 6.3.2006. Based on the decisions taken in EFC meeting, the Cabinet Note is being finalized for seeking approval of Cabinet. It is proposed to register the Board under the Societies Registration Act pending enactment of a suitable legislation. As regards the composition, mandate, functions and powers of NFDB are concerned, the same are being worked out. The main objective of the Board is to bring all activities relating to fisheries and aquaculture under single umbrella for focused attention and professional management through proper coordination with various agencies involved in fisheries. The activities proposed to be taken up by the Board are meant towards realizing the potential for increasing fish production and augmenting marketing arrangements. The proposed activities would help in achieving significant increase in production, improving processing facilities, generation of employment and domestic marketing of fishery products in the country.”

2.53 Regarding the establishment of NFDB, the representatives of the Department also informed the Committee as under :-

Approval by the EFC, the Planning Commission have been given. In fact, there is a Committee called the Agriculture Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of the hon. Prime Minister. That Committee has also considered this and blessed this. Formal approval of the Cabinet is being sought very shortly. The Secretary was happy to report that in the current year's Annual Plan, there is an outlay of Rs. 151 crore for this. Our own requirement which we have projected for Fisheries is of the order of Rs. 2000 crore over a period of five years. The Secretary also feel that is possible to achieve an increase of 60 per cent over five years in production which would mean an annual growth rate of 10 per cent. It would also aim at almost doubling the exports and increasing employment by about 3 million. This is something which the Secretary was happy to report. Of course, the progress may have been slower than what is desired but at least it has taken place.”

Development of Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries in the North Eastern States

2.54 The Committee has noted the abundance of wealth lying untapped in the North Eastern States. It was also pointed out that due to insufficient attention and lack of initiation and coordination on the part of the Government in sincerely tapping all these wealth lying the abundance of wealth in these areas remain untapped. The committee further pointed out the Department's insufficient attention by citing that nothing much has been mentioned by the Department regarding implementation of any schemes or projects being taken up in these economically weak and backward areas/parts of the country.

2.55 Citing the immense scope for development, specially with regard to fisheries, piggery etc. in this part of the country, when the Committee enquired about the measures that are being initiated by the Department to tap these potentials, the Department replied as under :-

“The Department has been earmarking 10% of the Plan Allocation for the development of Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries in the North Eastern Region including Sikkim. However, as most of the Central Sector Schemes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes relating to Marine and Coastal Fisheries are not implementable in North Eastern Region, it has not always been possible to fully utilize the 10 % allocation. However, the Department has been making strident efforts to increase the release of funds to the North Eastern States. The release of funds to these States during 2004-05 was Rs 50.81 crore as against Rs 48.06 crore in the previous two years put together. The release during 2005-06 (till 31st March) is about Rs 57.00 crore.”

2.56 The Committee further enquired about the schemes and projects that have been implemented during the first four years of the 10th Plan in the North Eastern States and also the number of projects that have since been completed and schemes which are in the process of completion, the Department in their reply has stated as under:-

“The Department is implementing a number of Plan schemes in the NER and Sikkim. All these schemes aim at assisting the State Governments for the development of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries sectors of the States. A statement indicating the scheme-wise details along with the funds released to NER and Sikkim during the first four years of the 10th Plan is annexed. All these schemes are ongoing schemes and are expected to continue during the 11th Plan.

In North-Eastern States including Sikkim, 19 projects under Intensive Dairy Development Programme have been approved since inception of the scheme with total outlay of Rs. 89.08 crore and 8 projects have already been completed. Four projects for the States of Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Assam have been approved during 10th plan period with an outlay of Rs.24.48 crore. Projects under IDDP are generally of 5-years duration. The funds are released after the receipt of utilization certificate and report of physical progress.

In order to develop inland fisheries and aquaculture across the country including the North-Eastern States, macro scheme entitled “Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture” has been launched in the X Plan. The components of the scheme include development of freshwater aquaculture, development of coldwater fisheries and aquaculture in hilly regions, development of waterlogged areas into aquaculture estates, utilization of inland saline/alkaline soils for aquaculture, inland Capture Fisheries (Programme for augmenting productivity of reservoirs), etc.

Under the ongoing freshwater aquaculture programme some of the major activities are construction of new ponds, reclamation/renovation of ponds and tanks, first year inputs (fish seed, fish feed, fertilizers, manures, etc.), integrated fish farming, running water fish culture, establishment of fish seed hatcheries and fish feed mills, etc. Assistance is also given to progressive fish farmers for purchase of aerators to further enhance the productivity of fish. Subsidy for the above-mentioned activities is given at the higher rates to fish farmers of

Schedules Tribes/ Scheduled Castes. Subsidy is also provided for freshwater prawn seed hatchery, laboratory, soil & water testing kits, integrated units for ornamental fish, transportation of seed in hilly areas.

During the first four years of the 10th Plan, Central assistance of Rs. 1204.88 lakh has been provided to NE States including Sikkim for development of inland fisheries. Out of this, Central assistance of Rs. 411.50 lakh has been provided during the current financial year 2005-06 for development of inland fisheries and aquaculture in the North-Eastern States including Sikkim.

Further, centrally sponsored schemes on Welfare of fishermen, Fisheries Training and Extension and Setting up of Post Harvest Infrastructure and Marketing and Strengthening of Database and Infrastructure Networking for fishery sector are also in operation in the North Eastern States. On receipt of proposals, utilization certificate and physical progress report of funds provided in earlier years from the State Governments including North Eastern States, the Central assistance is extended to implement these scheme. Under these schemes, Central assistance of Rs. 705.19 lakh has been provided to the North –Eastern States during the first four years of the 10th Plan.

As mentioned earlier, the macro scheme consisting of six components including “Assistance to States for Piggery Development” is expected to be approved in early 2006-07. Piggery scheme will then be implemented in the North Eastern States in a big way.

Funds released to North Eastern States and Sikkim					
(Rs in Lakh)					
S.No	Name of the Scheme	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (P)
1.	Assistance to State Poultry/Duck Farms	410.00	299.00	553.00	845.00
2.	Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases	241.40	862.60	705.00	1100.00
3.	Professional Efficiency Development	36.50	50.00	50.00	70.00
4.	Assistance to States for Fodder Development	50.00	124.57	500.00	371.00
5.	National Project for Cattle & Buffalo Breeding	113.97	400.00	608.14	742.00
6.	National Project on Rinderpest Eradication	123.43	150.00	105.00	120.00
7.	Conservation of Threatened Breeds	171.50	50.00	360.68	44.39
8.	Central /Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratory	50.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
9.	Integrated Sample Survey	40.90	79.21	75.00	61.11
10.	Livestock Census	11.11	150.00	252.12	45.00
11.	Livestock Insurance				350.00
12.	Modernisation of Slaughterhouses	0.00	0.00	335.50	0.00
13.	Integrated Dairy Development Project	163.23	389.00	699.18	746.00
14.	Assistance to Cooperatives	215.23	0.00	0.00	546.00
15.	Strengthening Infrastructure for Clean Milk Production	0.00	0.00	72.22	92.00
16.	Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund*	0.00	0.00	0.00	480.00
17.	Training and Extension (Fisheries)	37.00	25.16	44.38	48.00
18.	Strengthening of Database & Information Networking	4.00	21.41	53.39	37.18
19.	Development of Inland Fisheries & Aquaculture	227.59	198.89	366.90	411.50
20.	Strengthening of Post-Harvest Infrastructure	0.00	0.00	100.00	23.50
21.	National Welfare Programme for Fishermen	12.52	98.00	150.65	50.00
Total		1908.38	2897.84	5081.16	5685.00

*Released to NABARD for NER and Sikkim.

(P): Provisional

Women in Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Sector

2.57 The Committee has noted the various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the development of livestock, dairy and fisheries sectors. While many of these schemes are primarily oriented towards weaker sections of the society, it is observed that these beneficiary-oriented schemes, in almost all the cases are male oriented. The Department has also stated about the non-feasibility of making separate allocation of funds for woman.

2.58 The Committee pointed out about the vibrant role played by women in implementing most of the rural schemes, such as rural poultry, dairy co-operative movement and certain other activities in this sector where women are in the forefront, except for some sectors such as deep sea fishing which might be dangerous.

When the Committee asked the Department about the number of schemes under which separate allocations have been made for women and also if there are separate targets being fixed for women beneficiaries, especially in the field of training along with the measures being initiated by the Department to overcome the non-feasibility of making separate allocation of funds for women, the Department has replied as under :-

“While the Department does not prescribe separate targets for women beneficiaries, it is obvious that in most of the activities related to animal husbandry and fisheries, the involvement of women is quite significant. The Department of Women & Child Development, Ministry of Human Resources Development is implementing ‘Support for Training & Employment Programme (STEP)’ under which they also consider animal husbandry and dairy projects proposed by women and received from various States.

Various schemes concerning fisheries implemented by the Department are beneficial to the women directly or indirectly but no separate allocations have been made. In marine fisheries, women do not participate in sea fishing activities. However, in certain fisheries related activities such as fish seed collection, collection of mussels, seaweeds, fish processing, marketing activities, etc. women are significantly involved.

Though there has been no separate targets fixed for women beneficiaries in the field of training, the skill upgradation programmes carried out by Integrated Fisheries Project (IFP) is targeted at women self help groups. During last four years of 10th Plan, 77 groups consisting of 2210 fisherwomen have been imparted training in hygienic fish handling and preparation of ready to eat and serve products. Further, on the job training provided by Integrated Fisheries Project to college students of Fisheries vocation consists of 80% of female students. For training to self-help groups, separate targets for 300 numbers is fixed in annual programme of IFP.”

PART – II
RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS

Recommendation No. 1

Tenth Plan allocation and expenditure for Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

1. The Department have informed that the total expenditure during the Tenth Plan is expected to be around Rs. 2450.00 crore which is almost 98% of the total allocation of Rs. 2,500 crore for the entire Tenth Plan period. However, it is observed that the expenditure during the first four years of the Tenth Plan comes to Rs. 1514.52 crore which constitutes barely 60.58% of the total outlay of Rs. 2,500 crore with only one year to go. The Department in their reply had assured that with the implementation of new schemes such as Livestock Insurance, National Fisheries Development Board which are expected to take off during 2006-07, the Department would make all possible efforts to fully utilize the allocated funds and would try to get additional allocation in the course of the years, so as to reach the full Tenth Plan outlay of Rs. 2,500 crore.

Having regard to the pace of expenditure during the preceding four years, the Committee are surprised as to how the Department would utilize such a huge unspent balance of about Rs. 985.50 crore during the last year of the Tenth Plan. The utilization of around Rs. 985 crore which is almost 40% of the total allocation, during the fifth and final year as against the reported expenditure of only Rs. 1514 crore during the first four years, appears to be a formidable task given the past performance of the Department. The Committee feel that the Department also made a poor performance by not utilizing the allocated funds. The Committee

would, therefore, like to be apprised of the new measures/strategies specifically proposed by the Department to ensure full and effective utilization of allocations in the final year of the Tenth Plan. The Committee would also like the Department to keep a strict watch over the pace of implementation of schemes and expenditure incurred thereon, so as to fully utilize the allocated funds and also to enable completion of various schemes within the stipulated time schedule.

Recommendation No. 2**National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding**

2. The Committee have been informed that the National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and was launched in Oct. 2000 for a period of 10 years, with an allocation of Rs. 402 crore for phase-I. The scheme envisages genetic upgradation on priority basis and aims at re-organisation and re-orientation of the Cattle and Buffalo Breeding Operation in the country. It has been also noted that since May, 2000 States joined this scheme very late so Planning Commission has permitted to extend the Phase I by two years i.e. upto March, 2007. The Committee are perturbed to note that out of the 27 participating States/UTs, Phase-I will be practically completed only in 13 States/Uts by 2006-07.

The Committee recommend that this being a very important scheme to help the farmers as well as the States to breed the better kind of cattle and buffaloes, the Murra-buffaloes and Shaliwal and Tharparkar and other such breed of cows of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan should be given special attention so that the number of cattles of these breeds could be increased on a mass scale so that the farmers and dairy owners can buy these cattles at a reasonable price to augment their milk production and can be exported to other countries in case of demand.

Recommendation No. 3**Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMD-CP)**

3. The Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme was earlier a component of 'Assistance to States for Control of Livestock Disease'. It is now a new component of the Centrally sponsored macro-management scheme with 100% funding including the cost of vaccine and supporting expenses. The State Government provides manpower, infrastructure and logistical support. The Committee has noted that the programme is being implemented selectively and covered only in 54 districts throughout the country of which cattle/buffalo population are susceptible and easily affected.

The Committee are surprised to note that the schemes has not covered almost the entire eastern parts of the country including all the North Eastern States. The Committee was informed that another scheme called "Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD)" has been taken up in districts which are not covered under FMD –CP. The Committee note the importance of FMD-CP as its objective is to protect the cattle by vaccination against Foot and Mouth Disease. The Committee would like to be apprised of all the States/Districts, excluding the 54 identified districts, that are free of Foot and Mouth Disease or the reasons therein for not including the same under FMD-CP. The Committee would also like the Department to apprise the measures being initiated for the identification of such susceptible areas.

The Committee have also been informed that rinderpest disease has been eliminated but it would take about 10 to 15 years to overcome the Foot and Mouth

Disease, as it requires regular vaccination for five years, to make an animal free from this disease. The Department informed that the population of cattle being large, it was becoming difficult to produce the vaccination on such a large scale. The Committee are of the opinion that in case of shortage the private sector can be encouraged to produce this vaccine on a mass-scale and the vaccine can be made available in abundance and it is not difficult as the human population is so large and no person is allowed to die for want of a medicine or a vaccine.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department should come out with a definite and clear cut plan so that FMD could be eliminated from the country at the earliest. Since 10-15 years are too long a period. We should plan mass scale production of vaccine and also regular vaccination of the animals, first in the areas affected by this disease and later on in other areas where there are chances of its spread. A publicity campaign should be launched to make the farmers aware of the vaccination for saving their animals from Foot and Mouth Disease. The State Governments through the village panchayats should be involved in this information campaign against this disease as also the local print and electronic media.

Recommendation No. 4**Livestock Insurance**

4. It has time and again been recommended by the Committee that live stock insurance should be introduced immediately so that the farmers can freely breed the milch cattles without fear of their losses due to disease or death. The Committee have been informed that livestock insurance has been approved and the funds have been released. However, the first policies are yet to be issued. The Government have decided that the insurance scheme will at first run only in 100 selected districts where there is a substantial population of highly productive cattle.

The Committee, recommend that the livestock insurance scheme should not be further delayed and also should not be confined to 100 districts only, rather it should cover the whole of the country in phases within a period of two years. The Committee feel that the scheme should not be confine to two animals per beneficiary, and should be extended to cover 4-5 animals per household in due course. The premium of 50% is too high for a poor farmer to pay. It should be in the ratio of 75:25 for government and the farmers respectively.

The Committee also recommend that the period of insurance coverage should be at lease five years (and not three years as at present) as the milch animals give milk for at least 8-10 years.

Recommendation No. 5**Conservation of Threatened Livestock Breeds**

5. The Committee have been informed that during the Tenth Plan the 'conservation of Threatened Livestock Breeds' of small ruminants, pack animals, pigs and equine was introduced as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme which aims at conserving and protecting threatened or near extinct breeds of livestock, whose population is less than 10,000. Several species of goats, sheeps, yaks etc. are threatened breeds. But the Committee are dismayed to note that even after 4 years of the scheme being in operation, the Government has not been able to make an authentic data-base of the threatened livestock breed and is satisfied by being a signatory to the UN, FAO sponsored 'State of the World Animal Genetic Resources' programme. As the UN will also take the help of the local governments, NGOs, experts groups etc. for this purpose, the Government of India can also take their help alongwith the 'National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources' a research center of ICAR and State Governments to survey the threatened breeds in a time bound manner.

Recommendation No. 6**Bird Flu**

6. The Committee have noted with great concern that Avian Influenza (popularly know as 'Bird Flu') has come to India, though till now in a localized way. The poultry is a major source of income for the landless labourers and small farmers whose sole livelihood depends on poultry. Lakhs of birds have been culled out in Nawapore and Jalgaon areas of Maharashtra. The Committee feel that it is the lack of stringent measures for import of poultry products and non-compliance on surveillance and sampling of migratory birds that led to the spread of bird flu which resulted in a very damaging effect on the entire poultry industry in the country causing tremendous sufferings and losses to the poultry producers.

The Committee recommend that stringent measures should be taken towards formulating processes and policies for the import of poultry and its products. The poultry Venture Capital Scheme should be started in a large scale, instead of a small scale as at present, to cover large poultry farmers as well as poor backyard poultry producers in rural areas.

Recommendation No. 7**Dairying**

7. The Committee have noted that though dairying sector not only provides employment and income generating opportunities but has also become an important secondary source of income for millions of rural families, yet the total outlay for this sector for the whole of 10th Plan was Rs. 361 crore out of which only Rs. 175 crore could be utilized during first four years of this Plan, which shows poor planning and low priority given to dairy industry. The Committee deprecate this kind of approach of the Government. Even a single manufacturing industry in other sector is given loan more than this 10th Plan outlay for dairy sector. The Committee failed to understand how the Assistance to Co-operatives, Intensive Dairy Development Programme, Strengthening of Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production, Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Funds etc. could be run by this amount and still 52% of the total plan outlay remain undisbursed even after a lapse of four years of 10th Plan. Funds allotted for 'Assistance to Co-operatives' was Rs. 130 crore and even out of this only Rs. 34.65 crore i.e. 27% could be disbursed during the first four years of 10th Plan period, which shows the poor state of priority given to this sector. It shows poor planning and low priority towards this sector on the part of the government which needs to be addressed seriously. The Committee strongly recommend that the dairy sector should be developed in a holistic manner enhancing in outlay and giving priority to the dairy development schemes in a planned and given time frame, so that our farmers could also produce quality milk and other milk products comparable to Western countries and get remunerative price for their products. Government should strengthen the Intensive dairy development programme and give more assistance to cooperatives to bring about white revolution in our country.

Recommendation No. 8**Milk Productivity**

8. The Committee have been told that India has the highest cattle population in the world. About 16% of the cattle and 57% of the buffaloes of the total world population are in India. However, while the world average of milk production is about 2050 litres per lactation, ours is still around a thousand litre. In Israel it is 9000 litres. The Committee are of the considered view that we need to make determined and concerted efforts towards the genetic upgradation and disease control of the cattle as also fodder development, to improve the milk productivity of the milch animals. The National Programme for the Cattle and Buffalo Breeding of which the phase-I is in operation, whereas the phase-II is still at formation stage, should be vigorously implemented. Immediate steps should be taken to improve upon our own indigenous breeds, such as Murra-buffalo for which there is a big demand from some foreign countries. This breed can be exported, if bred in large numbers, thereby earning valuable foreign exchange.

Recommendation No. 9**DMS**

9. The Committee are happy to note that Delhi Milk Scheme which was once a loss making entity of Government of India, has improved a lot and the present sale of milk has reached 2.75 lakh litres per day and the losses which were Rs. 20.70 crore during 2003-04 have come down to about Rs. 1.93 crore during 2005-06. The Department has informed that the DMS is likely to get an ISO and HACCP Certificate for its procurement, manufacturing, storage and marketing facilities shortly.

The DMS was earlier to be transferred to the Delhi Government. However, the Govt. of NCT, Delhi was not in favour of taking over DMS unless the Govt. of India accepts all the liabilities of DMS and grant adequate funds for modernization of the plant machinery.

The Committee recommend that if the assistance to dairy cooperatives is increased and intensive dairy development scheme is vigorously promoted in and around Delhi, then DMS could be run profitably and the Delhi Government or Mother Dairy would not feel reluctant to take over its activity. The successful running of the DMS would be a boon both to the milk producers in and around Delhi as also to the consumers who can get quality milk at fair prices.

Recommendation No. 10

Welfare of Fishermen

10. The Committee note that the National Scheme for Welfare of Fisherman which consists of three components, viz. development of model fishermen villages, group accident insurance and saving-cum-relief for active fisherman, has been implemented in various States/Union Territories. The Department, on a query with regard to the numbers of fisherman villages that have been developed during the past three years in the Tsunami affected areas and also if the targets set were met, has not given clear and specific replies but in a general response has cited that “the package approved for Tsunami Rehabilitation Programmes covers housing, fisheries, ports and jetties, roads and bridges, social infrastructure, environmental and coastal protection measures. The Rehabilitation Programme has provision of Rs. 3096.88 crore for construction of houses in the Tsunami-affected areas, which will cover fishermen as well.”

It has been more than a year since the devastating Tsunami waves caused unimaginable havoc and losses to the people. The Committee in their Report on DFG of the Department (2005-06) had recommended that the approved package for rehabilitation of fishermen affected by Tsunami, should be implemented scrupulously and speedily to provide the much needed succour to the affected fishermen. However, the Committee are disheartened to note that in many instances the rehabilitation packages meant for the affected people are yet to be taken up in full swing which gives an unmistakable impression that these rehabilitation programmes are not being accorded the required and focused attention by the Department. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department should implement the rehabilitation packages on war footings to provide much needed succour to the affected people. The Committee desire to be apprised of all the

developmental and rehabilitation programmes including long-term plans and results thereof that have already been completed

Recommendation No. 11**National Fisheries Development Board**

11. The Fisheries sector is a powerful employment generator and cheap source of nutritious food and also a foreign exchange source. However, the Committee have noted that in this sector there is a huge underutilization of funds and out of Rs. 740 crore sanctioned for the Tenth Plan only Rs. 429.43 crore, i.e. 58%, have been utilized during the first four years of the Tenth Plan period which shows poor planning and implementation of the schemes in this sector. The main challenges facing fishery development are development of sustainable technologies for fin and shell fish culture, yield optimization, infrastructure for harvest and post harvest operations and landing and berthing facilities for fishing vessels. The fisheries sector, in particular the inland fisheries, has tremendous potential which needs to be tapped on priority basis.

The Committee desire that since the approval of Planning Commission and Expenditure Finance Committee have already been accorded, National Fisheries Development Board should be set up without any further delay so that all activities relating to fisheries and aquaculture could be co-ordinated in a professional and focused way and the potential for increasing the fish production and its marketing could be fully tapped leading to generation of more employment opportunities.

Recommendation No. 12**Development of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries in the North Eastern States**

12. The Committee have been informed that the Department is earmarking 10% of its Plan allocation to the North Eastern States and is implementing a number of Plan schemes in the North Eastern and Sikkim to assist the respective State Governments for development of Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries sector. The Department has also informed that as most of the Central Sector Schemes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes relating to Marine and Coastal Fisheries are not implementable in North Eastern Region, it has not always been possible to fully utilize the 10 % allocation.

In order to develop inland fisheries and aquaculture across the country including North Eastern States, macro scheme named 'Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture' has been launched in the Tenth Plan. The scheme includes development of fresh water aquaculture, cold water fisheries and aquaculture in hilly regions, waterlogged areas into aquaculture estates, construction of new and renovation of old ponds and tanks, running water fish culture, fish feed mills, etc. The Committee have also been apprised that the Centrally sponsored schemes on 'welfare of fishermen', 'marketing and strengthening of database and infrastructure', Networking for fisheries sector are also in operation in the North Eastern States.

The Committee are surprised to find that the scheme "Assistance to States for Piggery Development" is yet to get approval though four years of the Tenth Plan have already expired. The scheme is expected to be approved during 2006-07 which means that it can be implemented only during the next Five Year Plan, which shows the lackadaisical attitude of the Government towards this scheme. The Committee strongly recommend that all the schemes including the 'Piggery Development', should be formulated, approved and implemented in a given time frame and should not be allowed to linger on for a long time. Piggery development especially has a big role in the economic upliftment of the people in the North Eastern States.

Recommendation No. 13

Women in Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Sector

13. The Committee have noted with great concern that the Department does not prescribe separate targets for women beneficiaries in animal husbandry and fisheries sector, though woman work in large numbers in this sector. Various schemes concerning fisheries, implemented by the Department are beneficial to the women directly or indirectly but no separate allocation is made for them nor any targets are fixed for women beneficiaries in the field of training.

The Committee strongly recommend that women should be given special training in handling the animal husbandry and fisheries work, especially in selling the milk and milk products and fisheries in the market near their places of residence so that they can contribute towards the household income alongwith the other members of their family. Women should be encouraged for forming Self Help Groups and they should be trained for marketing of dairying and fishing products.

NEW DELHI;
18 May, 2006
28 Vaisakha, 1928 (Saka)

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Agriculture

**MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
ON AGRICULTURE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, THE 12TH APRIL, 2006 AT 1430
HRS. IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'D', GROUND FLOOR, PARLIAMENT HOUSE
ANNEXE, NEW DELHI**

The Committee sat from 1430 hrs. to 1615 hrs.

PRESENT

Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav – Chairman

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava
3. Shri Khagen Das
4. Shri Sharanjit Singh Dhillon
5. Shri Raghunath Jha
6. Smt. Rupatai D. Patil Nilangekar
7. Shri Deepender Singh Hooda

RAJYA SABHA

8. Shri Harish Rawat
9. Shri Bhagwati Singh
10. Shri Sharad Anantrao Joshi

SECRETARIAT

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|----|-------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri Hardev Singh | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 2. | Shri N.S.Hooda | - | Under Secretary |

WITNESSES

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------|---|
| 1. | Shri P.M.A. Hakeem | Secretary, (Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) |
| 2. | Shri P.P. Mathur | AS&FA |
| 3. | Shri S. K. Bandyopadhyay | AHC |
| 4. | Smt. Neerja Rajkumar | JS(C&DD) |
| 5. | Smt. Upma Chawdhry | JS(A&LH) |
| 6. | Shri Ajay Bhattacharya | JS(Fisheries) |
| 7. | Shri Arvind Kaushal | JS(P&F) |

At the outset, the Chairman, Standing Committee on Agriculture, welcomed the Members of the Committee and the representatives of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries to the sitting convened for taking evidence in connection with the examination of Demands for Grants (2006-2007) of the Department. The Chairman drew attention to Direction 55(1) of the Directions by the Speaker regarding treating the entire proceedings of the sitting confidential till the Report of the Committee is presented to the Parliament. He also requested the Secretary to introduce his colleagues.

2. After introduction of the officials, the Secretary gave a brief overview of the budgetary allocation for the year 2006-2007 and also highlighted the activities/achievements made by the Department during the year.

3. The Chairman and Members of the Committee raised several queries regarding Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, on Revised Estimate for 2006-2007, research, laboratories, inadequate infrastructure several on-going and new schemes/activities of the Department, like Central Cattle Breeding Farms, Foot and Mouth Disease, Feed and Fodder Development, Central Sheep Breeding Farm, Fisheries, Assistance to States for Poultry Farms, Development of Fisheries, Survey Vessels, Milk Co-operatives, etc. The representatives of the Ministry replied to the queries one by one and assured to send replies to some questions which could not be answered during the sitting.

4. A copy of the verbatim proceedings has been kept.

The witnesses then withdrew

The Committee then adjourned.

Appendix - II**MINUTES OF THE FOURTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE HELD ON TUESDAY, THE 2ND MAY, 2006 AT 1100 HRS. IN ROOM, 'D', GROUND FLOOR, PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI**

The Committee sat from 1100 hrs. to 1255 hrs.

PRESENT

Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav – Chairman

MEMBERS**LOK SABHA**

1. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava
2. Smt. Rupatai D. Patil Nilangekar
3. Shri Y.S.Vivekananda Reddy

RAJYA SABHA

4. Smt. Mohsina Kidwai
5. Dr.M.S.Gill
6. Shri Sk. Khabir Uddin Ahmed
7. Shri Bashistha Narain Singh

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri A.K.Singh | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Hardev Singh | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 3. | Shri N.S.Hooda | - | Under Secretary |

WITNESSES**Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation)**

S.NO.	Name	Designation
1.	Smt. Radha Singh	Secretary (Department of Agriculture & Cooperation)
2.	Shri Prem Prakash Mathur	Additional Secretary & FA
3.	Dr. S.M. Jharwal	Principal Adviser
4.	Shri S.L. Bhatt	Joint Secretary
5.	Shri S.R.K Varshney	Director

Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agricultural Research and Education)

S.NO.	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. Mangala Rai	Secretary (DARE) & DG (ICAR)
2.	Smt. Sushama Nath	Addl. Secretary, (DARE) & Secretary (ICAR)
3.	Dr. Rita Sharma	Addl. Secretary & FA (DARE/ICAR)
4.	Dr. P.Das	Deputy Director General (Agril. Extension)

Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries)

S.NO.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri P.M.A. Hakeem	Secretary (Animal Husbandry Dairying & Fisheries)
2.	Smt Neerja Rajkumar	Joint Secretary (C&DD)
3.	Shri Ajay Bhattacharya	Joint Secretary (FY)
4.	Shri Arvind Kaushal	Joint Secretary (P&F)

Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Commerce)

S.NO.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Jayant Dasgupta	Joint Secretary
2.	Shri Mohan Kumar	Chairman, MPEDA
3.	Shri K.S.Money	Chairman, APEDA

Planning Commission

S.NO.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Rajeeva Ratna Shah	Member Secretary
2.	Dr. Pronab Sen	Pr. Adviser
3.	Dr. V.V. Sadamate	Adviser (Agriculture)

Ministry of Finance

S.NO.	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. Adarsh Kishore	FS & Secy (Exp.)
2.	Shri Ashok Chawla	Additional Secretary (Department of Economic Affairs)

At the outset, the Chairman, welcomed the Members of the Committee and representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries), Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Planning Commission to the sitting of the Committee and read out the contents of Direction 55 (1) of Directions by the Speaker. Thereafter, the Chairman requested the representatives of respective Ministries to introduce themselves to the Committee.

2. After the introductions, the Committee took up for examination the schemes of the Ministry of Agriculture pending sanction/implementation at various stages and other related issues which could be sorted out by the aforesaid Ministries in a coordinated way. The Members raised clarificatory queries relating to late approval or sanctions of the new schemes by Planning Commission or Ministry of Finance, as the case may be. Some of the queries were answered by the representatives of the respective Ministries and Planning Commission. The Chairman directed them to send the written replies to the queries which could not be resolved during evidence.

3. On the issue of the import of wheat, to fill up the gap in the buffer stock, the Committee decided to call the representatives of Ministry of Agriculture alongwith the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Ministry of Commerce &

Industry and also the Chairman of Food Cooperation of India (FCI) and the Chairman of State Trading Cooperation (STC) on 03.05.2006.

4. The witnesses then withdrew.
5. A verbatim record of the proceedings of the sitting has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned.

Appendix - III**MINUTES OF THE SEVENTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE HELD ON THURSDAY, THE 18 MAY, 2006 AT 1100 HRS. IN COMMITTEE ROOM '139', FIRST FLOOR, PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI**

The Committee sat from 1500 hrs.

PRESENT

Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav – Chairman

MEMBERS**LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava
3. Shri Hiten Barman
4. Shri Khagen Das
5. Shri Raghunath Jha
6. Shri Sippiparai Ravichandran
7. Shri K.J.S.P. Reddy
8. Shri Y.S.Vivekananda Reddy

RAJYA SABHA

9. Shri Harish Rawat
10. Shri Sk. Khabir Uddin Ahmed
11. Shri Sharad Anantrao Joshi

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri A.K.Singh | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Hardev Singh | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 3. | Shri N.S.Hooda | - | Under Secretary |

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration the Draft Reports on Demands for Grants (2006-07) of the following Ministries/Departments:-

- (1) Ministry of Agriculture
 - (i) Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
 - (ii) Department of Agricultural Research & Education
 - (iii) Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying
 - (2) Ministry of Food Processing Industries
2. The Committee adopted the Draft Reports with minor additions/modifications, as suggested by the members of the Committee.
 3. The Committee then authorised the Chairman to finalise the above-mentioned Reports on Demands for Grants (2006-07) and present them to the House on a date and time convenient to him.
 4. The Chairman thanked the Members for their cooperation and valuable suggestions made by them during consideration of the Demands for Grants of the concerned Ministries/Departments. The Committee also placed on record their appreciation of the strenuous efforts put in by the officers and staff of the Agriculture Committee Branch for reflecting Committee's concerns and observations in the draft reports.

The Committee then adjourned with a vote of thanks to the Chair.