



**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2017-2018)**

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

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

'DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2018-19)'

**{Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/
Recommendations contained in the Forty Ninth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of
the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2017-2018)}**

SIXTY FIRST REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

August 2018/Shravana, 1940 (Saka)

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(2017-2018)**

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the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2017-2018)}**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 09.08.2018
Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 09.08.2018



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

August 2018/Shravana, 1940 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (2017-18)

Shri Hukmdev Narayan Yadav - Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Sanjay Dhotre
3. Prof. Ravindra Vishwanath Gaikwad
4. Shri Sanganna Amarappa Karadi
5. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
6. Smt. Raksha Tai Khadase
7. Md. Badaruddoza Khan
8. Shri C. Mahendran
9. Dr. Tapas Mandal
10. Shri Janardan Mishra
- @11. Shri Praveen Kumar Nishad
12. Shri Devji M. Patel
13. Shri Nityanand Rai
14. Shri Mukesh Rajput
15. Shri Konakalla Narayana Rao
16. Shri C.L. Ruala
17. Shri Arjun Charan Sethi
18. Shri Virendra Singh
19. Shri Dharmendra Yadav
20. Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav
- #21. VACANT

RAJYA SABHA

22. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa
- *23. Shri Rajmani Patel
- *24. Shri Narayan Rane
- *25. Shri Kailash Soni
26. Shri Mohd. Ali Khan
27. Shri K.K. Ragesh
28. Shri Ram Nath Thakur
29. Shri R. Vaithilingam
- *30. Shri Harnath Singh Yadav
31. Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav

@ Shri Praveen Kumar Nishad, MP Lok Sabha nominated *vice* Shri Nephio Rio, MP Lok Sabha w.e.f. 27.04.2018 vide Bulletin Part II No. 6866 dated 27.04.2018

Vacant due to resignation of Shri B.S. Yeddyurappa from the Membership of Lok Sabha w.e.f. 18.05.2018 vide Bulletin Part-II Table Office (B) No. 6885 dated 19.05.2018

**vice* Shri Janardan Dwivedi, Shri Meghraj Jain, Shri Vinay Katiyar and Shri Shankarbhai N. Vegad, who ceased to be the Member of the Committee on their retirement from Rajya Sabha on 27.01.2018, 02.04.2018, 02.04.2018 and 02.04.2018 respectively.

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri D.S. Malha | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Arun K. Kaushik | - | Director |
| 3. | Smt. Juby Amar | - | Additional Director |
| 4. | Ms. Divya Rai | - | Executive Assistant |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture (2017-18), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Sixty First Report on action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Forty Ninth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2017-18) on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries).

2. The Forty Ninth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2017-18) on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' pertaining to Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 06.03.2018. The Action Taken Notes on the Report were received on 09.07.2018.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 07.08.2018.

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

NEW DELHI;
06 August, 2018
15 Shravana, 1940(Saka)

HUKMDEV NARAYAN YADAV
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture

CHAPTER-I REPORT

This Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Forty Ninth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2017-2018) on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) which was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 6th March, 2018.

1.2 The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) have furnished Action Taken Replies in respect of all 12 Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report. These replies have been categorized as under :-

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

Recommendation Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10

**Total 08
Chapter - II**

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

Recommendation No. NIL

**Total 00
Chapter - III**

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

Recommendation Nos. 3, 7, 11, and 12

**Total 04
Chapter - IV**

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

Recommendation Nos. NIL

**Total 00
Chapter - V**

1.3 The Committee trust that utmost importance would be given to implementation of the Observations / Recommendations accepted by the Government. In cases where it is not possible for the Department to implement the Recommendations in letter and spirit for any reason, the matter should be reported to the Committee with reasons for non-implementation. The Committee desire that further Action Taken Notes on the Observations / Recommendations contained in Chapter-I of this Report be furnished to them at an early date.

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

A. SHARE OF DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES IN THE CENTRAL PLAN

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 3)

1.5 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

"The Committee note that during each of the years of the Twelfth Plan i.e. 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, a huge variation exists between funds demanded by the Department and the funds allocated by erstwhile Planning Commission / Ministry of Finance. This mismatch between the proposed allocation and the actual allocation is a cause of concern to the Committee. As a result of lesser allocation of funds, the Committee are apprehensive that the implementation of the various schemes undertaken by the Department may have been adversely affected, which in turn may have hindered the growth and development of this vital sector of the economy. The Committee feel that this issue of a huge gap between proposed allocation and actual

allocation is indicative of the poor financial planning by the Department. The Committee recommend that the Department should make a realistic assessment of its requirement before sending a proposal to Ministry of Finance for allocation of funds."

1.6 In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated as under :-

"Ministry of Finance allocated Rs.1491.14 crore to Department at RE stage for the FY-2015-16. It is mentioned that fund allocation to the Department for financial year 2016-17 was Rs.1748.00 crore. Department agreed on the fact that prioritization of different sectors and trend of expenditure during previous years form basis of allocation. It is mentioned that Department utilizes approximately full fund allocated by Ministry of Finance. The table showing the details of allocation and expenditure from 2012-13 is given below:

S. No.	Year	BE	RE	Exp.	% w.r.t. to RE
1.	2012-13	1910.00	1800.00	1736.37	96.47
2.	2013-14	2025.00	1800.00	1748.80	97.16
3.	2014-15	2174.00	1800.00	1738.07	96.56
4.	2015-16	1491.14	1491.14	1418.20	95.11
5.	2016-17	1600.00	1748.02	1743.12	99.71

However, Ministry of Finance allocates the funds to the Different Department/Ministries keeping in view the overall resources position and the inter-se priorities for allocation among competing demands from different sectors."

1.7 The Committee had observed that there was an evident mismatch between funds demanded by the Department and those allocated by the erstwhile Planning Commission / Ministry of Finance during each of the years of the Twelfth Plan i.e. 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2016-17 and also that lesser allocation of funds would cause the performance of the Department to be adversely affected for want of funds. Accordingly, the Committee, having expressed concern over this huge variation, had recommended that the Department make a realistic assessment of its requirements before sending a proposal for allocation of funds. From the Action Taken Reply, the Committee note that the Department has provided facts regarding utilization of funds but has failed to provide the rationale behind demanding such huge amounts from the Ministry of Finance or the effects of downsizing of funds at the RE stage over the implementation of schemes undertaken by the Department. The Committee further note that there exists a huge gap between the figures under funds demanded and those under the BE and RE sub-heads of funds allocated. It is also evident that such drastic cuts at the RE stage lead to a shortfall of much required funds for the ongoing schemes of the Department. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Department, before sending a proposal to the Ministry of Finance for allocation of funds, should analyse its past expenditure and its future requirements for the upcoming financial year and thus make a realistic demand based on a practical evaluation of its needs, so as to avoid such huge discrepancies between proposed and actual allocation and also to prevent its schemes from suffering for want of

funds. The Committee hope that the Department will take this up with the Ministry of Finance with all the seriousness it deserves and advocate its demands for allocation of adequate funds to run their schemes effectively and efficiently. The Committee would like to be apprised of the latest position in this regard.

B. ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF EXISTING VETERINARY HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES (ESVHD)

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 7)

1.8 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

" In order to assist the States to set up infrastructure for new veterinary hospitals and dispensaries and to strengthen / equip the existing ones, the Department is providing funds on 60:40 (Centre: State) sharing basis except NE and Himalayan States, where the grants are provided on 90:10 basis. Mobile Veterinary Clinics (MVCs) is also an activity of the component of ESVHD. The MVCs are provided with Rs. 5 lakh grant per annum as upper limit. The funds are provided to the States/UTs for contractual services for technical persons, hiring vehicles, procurement of necessary equipment required for treatment and disease diagnosis (including sample collection and transportation of these samples to the designated laboratory place) and maintaining cold chain or preservation as necessary. The vehicle should accommodate the necessary staff, the equipments, reagents/ medicines for treatment and diagnosis, facility for Artificial Insemination (AI) and also suitable freezer or related equipments for sample transportation in cold chain.

The Committee are, however, concerned to note that despite such provisions under the ESVHD component, the status of availability of mobile veterinary clinics in the country, especially in the rural areas, is still dismal. The rural farmers and livestock owners hardly have access to veterinary services, as a result of which they face huge difficulties in accessing healthcare facilities for their livestock. This is particularly due to shortage of funds and manpower for the purpose. The Committee, therefore, recommend that immediate action plan may be formulated to address the shortage of veterinary doctors and medicines for treatment of sick animals. Ministry of Finance may also be urged to provide adequate funds for the purpose. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Department to ensure doorstep delivery, easy access of veterinary services and availability of veterinary ambulance services, especially in the rural areas of the country."

1.9 In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated as under :-

"Veterinary service and Veterinary care is a state subject. Veterinary Hospitals/ Dispensaries are set up by respective State Governments depending on livestock population in the particular area and availability of resources. The deployment of manpower in the states is also done by the State Governments. As per the review of Performance of Veterinary Services in different states, total sanction strength of total number of veterinarians in the Government Sector is

approximately 35000 out of which there is a vacancy of 20 to 30% across the states.

In order to assist the State Governments for establishing and strengthening of veterinary infrastructure, the Central Government is implementing a programme namely Establishment and Strengthening of Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries (ESVHD) under which financial assistance are provided to the State Governments for establishment and strengthening of existing veterinary hospital and dispensaries. However, under this Scheme money is only provided for infrastructure development and not for the establishment cost of Veterinary Doctors which is borne by the State Government. Under the Scheme, there is also a provision for assistance for Mobile Veterinary Clinics for doorstep delivery of veterinary services. The Department has requested all States and UTs to explore the possibility to undertake strengthening of veterinary infrastructure by availing more funds under other Scheme such as RKVY, RIDF including dovetailing with MPLAD funds etc. so as to cater adequate veterinary health in States/UTs including Mobile Veterinary Clinics for improved veterinary infrastructure and door step delivery of veterinary services.

The Veterinary Council of India (VCI) is mandated to maintain the Indian Veterinary Practitioners' Register (IVPR) containing the names of the persons who possess recognized Veterinary qualification (Degree in Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry). There are a total approximately 67800 veterinary graduates have been registered in Indian Veterinary Practitioner Register up to 31.03.2015.

To meet up the shortage of veterinary manpower in the country, the numbers of recognized veterinary institutions have been increased to 45 as against 36. Further, during the year 2017-18, nine veterinary colleges was permitted to admit students in the First Year B.V.Sc & A.H. courses. Therefore, total number of veterinarians passing out will be approximately 4100 per year."

1.10 While taking note of dismal situation of veterinary care in the country, particularly in the rural areas, the Committee had stressed on the prospects of Mobile Veterinary Clinics (MVCs) and recommended that the Department ensure doorstep delivery and easy access of veterinary services in the rural areas, besides also urging the Ministry of Finance to provide adequate funds for the purpose. The Department in its Action Taken Reply furnished that veterinary service and veterinary care is a state subject and that it is providing financial assistance to States under the ESVHD component. The Department also furnished that the Veterinary Council of India (VCI) has taken a series of measures to meet the shortage of trained veterinary manpower and for recognition of new veterinary colleges. The Committee, however, are of the considered opinion that the Department needs to take up seriously the idea of having mobile veterinary clinics cater to the doorsteps of livestock owners looking to get medical care for their livestock, besides also guiding State Governments to open up more veterinary clinics in the rural areas as that is where they are needed the most. The Committee feel that the steps taken so far have not proved adequate and more is required to be done for animal healthcare and veterinary infrastructure in the country. They, therefore, reiterate their earlier

recommendation that concerted efforts may be made to ensure doorstep delivery, easy access of veterinary services and availability of veterinary ambulance services, especially in the rural areas of the country and an immediate action plan may be formulated to address the shortage of veterinary doctors and medicines for treatment of sick animals.

C. GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES

(RECOMMENDATION SERIAL NO. 11)

1.11 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

"The Committee note that the National Agriculture Policy formulated in 2000 accorded high priority to recognition and mainstreaming of women's role in agriculture and highlighting incorporation of 'Gender Issues' in the agriculture development agenda. The Committee also note that as stated by the Department within the overall mandate, goals and objectives, the DAHDF places special emphasis on women participation and contribution in the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sector. However, the ground realities are different as highlighted in the Economic Survey 2017-18, the structural changes that are being witnessed by the agriculture sector in India necessitate re-orientation of policies towards this sector in terms of strengthening the agricultural value chain by focusing on allied activities like dairying and livestock development along with gender specific interventions. The Committee recommend that to this end the Department can do a lot by creating more opportunities for women in the Sector and involving more number of women in the workforce by way of dairy cooperatives, livestock rearing and fishing enterprises and also by earmarking at

least 30 percent of the budget allocation for women beneficiaries in all ongoing schemes and programmes of the Department. The Committee also advocate the idea of enabling women entrepreneurs in the animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries sector by easing loan facilities, providing requisite training to women entrepreneurs and supporting women Self Help Groups (SHGs) etc. The Department may also encourage women to take up entrepreneurial activities in the field of cattle rearing, fodder storage, milk cooperatives etc. as this will not only have a positive impact on the animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries sectors but also foster development of these sectors in the long run. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department may work out plans drawing more and more women folk into the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries sector and set an example of opening up gainful and profitable employment opportunities and mainstreaming women in the agriculture sector, particularly in the sector of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries. The Committee would like to apprised of the initiatives taken by the Government in this regard."

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

" The Recommendation of the Committee is noted for compliance. It is mentioned that the existing Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries provides benefit of women fisher folk and weaker sections of the society with comparatively higher subsidy assistance so as to involve women participation specially in the marketing & post harvest activity in fisheries.

Department is implementing the National Livestock Mission (NLM) under which there is a component of “Entrepreneurship Development and Employment Generation (EDEG)”, which supports the credit linked activities related to poultry, small ruminants, pigs and salvaging male buffalo calves. Similarly, Department is implementing Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) under which priority is given to women farmers/women in Self Help Group."

1.13 While taking note of the efforts of the Department in including women into animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries activities, the Committee are concerned to note that the Department, in its Action Taken Reply, is silent over the issue of incorporating 'gender issues' in the agriculture development agenda and also over earmarking a fixed percentage of funds from budget allocation towards training and induction of women folk into the animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries sector and for women beneficiaries in all the ongoing schemes and programmes of the Department. The Committee are of the view that such benefits need to be provided to all women across sections and caste barriers and States must be mandated to put in place a mechanism to ensure this. The Committee therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Department may formulate concrete plans to provide requisite training and loan facilities to women entrepreneurs and women Self Help Groups (SHGs) and encourage women to take up entrepreneurial activities in the animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries sector and thus set an example of opening up gainful and profitable employment opportunities and mainstreaming women in the agriculture sector, particularly in the sector of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries. The

Committee would also like to be informed of the steps taken by the Department in this direction.

D. FARMER LOANS AND SUICIDES IN INDIA

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 12)

1.14 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

"The Committee note that a special package for livestock and fisheries sector for 31 suicide-prone districts of A.P., Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala, was to be implemented over a period of 3 years from 2006-07. However, the Government of India approved a rehabilitation package on 20.11.2008. As per Cabinet approval, the total outlay of Idukki Package is Rs. 91.15 crore and the implementation period was up to 30.11.2013. The above package was being implemented along with Special Livestock Sector and Fisheries Package for the suicide-prone districts of the aforesaid States which already ended on 30.09.2011. However, the Committee are anguished to note that the special package to suicide-prone districts of the States was discontinued without any alternate package as spate of farmer suicides continues unabated in many parts of the country which brings out the state of distress amongst the farmers. The Committee are also perturbed to note the DADF does not operate any rehabilitation package to support families of deceased farmers. The Committee are also aggrieved to note that the Department has no provisions for any beneficiary oriented scheme in the fisheries sector where loans are given to fishers through the banks.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Government formulate a policy for grant of special package for rehabilitation of the bereaved families of the farmers who commit suicide under distress. Further, a mechanism should be put in place to monitor the relief to bereaved families without any inordinate delay and appropriate measures should be adopted to bring in beneficiary oriented scheme in the fisheries sector so as allow fish farmers and entrepreneurs in the fisheries sector to avail loans from banks. The Committee would like to be apprised of initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard.

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

"In the sector of fisheries, there are no suicidal cases reported in the country. The Division has implemented the central sector scheme that is Blue Revolution: Integrated Developmental and Management of Fisheries in India aiming Doubling the Farmers Income by 2022. Fish Farmers/Fishers/Entrepreneurs are getting financial assistance through the scheme including bereaved families of the farmers under distress. Welfare of Fishermen is one of the components directly helping the fishermen who dies in Natural Calamities by which claim of Insurance can be done. So, the Division has no policy plan to formulate any special package as on day."

1.16 While noting that the Department has discontinued special packages to suicide-prone districts without any alternate package, the Committee had recommended that the Government formulate a policy for granting special package for rehabilitation of bereaved families of farmers who commit suicide

under distress. The Department in its Action Taken Reply has submitted that financial assistance is being provided to fish farmers or entrepreneurs, including bereaved families of farmers under distress. The Committee, however, are dissatisfied to note that no such provisions have been made for livestock owners and their families and also that no programme or scheme has been formulated till date for providing insurance cover to livestock owners or their families. The Department is also silent over the issue of providing fish farmers and entrepreneurs an easy access to institutional credit and bank loans. Moreover, the non-inclusion of dairying entrepreneurs and livestock owners and their families in such rehabilitation packages and policies needs to be relooked and pondered upon. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Department should take a holistic view of the entire situation and come up with a concrete plan to provide special assistance and rehabilitation packages for livestock and fisheries sector and also provide alternate packages to relieve the families of such farmers from losses incurred due to unabated farmer suicides in the country. Further, a mechanism should be put in place to monitor the relief to bereaved families without any inordinate delay and appropriate measures should be adopted to bring in beneficiary oriented scheme in the fisheries sector so as allow fish farmers and entrepreneurs in the fisheries sector to avail loans from banks. The Committee would also like to be informed of the steps taken by the Department in this direction.

CHAPTER - II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

SHARE OF DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES IN THE CENTRAL PLAN

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 1)

Agriculture forms the backbone of the economy and livestock, poultry, dairying and fisheries form an important sub-sector of agriculture allowing livelihood opportunities to farmers during seasonal unemployment; contributing to the health and nutrition of the household and providing critical inputs for agriculture besides supplementing the income of farmers. According to NSS 68th Round Survey (July 2011-June 2012) on Employment and Unemployment, 16.44 million workers as per usual status (Principal plus Subsidiaries) were engaged in the activities of farming of animals, mixed farming, fishing and aquaculture. Also, as per the CSO, value of output from livestock is about 28% of the value of output from the total agriculture and allied sector. Milk production during 2016-17 has increased to 165.4 million tonnes from 155.5 million tonnes in 2015-16, showing an annual growth rate of 6.27% with per capita milk availability at 355 grams per day in 2016-17. Poultry production, as per 19th Livestock Census has reached 729.21 million whereas egg production has been around 88.14 billion during 2016-17, with the per capita availability of eggs being 69 per annum. Meat production has gone up to 7.4 million tonnes in 2016-17, with the fisheries production increasing from 41.57 lakh tonnes in 1991-92 to 114.10 lakh tonnes in 2016-17 (provisional) and currently being estimated at 5.80 million tonnes (provisional) during the first two quarters of 2017-18. Despite such contributions from the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries sector towards the GDP, the Department is still struggling with the issue of meagre allocations.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The observations of the committee are noted. Department has been continuously pursuing the matter with Ministry of Finance for enhanced allocation of funds for the

schemes. It is worthwhile to mention here that allocation for financial year 2018-19 for the schemes of Department has been increased by 43.07% over the allocation for financial year 2017-18 excluding DMS receipts. Further, In the Cabinet Note on White Revolution-Rashtriya Pashudhan Vikas Yojana (WR-RPVY) for the period from 2017-18 to 2019-20, the Department has proposed an enhanced allocation of Rs.5781.00 crore against the EFC recommendation of Rs.5148.00 crore for sustaining the achievements made so far under various schemes/programmes of Umbrella scheme “WR-RPVY”.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No.25-5(3)/2018-AHD(Coord) dt.09th July 2018

SHARE OF DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES IN THE CENTRAL PLAN

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 2)

The Committee further note that against a demand of Rs. 4527.79 crores in 2015-16, the Department was allocated only Rs. 1491.14 crores by the Ministry of Finance as also was the case for the financial years 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 where the Department proposed Rs. 3231.43 crores, Rs. 4922.00 crores and Rs. 6422.07 crores respectively, but was instead allocated only Rs. 1600.00 crores, Rs. 2371.00 crores and Rs. 3100.00 crores respectively against each proposal year-wise. During the course of the evidence, the Committee were apprised of the fact that prioritization of different sectors and trend of expenditure during previous years form the basis of allocation. The Committee are, however, distressed to note that despite repeated requests for a higher allocation, the Ministry of Finance has allocated very meagre funds to the Department. Notwithstanding the rise in the comparative share of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries to 0.11% in the year 2017-18, the Committee feel that this too is less when viewed in the light of the contribution made by this particular sector to employment generation, the food basket and the National GDP of the country. The Committee, therefore, urge the Department to take up the matter with the Ministry of Finance to increase the share of the Department in the Central Plan so that various programmes undertaken by them do not suffer for want of

funds. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Department had proposed an allocation of Rs. 5472.00 Crore as BE for 2017-18. However, Ministry of Finance keeping in view the overall resources position and the inter-se priorities for allocation among competing demands from different sectors had allocated a BE of 2921.00 Crore for 2017-18. Finally, Ministry of Finance allocated Rs. 2606.74 at RE stage for the year 2017-18. Further, after making continuous efforts by Department for more funds, Ministry of Finance allocated Rs.3580.00 to Department at BE stage for the year 2018-19.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No.25-5(3)/2018-AHD(Coord) dt.09th July 2018

UTILIZATION OF FUNDS BY THE DEPARTMENT

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 4)

During the course of examination of the Demands for Grants (2018-19), the Committee have observed that even the meagre allocations at the RE stage have not been fully utilized by the Department. During 2015-16, the Department was allocated Rs. 1491.14 crore out of which expenditure was Rs. 1418.20 crore which amounts to 95%. Barring the exception of the year 2016-17 where the Department spent Rs. 1743.12 crore which is 99.72% of the allocated amount of Rs. 1748.00 crore, the status of expenditure for the year 2017-18, up to 30.01.2018, has been only Rs. 2055.86 crore while Rs. 315.14 crore remains to be expended in the last two months of this quarter. This, however, is not in keeping with the idea of balanced expenditure spread out evenly throughout the quarter. Further, this also shows the laxity of the Department in financial planning leading to sub-optimal fund utilization. The Committee are dismayed to note that despite repeated recommendations of the Committee, the Department has failed to take corrective steps to optimally utilize funds allocated to them. This only

reflects that there is some lacunae in the management and regulation of the finance of the Department. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Department should take corrective steps and make earnest efforts for optimum utilization of funds. The Committee would like to be apprised of corrective action taken in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Department is doing its best to ensure optimum utilization of allocated funds. However, sometimes Department is not in a position to release the fund to the States due to huge unspent balance available with them and non-receipt project proposals. Physical & financial Progress of the programmes/schemes implementation is continuously reminded through bi-Monthly Review Meetings, Regional Review Meetings, Field Visits and Video Conferences to liquidate the pending Utilization Certificates and submit proposal for release of fund.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No.25-5(3)/2018-AHD(Coord) dt.09th July 2018

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAMME (FMD-CP)

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 5)

The Committee note that the Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMD-CP) has been formulated with the aim of preventing economic losses due to Foot and Mouth Disease and to develop herd immunity in cloven-footed animals and that this programme is location specific and is now being implemented all districts covering 29 states and 7 Union Territories. Funds are provided for cost of vaccine, maintenance of cold chain and other logistic support to undertake vaccination while State Governments provide other infrastructure and manpower. The Committee are happy to note that intensive implementation of FMD-CP is taking place in the country and that second round of vaccinations in States and UTs not covered earlier, is being attempted through releasing funds under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for the FMD-CP scheme. The Committee also note that out of the allocated amount of Rs. 262.12 crore under this component during 2017-18, 94.7% has been released till 31st December, 2017 besides

73.96% of the vaccination target being achieved up to December, 2017 with funds for the same being raised from Rs. 300 crore to Rs. 508 crore for FMD and other components. The Committee are also happy to note that Zone 1 (of the three FMD-CP zones established in India) comprising Telengana and AP, has not seen a single case of FMD in the last three years. The Committee hope that the Department will be able to achieve the target under this programme.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

During the year 2018-19, the budgetary allocation for Livestock Health & Disease Control (LH &DC) has been enhanced by 70.29% by allocating Rs 508.77 crore and the FMD CP has been extended to cover all the States/UTs. Out of Rs. 508.77 crores for LH &DC Scheme, Rs. 401.75 crores has been allocated for FMD vaccination covering all eligible cattle and buffaloes twice in a year. Rs. 117.88 crores has already been released to States/UTs till June' 2018 under FMD-CP. The Department is taking necessary steps for effective implementation of the Scheme and to achieve the target of vaccination of all eligible animals twice in a year.

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FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAMME (FMD-CP)

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 6)

The Committee, however, note with concern that out of the proposed amount of Rs. 746.63 crore under the Livestock Health & Disease Control (LH&DC) Scheme during 2018-19, only Rs. 508.77 crore is being provided by the Ministry of Finance at the BE stage. In the opinion of the Committee, such a drastic cut in the Plan allocation will adversely affect the implementation of FMD-CP and achievements of the physical targets of the component. Emphasizing the need to have adequate funds to allow timely achievement of targets and to make the country Foot and Mouth disease free, the Committee therefore, stress upon the Department to impress upon the Ministry of Finance for allocation of adequate funds at the RE stage so as to achieve the planned targets for 2018-19 without any hindrance.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

During 2018-19, the Department had been allocated Rs. 508.77 Crore for Livestock Health & Disease Control (LH&DC) Scheme. An amount of Rs. 140.22 Crore is already released to the States/ UTs for implementation of the LH&DC Scheme. Further, the financial assistance of Rs. 60.00 Crore would also be provided under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) for two components of LH&DC Scheme i.e Brucellosis-Control programme (B-CP) for vaccination covering all eligible female calves and Establishment and Strengthening of Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries (ESVHD) as sub-scheme.

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RASHTRIYA GOKUL MISSION :

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 8)

Rashtriya Gokul Mission has been initiated by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries for Development and conservation of indigenous breeds since December 2014. This scheme is crucial for upliftment of rural poor as more than 80% low producing indigenous animals are with small and marginal farmers and landless labours. The scheme is important for enhancing milk production and productivity of bovines to meet growing demand of milk and making dairying more remunerative to the poor farmers of the country. The scheme is expected to lead to multiplication of elite animals of indigenous breeds in an exponential manner. One of the components of Rashtriya Gokul Mission is setting up of Gokul Grams for undertaking development and conservation of indigenous breeds in a scientific and organized manner. Rs.173 crores have been sanctioned for 18 Gokul gram related to the proposals received from 12 states. The Gokul Grams are being established and constructed by states through the State Livestock Development Board.

The Committee note that while initiatives such as the E-Pashu Haat Portal are aimed at eliminating middlemen from the process of buying and selling of livestock,

there still are infrastructural roadblocks in the implementation of such ideas. Moreover, the problem of disproportionate land holdings has led to the issue of non-availability of fodder to small and marginal farmers owning livestock. The Committee further note that the productivity of indigenous breeds of cattle has been reducing over the years and this is a cause of serious concern as their milch ability has also been declining due to this. The Committee are of the considered opinion that the Department must take this issue up with all seriousness and work towards ways to revive the productivity of native breeds besides also working on increasing their longevity. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department devise a plan to resolve these issues and revive native breeds in a sustainable manner. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps taken by the Department in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Department agreed with the comments of the committee regarding low productivity of indigenous and non descript cattle. Following efforts have been made by the Department to enhance milk production and productivity of bovines :-

- For increasing semen production of indigenous breeds 1752 bulls have been inducted at semen stations. Similarly, 26 semen stations have been strengthened and their capacity increased to produce 15 Crore semen doses annually. One new semen station with the capacity of 50 lakh doses is being established at Purnea Bihar.
- For delivery of artificial insemination at farmers doorstep 5046 AI technicians have been established and 39000 existing AI technicians given refresher training.
- Along with other components and activities Rashtriya Gokul Mission also envisages establishment of integrated cattle development centres 'Gokul Grams' to develop indigenous breeds. So far 20 Gokul Grams have been sanctioned in 13 States and till date, 3 Gokul Grams have been established and 17 Gokul Grams are under the progress.
- Two National Kamdhenu breeding centres one in Chintaldevi, Andhra Pradesh has already been completed and work for establishment of second in Itarsi, Madhya Pradesh is under rapid progress.

- 9 crore animals in milk are being identified by UID and issuing Nakul Swasthya Patra in order to control animal diseases & enhance milk productivity. So, far 10 million animals have been identified till date.
- 20 Embryo Transfer Technology Labs are being established. Indus Chip has been developed to increase the production and productivity of indigenous breeds. As on date, 6000 animals have been selected through genomic selection.
- In order to encourage farmers for undertaking development of indigenous breeds awards have been instituted under RGM 22 awards were given during 2017-18 and 62 awards in 2018.
- In 2016, first ever e-pashudhan Haat Portal had been launched in order to facilitate the sale and purchase of high-quality breed/native livestock and availability of good quality semen doses. Till June, 2018, information about 80,081 live animals, 7.69 crore semen doses and 371 embryos has been uploaded on this portal. Information is now available with the farmers on availability of indigenous bovine germplasm.

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DELHI MILK SCHEME

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 9)

The Committee note that Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) was set up with the primary objective of supplying wholesome milk to the citizens of Delhi at reasonable prices as well as for providing remunerative prices to milk producers. However, the Committee are extremely dissatisfied with the current state of affairs of DMS. The milk procurement by DMS has declined sharply over the years from 766.13 lakh kgs in 2016-17 to 617.83 lakh kgs in 2017-18. Its capacity utilization has also declined with reference to its installed capacity of 5 lakh litres per day. The procurement price of raw milk at RE stage in the year 2017-18, which was projected @42/- per liter has also declined to Rs.34/-per liter which is the actual average price of milk. The Committee are further dissatisfied to note that no major proposals are being taken up for upgrading plant and machinery, civil

& electrical works of the DMS plant as this has resulted in a large amount of unspent balance.

The Committee note that the daily sale of milk of DMS has declined over the last year and the Department has attributed this to the inability of the DMS to withstand competition from Mother Dairy and Amul. The Committee are of the view that the activities of DMS are commercial in nature and therefore, it has to run as a commercial entity to make it financially viable. DMS, therefore, needs to be given functional autonomy on the lines of other commercial dairies, in order to enable it to undertake strategic decisions on commercial lines. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to consider granting functional autonomy to DMS by taking a holistic view over the issue while also taking immediate remedial measures to check its losses and make it commercially viable. Upgradation and renovation of the DMS plant and machinery is also the need of the hour so as to help the plant function in its optimal capacity. The Committee feel that these efforts will help in increasing the sale of milk and milk products which may in turn lead to reduction in losses. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action plan of the Department on the issue.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

In line with the idea to give DMS more autonomy, the Union Cabinet in its decision dated 22.04.2015 decided to lease out Operation and Management of DMS for a period of 30 years.

In pursuance of Cabinet decision dated 22.4.2015, Department has floated an e-tender on 26.05.2017 for selection of O&M agency for DMS. The tender opening date has been extended thrice, from 18.08.2017 to 11.09.2017, 16.10.2017 and finally up to 08.11.2017 to get the bids. Three technical bids received were opened on 08.11.2017. These technical proposals were examined and rejected by the Bid Evaluation Committee on 3.1.2018 due to non-submission of technical qualifications.

Further to this, certain tender conditions were revisited and have now got the concurrence of Department of Expenditure. The Department of Expenditure has agreed to re-tender with the revised tender conditions based on interaction of this Department

with the industry. Accordingly, this Department has floated the tender on 27.06.2018. The process is likely to be completed within in a period of 3 months.

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NATIONAL FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT BOARD

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 10)

The Committee note that the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) was set up in September, 2006, with its headquarters at Hyderabad to realize the untapped potential of fisheries sector in inland and marine fish capture, culture, processing & marketing of fish, and overall growth of fisheries sector with the application of modern tools of research & development including biotechnology for optimizing production and productivity from fisheries. The activities of the Board are focused towards increasing the fish production and productivity in the country, to enhance the exports of fish and fishery products and to provide employment to more than 3.5 million persons by extending assistance to various agencies for implementation of activities. It also acts as a platform for public-private partnership for fisheries.

The Committee are however, perturbed to note that the proposed / demanded amount of Rs. 160.50 crore (BE) for NFDB in 2018-19 has been drastically reduced to Rs. 5.00 crore by the Ministry of Finance and this is sure to affect the functioning of the NFDB and also its production oriented activities in the fisheries sector. Besides, the Committee feel that the fisheries sector holds immense potential to contribute towards the vision of doubling the income of farmers by 2022. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Department take up the issue of such drastic reduction of funds at the RE stage by the Ministry of Finance and pursue with them vigorously to allocate deserving funds towards the NFDB. The Committee also recommend that the Department utilize allocated funds optimally and also come up with a foolproof action plan to utilize the additional amount of Rs.750 crore as announced for infrastructure development and other facilities, as apprised by the Secretary DADF during the course

of the evidence. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the action taken by the Department in this direction.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Division agreed with the recommendation mentioned by the committee as contained in the report. While submitting RE 2017-18, the Division proposed Rs. 125.87Crore but got only 9.00 crore. While for BE 2018-19 Division proposed 160.50 crores but allocated only Rs. 5.00 crore by which the organization affected to implement many Fisheries Developmental Activities in India. The recommendation by the Committee has been noted by the Division and the issue will be taken care of at the RE stage by demanding the required funds to carry out the existing and upcoming developmental activities. The division has proposed Rs.125.00 crores to NFDB as first phase of supplementary demands for grants.

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CHAPTER - III

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

- N I L -

CHAPTER - IV

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

SHARE OF DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES IN THE CENTRAL PLAN :

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 3)

The Committee note that during each of the years of the Twelfth Plan i.e. 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, a huge variation exists between funds demanded by the Department and the funds allocated by erstwhile Planning Commission / Ministry of Finance. This mismatch between the proposed allocation and the actual allocation is a cause of concern to the Committee. As a result of lesser allocation of funds, the Committee are apprehensive that the implementation of the various schemes undertaken by the Department may have been adversely affected, which in turn may have hindered the growth and development of this vital sector of the economy. The Committee feel that this issue of a huge gap between proposed allocation and actual allocation is indicative of the poor financial planning by the Department. The Committee recommend that the Department should make a realistic assessment of its requirement before sending a proposal to Ministry of Finance for allocation of funds.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Ministry of Finance allocated Rs.1491.14 crore to Department at RE stage for the FY-2015-16. It is mentioned that fund allocation to the Department for financial year 2016-17 was Rs.1748.00 crore. Department agreed on the fact that prioritization of different sectors and trend of expenditure during previous years form basis of allocation. It is mentioned that Department utilizes approximately full fund allocated by Ministry of Finance. The table showing the details of allocation and expenditure from 2012-13 is given below:

S.No.	Year	BE	RE	Exp.	% w.r.t. to RE
1.	2012-13	1910.00	1800.00	1736.37	96.47
2.	2013-14	2025.00	1800.00	1748.80	97.16
3.	2014-15	2174.00	1800.00	1738.07	96.56
4.	2015-16	1491.14	1491.14	1418.20	95.11
5.	2016-17	1600.00	1748.02	1743.12	99.71

However, Ministry of Finance allocates the funds to the Different Department/Ministries keeping in view the overall resources position and the inter-se priorities for allocation among competing demands from different sectors.

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Comments of the Committee

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

ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF EXISTING VETERINARY HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES (ESVHD) :

(RECOMMENDATION NO. 7)

In order to assist the States to set up infrastructure for new veterinary hospitals and dispensaries and to strengthen / equip the existing ones, the Department is providing funds on 60:40 (Centre: State) sharing basis except NE and Himalayan States, where the grants are provided on 90:10 basis. Mobile Veterinary Clinics (MVCs) is also an activity of the component of ESVHD. The MVCs are provided with Rs. 5 lakh grant per annum as upper limit. The funds are provided to the States/UTs for contractual services for technical persons, hiring vehicles, procurement of necessary equipment required for treatment and disease diagnosis (including sample collection and transportation of these samples to the designated laboratory place) and maintaining cold chain or preservation as necessary. The vehicle should accommodate the

necessary staff, the equipments, reagents/ medicines for treatment and diagnosis, facility for Artificial Insemination (AI) and also suitable freezer or related equipments for sample transportation in cold chain.

The Committee are, however, concerned to note that despite such provisions under the ESVHD component, the status of availability of mobile veterinary clinics in the country, especially in the rural areas, is still dismal. The rural farmers and livestock owners hardly have access to veterinary services, as a result of which they face huge difficulties in accessing healthcare facilities for their livestock. This is particularly due to shortage of funds and manpower for the purpose. The Committee, therefore, recommend that immediate action plan may be formulated to address the shortage of veterinary doctors and medicines for treatment of sick animals. Ministry of Finance may also be urged to provide adequate funds for the purpose. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Department to ensure doorstep delivery, easy access of veterinary services and availability of veterinary ambulance services, especially in the rural areas of the country.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Veterinary service and Veterinary care is a state subject. Veterinary Hospitals/ Dispensaries are set up by respective State Governments depending on livestock population in the particular area and availability of resources. The deployment of manpower in the states is also done by the State Governments. As per the review of Performance of Veterinary Services in different states, total sanction strength of total number of veterinarians in the Government Sector is approximately 35000 out of which there is a vacancy of 20 to 30% across the states.

In order to assist the State the Governments for establishing and strengthening of veterinary infrastructure, the Central Government is implementing a programme namely Establishment and Strengthening of Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries (ESVHD) under which financial assistance are provided to the State Governments for establishment and strengthening of existing veterinary hospital and dispensaries. However, under this Scheme money is only provided for infrastructure development and

not for the establishment cost of Veterinary Doctors which is borne by the State Government. Under the Scheme, there is also a provision for assistance for Mobile Veterinary Clinics for doorstep delivery of veterinary services. The Department has requested all States and UTs to explore the possibility to undertake strengthening of veterinary infrastructure by availing more funds under other Scheme such as RKVY, RIDF including dovetailing with MPLAD funds etc. so as to cater adequate veterinary health in States/UTs including Mobile Veterinary Clinics for improved veterinary infrastructure and door step delivery of veterinary services.

The Veterinary Council of India (VCI) is mandated to maintain the Indian Veterinary Practitioners' Register (IVPR) containing the names of the persons who possess recognized Veterinary qualification (Degree in Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry). There are a total approximately 67800 veterinary graduates have been registered in Indian Veterinary Practitioner Register upto 31.03.2015.

To meet up the shortage of veterinary manpower in the country, the numbers of recognized veterinary institutions have been increased to 45 as against 36. Further, during the year 2017-18, nine veterinary colleges was permitted to admit students in the First Year B.V.Sc & A.H. courses.. Therefore, total number of veterinarians passing out will be approximately 4100 per year.

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Comments of the Committee

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

GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 11)

The Committee note that the National Agriculture Policy formulated in 2000 accorded high priority to recognition and mainstreaming of women's role in agriculture

and highlighting incorporation of 'Gender Issues' in the agriculture development agenda. The Committee also note that as stated by the Department within the overall mandate, goals and objectives, the DAHDF places special emphasis on women participation and contribution in the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sector. However, the ground realities are different as highlighted in the Economic Survey 2017-18, the structural changes that are being witnessed by the agriculture sector in India necessitate re-orientation of policies towards this sector in terms of strengthening the agricultural value chain by focusing on allied activities like dairying and livestock development along with gender specific interventions. The Committee recommend that to this end the Department can do a lot by creating more opportunities for women in the Sector and involving more number of women in the workforce by way of dairy cooperatives, livestock rearing and fishing enterprises and also by earmarking at least 30 percent of the budget allocation for women beneficiaries in all ongoing schemes and programmes of the Department. The Committee also advocate the idea of enabling women entrepreneurs in the animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries sector by easing loan facilities, providing requisite training to women entrepreneurs and supporting women Self Help Groups (SHGs) etc. The Department may also encourage women to take up entrepreneurial activities in the field of cattle rearing, fodder storage, milk cooperatives etc. as this will not only have a positive impact on the animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries sectors but also foster development of these sectors in the long run. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department may work out plans drawing more and more women folk into the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries sector and set an example of opening up gainful and profitable employment opportunities and mainstreaming women in the agriculture sector, particularly in the sector of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries. The Committee would like to apprised of the initiatives taken by the Government in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Recommendation of the Committee is noted for compliance. It is mentioned that the existing Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries provides benefit of women fisher folk and

weaker sections of the society with comparatively higher subsidy assistance so as to involve women participation specially in the marketing & post harvest activity in fisheries.

Department is implementing the National Livestock Mission (NLM) under which there is a component of “Entrepreneurship Development and Employment Generation (EDEG)”, which supports the credit linked activities related to poultry, small ruminants, pigs and salvaging male buffalo calves. Similarly, Department is implementing Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) under which priority is given to women farmers/women in Self Help Group.

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Comments of the Committee

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

FARMER LOANS AND SUICIDES IN INDIA

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 12)

The Committee note that a special package for livestock and fisheries sector for 31 suicide-prone districts of A.P., Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala, was to be implemented over a period of 3 years from 2006-07. However, the Government of India approved a rehabilitation package on 20.11.2008. As per Cabinet approval, the total outlay of Idukki Package is Rs. 91.15 crore and the implementation period was up to 30.11.2013. The above package was being implemented along with Special Livestock Sector and Fisheries Package for the suicide-prone districts of the aforesaid States which already ended on 30.09.2011. However, the Committee are anguished to note that the special package to suicide-prone districts of the States was discontinued without any alternate package as spate of farmer suicides continues unabated in many parts of the country which brings out the state of distress amongst the farmers. The Committee are also perturbed to note the DADF does not operate any rehabilitation

package to support families of deceased farmers. The Committee are also aggrieved to note that the Department has no provisions for any beneficiary oriented scheme in the fisheries sector where loans are given to fishers through the banks.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Government formulate a policy for grant of special package for rehabilitation of the bereaved families of the farmers who commit suicide under distress. Further, a mechanism should be put in place to monitor the relief to bereaved families without any inordinate delay and appropriate measures should be adopted to bring in beneficiary oriented scheme in the fisheries sector so as allow fish farmers and entrepreneurs in the fisheries sector to avail loans from banks. The Committee would like to be apprised of initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

In the sector of fisheries, there are no suicidal cases reported in the country. The Division has implemented the central sector scheme that is Blue Revolution: Integrated Developmental and Management of Fisheries in India aiming Doubling the Farmers Income by 2022. Fish Farmers/Fishers/Entrepreneurs are getting financial assistance through the scheme including bereaved families of the farmers under distress. Welfare of Fishermen is one of the components directly helping the fishermen who dies in Natural Calamities by which claim of Insurance can be done. So, the Division has no policy plan to formulate any special package as on day.

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Comments of the Committee

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

CHAPTER - V

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

- N I L -

NEW DELHI;
August, 2018
Shravana, 1940 (Saka)

HUKM DEO NARAYAN YADAV
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2017-18)

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY EIGHTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 07th August, 2018 from 1000 hrs. to 1050 hrs. in the Chamber of the Chairperson, Room No. 138, Third Floor, Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Hukmdev Narayan Yadav – Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Prof. Ravindra Vishwanath Gaikwad
3. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
4. Smt. Raksha Nikhil Khadse
5. Md. Badaruddoza Khan
6. Shri Janardan Mishra
7. Shri Devji M. Patel
8. Shri Mukesh Rajput
9. Shri C.L. Ruala

RAJYA SABHA

10. Shri Kailash Soni
11. Shri Ram Nath Thakur
12. Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Shri Arun K. Kaushik | – | Director |
| 2. | Shri Sumesh Kumar | – | Under Secretary |

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

* (i) XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX

(ii) Draft Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the 49th Report (16th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2017-18) on 'Demands for Grants (2018-19)' of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries).

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

The Committee then adjourned.

*Matter not related to this Report.

APPENDIX

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON
THE FORTY NINTH REPORT (16th LOK SABHA) OF
STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (2017-18)
(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

(i)	Total number of Recommendations	12
(ii)	Recommendations/Observations which have been Accepted by the Government	
	Para Nos.	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10
	Total	08
	Percentage	66.66%
(iii)	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee Do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	
	Para No.	NIL
	Total	00
	Percentage	0.00%
(iv)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	
	Para Nos.	3, 7,11, and 12
	Total	04
	Percentage	33.33%
(v)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Final replies of the Government are still awaited	
	Para No.	NIL
	Total	00
	Percentage	0.00%