



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

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE)**

'DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2018-19)'

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

FIFTY SIXTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

August 2018/Shravana,1940 (Saka)

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Presented to Lok Sabha on

03.08.2018

Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on

03.08.2018



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. | Shri Sumesh Kumar | - | Under Secretary |

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 Fifty Sixth Report on action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Forty Seventh 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 Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare).

2. The Forty Seventh 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 Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare) 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 14.06.2018.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 31.07.2018.

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

NEW DELHI;
02 August, 2018
11 Shrawana, 1940(Saka)

HUKMDEV NARAYAN YADAV
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture

CHAPTER-I

R E P O R T

This Report of the Committee on Agriculture deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Forty-Seventh Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2017-2018) on "Demands for Grants (2018-19)" pertaining to Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare) which was presented to Lok Sabha on 06.03.2018 and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 06.03.2018.

1.2 The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare) have furnished Action Taken Replies in respect of all the 15 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, 3, 6, 8, 12, 13 and 15

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 NIL
Chapter - III

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

Recommendation Nos. 4 and 10

Total 02
Chapter - IV

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

Recommendation Nos. 5, 7, 9, 11 and 14

Total 05
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, 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 and final Action Taken Replies to the Recommendations contained in Chapter-V of this Report be furnished to them at an early date.

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

A. National Seeds

Corporation

(Recommendation No. 4)

1.5 The Committee had observed/ recommended as under:-

"The Committee note that National Seeds Corporation (NSC) is sole PSU under the administrative control of DAC&FW which is engaged in production and distribution of seeds, monitoring availability of Breeder, Foundation and Certified Seeds of all India Varieties and ensuring their timely availability. The NSC is engaged in setting of adequate processing facilities and storing capacity to ensure timely processing and storage of seed. The Committee have been informed that NSC have earned a net profit of 38.84, 49.71 and 51.80 crore during 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17. The Committee also note that NSC has achieved target for production of raw seeds during 2015-16 and 2016-17. However, the Committee were not provided other details such as procurement of seeds, supply of seeds etc. which would have enabled the Committee to properly assess the performance of NSC for which it has been incorporated as a Government Company. The Committee also observe that

supply of certified hybrid seeds in country is less than their demand which is reflected in low Seed Replacement ratio in the country.

This fact has also been brought out by the Committee in their 39th Report. The Committee are of view that there's greater need of Government intervention to ensure adequate supply of good quality hybrid seeds at reasonable rates to the farmers of the country. Against this background, role of NSC as a Government Company in achieving this aim become quite crucial. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to broaden the horizon of working of NSC so that it become a significant player in seed market in the country to ensure adequate supply of quality seeds to the farmers. The Committee desire the Government to take steps to enhance financial and professional capacity of NSC and enhance targets for production, procurement and sale of seeds based on realistic assessment of demand in Indian agriculture market. The Committee would like to be apprised about steps taken in this regard within three months of presentation of this Report."

Reply of the Government

1.6 The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare in the Action Taken Reply has stated as under:-

"Apart from National Seeds Corporation (NSC), multiplication of Breeder/Foundation Seeds and production and distribution of quality seeds to farmers are undertaken by 16 State Seed Corporations, State Department of Agriculture, State Seeds Farms, State Agriculture Universities Farm, State Seed Cooperatives, Krishak Bharati Cooperative (KRIBHCO), Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO), Indian Farm Forestry Development Co-Operative Limited (IFFDC), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED), National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), Hindustan Insecticide Limited (HIL) as well as by Private Seed Companies and major seed producers.

Details of production/ procurement of seeds by the NSC (through seed growers and production at their farm) and sale of seeds by the NSC for the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 are at **Annexure-I & II, respectively**. Details of production and sale of Hybrid seeds by the NSC during the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 are at **Annexure- III & IV, respectively**.

The production/ availability of hybrid seeds in the country are more than the demand during the year 2014-15 to 2017-18 as detailed at **Annexure –V**. Seed Replacement Rate of major crops during the year 2004-05 to 2016-17 are at **Annexure –VI**. The Seed Replacement Rate has shown an increasing trend except few crops. The Government also provides assistance for production and distribution of hybrid seeds under National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern Indian (BGREI) and National Mission Oilseeds and Oilpalm (NMOOP) as detailed at **Annexure – VII**.

NSC is producing and supplying good quality hybrid seeds of Paddy, Bajra, Maize, Sorghum, Arhar, Sunflower, Castor & Vegetable Seeds. The actual production of hybrid seeds by NSC were 26041, 36242 & 13909 Qtls. during 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, respectively. These hybrids seeds are being supplied to the farmers at reasonable prices, which is lesser than the market price of hybrid seeds e.g. the sale price of NSC for tomato hybrids are approximately 66% less than the market price of other tomato hybrids.

After soliciting the approval of the Cabinet and completion of codal formalities of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, the erstwhile State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) was amalgamated with the NSC w.e.f 01.04.2014 to bring about greater synergy in production and distribution for quality seeds.

In order to enhance financial and professional capacity of NSC and for ensuring enhanced targets for production, procurement and sale of seeds as well as increase in turnover, following steps have been taken:

Financial Capacity:

- Higher targets are fixed every year for making available good quality seed and their sale but actual performance depend on the agro climate conditions.
- Efforts are made to increase the profitability and corresponding net worth of the corporation. The net worth of the corporation (as on 31.3.2017) is Rs. 585.20 crore against Rs. 547.37 crore as on 31.3.2016. Similarly the capital employed has increased from Rs. 674.67 crore (as on 31.3.2016) to Rs. 705.96 crore (as on 31.3.2017) and working capital of the corporation has also increased from Rs. 530.21 crore (as on 31.3.2016) to Rs. 554.81 crore (as on 31.3.2017).
- Continuous efforts have been made to bring un-cultivable land into cultivable by improving irrigation facilities which resulted in reduction in cost of production.
- Diversification of the corporation through activities like fish seed production, fodder seed production and converting the non seed into value added products for commercial sale are undertaken.
- Regular investment in construction of seed godwon, seed processing plants and other agricultural machineries are made to reduce the cost of hiring and maintenance of machinery.

Professional capacity:

- NSC has revised its Recruitment Rules in 2013 and amended/updated the same in June, 2017 for selection of knowledgeable professionals as per industry norms to achieve the objective of the corporation.
- Recruitment at various levels are made through all India competitive examination both in executive and non-executive cadre from 2015/2016 onwards.
- One year training are provided to all recruited professionals and exposure at central state farm, regional offices and area offices are given to them and their performance are evaluated periodically.

- Trainees are also deputed in reputed institutions like Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI), National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Indian Cost and Works Accounts (ICWA), Institute of Secretariat Training and Management (ISTM), National Archive of India (NAI) etc. to improve their professional knowledge in the related field.
- Cluster promotion scheme has been revised to motivate the highly qualified employees which helped in reducing the attrition rate.
- For motivating the employees social security coverage like defined contribution superannuation pension scheme, benevolent social scheme for the family and post retirement contributory medical benefit scheme has been introduced.
- Electronic Annual Performance Appraisal Report (e-APAR) has been introduced after 2017 for employees(E-0 and above level) to bring transparency in evaluation of their performance.

Seed production :

- To increase production of Breeder, Foundation and Certified Seeds in farms, NSC is regularly enhancing its irrigation facilities through Micro irrigation, construction of tanks and lining of water course as well as by converting non-cultivable land.
- More area has been brought for enhancing Pluses certified seed production.
- Action has been taken to increase the production of oil seeds and ensure availability of good quality certified seed of oilseeds to the farmers in the country for enhancing commercial production of oil seed crops, which will reduce imports.
- Production of Minor Millets is being added and increased by making available quality seeds of these crops.
- Production targets of important Hybrid cereals like maize, Sorghum, Bajra and Paddy has been increased. For paddy hybrid seed

production, NSC entered into MOU with M/s SL Agritech Philippines for production of SL-8H variety which is a short duration, having good adaptability and yield potentiality in India.

- The seed production target is also being increased in respect of hybrid vegetable crops like Brinjal, Tomato, Bhindi and Grounds.
- Seed production of fodder Mainze, sorghum, fodder bajra, and F. Gaur has been increased for increasing milk production in the country,.
- Due to uncertainty in Monsoon and Abiotic conditions, seed production for varieties like high yielding, short duration, stress tolerant, drought tolerant, resistant to insect, pest and diseases have been adopted by NSC. More than 60% product basket consists of these varieties.
- Bt Cotton seed production has been started at Central State Farm (CSF), Hissar, Haryana.
- Seed production of Jute has been increased by executing a MOU with Jute Corporation of India.

Seed procurement:

- To bring maximum farmers either under seed production chain or under supply of seed at reasonable rates, NSC has made a uniform procurement policy for procurement of seed.
- The seed villages model is being adopted to ensure maximum procurement in a particular village.
- Payment to seed growers are ensured promptly.
- Timely processing of seed is being ensured to return non seed to growers in time.
- Mobile processing plant has been introduced to ensure procurement at village level in Uttarakhand.

Turnover of NSC:

- NSC's main focus is to provide quality certified seed to the farmers for which breeder and foundation seeds are produced at growers farms.

- To improve the quality, desired infrastructure is being created.
- Aggressive sales promotion activities undertaken including publicity through jeep campaign, advertisement in print media.
- Business diversification made through sale of fish seeds, fodder blocks and value added product.
- Emphasis given in High Value and Low Volume seeds like vegetable seeds.
- Special attention given to increase sale of Pulses, Oilseeds, Fodder Seeds, Green Manure seeds and Hybrid seeds.
- Conducted personal interaction programme with dealers/farmers for feedback on NSC products and popularize brand NSC.
- New packing materials like poly pouches and laminated bags etc. have been introduced to make the seed packets attractive to compete with private seed companies.
- Enrolled new dealers to strengthen the dealership network of NSC to ensure last mile connectivity.
- To popularize vegetable cultivation among urban public, sale of seeds through automated vending machine has been introduced.
- Finalized system for online sale of seeds.
- Introduced scheme to award best performing area office, regional office and dealers to boost the morale of the hard working staff and loyal dealers.
- Development of separate marketing cadre to strengthen market activities."

1.7 While observing low Seed Replacement ratio in the country, the Committee have recommended the Government to broaden the horizon of working of National Seed Corporation (NSC) by augmenting financial and professional capacity of NSC so that it become a significant player in seed market in the country to ensure adequate supply of quality seeds to the farmers. The Department in their Action Taken Replies apart from stating steps being taken to augment financial and professional capacity has also submitted about other agencies engaged in multiplication of Breeder/Foundation Seeds and production and distribution of quality seeds to farmers. The Department has once again reiterated that production/ availability of hybrid seeds in the country are more than the demand during the year 2014-15 to 2017-18 and stated about increasing trend of Seed Replacement Rate of most crops. The Committee also note that prices of hybrids seeds being supplied by NSC to the farmers are lesser than the market price of hybrid seeds of other companies.

The Committee are of view that assumption of the Government regarding demand of hybrid seeds in the country is erroneous as it does not take in to account of target of higher seed replacement ration. The Committee are of further view that most of the farmers are not able to use hybrid seeds due to their high prices which is reflected in low seed replacement ratio and lower productivity of major crops in the Country. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to analyze the requirement of hybrid seeds in the country keeping in view of target of maximum seed replacement ratio. Further, the Government should take steps to enhance the market share of National Seed Corporation so that quality hybrid seeds could be made available to the farmers at reasonable prices. The Committee also desire the NSC to involve and train more numbers of progressive farmers in production of hybrid seeds in the Country.

B. National Horticulture Board (NHB)

Recommendation (Serial No. 5)

1.8 The Committee had observed/ recommended as under:-

"The Committee note that National Horticulture Board (NHB) has mandate to strengthen Commercial Horticulture hubs in various parts of the country through integrated hi-tech horticulture projects and also strengthening post harvest and cold chain infrastructure in the country. Objective of NHB is to improve integrated development of Horticulture industry and to help in coordinating, sustaining the production and processing of fruits and vegetables. The Committee were informed that NHB is implementing five schemes namely Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management of Horticulture Crops, Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/ Expansion/ Modernization of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce, Technology Development and Transfer for Promotion of Horticulture, Market Information Service for Horticulture Crops and Horticulture Promotion Services/ Expert Services and Strengthening Capability of NHB for Comprehensive development of Horticulture sector in the country.

The Committee note that NHB has been provided the budgetary support of Rs. 1927.64 crore since 2010. The Committee further note that NHB has earned a revenue of Rs. 14.18 crore during the same period as application fee from the applicants which is used for miscellaneous purpose such as printing of application forms, brochures & guidelines of NHB Schemes, technical bulletins, various technical standards, horticulture data base etc. The Committee were also informed that investment of NHB amounting to Rs. 1513.51 crore through back ended schemes from 2010 onwards have attracted 4-5 times investment from the private sector/financial Institutions.

The Committee note that schemes of NHB helped in setting of 17982 integrated commercial horticulture projects relating to production and post harvest management with back ended subsidy amounting to Rs. 953.69 crores and 3113 cold chain/primary processing involving subsidy of Rs.

559.82 crores. The NHB has also done Accreditation of 1653 nurseries and supported several projects for promotion of new technology and its transfer. The Committee are of view that benefits of schemes being financed by the Public Money should reach all parts of the Country. There should be proper awareness campaign should be done in print and digital media so that applicants from different parts of the country may apply for the funds available under the scheme. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to take steps for awareness campaign about schemes being implemented by the NHB and other Autonomous Bodies. The committee would like to be apprised about steps taken in this regard within three months of presentation of this Report."

1.9 The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare in the Action Taken Reply has stated as under:-

"In compliance to the Report, NHB has undertaken critical analysis on the distribution of Scheme across the states and UTs and social groups so that the benefit of NHB Schemes is availed by all the States and UTs and social groups evenly.

NHB scheme has already evoked very good response and presently there is huge backlog of pending proposals. Hence, currently Board is not accepting new applications except for SC/ST category. Fresh applications are likely to be accepted in the month of August, 2018 after giving wide publicity through print and digital media. To ensure benefits of NHB schemes reach all parts of the country, following steps are being taken to create awareness of NHB scheme:

- Scheme information is being uploaded on NHB website in 22 languages.
- Focused awareness programme will be undertaken in identified States/districts having low awareness of NHB scheme.
- In Annual Action Plan 2018-19, NHB has also proposed following awareness programme:

District level- 500
State level- 100
National level- 25."

1.10 In order to enhance the ambit of various schemes being implemented by the National Horticulture Board (NHB), the Committee had recommended the Government to take steps for proper awareness campaign about schemes being implemented by the NHB and other Autonomous Bodies in print and digital media so that applicants from different parts of the country may apply for the funds available under the scheme and benefits of schemes being financed by the Public Money should reach all parts of the Country.

The Department in their action taken reply has submitted that consequent to recommendation of the Committee, NHB has undertaken critical analysis on the distribution of Scheme across the states and UTs and social groups so that the benefit of NHB Schemes is availed by all the States and UTs and social groups evenly. The Committee were informed that NHB scheme has already evoked very good response and presently there is huge backlog of pending proposals. Hence, currently Board is not accepting new applications except for SC/ST category. The Committee were assured that fresh applications for various schemes will be accepted in the month of August, 2018 after giving wide publicity through print and digital media. The Committee were also informed about various steps such as uploading of scheme information on NHB website in 22 languages, plan for focused awareness programme in identified States/districts having low awareness of NHB scheme and proposed 625 awareness campaign at District, State and National Level in the country.

The Committee note that Department's reply is silent on State-wise distribution of beneficiaries of various schemes of the NHB. Further, the Department also failed to furnish details of awareness campaign being planned in print and digital medium and allocation for the purpose. The Committee are of view that uploading of information in local language will not suffice as majority of farmer community in our country still lack access to

internet and digital skill to apply for these schemes. Further, for balanced growth of agriculture sector in all States of Country, it is imperative that benefits of Government Schemes are evenly distributed across the States. The Committee, therefore, once again reiterate their earlier recommendation and desire the Department to frame a uniform policy for wide publicity of various schemes being implemented by Autonomous bodies under the administrative purview of the DAC&FW and allocate adequate funds for the purpose. The Committee also desire the Department to furnish list of State-wise beneficiaries of various schemes being implemented by NHB and other Autonomous bodies and funds allocated for their publicity during the last 5 years.

C. Import and Export of Agriculture Commodities

Recommendation (Serial No. 10)

1.11 The Committee had observed/ recommended as under:-

"The Committee also note that India imports a lot of agricultural and allied products from other countries. The total agricultural and allied products imports of the Country has increased from Rs. 95718.89 crore during 2012-13 to Rs. 164680.56 crore during 2016-17. As a result, the share of agriculture import in total import in the country has increased from 3.59% in 2012-13 to 6.42 % during 2016-17. The Committee further observes that vegetable oils, pulses, fresh fruits, cashew, spices and sugar are some of the major agricultural commodities in terms of value which were imported in the country during the same period. The Committee are of considered opinion that demands for agriculture products in the country is bound to change significantly with changing dietary pattern associated with rising income and impact of globalization, necessitating import and thereby, causing strain on foreign exchange. The Committee are of the view that there is need for enhancing production of agriculture products which are currently being imported. The Committee, therefore, recommend that a detailed study to find ways to enhance production of these agriculture produce in different agro-climatic zones and subzones in the country be conducted. The Committee also recommend the Department to start a special project for development of local varieties of dry fruits, spices, olive etc. which are currently being imported in the country. The Committee also desire the Department to take steps and provide special incentives to the farmers for cultivation of these agriculture products in the country in order to reduce their import. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard."

1.12 The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare in the Action Taken Reply has stated as under:-

"Import of agricultural products is influenced by various factors like demand, supply, domestic production and availability, seasonality, international prices,

domestic quality, Government policies etc. it is mentioned that vegetable oils and pulses constitute about 70% of India's agricultural imports, to meet the gap between demand and availability from domestic sources, imports are made. Sugar is mainly imported in raw form from domestic processing and then exporting.

To incentivize farmers to invest more in increasing productivity and production and protect their interests, Government has recently taken various trade policy measures. A list of the recent trade policy measures in chronological order taken by Government is at Annexure-VIII.

1.13 While showing their concern on increasing share of agriculture import in the country, the Committee had recommended the Government to conduct a study to find ways to enhance production of agriculture produce currently being imported. The Committee had also recommended the Department to start a special project for development of local varieties of dry fruits, spices, olive etc. which are currently being imported in the country and to provide special incentives to the farmers for cultivation of these agriculture products in the country in order to reduce their import. The Department in their Action Taken replies apart from explaining about factors affecting import of agricultural commodities in the Country has furnished list of recent trade policy measures taken by Government to incentivize farmers to invest more in increasing productivity and production.

The Committee are of view that the Government has not taken their recommendation in letter and spirit. The Committee are of view that our Country being blessed with varied agro-climatic zones has potential to emerge as a major producer of most of the agricultural products required. Further, investment in agriculture research over the years has established a dedicated and efficient agriculture research manpower which has capacity to solve problems being faced by the Country. The Committee are of opinion that these two factors can be effectively utilized to identify areas in which production of agriculture produce which are currently being imported,

develop local varieties of exotic crops and fruits and provision of necessary technical and extension services to the farmers to reduce share of agriculture import in the Country. The Committee are of view that a new agricultural strategy on these lines will not only be able to reduce agriculture import but will also help to enhance income of farmers which is stated aim of the Government.

D. Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs)

(Recommendation No. 11)

1.14 The Committee had observed/ recommended as under:-

"The Committee note that Government is planning to develop and upgrade existing 22,000 rural haats into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs) which will provide farmers facility to make direct sale to consumers and bulk purchasers. The Committee were informed that physical infrastructure will be strengthened using MGNREGA and other Government Schemes in these GrAMs,. The Government is planning to electronically link GrAMs to e-NAM and keep it exempted from regulations of APMCs. The Department also informed that an Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund with a corpus of Rs. 2,000 crore is to be set up for upgrading 22,000 Haats into GrAMs and further development of 585 APMCs.

The Committee also note that DAC&FW has initiated process of discussion and consultation with other Ministries and NABARD for convergence of schemes to provide basic infrastructure requirements such as platforms, office block, small storage godowns, Garbage pits, drinking water facility, toilets, drains, internal roads etc. under proposed GrAMs Scheme. The Government intend to use Agri Market Infrastructure Fund for provision of other infrastructure like e-trading platform, Electronic Weighing Machines, price information board etc.

However, the Committee are astonished to note that Government did not undertake any study/survey to access the actual numbers of rural agriculture

markets in the country and Government is relying on data available on National Asset Directory about number of assets including Grameen hats/Rural Markets maintained by Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India. According to this data, there are 2090 market yards and 14756 sheds in the Country. The Committee were further informed that as per different State agencies, there are approximately 22,000 rural haat in the country. The Department have also informed that collection of data on Rural Periodic Market has been initiated by Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI) and is under progress.

The Committee appreciate the Government for taking initiative for strengthening the network of Rural Periodic Haat or 'Grameen Haat' As they are popularly called across the Country. The Committee had selected the subject ' Agriculture Marketing and Role of Weekly Grameen Haats' in 2017-18 and drawn the attention of the Department towards utilization of 'Rural Grameen Haat' as a platform for rural marketing which will help the farmers to realize reasonable price of their agriculture produce. The Committee are of view that these Grameen haats being integral part of Indian culture provide excellent platform for provision of facilities meant for farmers and to take awareness campaign about schemes being implemented by the Government in Agriculture sector. These Grameen Haats, if properly developed, can emerge as a fulcrum around which the Government can develop the agrarian economy and achieve the aims of doubling the income of farmers. However, target of development of 22000 rural haats is too small a number to serve the needs of 'Grameen Haats' in a country of 6,49,481 Villages. The Committee are of view that number of 'Rural Grameen Haat' may be many times more in the Country. The Government should take step to identify all marginal, small or big 'Rural Grameen Haat' across the Country. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to implement this scheme in every 'Rural Grameen Haat' in the country. The Committee also desire the Government to implement this scheme in mission mode with a defined time frame. The Committee are also of view that provision of small cold storage facility in proposed GrAM Scheme will go a long way to reduce post harvest crop

losses of agriculture produce. The Committee, therefore, desire the Government to make provision of small cold storage facility in GrAM."

1.15 The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare in the Action Taken Reply has stated as under:-

"As already submitted to the Committee, the Department is in consultation with NABARD, Ministries of Panchayati Raj, Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Tribal Affairs for developing and upgrading existing 22,000 rural haats into Grameen Agriculture Markets (GrAMs) as announced in Budget 2018-19. In these proposed GrAMs, physical infrastructure shall be strengthened by convergence various schemes like MGNREGA, PMGSY etc. These GrAMs after development will be electronically linked to e-NAM and shall be exempted from regulations of APMC Act. An Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund with a corpus of Rs. 2,000 crore is to be set up by NABARD for requisite marketing infrastructure in GrAMs and further development of 585 APMCs. NABARD is working out modalities for the same.

An Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) Memorandum is being prepared by the Department for seeking Rs. 2,000 crore. After approval of EFC, approval of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) will be solicited. As recommended by the Committee to implement the scheme in every Grameen Rural Market, it is to inform that there is an initial target to implement the scheme in 22,000 Rural Haats as announcement.

Department is undertaking survey of grameen rural markets in country, through its associated office Directorate of Marketing & Inspection (DMI) w.r.t. their location, status of infrastructure, commodities traded etc. This will help to identify number of village haats and requirement of marketing infrastructure including the requirement of small cold storage etc. in GrAMs. The survey is under progress."

1.16 While appreciating the initiative of the Government for taking initiative for strengthening the network of Rural Periodic Haat or 'Grameen Haat' had

opined that number of 'Rural Grameen Haat' may be many times more in the Country and recommended the Government to undertake a survey to identify all marginal, small or big 'Rural Grameen Haat' across the Country. The Committee had also desired the Government to make provision of small cold storage facility in GrAM. The Department in their action Taken Reply has submitted that survey of grameen rural markets in country, through its associated office Directorate of Marketing & Inspection (DMI) w.r.t. their location, status of infrastructure, commodities traded etc is being undertaken and yet to be completed. The Committee were also informed that Department is in consultation with NABARD, Ministries of Panchayati Raj, Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Tribal Affairs for developing and upgrading existing 22,000 rural haats into Grameen Agriculture Markets (GrAMs) as announced in Budget 2018-19 and Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) Memorandum is being prepared by the Department for seeking Rs. 2,000 crore. After approval of EFC, approval of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) will be solicited.

The Committee appreciate the Department to take steps for undertaking the survey about Grammen Haat across the country. The Committee are of view that this data obtained from this survey will be very useful for properly implementing the Scheme. However, the Committee desire the Government to provide adequate manpower and funds to the Directorate of Marketing & Inspection (DMI) in order to complete the survey within shortest possible time. The Committee also desire the Government to complete all formalities for inter-Departmental consultation and Coordination with State Governments in order to initiate this scheme in 2018.

CHAPTER - II
OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY
THE GOVERNMENT

Analysis of Demands

(Recommendation No. 1)

Indian farmers with their hard work, ingenuity and limited resources, were able to script a success story to bring a turnaround in food production of the Country and made our country self reliant. They helped the country to achieve a remarkable growth in agriculture, increasing food grain production from 83 million tonnes in 1960-61 to about 275.68 million tonnes in 2016-17. Now, our country is not only self sufficient in production of food grain to meet food requirement of the country but agriculture is also contributing towards foreign earning. Indian Farmers, whenever provided with adequate financial and technical support, have helped the Country in enhancing food production and thereby, ensuring food security of the country. However, barring few States and regions, socio-economic condition of majority of farmers has not improved *vis a vis* other sections of Indian Society. Against this backdrop, emphasis of current Government on doubling the income of farmers by 2022 assumes significance and will help to bring a turnaround in fortunes of our 'Anndata' (farmers). The Committee note that the budgetary provision of Rs.46,700.00 crore has been made for DAC&FW for the year 2018-19, which is enhancement of about 11.58% as compared to allocations of Rs.41,105.00 crore (RE) during 2017-18. However, the Committee note that this amount constitutes only 1.91 percent of the total budgeted amount of the Union Government. The Committee also note that the Government has enhanced allocations for implementation of some schemes such as PMFBY, PMKSY, KUY and NMSA by 44.59 percent, 17.65 percent, 14.59 percent and 25.14 percent respectively whereas, allocations for some important schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and National Project on Soil Health and Fertility were reduced by 24.21 percent and 11.10 percent. Taking into focus the plight of our farmers and with a view to achieve the target to double the income of farmers by 2022, the Committee urge the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare to take up the matter with Ministry of Finance to

increase the share of the Department in Central Plan so that various schemes undertaken by them do not suffer for want of funds.

Reply of the Government

The Plan /Non-Plan distinction of expenditure has been abolished w.e.f. FY 2017-18. Therefore, there are no Central Plan component in the Budget of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare.

Further, the budget of DAC&FW has been rising over the years and a number of schemes has been introduced to strengthen the Agriculture Sector (Annexure-IX).

The budget is allocated after taking into consideration the resource availability, unspent balances available with the Ministry, spending capacity etc. The Government will make every effort to increase allocation for Agriculture.

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(Recommendation No. 2)

The Committee note that many new schemes such as Computerization of Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS), Corpus fund for micro irrigation, implementation of Market Assurance Scheme, Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana (Price Deficiency Procurement Scheme), Restructured National Bamboo mission etc have been announced by the Government in the Budget 2018-19.

The Committee have been informed that Computerization of PACS scheme envisage Computerization of 63000 functional PACS in three years with a project cost of Rs. 1985 crore from 2018-2021. The project estimated cost will be borne in the ratio of 60:35:05 by Central Government, State Governments and PACS, whereas funding pattern for the NEAR states and Himalayan States will be 80:20.

Dedicated Micro irrigation fund with an initial corpus amount of Rs. 5000 crore has been envisaged to be instituted with NABARD for encouraging public and

private investment in modern irrigation methods such as drip and sprinkler irrigation and offering support for expanding coverage of micro irrigation by encouraging States to avail this credit at lower interest rates. This Scheme aims to encourage water use efficiency to realize the objective of 'per drop more crop'.

The Committee appreciates the initiatives in current budget and they are pretty sanguine that these will ease down the difficulties being faced by the farmers of the Country. The Committee are of view that there is urgent need to modernize the functioning of Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) and plan for computerization of PACS will help to bring efficiency and transparency in their functioning. However, the Committee are of considered view that most of the PACS in the Country will not be able to contribute their share as proposed in the scheme. Further, there is need for augmenting the financial resources of the PACS. The Committee, therefore, desire the Government to adopt a more liberal financing ratio for the implementation of the scheme and do away with the requirement of share of PACS for the scheme. The Committee also desire the Government to complete all formalities for constitution of Dedicated Micro irrigation fund with NABARD so that interested States can avail credit facilities for promotion of efficient irrigation methods among farmers. The Committee would like to be apprised about steps taken in this regard within three months of presentation of this Report.

Reply of the Government

Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS)

The Computerization of Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) has been envisaged as a Central Sector Scheme by the Government to be implemented through NABARD. The Computerization of 63,000 viable PACS will be undertaken across the country in phased manner over a period of three years w.e.f. 2018-19 to 2020-21 at a total cost of Rs. 2142.50 crore. For continuity of the project, the Government also propose to extend handholding support on cluster mode for the 2nd and 3rd stage of PACS computerization and it will run beyond March, 2021 upto March 2023. Computerization of PACS is seen as a measure that will facilitate PACS in

streamlining the functioning, which in turn should improve their credit/non-credit business and ultimately augment their financial resources / capital base.

Regarding the need for augmenting the financial resources of the PACS, it is mentioned that PACS is a States subject and to augment their financial resources, PACS should make efforts for increasing its borrowing members which will help them in increasing its share capital. Further, they may be strengthened by providing financial resources by the State Governments.

The matter regarding retaining share of PACS at 5% of project cost has been deliberated by all stakeholders and it was considered necessary that PACS must have a stake in the project, even if minimum, to encourage them to align with the objective of the project, that is to ensure improved service delivery to the large rural base financial enclosure.

Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF)

In the Union Budget 2017-18, Hon'ble Finance Minister announced setting up of a dedicated Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF) to be instituted in NABARD with initial corpus of Rs. 5000 crore. The main objective of the fund is to facilitate the States in mobilizing the resources for expanding coverage of Micro Irrigation by taking up special and innovative projects and also for incentivising micro irrigation beyond the provisions available under PMKSY-PDMC to encourage farmers to install micro irrigation systems.

- 2) Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) considered the proposal of MIF in its meeting held on 23.02.2018.
- 3) The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) held on 16.05.2018 considered the note on 'Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)- Corpus for Micro Irrigation Fund to be created with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)' and approved the proposal for setting up of a dedicated

'Micro Irrigation Fund' (MIF) in NABARD with an initial corpus of Rs. 5000 crores to be utilised during 2018-19 and 2019-20.

4) Strategy for implementation of MIF

- (i) The loan will be extended by NABARD to the State Governments during the remaining period of 14th Finance Commission i.e. during 2018-19 and 2019-20 with allocation of Rs. 2000 crore and Rs. 3000 crore respectively. Borrowings from NABARD shall be paid back in 7 years including the grace period of 2 years starting from 2018-19 to 2026-27 under Micro Irrigation Fund.
- (ii) States may access MIF for innovative integrated projects, including projects in the Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode and also for incentivizing micro irrigation through an additional (top up) subsidy over and above the one available under PMKSY-PDMC Guidelines and for covering additional areas. It should not be a substitute for State's share in PMKSY-PDMC.
- (iii) The lending rate under MIF has been proposed at 3% lower than the cost of raising the fund by NABARD. This interest subvention amount shall be paid to NABARD on annual/periodical basis by Government of India. This cost shall be met from the ongoing scheme of PMKSY-PDMC.
- (iv) An Advisory Committee chaired by Secretary, DAC&FW has been set up to provide directions and ensure effective planning, coordination and monitoring.
- (v) A Steering committee has also been set up for examining and approving the Projects/ proposals from State Governments.

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Revenue Receipt

(Recommendation No. 3)

The Committee note that the DAC&FW has various sources for Revenue Receipt (Interest Receipt, Dividends and Profit, Guarantee Fees, Receipts From Plant Protection Services, Manures & Fertilizers, Fee for Quality Control Grading Of Agricultural Products and Receipt from other Services). The Committee were informed that the Department has received revenue receipt of Rs. 449.36 crore and Rs. 533.83 crore during 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively. The Committee were further informed that the Department have set a target of Rs. 472.62 crore for revenue Receipt for 2018-19. However, the Department failed to furnish any response on details of fee received by the training institutes under the DAC&FW for consultancy/training services provided to other organizations during 2016-17 and 2017-18.

The Committee also note that the Budget Grants of the DAC&FW has other sources of recoveries {Rs. 3713.61 Crore during 2016-17 and 5000 crore for 2017-18 9 (RE)}. However, the Department did not furnish the anticipated recoveries for 2018-19. The Committee were informed sources for recovery were mainly on account of the expenditure met out of Krishi Kalyan Kosh and refunds of unspent balances by the implementing agencies. In this regard, the Committee were further informed that Krishi Kalyan Kosh has been abolished by M/o Finance after introduction of GST and the level of unspent balances has come down on implementation of Public Financial Management System (PFMS). Therefore no deduct recovery has been assumed in the budget of 2018-19. The Committee were informed that the Ministry does not utilize the revenue receipts generated by it. However the receipts credited to Krishi Kalyan Kosh were being utilized for offsetting the expenditure through the mechanism of deduct recoveries. The accounting procedure being followed had been approved by O/o Controller General of Accounts with the concurrence of Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) of India.

The Committee regret to note that the Department were not forthcoming to furnish the information as desired by them. This led to lack of comprehensive financial details about the Department and other Agencies under their administrative control which would have helped the Committee to analyze their performance and offer comments for better financial management. The Committee deprecate this callous attitude of the DAC&FW and hope that these mistakes will not be repeated in future. Further, the Committee are of view that the Department is erroneous in assuming the zero assumption for revenue recovery for 2018-19 as unspent balances may not be practically nil even after implementation of PFMS. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to fine tune their financial management system in order to reflect correct financial projection and position. The committee would like to be apprised about steps taken in this regard within three months of presentation of this Report.

Reply of the Government

The information sought by the Committee may be provided in two parts:

(a) Details of revenue generated by training institutes during 2016-17 and 2017-18:

Revenue Generated by the Training Institutes of DAC&FW during 2016-17 and 2017-18 as on 28.02.2018:

1. Mechanization & Technology Training Institutes:

2016-17	2017-18 AS ON (28/2/2018)
(Rupees in Crore)	
REVENUE GENERATED BY THE TRAINING INSTITUTES	
7.78	9.96

2. National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM) :

Activity	2016-17	2017-18
Fee received for consultancy/training services provided to other organizations	Rs.1.94 crore	Rs.3.32 crore

3. Ch. Charan Singh National Institute, NIAM, Jaipur:

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the organisation from which revenue receipts reported	Financial Year	Amount of revenue	Source of Revenue
	Ch. Charan Singh National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (CCS NIAM), Jaipur	2016-17	100.94	Include Professional Consultancy charges, Training & Seminar fee etc..
		2017-18	65.00 (estimated)	
		2018-19	85 (Estimated)	

4. **Directorate of Marketing & Inspection**

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the organisation from which revenue receipts reported	Financial Year	Amount of revenue	Source of Revenue
	Directorate of Marketing & Inspection, DAC&FW	2016-17	16.98	AGMARK Certification under Agriculture Produce Grading
		2017-18	21.20	
		2018-19	20.00 Approx.	

5. **National Institute for Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE)**

MANAGE has generated an amount of Rs. 2.93 crore during the financial year 2016-17 and 2017-18 (upto January,2018)respectively by conducting consultancy programme and other receipts.

Detail	2016-17	2017-18 (upto January,2018)
Consultancy Programmes	1.17 cr.	0.45 cr.
AC& ABC Receipts	0.57 cr.	0.19 cr
PGDM(ABM) Programme	1.19 cr.	1.50 cr.
	2.93 cr.	2.14 r.

(b) PFMS and its impact on unspent balances and reason for having Zero budget under the head deduct recovery.

The Department is in agreement with the observation of the committee regarding unspent balances, which may not be practically nil even after implementation of Public Finance Management (PFM). It is a fact that unspent balance remains available with implementing agencies even after implementation of PFMS. The rules itself provide a period of one year in case

of recurring Grant and 18 months in case of Non Recurring Grant to the implementing agencies for full utilization of grants released by Central Government.

With regards to assumption of Zero budget under the head 'Deduct Recovery" (revenue Recovery). It is brought to the notice of committee that The total amount of Rs. 3713.67 crores booked under the head deduct recovery had a major component of expenditure adjusted from Krishi Kalyan Kosh. The refund of unspent balances accounted for only Rs. 117 crores.

Basis of Zero assumption of Deduct Recovery:

- a. Abolition of Krishi Kalyan Cess, which has been the major contributor in deduct recovery through Krishi Kalyan Kosh
- b. Implementation of PFMS.
- c. Improved monitoring of expenditure at state level and national level.

It is submitted that the Department is taking utmost care in reporting information to the committee and in ensuring that the funds provided to the State/UT Governments and implementing agencies do not remain unutilized for a long periods.

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(Recommendation No. 6)

The Committee note that two out of 4 complaints of financial irregularities since 2010 received in NHB were closed being of anonymous nature. In case of one complaint, the penalty order for imposing major penalty, after conducting formal inquiry, is under consideration of Disciplinary Authority, NHB, while in case of other complaint, the matter is under preliminary investigation. However, the Department have furnished details of three cases of financial irregularities being dealt by disciplinary authority of NHB. The Committee observe that contradiction in details of financial irregularities clearly shows that Department do not have a centralized

database for reporting of financial irregularities in Autonomous bodies/PSUs under their administrative control. The Committee are of view that presence of a robust mechanism for reporting of financial irregularities will go a long way to promote transparency and ensure smooth functioning in Autonomous Bodies under administrative control of DAC&FW. The Committee, therefore, desire the Department to develop a mechanism for reporting of complaints of financial irregularities in Autonomous Bodies under administrative control of DAC&FW. The Committee also desire the Department to furnish status of all cases of complaints reported to Department since 2010. The committee would like to be apprised about steps taken in this regard within three months of presentation of this Report.

Reply of the Government

So far as the complaints of financial irregularities since 2010, the Board received 4 complaints, out of which two were closed being of anonymous nature. In case of one complaint, the penalty order for imposing major penalty has been issued on 27.02.2018, while in case of other complaint, the matter is under preliminary investigation since 03.11.2017.

In so far as the penalty imposed since 2010, in case of disciplinary proceedings, penalty has been imposed in 8 cases. Year-wise details are as under:

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Sl. No.	Year of penalty	No. of Penalty	Nature of penalty
1.	2012	2	Major penalty
3.	2013	3	Major penalty
6.	2015	2	Major penalty
8.	2016	1	Major penalty

CVC & DOPT have already developed a mechanism with regard to checking the vigilance cases pending in Ministry/Department. CVC/DOPT has developed online reporting mechanism for faster reporting and proper action. All the report

with respect to this Department, Subordinate Offices, Autonomous Bodies and organization are collected in this Department and uploaded on CVC and DOPT websites by 15th of every month. Also review meeting with stakeholders are held under the Chairmanship of CVO/Deputy Secretary(Vig.) of the Department to expedite processing of complaints.

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Minimum Support Price for Agriculture Produce

(Recommendation No. 8)

The committee note that Government has decided to fix Minimum support price (MSP) of all Kharif crops at least at one and half times of their cost of production. The Committees have been informed that Government has already declared MSP of majority of Rabi crops at least one and half times of their cost of production. The Committee have been informed that CACP recommendations about MSP is based on A2+FL cost which includes all paid cost such as those incurred on hired human labour, machine/bullock cart labour, rent paid on leased land, expenses on input such as seeds, fertilizer, manure, irrigation etc. In addition, it also includes imputed value of wages of family labour and depreciation of farm machinery and building. The MSP fixed by the Government provide adequate return over A2+FL. The Committee have been informed that MSP fixed by the government for 2017-18 have been in excess of 50 percent for 9 crops out of 22 mandated crops.

The Committee appreciate the decision of the Government to fix MSP of 22 crops one and half times of production cost i.e. A2+FL. However, the committee note that there has been demand from various stakeholders including farmers and eminent scientists such as MS Swaminathan to fix MSP of crops one and half times of C2 which also takes into account of rental value of owned land and interest on fixed capital apart from A2+FL. The Committee are of view that issue of fixation of MSP needs a comprehensive reorientation in order to ensure remunerative prices of agriculture produce. The committee recall that in their Sixtieth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Pricing of Agriculture Produce, many issues such as need of region-wise MSP, , broad basing of Data used by the CACP, enhancement of representation of farmers in CACP, timely announcement of MSP etc. were discussed in length and recommendations were suggested by the Committee to make the process of MSP farmers friendly. The Committee are of view that decision of the Government to fix MSP at least one and half times is a praiseworthy step to solve the problems of farmers of country. However, there is need to take further steps in these areas so that farmers may get comprehensive justice. The Committee would like the

Government to take a fresh look on recommendations of the Government as suggested in aforementioned Report of the Committee.

Reply of the Government

Regarding Committee's views on comprehensive reorientation, from time to time, Government constitutes expert committees to review the methodological issues related to costs/support prices of agricultural produce. This Ministry is guided by the recommendations of the Expert Committee, which factors inputs from all stakeholders.

Regarding uniform Minimum Support Price (MSP), Government fixes MSP for agricultural crops on the basis of recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP). Region specific parameters are kept in view by the CACP while recommending MSP for agricultural crops. Since the cost of production varies in different States on account of differences in levels of irrigation, resource endowment, farm mechanization, land holding size etc., CACP uses all-India weighted average cost of production while making its recommendations and recommends uniform MSP which is applicable to all states and not region or state-specific. Region-specific MSPs would encourage inefficient production and would not only go against the principle of comparative advantage in producing specific crops but also against the need for development of a national market. The possible market distortions involved in following such a system, are also to be kept in view. The objective is to promote regionally differentiated production strategy and encourage an efficient level of agricultural production in the country.

Regarding timely announcement of MSP, Government announces MSPs of agricultural crops well in advance before the sowing season in order to provide farmers an opportunity to choose the crop for cultivation.

Methodology of Price fixing by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)

The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) recommends Minimum Support Price (MSP) at national level for 23 mandated agricultural

commodities(Annexure-X) including Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for Sugarcane to the Government as per its Terms of Reference while recommending the price policy, the Commission keeps in view the following:

- i) The need to provide incentive to the producer for adopting new/improved technology and developing a production pattern broadly in the light of national requirements. The Commission may also suggest such non-price measures as would facilitate the achievement of these objectives.
- ii) The need to ensure rational utilization of land, water and other production resources.
- iii) The likely effect of the price policy on the rest of the economy, particularly on the cost of living, level of wages, industrial cost structure and competitiveness of agriculture and agro-based industries.

Therefore, in formulating the recommendations in respect of the level of minimum support prices and other non-price measures, apart from a comprehensive view of the entire structure of the economy of a particular commodity or group of commodities, the Commission takes into account the following factors:

- i. Cost of production
- ii. Demand and supply situation in domestic and world markets
- iii. Trends in market prices—both domestic and international
- iv. Changes in input prices
- v. Parity between prices paid and prices received by the farmers (Terms of Trade)
- vi. Inter-crop price parity
- vii. Effect on cost structure of agro-based products and competitiveness of agriculture and agro-based products
- viii. Effect on cost of living
- ix. Effect on general price level and level of wages
- x. Assessment of objective needs of the economy at a particular point of time, including food security, agricultural diversification, etc.

The estimates of cost of cultivation, which is an important input for forming the recommendation of MSP, are made available to the Commission through the

'Comprehensive Scheme for Studying the Cost of Cultivation of Principal Crops in India', operated by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. These data are collected with the help of State Agricultural Universities/Agro-Economic Research Centres/other Universities located in various states and the sample size is as large as 8100. These estimates take into account real factors of production and include all actual expenses in cash and kind incurred in production of a crop by the farmer, rent paid for leased-in land, imputed value of family labour, interest value of owned capital assets (excluding land), rental value of owned land (net of land revenue), depreciation on farm implements and buildings and other miscellaneous expenses.

The related data that become available to CACP at the time of finalizing its reports has a time lag of two to three years. As a consequence, various components of cost are required to be projected for the ensuing season of the crops, after taking into account the changes in prices of different inputs subsequent to the period to which the data pertain. Based on the available data, the Commission constructs, a variable input price index beginning with the base year and ending with the year of projection for each state and each crop,. The input items for which price indices are constructed in the Commission for the purpose of cost projections are human labour, bullock labour, machine labour, fertilisers, manures, seeds, insecticides and irrigation charges.

While making projections, the data for the latest available year are treated as the base. The total input cost is broadly divided into two parts: variable input cost and fixed cost. Because of its greater significance in the total cost, the Commission concentrates more on updating the estimated variable input cost items. After constructing the individual price indices for each of the variable inputs, a composite weighted index is constructed. The share of each of these variable inputs in the total operational cost, prevailing in the base year, is taken as the weight for each specific input. This composite weighted input price index thus measures the likely changes in variable input prices for each of the later years in relation to the base period. The increase in variable input price index over the base period is then used for projecting cost of cultivation A_2+FL per hectare [which includes costs of all the variable inputs

actually incurred by farmers, rent paid for leased-land and imputed cost on account of use of family labour (FL)]. Further, the apportionment of total cost of cultivation between the main product and the by-product is done in proportion to their contribution to the total value of output. For fixed cost of cultivation C2 per hectare, the main components considered are the rental value of owned land and interest on fixed capital. Subsequently, after using projected yield, costs of production A2+FL and C2 per quintal are projected. The Commission takes into account the weighted average cost of production (calculated on the basis of proportion of each State in the total production) at the national level for recommending the MSP.

Crops having MSP more than 50% of cost of production and crops having MSP less than 50% of cost of production are at Annexure-XI.

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Agriculture Planning

(Recommendation No. 12)

The Committee observe that farmers growing Tomato, Onion, Potato and other horticulture products do not get remunerative price for their agriculture produce in case of falling prices due to glut production. Sometimes, prices of these agriculture produce fall much below the production cost causing huge financial strain to the farmers. In this regard, the Committee are happy to note that the Government is planning to develop cluster based model in a scientific manner for identified agriculture produces in our districts in the same manner as we have cultivation of horticulture crops in clusters bring advantages of scales of operations and can spur establishment of entire chain from production to marketing, besides giving recognition to the districts for specific crops. The Committee were assured that the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare will reorient its ongoing Schemes and promote cluster based development of agri-commodities and regions in partnership with the Ministries of Food Processing, Commerce and other allied Ministries.

The Committee also observe that sometimes Central/State Governments do intervene through their agencies for procurement to ensure remunerative pricing. However, such steps are few and far between and approach is reactive which do not serve the purpose. The Committee are of view that there is need of a well laid out agriculture planning which may take care of local agri-climatic classification and projected demands for agriculture produce. This information, if properly disseminated among farmers, will help them to plan cultivation of crops, which can fetch them remunerative price by preventing glut production. Preparation of agriculture Plan will not only help to maximize income of farmers but will also help to save precious natural resources. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to take steps for promotion of cultivation of crops according to a well laid out agriculture plan. The Committee desire the Government to initiate consultation with all stake holders for preparation of agriculture plan which can take care of above mentioned factors and promote a culture of cultivation where return of farmers can be maximized with optimum utilization of Natural resources.

Reply of the Government

Recommendations of the Committee are very useful to the Department and it also help in making the schemes more effective. We are happy to inform to the Committee that the Hon'ble Prime Minister has also set a target before the Department to double the farmers' income by 2022. The focus areas can be indicated as follows:

- i. Special focus on irrigation with sufficient budget, with the aim of "Per Drop More Crop".
- ii. Provision of quality seeds and nutrients based on soil health of each field.
- iii. Large investments in Warehousing and Cold Chains to prevent post-harvest crop losses.
- iv. Promotion of value addition through food processing.
- v. Creation of an integrated National Agricultural Market (e-NAM), removing distortions and e-platform across 585 Stations.

- vi. Introduction of a New Crop Insurance Scheme to mitigate risks at affordable cost.
- vii. Promotion of ancillary activities like poultry, beekeeping and fisheries.

To achieve the target of doubling the income of farmers by 2022, the Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee on 13.04.2016 under the Chairmanship of Chief Executive Officer, National Rainfed Area Authority, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare to examine issues relating to doubling of farmers' income and recommend a strategy to achieve the same. Based on the some recommendations of the Committee, the Department has initiated the following steps:

- i. Model State/UT Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2017 has been drafted, approved and has been shared with the States.
- ii. Model Contract Farming Act has been released.
- iii. Restructuring of Directorate of Marketing & Inspection (DMI), so as to provide technology backstopping to a system for price and demand forecast.
- iv. A five year Roadmap for Pulses Production and achieve a production status of 24 million MTs.
- v. A comprehensive roadmap for increasing the production of oilseeds in the country.
- vi. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) scheme has been approved for continuation for three years as Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture & Allied Sector Rejuvenation i.e. (RKVY-RAFTAAR) which aims at making the farming as a remunerative economic activity through multi pronged approach along with holistic development of agriculture and allied sector. The new Guidelines provide for major allocation for creation of production and post-

production infrastructure, beside promoting agri-enterprises and incubation facilities.

- vii. An institutional mechanism at State and District levels to undertake integrated and comprehensive review of agriculture and allied activities and farmers welfare.
- viii. Computerization of Primary agriculture cooperative societies (PACSs)- A budgeting provision has been made to computerize all the PACSs in a period of 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20).
- ix. A new market architecture under which 22,000 rural haats to be upgraded as centers of aggregation and direct sell-purchase of agri-commodities.
- x. Adopt crop realignment by making it value driven and not merely by advocacy but market driven.
- xi. Making procurement more broad based by introducing new MSP policy focusing beyond rice and wheat;
- xii. Reinvigorate agricultural extension.
- xiii. Promoting climate resilient agriculture as climate change implications are more severe for small and marginal farmers

The Government is aiming to reorient the agriculture sector by making it income-centric rather than purely a production-centric activity. A farmer's income is a basket of earnings from agriculture (including horticulture), allied activities like dairy, livestock, poultry, fishery etc. and ancillary activities like beekeeping etc. Apart from these farm incomes, he also earns from other activities like wage labour, off-farm activities etc. Earnings from agriculture constitute the principal source of income of a farmer.

At present, the Government is implementing various schemes to synchronise with higher gains for the farmers. Details are as follows:-

- For higher production through productivity gains

- National Food Security Mission (NFSM)- cereals, pulses, oilseeds, nutri-rich cereals, commercial crops
- Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)- high growth rate of horticulture crops.
- For reduction in cost of cultivation
 - Soil Health Card (SHC) (2 year cycle)- ensure judicious use of fertilizer application and thus save money of farmers.
 - Neem Coated Urea (NCU) (universal)- is being promoted to regulate use of urea, enhance availability of nitrogen to the crop and reduce cost of fertilizer application
 - The Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) – micro irrigation component (1.2 million ha/yr target)- with the motto of ‘Har Khet Ko Paani’ for providing end-to-end solutions in irrigation supply chain, comprising water sources, distribution network and farm level applications.
 - Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) – PKVY is being implemented with a view to promote organic farming in the country. This will improve soil health and organic matter content and increase net income of the farmer so as to realise premium prices.
- To ensure remunerative returns
 - National Agriculture Market Scheme (E-NAM) - an innovative market process to revolutionize agri-markets by ensuring better price discovery, bringing in transparency and competition to enable farmers to get improved remuneration for their produce moving towards ‘One Nation One Market’
 - Warehousing and post-harvest loans at concessional rate of interest so as to discourage distress sale by farmers and to encourage them to store their produce in warehouses against negotiable receipts.
 - Minimum Support Price (MSP) - notified by the Government for certain crops.
 - Procurement of oilseeds, pulses and cotton being undertaken by central agencies at MSP under Price Support Scheme (PSS) at the request of the concerned State Government.

- Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agriculture & horticulture products, which are perishable in nature and are not covered under PSS.
- For risk management and sustainable practices
 - Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) & Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWCIS) to cover 50% Gross Cultivated Area (GCA) by 2018-19- provides insurance cover at all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances and available to the farmers at very low rates of premium.
 - Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) - being implemented with a view to promote organic farming in the country. This will improve soil health and organic matter content and increase net income of the farmer
 - Mission organic Farming in North-East- MoVCD (NE) being implemented realizing the potential of organic farming in the North Eastern Region of the country.
 - Allied activities as follows:
 - “Har Medh Par Ped” launched during 2016-17 to encourage tree plantation on farm land “ Har Medh Par Ped”, along with crops/ cropping system.

Bee-Keeping - During the last 3 year (2014-15 and 2016-17) the number of honey bee colonies that were 20 lacs in 2014-15 have increased to 30 lacs during 2016-17, registering an increase of 10 lacs. Honey production in 2011-14 was 2,18,950 metric tons which has increased to 2,63,930 metric tons during 2014-17 i.e an increase of 20.54%.

Dairying - Dairy sector is being promoted through schemes like Rashtriya Gokul Mission, National Bovine Productivity Mission and various dairy development related projects.

Fisheries - Foreseeing high potential in fisheries sector, a Blue Revolution with multi dimensional activities mainly focusing on fisheries production, both inland and marine is being implemented.

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National Bamboo Mission

(Recommendation No. 13)

Bamboo is an important agriculture product of our Country and an integral part of culture especially in North-East India. However, there was significant hurdle in development of industries based on bamboo products due to legal restriction posed on movement of bamboo due to Forest Act. The Committee are happy to note that recent decision of the Government to announce bamboo as grass will do away with these legal hurdles. The Committee also note that the Government has announced restructured National Bamboo Mission with an outlays of Rs. 1290 crore including state share for the three years till 2020 for holistic development of bamboo sector by giving simultaneous emphasis to plantation, product development and value addition. The mission aims to give emphasis on primary processing and treatment, micro, small and medium enterprises, market and skill development and thereby addressing complete value chain of bamboo. The Government aims to develop the sector bringing in coordinated efforts between a dozen Ministries and Departments both at Central and State level. During the oral evidence, the Committee have been informed that the Government aims to encourage development of industries based on bamboo by involving individual farmers, Farmers Producer Organization and Co-operative Societies through hand holding and financial, technical and professional assistance. The Government is planning for changes required in existing Laws and Custom duties structure to encourage domestic industry based on bamboo products. The Committee appreciate this noble initiatives envisaged under National Bamboo Mission. The Committee are of view that development of small and medium enterprises based on local agriculture produce is one of the important way by which we can achieve the aim of doubling

the income of farmers and enhancing their life standard. Development of economy based on Bamboo, being one of the important agriculture Produce of our Country, can spur a movement which can change the course of agrarian economy of the Country. However, the Committee would like the Government to keep farmers as a central platform while engaging in multi-sectoral coordination involving State Governments, Agriculture Research agencies and Skill development organization etc. The Committee also desire the Government to keep the State share minimal for implementation of this scheme.

Reply of the government:

The committee has rightly observed the importance of multi-sectoral coordination involving State Governments, Agriculture Research Agencies and Skill Development Organizations etc. Adoption of end to end solution in bamboo sector i.e. complete value chain approach starting from bamboo growers to consumers would be emphasized. Focus will not only be given on production and productivity enhancement and good agronomic practices, but also on preservation, processing, product development, and marketing in an integrated manner adopting cluster approach involving inter alia Farmers Producer Organizations and Cooperatives. Since end to end solution for development of bamboo sector is envisaged, each stage of the value chain will require relevant expertise and networking for its effective implementation. Accordingly Mission has been developed as a platform for integration with implementation responsibilities given to specific Ministries/ Departments/Agencies based on their , competency and allocation of business rules ensuring appropriate synergy and seamless development process. Besides, product development, emphasis will also be given for higher economic realization to growers/producers through initiatives on export promotion and benefit of domestic market through market infrastructure, e-trading etc. Capacity building of the officials, field functionaries, entrepreneurs and farmers through skill development and trainings will be emphasized. Focus will be given on Research & Development (R&D) to increase the production and productivity of bamboo by identifying its superior clones, improvement of processing technology, development of new products and tools & machinery, etc.

To ensure effective coordination at National Level an Executive Committee (EC) headed by Secretary (DAC&FW) will be established to oversee the implementation & monitoring of the Mission at national level. It will approve the Annual Action Plan (AAP) of the States and help coordinating partnership, convergence & synergy among various Ministries/Departments. The EC will be assisted by two sub-committees.

The Government has decided to implement the mission with funding pattern 60:40 between Centre and State Govt. for all States excepting NE & Hilly states, where it would be 90:10 and 100% in case of Union Territories/ R&D Institutes/ Bamboo Technology Support Groups (BTSGs) and National Level Agencies.

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Soil Health Management (SHM)

(Recommendation No. 15)

The Committee note that Soil Health Management component is being implemented under National Mission For Sustainable Agriculture. Some of the components of the Soil Health Management are distribution of Soil Health Card, setting up of new soil test laboratories (STL) (Static/mobile/Mini labs) and strengthening of soil testing laboratories. The Committee are happy to note that the Government were able to distribute around 11.2 crore soil health cards to the farmers till date as against the target distribution of 12 crore Soil Health Cards till March, 2019. The Committee hope that the Government will be able to achieve a target of distribution of 18.24 crore Soil Health Cards to the farmers till march 2018. However, the Committee are of the view that there should be continuity in updation of Soil Health Cards as it will help the farmers to bring changes in their cultivation pattern according to the changing nature of soil and take steps for restoration of soil health. The Committee in this regard recall that Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has developed a Mini Soil Testing Kit which is far cheaper than the imported soil testing kits. The Committee are of the view that these mini soil testing kits can be provided to the unemployed youth in Rural areas who may provide

services for testing of soil to the Farmers at reasonable fee. The Committee, therefore, recommended the DAC&FW to utilize Indigenous Mini Soil Testing Kits developed by ICAR in soil testing laboratories in Government sector and those financed by the Government under the Scheme.

Reply of the Government

Soil Health Cards is being continued during 2018-19 to help farmers to adopt cultivation pattern according to changing fertility of soil.

So far, 8752 Mini Soil Testing laboratories/KITs designed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have been sanctioned to the States and also Krishi Vigyan Kendras of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. A component on providing assistance for setting up of Village Level Soil Testing Labs to Rural Youth has been taken up during 2017-18.

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CHAPTER - III

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

NIL

CHAPTER - IV

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

National Seeds Corporation

(Recommendation No. 4)

The Committee note that National Seeds Corporation (NSC) is sole PSU under the administrative control of DAC&FW which is engaged in production and distribution of seeds, monitoring availability of Breeder, Foundation and Certified Seeds of all India Varieties and ensuring their timely availability. The NSC is engaged in setting of adequate processing facilities and storing capacity to ensure timely processing and storage of seed. The Committee have been informed that NSC have earned a net profit of 38.84, 49.71 and 51.80 crore during 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17. The Committee also note that NSC has achieved target for production of raw seeds during 2015-16 and 2016-17. However, the Committee were not provided other details such as procurement of seeds, supply of seeds etc. which would have enabled the Committee to properly assess the performance of NSC for which it has been incorporated as a Government Company. The Committee also observe that supply of certified hybrid seeds in country is less than their demand which is reflected in low Seed Replacement ratio in the country.

This fact has also been brought out by the Committee in their 39th Report. The Committee are of view that there's greater need of Government intervention to ensure adequate supply of good quality hybrid seeds at reasonable rates to the farmers of the country. Against this background, role of NSC as a Government Company in achieving this aim become quite crucial. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to broaden the horizon of working of NSC so that it become a significant player in seed market in the country to ensure adequate supply of quality seeds to the farmers. The Committee desire the Government to take steps to enhance financial and professional capacity of NSC and enhance targets for production, procurement and sale of seeds based on realistic assessment of

demand in Indian agriculture market. The Committee would like to be apprised about steps taken in this regard within three months of presentation of this Report.

Reply of the Government

Apart from National Seeds Corporation (NSC), multiplication of Breeder/Foundation Seeds and production and distribution of quality seeds to farmers are undertaken by 16 State Seed Corporations, State Department of Agriculture, State Seeds Farms, State Agriculture Universities Farm, State Seed Cooperatives, Krishak Bharati Cooperative (KRIBHCO), Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO), [Indian Farm Forestry Development Co-Operative Limited](#) (IFFDC), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED), National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), Hindustan Insecticide Limited (HIL) as well as by Private Seed Companies and major seed producers.

Details of production/ procurement of seeds by the NSC (through seed growers and production at their farm) and sale of seeds by the NSC for the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 are at **Annexure-XII & XIII, respectively**. Details of production and sale of Hybrid seeds by the NSC during the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 are at **Annexure- XIV & XV, respectively**.

The production/ availability of hybrid seeds in the country are more than the demand during the year 2014-15 to 2017-18 as detailed at **Annexure –XVI**. Seed Replacement Rate of major crops during the year 2004-05 to 2016-17 are at **Annexure –XVII**. The Seed Replacement Rate has shown an increasing trend except few crops. The Government also provides assistance for production and distribution of hybrid seeds under National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern Indian (BGREI) and National Mission Oilseeds and Oilpalm (NMOOP) as detailed at **Annexure –XVIII**.

NSC is producing and supplying good quality hybrid seeds of Paddy, Bajra, Maize, Sorghum, Arhar, Sunflower, Castor & Vegetable Seeds. The actual production of hybrid seeds by NSC were 26041, 36242 & 13909 Qtls. during 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, respectively. These hybrids seeds are being supplied to the farmers at reasonable prices, which is lesser than the market price of hybrid

seeds e.g. the sale price of NSC for tomato hybrids are approximately 66% less than the market price of other tomato hybrids.

After soliciting the approval of the Cabinet and completion of codal formalities of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, the erstwhile State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) was amalgamated with the NSC w.e.f 01.04.2014 to bring about greater synergy in production and distribution for quality seeds.

In order to enhance financial and professional capacity of NSC and for ensuring enhanced targets for production, procurement and sale of seeds as well as increase in turnover, following steps have been taken:

Financial Capacity:

- Higher targets are fixed every year for making available good quality seed and their sale but actual performance depend on the agro climate conditions.
- Efforts are made to increase the profitability and corresponding net worth of the corporation. The net worth of the corporation (as on 31.3.2017) is Rs. 585.20 crore against Rs. 547.37 crore as on 31.3.2016. Similarly the capital employed has increased from Rs. 674.67 crore (as on 31.3.2016) to Rs. 705.96 crore (as on 31.3.2017) and working capital of the corporation has also increased from Rs. 530.21 crore (as on 31.3.2016) to Rs. 554.81 crore (as on 31.3.2017).
- Continuous efforts have been made to bring un-cultivable land into cultivable by improving irrigation facilities which resulted in reduction in cost of production.
- Diversification of the corporation through activities like fish seed production, fodder seed production and converting the non seed into value added products for commercial sale are undertaken.
- Regular investment in construction of seed godwon, seed processing plants and other agricultural machineries are made to reduce the cost of hiring and maintenance of machinery.

Professional capacity:

- NSC has revised its Recruitment Rules in 2013 and amended/updated the same in June, 2017 for selection of knowledgeable professionals as per industry norms to achieve the objective of the corporation.
- Recruitment at various levels are made through all India competitive examination both in executive and non-executive cadre from 2015/2016 onwards.
- One year training are provided to all recruited professionals and exposure at central state farm, regional offices and area offices are given to them and their performance are evaluated periodically.
- Trainees are also deputed in reputed institutions like Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI), National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Indian Cost and Works Accounts (ICWA), Institute of Secretariat Training and Management (ISTM), National Archive of India (NAI) etc. to improve their professional knowledge in the related field.
- Cluster promotion scheme has been revised to motivate the highly qualified employees which helped in reducing the attrition rate.
- For motivating the employees social security coverage like defined contribution superannuation pension scheme, benevolent social scheme for the family and post retirement contributory medical benefit scheme has been introduced.
- Electronic Annual Performance Appraisal Report (e-APAR) has been introduced after 2017 for employees(E-0 and above level) to bring transparency in evaluation of their performance.

Seed production :

- To increase production of Breeder, Foundation and Certified Seeds in farms, NSC is regularly enhancing its irrigation facilities through Micro irrigation, construction of tanks and lining of water course as well as by converting non-cultivable land.
- More area has been brought for enhancing Pluses certified seed production.

- Action has been taken to increase the production of oil seeds and ensure availability of good quality certified seed of oilseeds to the farmers in the country for enhancing commercial production of oil seed crops, which will reduce imports.
- Production of Minor Millets is being added and increased by making available quality seeds of these crops.
- Production targets of important Hybrid cereals like maize, Sorghum, Bajra and Paddy has been increased. For paddy hybrid seed production, NSC entered into MOU with M/s SL Agritech Philippines for production of SL-8H variety which is a short duration, having good adaptability and yield potentiality in India.
- The seed production target is also being increased in respect of hybrid vegetable crops like Brinjal, Tomato, Bhindi and Grounds.
- Seed production of fodder Mainze, sorghum, fodder bajra, and F. Gaur has been increased for increasing milk production in the country,.
- Due to uncertainty in Monsoon and Abiotic conditions, seed production for varieties like high yielding, short duration, stress tolerant, drought tolerant, resistant to insect, pest and diseases have been adopted by NSC. More than 60% product basket consists of these varieties.
- Bt Cotton seed production has been started at Central State Farm (CSF), Hissar, Haryana.
- Seed production of Jute has been increased by executing a MOU with Jute Corporation of India.

Seed procurement:

- To bring maximum farmers either under seed production chain or under supply of seed at reasonable rates, NSC has made a uniform procurement policy for procurement of seed.
- The seed villages model is being adopted to ensure maximum procurement in a particular village.
- Payment to seed growers are ensured promptly.

- Timely processing of seed is being ensured to return non seed to growers in time.
- Mobile processing plant has been introduced to ensure procurement at village level in Uttarakhand.

Turnover of NSC:

- NSC's main focus is to provide quality certified seed to the farmers for which breeder and foundation seeds are produced at growers farms.
- To improve the quality, desired infrastructure is being created.
- Aggressive sales promotion activities undertaken including publicity through jeep campaign, advertisement in print media.
- Business diversification made through sale of fish seeds, fodder blocks and value added product.
- Emphasis given in High Value and Low Volume seeds like vegetable seeds.
- Special attention given to increase sale of Pulses, Oilseeds, Fodder Seeds, Green Manure seeds and Hybrid seeds.
- Conducted personal interaction programme with dealers/farmers for feedback on NSC products and popularize brand NSC.
- New packing materials like poly pouches and laminated bags etc. have been introduced to make the seed packets attractive to compete with private seed companies.
- Enrolled new dealers to strengthen the dealership network of NSC to ensure last mile connectivity.
- To popularize vegetable cultivation among urban public, sale of seeds through automated vending machine has been introduced.
- Finalized system for online sale of seeds.
- Introduced scheme to award best performing area office, regional office and dealers to boost the morale of the hard working staff and loyal dealers.
- Development of separate marketing cadre to strengthen market activities.

Comments of the Committee

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

Import and Export of Agriculture Commodities

(Recommendation No. 10)

The Committee also note that India imports a lot of agricultural and allied products from other countries. The total agricultural and allied products imports of the Country has increased from Rs. 95718.89 crore during 2012-13 to Rs. 164680.56 crore during 2016-17. As a result, the share of agriculture import in total import in the country has increased from 3.59% in 2012-13 to 6.42 % during 2016-17. The Committee further observes that vegetable oils, pulses, fresh fruits, cashew, spices and sugar are some of the major agricultural commodities in terms of value which were imported in the country during the same period. The Committee are of considered opinion that demands for agriculture products in the country is bound to change significantly with changing dietary pattern associated with rising income and impact of globalization, necessitating import and thereby, causing strain on foreign exchange. The Committee are of the view that there is need for enhancing production of agriculture products which are currently being imported. The Committee, therefore, recommend that a detailed study to find ways to enhance production of these agriculture produce in different agro-climatic zones and subzones in the country be conducted. The Committee also recommend the Department to start a special project for development of local varieties of dry fruits, spices, olive etc. which are currently being imported in the country. The Committee also desire the Department to take steps and provide special incentives to the farmers for cultivation of these agriculture products in the country in order to reduce their import. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard.

Reply of the Government

Import of agricultural products is influenced by various factors like demand, supply, domestic production and availability, seasonality, international prices,

domestic quality, Government policies etc. it is mentioned that vegetable oils and pulses constitute about 70% of India's agricultural imports, to meet the gap between demand and availability from domestic sources, imports are made. Sugar is mainly imported in raw form from domestic processing and then exporting.

To incentivize farmers to invest more in increasing productivity and production and protect their interests, Government has recently taken various trade policy measures. A list of the recent trade policy measures in chronological order taken by Government is at Annexure-XIX.

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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.

CHAPTER - V

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

National Horticulture Board (NHB)

(Recommendation No. 5)

The Committee note that National Horticulture Board (NHB) has mandate to strengthen Commercial Horticulture hubs in various parts of the country through integrated hi-tech horticulture projects and also strengthening post harvest and cold chain infrastructure in the country. Objective of NHB is to improve integrated development of Horticulture industry and to help in coordinating, sustaining the production and processing of fruits and vegetables. The Committee were informed that NHB is implementing five schemes namely Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management of Horticulture Crops, Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/ Expansion/ Modernization of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce, Technology Development and Transfer for Promotion of Horticulture, Market Information Service for Horticulture Crops and Horticulture Promotion Services/ Expert Services and Strengthening Capability of NHB for Comprehensive development of Horticulture sector in the country.

The Committee note that NHB has been provided the budgetary support of Rs. 1927.64 crore since 2010. The Committee further note that NHB has earned a revenue of Rs. 14.18 crore during the same period as application fee from the applicants which is used for miscellaneous purpose such as printing of application forms, brochures & guidelines of NHB Schemes, technical bulletins, various technical standards, horticulture data base etc. The Committee were also informed that investment of NHB amounting to Rs. 1513.51 crore through back ended schemes from 2010 onwards have attracted 4-5 times investment from the private sector/financial Institutions.

The Committee note that schemes of NHB helped in setting of 17982 integrated commercial horticulture projects relating to production and post harvest management with back ended subsidy amounting to Rs. 953.69 crores and 3113 cold chain/primary processing involving subsidy of Rs. 559.82 crores. The NHB has also done Accreditation of 1653 nurseries and supported several projects for promotion of new technology and its transfer. The Committee are of view that benefits of schemes being financed by the Public Money should reach all parts of the Country. There should be proper awareness campaign should be done in print and digital media so that applicants from different parts of the country may apply for the funds available under the scheme. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to take steps for awareness campaign about schemes being implemented by the NHB and other Autonomous Bodies. The committee would like to be apprised about steps taken in this regard within three months of presentation of this Report.

Reply of the Government

In compliance to the Report, NHB has undertaken critical analysis on the distribution of Scheme across the states and UTs and social groups so that the benefit of NHB Schemes is availed by all the States and UTs and social groups evenly.

NHB scheme has already evoked very good response and presently there is huge backlog of pending proposals. Hence, currently Board is not accepting new applications except for SC/ST category. Fresh applications are likely to be accepted in the month of August, 2018 after giving wide publicity through print and digital media. To ensure benefits of NHB schemes reach all parts of the country, following steps are being taken to create awareness of NHB scheme:

- Scheme information is being uploaded on NHB website in 22 languages.
- Focused awareness programme will be undertaken in identified States/districts having low awareness of NHB scheme.

- In Annual Action Plan 2018-19, NHB has also proposed following awareness programme:

District level- 500

State level- 100

National level- 25

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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.

Market Assurance Scheme (MAS) and Price Deficiency Procurement Scheme (PDPS)

(Recommendation No. 7)

The Committee note that Market Assurance Scheme (MAS) is being proposed as a decentralized scheme for procurement of pulses, oilseeds and coarse grains produced in respective states whose MSP are declared by the Central Government. This scheme will be implemented by the respective State/UT Government through their own agencies. They will have freedom to take decision regarding procurement of above mentioned crops whenever Market prices of these crops drop below MSP. The Central Government will reimburse State Government up to 40 % (50% for Himalayan & NE States) of losses incurred by the State agencies. Similarly, Price Deficiency procurement Scheme (PDPS) envisage direct payment of the difference between the MSP and the selling price to the farmers selling his produce in the APMC yard through a transparent auction process. The payment will be done directly into farmer bank account. The losses incurred on implementation of this scheme will be shared between Central and States Government. The Committee were informed that ratio of Central and State share is yet to be finalized. The Committee note that these schemes are under consideration

and NITI Aayog has been entrusted with the responsibility to finalize the same in consultation with the States.

The Committee appreciate the Government for taking initiative to meet a long standing demand which would have helped the farmers in getting reasonable price for their agriculture produce. This attempt to decentralize the decision making process for procurement of agriculture produce will help to ease the pain of farmers who lose their investment in case of falling prices in the market dominated by the brokers. The Committee hope that the Niti Aayog will complete the process of consultation with all stake holders for launch of the scheme in upcoming financial year. However, the Committee desire the Government to incorporate suitable measures in scheme to exclude brokers during implementation of the scheme. The Committee also desire the Government to adopt liberal financing pattern for implementation of the Scheme especially during the early years of its implementation.

Reply of the Government

In the budget speech of Finance Minister for 2018, NITI Aayog has been mandated to finalize a fool proof mechanism for delivery of MSP to farmers in consultation with Central and State Governments. In this regard, NITI Aayog has recommended three proposed schemes viz. Market Assurance Scheme (MAS), Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) and Private Procurement and stockists scheme (PPSS). Accordingly, a draft Cabinet Note in this regard, has been prepared and circulated for Inter Ministerial Consultation to NITI Aayog, Department of Economic Affairs, Department of Expenditure, DONER, Department of Consumer Affairs, Department of Food and Public Distribution, Ministry of Textile and Department of Financial Services.

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(Recommendation No. 9)

Procurement of crops from farmers in case of lowering of market price below MSP should be aim of the Government. However, the Committee regret to note that the Department failed to furnish requisite information of total production and procurement of agriculture produce for which Government announce MSP. The Committee also observe that farmers are facing problems in sale of agriculture produce at MSP in some States. During the evidence, the Committee were informed that failure of State Governments concerned to send request for procurement of specific agriculture produce is reason behind slow pace of procurement. The Committee are of view that fixing of MSP without proper arrangements for procurement of agriculture produce wouldn't be able to solve the plight of farmers in the country. In this regard, the Committee note that proposal under Market Assurance Scheme (MAS) and Price Deficiency Procurement Scheme (PDPS) for further decentralization of decision making procedure for procurement of agriculture produce at MSP in case falling market prices will be able to solve the problems of farmers to certain extent. The Committee are disturbed to note that even after launching of farmer friendly schemes in the Budget 2016-17 and 2017-18, they have not been implemented in the States/UTs as to enhance the income of farmers thereby depriving them of the benefits of these schemes. However, the Committee are of view that State level procurement agencies require financial and professional support to be able to take the onerous task of procurement of agriculture produce from farmers at MSP and ensuring its disposal. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to take steps for strengthening of State level procurement agencies. Further, the Committee are of view that proposed funding pattern of MAS and PDPS scheme may strain financial resources of State Government concerned. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to consider more liberalized funding pattern for implementation of these schemes. The Committee would like to be apprised about steps taken in this regard within three months of presentation of this Report.

Reply of the Government:-

The schemes of Market Assurance Scheme (MAS) and Price Deficiency Procurement Scheme (PDPS) are under active consideration of the Government and are yet to be finalized. Recommendations of the Committee in this respect have been noted and will be examined for implementation at the time of finalization of the schemes. The year-wise details of production and procurement of pulses, oilseeds, rice and wheat for which Government announced MSP is at Annexure-XX.

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Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs)

(Recommendation No. 11)

The Committee note that Government is planning to develop and upgrade existing 22,000 rural haats into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs) which will provide farmers facility to make direct sale to consumers and bulk purchasers. The Committee were informed that physical infrastructure will be strengthened using MGNREGA and other Government Schemes in these GrAMs,. The Government is planning to electronically link GrAMs to e-NAM and keep it exempted from regulations of APMCs. The Department also informed that an Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund with a corpus of Rs. 2,000 crore is to be set up for upgrading 22,000 Haats into GrAMs and further development of 585 APMCs.

The Committee also note that DAC&FW has initiated process of discussion and consultation with other Ministries and NABARD for convergence of schemes to provide basic infrastructure requirements such as platforms, office block, small storage godowns, Garbage pits, drinking water facility, toilets, drains, internal roads etc. under proposed GrAMs Scheme. The Government intend to use Agri Market Infrastructure Fund for provision of other infrastructure like e-trading platform, Electronic Weighing Machines, price information board etc.

However, the Committee are astonished to note that Government did not undertake any study/survey to access the actual numbers of rural agriculture markets in the country and Government is relying on data available on National Asset Directory about number of assets including Grameen hats/Rural Markets maintained by Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India. According to this data, there are 2090 market yards and 14756 sheds in the Country. The Committee were further informed that as per different State agencies, there are approximately 22,000 rural haat in the country. The Department have also informed that collection of data on Rural Periodic Market has been initiated by Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI) and is under progress.

The Committee appreciate the Government for taking initiative for strengthening the network of Rural Periodic Haat or 'Grameen Haat' As they are popularly called across the Country. The Committee had selected the subject ' 60

Agriculture Marketing and Role of Weekly Grameen Haats' in 2017-18 and draw the attention of the Department towards utilization of 'Rural Grameen Haat' as a platform for rural marketing which will help the farmers to realize reasonable price of their agriculture produce. The Committee are of view that these Grameen haats being integral part of Indian culture provide excellent platform for provision of facilities meant for farmers and to take awareness campaign about schemes being implemented by the Government in Agriculture sector. These Grameen Haats, if properly developed, can emerge as a fulcrum around which the Government can develop the agrarian economy and achieve the aims of doubling the income of farmers. However, target of development of 22000 rural haats is too small a number to serve the needs of 'Grameen Haats' in a country of 6,49,481 Villages. The Committee are of view that number of 'Rural Grameen Haat' may be many times more in the Country. The Government should take step to identify all marginal, small or big 'Rural Grameen Haat' across the Country. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to implement this scheme in every 'Rural Grameen Haat' in the country. The Committee also desire the Government to implement this scheme in mission mode with a defined time frame. The Committee are also of view that provision of small cold storage facility in proposed GrAM Scheme will go a long way to reduce post harvest crop losses of agriculture produce. The Committee, therefore, desire the Government to make provision of small cold storage facility in GrAM.

Reply of the Government

As already submitted to the Committee, the Department is in consultation with NABARD, Ministries of Panchayati Raj, Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Tribal Affairs for developing and upgrading existing 22,000 rural haats into Grameen Agriculture Markets (GrAMs) as announced in Budget 2018-19. In these proposed GrAMs, physical infrastructure shall be strengthened by convergence various schemes like MGNREGA, PMGSY etc. These GrAMs after development will be electronically linked to e-NAM and shall be exempted from regulations of APMC Act. An Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund with a corpus of Rs. 2,000 crore is to be set up by NABARD for requisite marketing infrastructure in GrAMs and further development of 585 APMCs. NABARD is working out modalities for the same.

An Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) Memorandum is being prepared by the Department for seeking Rs. 2,000 crore. After approval of EFC, approval of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) will be solicited. As recommended by the Committee to implement the scheme in every Grameen Rural Market, it is to inform that there is an initial target to implement the scheme in 22,000 Rural Haats as announcement.

Department is undertaking survey of grameen rural markets in country, through its associated office Directorate of Marketing & Inspection (DMI) w.r.t. their location, status of infrastructure, commodities traded etc. This will help to identify number of village haats and requirement of marketing infrastructure including the requirement of small cold storage etc. in GrAMs. The survey is under progress.

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare) O.M No.6-5/2018-B&A, dated 14 June, 2018

Comments of the Committee

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

Educational Criteria for Retail Dealership of Fertilizers

(Recommendation No. 14)

The Committee note that the Government have notified educational qualification under clause 8(4) of Fertilizer Control Order 1985 for the retail dealers of Fertilizer in the country. Under this, authorization letter will be granted to only those applicant who will be possessing B.Sc. degree either in Agriculture Science or chemistry, Diploma in agriculture Science or Certified course on agri-inputs for a minimum period of six months from Manage, NIPHM or any other Government institute. The Committee have been informed that dealers who have been granted authorisation letter before the commencement of the Fertilizer (Control)(Fourth) Amendment order, 2015 shall not be required to possess the qualifications at the time of renewal of their authorization letter. The Committee have also been informed that registered agriculture cooperative societies and state marketing federation but they shall engage a person with such qualifications.

The Committee were informed that fixing of educational criteria for fertilizer dealership will help the Government to ensure sale of Fertilizers based on scientific basis such as soil test, which in turn, will help to optimize agriculture productivity and enhance farmers income. However, the Committee observe that fixing of these criteria is preventing farmers and their dependents who engage in seasonal sale of Fertilizers in rural areas. Further, there is practical difficulty in payment of salary or income to such qualified persons as sale of Fertilizers is a seasonal business. The Committee also observe that there are few institutions offering certificate course on agriculture inputs as mandated in abovementioned notification for dealership of Fertilizers. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to take steps to initiate Certificate Courses on agriculture inputs across the country so that farmers in rural areas can be trained and provided dealership for Fertilizers. It will help to achieve the aims of the Government to ensure sale of Fertilizers based on soil testing. The Committee would like to be apprised about steps taken in this regard within three months of presentation of this Report.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare in consultation with IARI has formulated a common curriculum of 100 hours for certificate course. The same is under examination and after its finalization may be circulated to all the State Governments with a request to the State Government that they may take the matter with State Agriculture Universities / Krishi Vigyan Kendra's to arrange the certificate course as per the prescribed curriculum.

Further this Department is incorporating an amendment in clause 8(4) of Fertilizer Control Order wherein the State Governments are empowered to notify all such bachelor/degree/certificate where the agri input is one of the subject for fertilizer dealership. The matter is referred to M/o Law for vetting of draft notification.

Apart from above, NIPHM is also organizing one-year diploma in agriculture inputs for the input dealers from 2017. The Agri-Input Dealers acquire knowledge on critical issues such as weather, soil health, different agronomic practices, pests and management methods, legislations, acts and rules, bio-intensive methods etc. In the year 2017, 17 input dealers enrolled for the said diploma and all of them belonged from rural areas. Similarly MANAGE is also conducting one-year diploma in agriculture extension for input dealers in association with SAMETI across the country in order to build technical competency in agriculture and inputs.

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare) O.M No.6-5/2018-B&A, dated 14 June, 2018

NEW DELHI;
July, 2018
Ashadha, 1940 (Saka)

HUKM DEO NARAYAN YADAV
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture.

ANNEXURE I

Details of production/ procurement of seeds by NSC for the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17

(Qty in Lakh Qtl).

S.No	Crop	2014-15			2015-16			2016-17		
		Procurement of seed through growers	Production of seeds at NSC farms	Total	Procurement of seed through growers	Production of seeds at NSC farms	Total	Procurement of seed through growers	Production of seeds at NSC farms	Total
1	Cereals	9.55	0.83	10.38	9.19	1.25	10.44	8.55	0.95	9.49
2	Pulses	1.72	0.21	1.93	2.59	0.21	2.80	3.67	0.27	3.94
3	Oilseeds	2.26	0.14	2.40	2.24	0.25	2.49	1.88	0.31	2.19
4	Others	0.73	0.07	0.80	1.35	0.13	1.48	0.94	0.08	1.02
	Total	14.26	1.25	15.51	15.37	1.84	17.21	15.04	1.61	16.65

ANNEXURE II

S.No.	Crop Group	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		Qty. in Qtls.	Value in Rs. Lakh	Qty. in Qtls.	Value in Rs. Lakh	Qty. in Qtls.	Value in Rs. Lakh
1	Cereals	996068.29	42395.60	840494.62	28574.67	939359.83	31496.76
2	Pulses	281650.44	17222.06	244919.30	21688.06	179271.94	22402.42
3	Oilseeds	274023.53	17914.16	167576.76	10652.15	224108.49	15535.31
4	Others	123724.67	8353.05	145506.42	9802.26	117198.08	8321.07
	Total	1675466.93	85884.87	1398497.10	70717.13	1459938.34	77755.55

Details of Crop Group-wise Sale of seeds by NSC for the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17

Details of Hybrid seeds production by NSC during the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 (Quantity in Quintals)

S.NO	CROP	VARIETY	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1	PADDY	DRRH-2	0	29	41
		DRRH-3	0	3436	1852
		TOTAL PADDY	0	3465	1893
2	BAJRA	HHB 67-2	1124.47	911	
		HHB-197	557.96	121	
		HHB-226	348.18	307	
		RHB-177	2389.22	3391	
		RHB-173	263.88	2481	
		ICPT-8203			268
		RCB-164	170		
		TOTAL	4853.71	7211	268
3	MAIZE	PEHM-5	2011.15	2128	
		HQPM-1	6840.6	6066	4841
		DHM-1	139.5		
		GSH-2	600		
		HM-4	50		
		DHM-117	34.3	63	225
		VIVEK		2	
		HQPM-5	3636.9		816
		VHM-45			20
		TOTAL	13312.45	8259	5902
4	SORGHUM	CSH-24	1645.53		
5	ARHAR	ICPH-2740	353.16	446.32	674
6	SUNFLOWER	KBSH-44		71	
		KBSH-41	79.88	67	
		KBSH-53		8	
		DRSH-113	22.18	40	
		DRSH-108	4.45	20	
		TOTAL	106.51	206	
7	CASTOR	DCH-7	190.7	415.08	653
8	F.SORGHUM	SUDEX CHARI	998.34	7000	
		RED CHARI	4580.68	9240	4519
		Total	5579.02	16240	4519
	Hyb. Veg.		4.78	7.98	8.57
		G.TOTAL	26041.08	36242.4	13909

ANNEXURE- IV

Details of Hybrid seeds sale by NSC during the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17

S.No.	Crop	Variety	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
			Qty. in Qtls.	Value in Rs.Lakh	Qty. in Qtls.	Value in Rs.Lakh	Qty. in Qtls.	Value in Rs.Lakh
1	Arhar	ICPH-2671	0.83	0.13	1.12	0.18	0.00	0.00
2	Arhar	ICPH-2740	63.22	9.49	353.33	61.91	446.24	97.02
	Arhar Total		64.05	9.63	354.45	62.09	446.24	97.02
3	Bajra	HHB-197 (MH-1302)	0.00	0.00	198.18	17.84	0.00	0.00
4	Bajra	HHB-226 (MH 1479)	0.00	0.00	76.89	6.92	0.00	0.00
5	Bajra	HHB-50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Bajra	HHB-67	424.30	41.12	210.36	21.04	0.75	0.06
7	Bajra	HHB-67 IMPROVED	2022.14	194.12	720.90	72.09	468.79	37.48
8	Bajra	HHB-94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Bajra	JKBH-676	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	58.97	13.69
10	Bajra	RHB-173 (MH-1446)	0.00	0.00	226.29	27.15	1856.09	213.45
11	Bajra	RHB-177 (MH-1486)	795.44	76.36	1385.62	157.82	2936.31	312.81
	Bajra Total		3241.87	311.61	2818.24	302.86	5320.90	577.49
12	Castor	GCH-7	576.68	94.62	310.76	42.71	1276.00	230.12
	Castor Total		576.68	94.62	310.76	42.71	1276.00	230.12
13	F.Sorghum	RED CHARI(HYBRID)	10856.61	536.86	11753.01	657.99	3955.38	231.70
14	F.Sorghum	SUDEX CHARI NO.1(HYBRID)	1295.71	64.49	1643.50	93.67	2763.53	169.94
	F.Sorghum Total		12152.32	601.35	13396.51	751.66	6718.91	401.64
15	Maize	DHM-117	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.03	0.90	0.10
16	Maize	GANGA SAFED-2 (GSF-2)	1179.20	82.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Maize	HM-4	106.10	3.97	8.55	0.94	0.00	0.00
18	Maize	HQPM-1	13519.75	1446.70	9738.80	991.53	7871.47	808.53
				67				
19	Maize	HQPM-4	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.04	0.00	0.00
20	Maize	HQPM-5	4231.90	418.57	3771.35	354.64	1547.52	147.84
21	Maize	HQPM-7	430.90	36.69	3.00	0.02	0.00	0.00

22	Maize	NAH-2049	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23	Maize	PUSA EARLY HY-5(AH-421)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	12.00
24	Maize	PUSA EARLY HYBRID MAKKA-2 (PEHM-2)	370.12	27.51	11.53	1.46	158.92	2.24
25	Maize	PUSA EXTRA EARLY HYBRID MAKKA-5 (PEEHM-5)	3112.52	250.73	417.89	29.25	5.95	0.39
	Maize Total		22950.49	2266.36	13951.77	1377.90	9734.76	971.10
26	Paddy	DRRH-2	0.00	0.00	37.99	8.55	4.62	1.04
27	Paddy	DRRH-2 IR 68897B	4912.40	1180.19	4933.00	1113.97	24.10	5.42
28	Paddy	DRRH-3 (DRRH-44) (IET-19543)	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.01	3436.30	773.17
29	Paddy	KRH-2	1020.49	66.85	30.35	4.31	0.00	0.00
30	Paddy	KRH-4	0.06	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Paddy Total		5932.95	1247.05	5001.40	1126.84	3465.02	779.63
31	Sorghum	CSH-24	3469.12	173.72	1644.92	92.12	6.62	0.27
	Sorghum Total		3469.12	173.72	1644.92	92.12	6.62	0.27
32	Sunflower	DRSF-108	20.58	2.66	3.43	0.56	0.00	0.00
33	Sunflower	DRSF-113	33.13	3.41	27.29	1.87	0.00	0.00
34	Sunflower	KBSH-1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35	Sunflower	KBSH-41	10.74	1.69	238.24	65.53	0.00	0.00
36	Sunflower	KBSH-44	8.08	2.01	1.00	0.22	49.10	15.28
37	Sunflower	KBSH-53	5.74	0.90	0.00	0.00	7.86	1.40
	Sunflower Total		78.27	10.67	269.96	68.18	56.96	16.68
	Veg.		7.97	66.77	2.89	23.10	2.36	17.40
	Grand Total		48473.72	4781.78	37750.90	3847.45	27027.77	3091.34

Annexure-V

DEMAND / REQUIREMENT AND AVAILABILITY OF CERTIFIED / QUALITY SEEDS OF HYBRIDS IN THE COUNTRY									
Quantity in Quintals									
S.No.	CROP	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18	
		Demand	Production/ Availability	Demand	Production/ Availability	Demand	Production/ Availability	Demand	Production/ Availability
1	PADDY	151501	195041	385400	614240	192142	220936	523745	585223
2	MAIZE	935524	1069035	1015670	1205390	1001970	1252908	1134359	1296257
3	JOWAR	156507	190614	177250	199810	132465	195706	165321	182247
4	BAJRA	210167	248028	240940	266130	196408	249772	259317	288101
5	ARHAR	870	923	1260	0			3630	4560
6	SUNFLOWER	28716	29656	44330	46150	61038	62593	7682	8513
7	SAFLOWER							339	339
8	CASTOR	70690	84405	60450	61460	49149	57759	52304	54852
9	COTTON	179626	217636	186900	198040	183618	197268	198738	222743
	TOTAL	1733601	2035338	2112200	2591220	1816790	2236942	2345434	2642835

Details of Assistance/Subsidy for hybrid seed distribution provided under various Existing Schemes/Programmes implemented by States.

	Scheme/ Component	Crop	Scale of Assistance
1.	National Food Security Mission(NFSM)	Rice	Rs.5000/- per quintal or 50% of seeds cost whichever is less for certified hybrid rice seed distribution.
		Coarse cereals-HYVs seed Hybrid seed	Rs. 5000/- per quintal or 50% of cost of seeds whichever is less for Hybrid coarse cereal certified seeds distribution for less than 10 years old varieties.
22.	Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI)	Rice	Distribution of seeds Rs.5000/- per quintal or 50% of seeds cost whichever is less for certified hybrid rice seed distribution.
3.	National Mission on Oil Seeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)	All oilseeds, Hybrid seeds Oil Palm Sprouts Cultivation cost as assistance for gestation period for oil palm.	Rs. 5000/- per quintal for hybrids not older than 15 years. Full cost of Seed Minikits of high yielding varieties/hybrids which are less than 10 years. (Implementing agency NSC /NAFED/KRIBHCO etc). 85% of cost of planting material with a ceiling of Rs. 8000/ha. for entire land holding of farmers for oil palm. 50% cost during gestation period for 4 years with ceiling of Rs. 16000/ per ha. for oil palm.

ANNEXURE-VIII

Recent measures taken by Government in Agricultural Trade Policy

Sl No	Date of measure	Description of measure
	1	17.01.2017 Minimum Import Price on Arecanut has been enhanced from Rs. 162/kg to Rs. 251/Kg. w.e.f 17.1.2017.
	2	27.03.2017 Bulk export of groundnut oil, sesame oil, soyabean oil and maize (Corn) oil has been permitted w.e.f. 27.03.2017, removing consumer pack restriction of (upto 5 kg).
3	28.03.2017	Import duty on tur has been raised from zero to 10% w.e.f. 28.3.2017
	4	05.08.2017 Quantitative restrictions of 2 lakh tons per year on import of tur (pigeon pea) w.e.f. 5.8.2017
	5	21.08.2017 Quantitative restrictions of 3 lakh tons on urad&moong per year w.e.f. 21.08.2017 have been imposed.
	6	08.11.2017 Import duty on wheat has been raised from 10% to 20% w.e.f. 8.11.2017
7	08.11.2017	Import duty on peas has been raised from 0% to 50% w.e.f. 8.11.2017
	8	17.11.2017 Import duty on soya bean seed has been raised from 30% to 45% w.e.f. 17.11.2017
	9	17.11.2017 Import duties on major edible oils have been raised w.e.f. 17.11.2017 maintaining an appropriate difference between crude and refined oil as given below: <input type="checkbox"/> crude palm oil from 15% to 30% and refined palm oil from 25% to 40%, <input type="checkbox"/> crude sunflower oil from 12.5% to 25% and refined sunflower oil from 20% to 35%, <input type="checkbox"/> crude soya bean oil from 17.5% to 30% and refined soya bean oil from 20% to 35%, <input type="checkbox"/> crude rapeseed oil including canola oil (Low erucic and rapeseed oil), mustard oil and colza oil from 12.5% to 25% and on refined rapeseed oil including canola oil (Low erucic acid and rapeseed oil), mustard oil and colza oil from 20% to 35% w.e.f. 17.11.2017
	10	22.11.2017 Export of all varieties of pulses including organic pulses has been made “free” without any quantitative restriction w.e.f. 22.11.2017
	11	24.11.2017 Under Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20, rates of reward under Merchandise Exports from India (MEIS) have been enhanced on export of various agriculture items from 2% to 4% , from 3% to

		5% and from 5% to 7% w.e.f. 01 st November , 2017 upto 30 th June, 2018 to offset high transit cost.
	12	06.12.2017 Minimum Import Price (MIP) of Rs. 500/kg on pepper has been imposed w.e.f. 6.12.2017
	13	21.12.2017 Import duty on lentil (masur) and chana (gram) has been raised from zero to 30% w.e.f. 21.12.2017
	14	02.2.2018 Import duties on the following vegetable edible oils have been raised on 2 nd Feb 2018 in view of Budget 2018-19. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • crude vegetable oils namely - <i>Ground nut, Olive oil, cotton seed oil, safflower seed oil, saffola oil, coconut oil, plam kernel/ Babassu oil, linseed oil , maize corn oil, sesame oil, other fixed veg fats and oils</i> ,raised from 12.5% to 30%. • refined edible oils namely - <i>Ground nut, Olive oil, cotton seed oil, safflower seed oil, saffola oil, coconut oil, plam kernel/ Babassu oil, linseed oil , maize corn oil, castor oil, sesame oil, other fixed veg fats and oils</i>, have been raised from 20% to 35%.
	15	06.2.2018 Import duty on chickpeas (gram) raised from 30% to 40% on 6 th February 2018
	16	01.03.2018 Import duty on chickpeas (gram) raised from 40% to 60% on 01 st March, 2018
	17	01.03.2018 Import duty on crude palm oil from 30% to 44% & on refined palm oil (all grades) form 40% to 54% on 01 st March, 2018
	18	06.04.2018 All varieties of edible oils , except mustard oil, have been made ' free ' for export without any quantitative restrictions. However, export of mustard oil in branded consumer packs of upto 5 kgs will continue to be permitted for export with a Minimum Export Price of USD 900 / MT.

S

No.	Name of the Schemes	Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare										
		(Rs. in crore)										
		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19
		BE	RE	BE	RE	BE	RE	BE	RE	BE	RE	BE
1	Crop Insurance											
2	Interest Subsidy for Short Term Credit to Farmers	2151.00	2551.00	2823.00	2784.93	2823.00	3185.09	5500.00	13240.04	9000.00	10698.00	13000.00
3	Market Intervention Scheme Price Support Scheme	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15000.00	13619.13	15000.00	14750.00	15000.00
4	Pradhan Mantri Krishi	84.50	46.00	80.00	70.00	80.00	48.25	80.00	145.69	199.30	950.00	200.00
5	Sinchai Yojna	1693.00	1342.00	1121.00	1055.39	1850.00	1550.11	2340.00	1990.00	3400.00	3000.00	4000.00
6	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna	9954.00	7089.00	9954.00	8444.00	4500.00	3900.00	5400.00	3550.00	4750.00	3050.00	3600.00
7	National Food Security Mission	2272.00	1979.72	2029.73	1830.00	1300.00	1136.61	1700.00	1280.00	1720.00	1400.00	1690.72
8	National Mission on Horticulture	2556.00	2948.73	2263.00	1990.07	2000.00	1769.59	1620.00	1660.00	2320.00	2190.00	2536.00
9	Sub-Mission On Agriculture Extension	807.00	756.90	719.00	700.58	655.50	598.65	635.00	590.50	912.00	821.00	1020.00
10	Sub-Mission On Agriculture Mechanization	58.00	59.29	208.30	194.87	177.85	153.10	180.00	373.00	550.00	776.71	1165.20
11	Integrated Scheme on Agricultural Marketing	720.00	884.50	1400.00	1085.10	1450.00	1490.36	837.90	1070.00	1190.00	750.00	1050.00
	National Bamboo Mission	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00

Total allocation for Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare

Year	BE	RE
2013-14	29772.83	26070.87
2014-15	31062.94	26622.57

2015-16	24909.78	22958.20
2016-17	44485.20	48072.50
2017-18	51026.00	50263.74

Annexture-X

List of selected commodities / foodgrains covered under MSP Scheme	
S. No.	Commodities
Kharif Crops	
1	Paddy (Common)
	Paddy (Grade-A)
2	Jowar (Hybrid)
	Jowar (Maldandi)
3	Bajra
4	Maize
5	Ragi
6	Tur (Arhar)
7	Moong
8	Urad
9	Cotton (F414/H777)
	Cotton (H4)
10	Groundnut
11	Sunflower seed
12	Soyabean (Black)
	Soyabean (Yellow)
13	Sesamum
14	Nigerseed
Rabi Crops	
15	Wheat
16	Barley
17	Gram
18	Lentil (Masur)
19	Rapeseed/Mustard
20	Safflower
21	
22	
23	

Other Crops

Copra (Milling)

Copra (Ball)

Jute (TD5)

Sugarcane

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**Annexure
-XI**

**A. Crops having MSP more than 50% of Cost of Production
A₂+FL**

S.No	Crop	Latest Crop Season	Rs./qtl		% Growth in MSP over cost A ₂ +FL
			A ₂ +FL	MSP	
1	Wheat	2017-18	817	1735	112.36
2	R&M	2017-18	2123	4000	88.41
3	Lentil(Masur)	2017-18	2366	4250	79.63
4	Gram	2017-18	2461	4400	78.79
5	Sugarcane	2016-17*	152	255	67.52
6	Barley	2017-18	845	1410	66.86
7	Urad	2017-18	3265	5400	65.39
8	Tur (Arhar)	2017-18	3318	5450	64.26
9	Jute	2016-17*	2160	3500	62.05
10	Bajra	2017-18	949	1425	50.16

**B. Crops having MSP less than 50% of Cost of Production
A₂+FL**

S.No	Crop	Latest Crop Season	Rs./qtl		% Growth in MSP over cost A ₂ +FL
			A ₂ +FL	MSP	
1	Copra	2017-18	5007	7500	49.79
2	Soybean\$	2017-18	2121	3050	43.80
3	Groundnut	2017-18	3159	4450	40.87
4	Paddy	2017-18	1117	1550	38.76
5	Maize	2017-18	1044	1425	36.49
6	Cotton#	2017-18	3276	4320	31.87
7	Safflower	2017-18	3125	4100	31.20
8	Sesamum	2017-18	4067	5300	30.32
9	Moong	2017-18	4286	5575	30.07
10	Sunflower	2017-18	3481	4100	17.78
11	Jowar	2017-18	1556	1700	9.25
12	Nigerseed	2017-18	3912	4050	3.53
13	Ragi	2017-18	1861	1900	2.10

A₂+FL: Paid out cost inclusive Family Labour

Note: Paid out cost covers the cost on account of all inputs like human labour, bullock labour, machine labour, seeds, fertilisers, manure, insecticides, irrigation charges.

\$ The MSP is for Soybean (Yellow)
The MSP is for Cotton Long Staple (LS)
* MSPs for 2017-18 has yet to be announced

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ANNEXURE XII

Details of production/ procurement of seeds by NSC for the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17

(Qty in Lakh Qtl).

S.No	Crop	2014-15			2015-16			2016-17		
		Procurement of seed through growers	Production of seeds at NSC farms	Total	Procurement of seed through growers	Production of seeds at NSC farms	Total	Procurement of seed through growers	Production of seeds at NSC farms	Total
1	Cereals	9.55	0.83	10.38	9.19	1.25	10.44	8.55	0.95	9.49
2	Pulses	1.72	0.21	1.93	2.59	0.21	2.80	3.67	0.27	3.94
3	Oilseeds	2.26	0.14	2.40	2.24	0.25	2.49	1.88	0.31	2.19
4	Others	0.73	0.07	0.80	1.35	0.13	1.48	0.94	0.08	1.02
	Total	14.26	1.25	15.51	15.37	1.84	17.21	15.04	1.61	16.65

ANNEXURE XIII

S.No.	Crop Group	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		Qty. in Qtls.	Value in Rs. Lakh	Qty. in Qtls.	Value in Rs. Lakh	Qty. in Qtls.	Value in Rs. Lakh
1	Cereals	996068.29	42395.60	840494.62	28574.67	939359.83	31
2	Pulses	281650.44	17222.06	244919.30	21688.06	179271.94	22
3	Oilseeds	274023.53	17914.16	167576.76	10652.15	224108.49	15
4	Others	123724.67	8353.05	145506.42	9802.26	117198.08	8
	Total	1675466.93	85884.87	1398497.10	70717.13	1459938.34	77

Details of Crop Group-wise Sale of seeds by NSC for the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17

Details of Hybrid seeds production by NSC during the years 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 (Quantity in Quintals)

S.NO	CROP	VARIETY	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1	PADDY	DRRH-2	0	29	41
		DRRH-3	0	3436	1852
		TOTAL PADDY	0	3465	1893
2	BAJRA	HHB 67-2	1124.47	911	
		HHB-197	557.96	121	
		HHB-226	348.18	307	
		RHB-177	2389.22	3391	
		RHB-173	263.88	2481	
		ICPT-8203			268
		RCB-164	170		
		TOTAL	4853.71	7211	268
3	MAIZE	PEHM-5	2011.15	2128	
		HQPM-1	6840.6	6066	4841
		DHM-1	139.5		
		GSH-2	600		
		HM-4	50		
		DHM-117	34.3	63	225
		VIVEK		2	
		HQPM-5	3636.9		816
		VHM-45			20
		TOTAL	13312.45	8259	5902
4	SORGHUM	CSH-24	1645.53		
5	ARHAR	ICPH-2740	353.16	446.32	674
6	SUNFLOWER	KBSH-44		71	
		KBSH-41	79.88	67	
		KBSH-53		8	
		DRSH-113	22.18	40	
		DRSH-108	4.45	20	
		TOTAL	106.51	206	
7	CASTOR	DCH-7	190.7	415.08	653
8	F.SORGHUM	SUDEX CHARI	998.34	7000	
		RED CHARI	4580.68	9240	4519
		Total	5579.02	16240	4519
	Hyb. Veg.		4.78	7.98	8.57
		G.TOTAL	26041.08	36242.4	13909

ANNEXURE- XV

Details of Hybrid seeds sale by NSC during the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17

S.No.	Crop	Variety	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
			Qty. in Qtls.	Value in Rs.Lakh	Qty. in Qtls.	Value in Rs.Lakh	Qty. in Qtls.	Value in Rs.Lakh
1	Arhar	ICPH-2671	0.83	0.13	1.12	0.18	0.00	0.00
2	Arhar	ICPH-2740	63.22	9.49	353.33	61.91	446.24	97.02
	Arhar Total		64.05	9.63	354.45	62.09	446.24	97.02
3	Bajra	HHB-197 (MH-1302)	0.00	0.00	198.18	17.84	0.00	0.00
4	Bajra	HHB-226 (MH 1479)	0.00	0.00	76.89	6.92	0.00	0.00
5	Bajra	HHB-50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Bajra	HHB-67	424.30	41.12	210.36	21.04	0.75	0.06
7	Bajra	HHB-67 IMPROVED	2022.14	194.12	720.90	72.09	468.79	37.48
8	Bajra	HHB-94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Bajra	JKBH-676	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	58.97	13.69
10	Bajra	RHB-173 (MH-1446)	0.00	0.00	226.29	27.15	1856.09	213.45
11	Bajra	RHB-177 (MH-1486)	795.44	76.36	1385.62	157.82	2936.31	312.81
	Bajra Total		3241.87	311.61	2818.24	302.86	5320.90	577.49
12	Castor	GCH-7	576.68	94.62	310.76	42.71	1276.00	230.12
	Castor Total		576.68	94.62	310.76	42.71	1276.00	230.12
13	F.Sorghum	RED CHARI(HYBRID)	10856.61	536.86	11753.01	657.99	3955.38	231.70
14	F.Sorghum	SUDEX CHARI NO.1(HYBRID)	1295.71	64.49	1643.50	93.67	2763.53	169.94
	F.Sorghum Total		12152.32	601.35	13396.51	751.66	6718.91	401.64
15	Maize	DHM-117	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.03	0.90	0.10
16	Maize	GANGA SAFED-2 (GSF-2)	1179.20	82.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Maize	HM-4	106.10	3.97	8.55	0.94	0.00	0.00
18	Maize	HQPM-1	13519.75	1446.70	9738.80	991.53	7871.47	808.53
				79				
19	Maize	HQPM-4	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.04	0.00	0.00
20	Maize	HQPM-5	4231.90	418.57	3771.35	354.64	1547.52	147.84
21	Maize	HQPM-7	430.90	36.69	3.00	0.02	0.00	0.00

22	Maize	NAH-2049	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23	Maize	PUSA EARLY HY-5(AH-421)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	12.00
24	Maize	PUSA EARLY HYBRID MAKKA-2 (PEHM-2)	370.12	27.51	11.53	1.46	158.92	2.24
25	Maize	PUSA EXTRA EARLY HYBRID MAKKA-5 (PEEHM-5)	3112.52	250.73	417.89	29.25	5.95	0.39
	Maize Total		22950.49	2266.36	13951.77	1377.90	9734.76	971.10
26	Paddy	DRRH-2	0.00	0.00	37.99	8.55	4.62	1.04
27	Paddy	DRRH-2 IR 68897B	4912.40	1180.19	4933.00	1113.97	24.10	5.42
28	Paddy	DRRH-3 (DRRH-44) (IET-19543)	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.01	3436.30	773.17
29	Paddy	KRH-2	1020.49	66.85	30.35	4.31	0.00	0.00
30	Paddy	KRH-4	0.06	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Paddy Total		5932.95	1247.05	5001.40	1126.84	3465.02	779.63
31	Sorghum	CSH-24	3469.12	173.72	1644.92	92.12	6.62	0.27
	Sorghum Total		3469.12	173.72	1644.92	92.12	6.62	0.27
32	Sunflower	DRSF-108	20.58	2.66	3.43	0.56	0.00	0.00
33	Sunflower	DRSF-113	33.13	3.41	27.29	1.87	0.00	0.00
34	Sunflower	KBSH-1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35	Sunflower	KBSH-41	10.74	1.69	238.24	65.53	0.00	0.00
36	Sunflower	KBSH-44	8.08	2.01	1.00	0.22	49.10	15.28
37	Sunflower	KBSH-53	5.74	0.90	0.00	0.00	7.86	1.40
	Sunflower Total		78.27	10.67	269.96	68.18	56.96	16.68
	Veg.		7.97	66.77	2.89	23.10	2.36	17.40
	Grand Total		48473.72	4781.78	37750.90	3847.45	27027.77	3091.34

Annexure-XVI

DEMAND / REQUIREMENT AND AVAILABILITY OF CERTIFIED / QUALITY SEEDS OF HYBRIDS IN THE COUNTRY									
Quantity in Quintals									
S.No.	CROP	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18	
		Demand	Production/ Availability	Demand	Production/ Availability	Demand	Production/ Availability	Demand	Production/ Availability
1	PADDY	151501	195041	385400	614240	192142	220936	523745	585223
2	MAIZE	935524	1069035	1015670	1205390	1001970	1252908	1134359	1296257
3	JOWAR	156507	190614	177250	199810	132465	195706	165321	182247
4	BAJRA	210167	248028	240940	266130	196408	249772	259317	288101
5	ARHAR	870	923	1260	0			3630	4560
6	SUNFLOWER	28716	29656	44330	46150	61038	62593	7682	8513
7	SAFLOWER							339	339
8	CASTOR	70690	84405	60450	61460	49149	57759	52304	54852
9	COTTON	179626	217636	186900	198040	183618	197268	198738	222743
	TOTAL	1733601	2035338	2112200	2591220	1816790	2236942	2345434	2642835

Details of Assistance/Subsidy for hybrid seed distribution provided under various Existing Schemes/Programmes implemented by States.

	Scheme/ Component	Crop	Scale of Assistance
1.	National Food Security Mission(NFSM)	Rice	Rs.5000/- per quintal or 50% of seeds cost whichever is less for certified hybrid rice seed distribution.
		Coarse cereals-HYVs seed Hybrid seed	Rs. 5000/- per quintal or 50% of cost of seeds whichever is less for Hybrid coarse cereal certified seeds distribution for less than 10 years old varieties.
22.	Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI)	Rice	Distribution of seeds Rs.5000/- per quintal or 50% of seeds cost whichever is less for certified hybrid rice seed distribution.
3.	National Mission on Oil Seeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)	All oilseeds, Hybrid seeds Oil Palm Sprouts Cultivation cost as assistance for gestation period for oil palm.	Rs. 5000/- per quintal for hybrids not older than 15 years. Full cost of Seed Minikits of high yielding varieties/hybrids which are less than 10 years. (Implementing agency NSC /NAFED/KRIBHCO etc). 85% of cost of planting material with a ceiling of Rs. 8000/ha. for entire land holding of farmers for oil palm. 50% cost during gestation period for 4 years with ceiling of Rs. 16000/ per ha. for oil palm.

Recent measures taken by Government in Agricultural Trade Policy

Sl No	Date of measure	Description of measure
	1	17.01.2017 Minimum Import Price on Arecanut has been enhanced from Rs. 162/kg to Rs. 251/Kg. w.e.f 17.1.2017.
	2	27.03.2017 Bulk export of groundnut oil, sesame oil, soyabean oil and maize (Corn) oil has been permitted w.e.f. 27.03.2017, removing consumer pack restriction of (upto 5 kg).
3	28.03.2017	Import duty on tur has been raised from zero to 10% w.e.f. 28.3.2017
	4	05.08.2017 Quantitative restrictions of 2 lakh tons per year on import of tur (pigeon pea) w.e.f. 5.8.2017
	5	21.08.2017 Quantitative restrictions of 3 lakh tons on urad&moong per year w.e.f. 21.08.2017 have been imposed.
	6	08.11.2017 Import duty on wheat has been raised from 10% to 20% w.e.f. 8.11.2017
7	08.11.2017	Import duty on peas has been raised from 0% to 50% w.e.f. 8.11.2017
	8	17.11.2017 Import duty on soya bean seed has been raised from 30% to 45% w.e.f. 17.11.2017
	9	17.11.2017 Import duties on major edible oils have been raised w.e.f. 17.11.2017 maintaining an appropriate difference between crude and refined oil as given below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ crude palm oil from 15% to 30% and refined palm oil from 25% to 40%, □ crude sunflower oil from 12.5% to 25% and refined sunflower oil from 20% to 35%, □ crude soya bean oil from 17.5% to 30% and refined soya bean oil from 20% to 35%, □ crude rapeseed oil including canola oil (Low erucic and rapeseed oil), mustard oil and colza oil from 12.5% to 25% and on refined rapeseed oil including canola oil (Low erucic acid and rapeseed oil), mustard oil and colza oil from 20% to 35% w.e.f. 17.11.2017
	10	22.11.2017 Export of all varieties of pulses including organic pulses has been made “free” without any quantitative restriction w.e.f. 22.11.2017
	11	24.11.2017 Under Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20, rates of reward under Merchandise Exports from India (MEIS) have been enhanced on export of various agriculture items from 2% to 4% , from 3% to

		5% and from 5% to 7% w.e.f. 01 st November , 2017 upto 30 th June, 2018 to offset high transit cost.
	12	06.12.2017 Minimum Import Price (MIP) of Rs. 500/kg on pepper has been imposed w.e.f. 6.12.2017
	13	21.12.2017 Import duty on lentil (masur) and chana (gram) has been raised from zero to 30% w.e.f. 21.12.2017
	14	02.2.2018 Import duties on the following vegetable edible oils have been raised on 2 nd Feb 2018 in view of Budget 2018-19. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • crude vegetable oils namely - <i>Ground nut, Olive oil, cotton seed oil, safflower seed oil, saffola oil, coconut oil, plam kernel/ Babassu oil, linseed oil , maize corn oil, sesame oil, other fixed veg fats and oils</i> ,raised from 12.5% to 30%. • refined edible oils namely - <i>Ground nut, Olive oil, cotton seed oil, safflower seed oil, saffola oil, coconut oil, plam kernel/ Babassu oil, linseed oil , maize corn oil, castor oil, sesame oil, other fixed veg fats and oils</i>, have been raised from 20% to 35%.
	15	06.2.2018 Import duty on chickpeas (gram) raised from 30% to 40% on 6 th February 2018
	16	01.03.2018 Import duty on chickpeas (gram) raised from 40% to 60% on 01 st March, 2018
	17	01.03.2018 Import duty on crude palm oil from 30% to 44% & on refined palm oil (all grades) form 40% to 54% on 01 st March, 2018
	18	06.04.2018 All varieties of edible oils , except mustard oil, have been made ' free ' for export without any quantitative restrictions. However, export of mustard oil in branded consumer packs of upto 5 kgs will continue to be permitted for export with a Minimum Export Price of USD 900 / MT.

Annexure-XX**Production and Procurement of Oilseeds, Pulses, Rice, and Wheat at MSP / PSS**

	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18*	
					(Million Tonnes)	
	Production	Procurement	Production	Procurement	Production	Procurement
Pulses	163.50	0.00	231.30	2.05	245.10	15.72
Oilseeds	252.51	0.04	312.76	2.22	306.38	11.68
Rice	104.41	34.22	109.70	38.11	111.01	35.42
Wheat	92.29	28.09	98.51	22.96	97.11	30.82

from 2015-16 to 2017-18

* Estimated Production as per 3rd advance estimates

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

(2017-18)

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY SEVENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 31st July, 2018 from 1500 hrs. to 1635 hrs. in the Committee Room "B", Ground Floor, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Hukm Deo Narayan Yadav – Chairperson

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Sanjay Dhotre
3. Prof. Ravindra Vishwanath Gaikwad
4. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
5. Smt. Rakha Nikhil Khadse
6. Md Badaruddoza Khan
7. Shri C. Mahendran
8. Dr. Tapas Mandal
9. Shri Nityanand Rai
10. Shri Mukesh Rajput
11. Shri Virendra Singh
12. Shri Dharmendra Yadav
13. Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

14. Shri Rajmani Patel
15. Shri Kailash Soni
16. Shri Harnath Singh Yadav

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri D.S. Malha | – | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Arun K. Kaushik | – | Director |
| 3. | Smt. Juby Amar | – | Additional Director |
| 4. | Shri Sumesh Kumar | – | Under Secretary |

- *2. XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX
- *3. XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX

[THE WITNESSES WITHDREW]

4. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration the following draft Reports:

* (i) XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX

* (ii) XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX

(iii) Draft Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the 47th 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 Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare).

* (iv) XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX

* (v) XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX

* (vi) XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX

5. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the draft Reports at para (i), (ii), (iii), (v) and (vi) without any modifications and Draft Report at para (iv) with minor modification and authorized the Chairperson to finalize and present these Reports to Parliament after factual verification of Subject report from the concerned Departments/Ministries.

*6. XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX

The Committee then adjourned.

(A copy of the verbatim proceedings of the Sitting has been kept separately).

Appendix

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

(i)	Total number of Recommendations	15
(ii)	Recommendations/Observations which have been Accepted by the Government Para Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 12, 13 and 15	
	Total	8
	Percentage	53.33%
(iii)	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee Do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies Para No. NIL	
	Total	NIL
	Percentage	0%

(iv) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee

Para Nos. 4 and 10

Total 2

Percentage 13.33%

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

Para Nos. 5, 7, 9, 11 and 14

Total 5

Percentage 33.33%