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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY
AND FOOD PROCESSING**

(2022-2023)

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION)**

'DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2023-24)'

**{Action-taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations
contained in the Fifty-Second Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing
Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2022-23)}**

SIXTY- FIRST REPORT



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
AUGUST, 2023/SRAVANA, 1945 (SAKA)**

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AND FOOD PROCESSING

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contained in the Fifty-Second Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing
Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2022-23)}**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 10.08.2023
Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 10.08.2023



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
AUGUST, 2023/SRAVANA, 1945 (SAKA)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING (2022-23)**

Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar- Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Horen Sing Bey
3. Shri A. Ganeshamurthi
4. Shri Kanakmal Katara
5. Shri Abu Taher Khan
6. Shri Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu
7. Shri Mohan Mandavi
8. Shri Devji Mansingram Patel
9. Smt. Sharda Anilkumar Patel
10. Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao Patil
11. Shri Shrinivas Dadasaheb Patil
12. Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut
13. Shri Pocha Brahmananda Reddy
14. Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy
15. Mohammad Sadique
16. Shri Devendra Singh *alias* Bhole Singh
17. Shri Virendra Singh
18. Shri V.K. Sreekandan
19. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav
20. VACANT[#]
21. VACANT^{*}

RAJYA SABHA

22. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
23. Shri Masthan Rao Beeda
24. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde
25. Shri S. Kalyanasundaram
26. Shri Surendra Singh Nagar
27. Shri Kailash Soni
28. Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala
29. Shri Ram Nath Thakur
30. Shri Vaiko
31. Shri Harnath Singh Yadav

[#] Vacant w.e.f. 10.10.2022 due to demise of Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav on 10.10.2022.
[Bulletin- Part II, Para No. 5316 dated 14.10.2022].

^{*}Vacant w.e.f.29.04.2023 due to disqualification of Shri Afzal Ansari from Lok Sabha Membership from the date of his conviction in terms of the provision of Article 102(1)(e) of the Constitution of India read with Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951[Notification No. 21/4(6)/2023/TO(B) Dated - 01.05.2023].

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Shiv Kumar - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Uttam Chand Bharadwaj - Director
3. Shri Prem Ranjan - Deputy Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2022-23), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Sixty-First Report on Action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fifty-Second Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2022-23) on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24)' pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agricultural Research and Education).

2. The Fifty-Second Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2022-23) on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24)' pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agricultural Research and Education) was presented to Lok Sabha on 13 March, 2023 and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 14 March, 2023. The Action Taken Notes on the Report were received on 17.05.2023.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 08.08.2023.

4. An Analysis of the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fifty-Second Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in **Appendix**.

NEW DELHI;
08 August, 2023
17 Shrawana, 1945(Saka)

P.C. GADDIGOUDAR
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture,
Animal Husbandry and Food Processing

CHAPTER I

REPORT

This Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing deals with the Action-taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fifty-Second Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2022-23) on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24)' pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agricultural Research and Education) which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 13.03.2023 and Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 14.03.2023.

1.2 The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agricultural Research and Education) has furnished Action-taken Replies in respect of all the 13 Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report. These have been categorized as under:

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

Recommendation Nos. 1,2,3,4,5,6,7, 11 and 12

Total - 09

Chapter - II

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

Recommendation No. NIL

Total - 00

Chapter - III

(iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which Replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee:

Recommendation No. 13

Total - 01

Chapter - IV

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

Recommendation No. 8,9 and 10

Total - 03

Chapter - V

1.3 The Committee desire that utmost importance would be given by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agricultural Research and Education) to implement the Observations/Recommendations accepted by the Government. In cases, where it is not possible for the Ministry/Department to implement the Recommendations in letter and spirit for any reason, the matter may be intimated in writing to the Committee with the 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 in respect of 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. Preparedness to tackle spread of Disease in Animals
Recommendation (Serial No. 8)**

1.5 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

"The Committee note that some of the focused research areas in Animal Science are preventive health care, vaccine production, handling emerging diseases, surveillance and forecasting of diseases among livestock and poultry. The Committee have been apprised that the research on veterinary biologicals in the ICAR has led to successful eradication of important diseases viz., rinderpest and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia from the country. ICAR has developed vaccines for economically important diseases for cattle in the country viz., Foot and Mouth Disease, Anthrax Spore, Black Quarter (BQ), HaemorrhagicSepticaemia (HS), Brucella Abortus (S-19 Strain), Buffalo pox, Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis and Lumpy Skin Disease. The Committee are also aware about death of cattle on large scale in various regions of the

country last year due to spread of Lumpy Skin Disease resulting in economic loss and hardships to animal farmers. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to prepare itself to prevent spread of diseases among livestock and poultry in the country and if spread of disease occurs, prompt steps be taken to prevent its further spread on large scale so as to minimize the losses."

1.6 In its Action taken reply, the Department has stated as under:-

"Prompt steps have been taken by ICAR for prevention of diseases in animals as various vaccines and diagnostics have been developed to tackle economically important diseases of animals. Recently, Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) affected cattle on large scale basis in various states of the country. Many studies were carried on LSD through surveillance, sero-monitoring and identification of the etiological agent. The LSD vaccine production technology has been transferred to the four firms. Regulatory approvals have been provided by DCGI and DAHD also. The Biovet has submitted formal application cum dossier to DCGI Office, Delhi to issue manufacturing license, NOC (No Objection Certificate). Quality control testing of LSD vaccine has been carried out by IVRI, Izatnagar and the Biovet conducted complete animal trials in-house on safety, reversion to virulence, efficacy etc. on LSD vaccine, so that it is available in the market. "

1.7 The Committee noted that some of the focused research areas in Animal Science are preventive health care, vaccine production, handling emerging diseases, surveillance and forecasting of disease among livestock and poultry, however, various regions of the country witnessed death of cattle on large scale last year due to spread of Lumpy Skin Disease resulting in economic loss and hardships to animal farmers. The Committee had, therefore, recommended the Department to prepare itself to prevent spread of diseases among livestock and poultry in the country and if spread of disease occurs, prompt steps be taken to prevent its further spread on large scale so as to minimize the losses.

The Department in its Action-taken reply has submitted that prompt steps have been taken by ICAR for prevention of diseases in animals as various vaccines and diagnostics have been developed to tackle economically important diseases of animals. The Department further submitted about studies carried on Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) through surveillance, sero-monitoring and identification of the etiological agent; transfer of the LSD vaccine production technology to firms, Regulatory approvals, Quality Control Testing of LSD vaccine etc so that it is available in the market. The Committee, however, note that the reply of the Department is silent on its preparedness to prevent spread of diseases like LSD in future among livestock and poultry in the country.

The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation to the Department to prepare itself to prevent spread of diseases among livestock and poultry in the country and if spread of disease occurs, prompt steps be taken to prevent its further spread on large scale so as to minimize the losses.

**B. Characterization, Cataloguing and Registration of Animal Genetic Resources of the Country
Recommendation (Serial No.9)**

1.8 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

"The Committee note that one of the focused research areas in animal science is characterization and registration of new populations of indigenous livestock, poultry and dogs. The Committee have been apprised that the ICAR has established a standard process of characterization, cataloguing and registration of animal genetic resources of the Country, which has been appreciated by UN recently. Department has launched "Mission toward non-descript Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) in India" to characterize livestock, poultry and dog breeds. Under the Mission, registration of a total number of 212 breeds of livestock, poultry and dogs has been completed.

The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to make best efforts to achieve the targets set under "Mission toward non-descript AnGR in India" so that all the indigenous livestock, poultry and dog breeds of the country would get registered."

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

"Department registered 10 native livestock breeds of 5 states during 2022-23. The breeds include 3 cattle breeds, 1 buffalo, 3 goats and 3 pig breeds. The characterization of 8 new native populations of 6 states/UTs has been carried out. The Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) survey was conducted in 9 states (Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Tripura, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, HP, UP, Bihar, Rajasthan), Ladakh (UT) and Organized in four State Interface meets (Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar). Department has initiated 3 Network Units for characterization of native populations (Maharashtra, Bihar and Arunachal Pradesh)."

1.10 Recognizing the importance and utility of the "Mission toward non-descript Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) in India" launched by the Department to characterize livestock, poultry and dog breeds, the Committee had recommended the Department to make best efforts to achieve the targets set under the Mission so that all the indigenous livestock, poultry and dog breeds of the country would get registered.

The Department in its Action-taken reply has furnished information about the number of native livestock breeds registered and characterized; and name of the states where Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) survey was conducted and State Interface meets were organized. The Department has also stated that it has initiated 3 Network Units for characterization of native populations. The Committee, however, note that the Department has not furnished any target date by which characterization, cataloguing and registration of the indigenous livestock, poultry and dog breeds of the country would be completed. The

Committee also note that achievement made under the Mission so far is not substantial considering the fact that the country has large population and breeds of livestock, poultry and dog.

The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation to the Department to make best efforts to achieve the targets set under "Mission toward non-descript AnGR in India" so that all the indigenous livestock, poultry and dog breeds of the country would get registered.

**C. Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)
Recommendation (Serial No. 10)**

1.11 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

"The Committee note that Agricultural Extension Division is carrying out on-farm testing to identify the location specificity of agricultural technologies and frontline demonstration to demonstrate the production potential of different crops. The Division also provides training to farmers and extension personnel about knowledge and skill improvement and creating awareness. This is done through a network of 731 Krishi Vigyan Kendras spread all over the country. The Committee also note from the reply of the Department that at present there are 766 districts in the country, 93 districts have two KVKs, 638 districts have single KVK and 128 districts do not have KVK. The Committee further note that the KVKs across the country have 3499 vacancies (Senior Scientist -187, Subject matter specialist - 1090, Technical Officer T4 - 688, Assistant-279, Stenographer- 280, Driver 432 and Skilled supporting staff - 543).

As the KVKs play an important role in extension services, the Committee recommend the Department to open a KVK in those 128 Districts which do not have even a single KVK. The Committee also recommend the Department to fill up the vacancies in KVKs on priority basis.

The Committee also recommend the Department to strengthen the existing mechanism and also develop online mechanism to ensure demonstration and dissemination of information about new varieties and technologies among farmers. The

emphasis should also be laid on providing training to farmers and Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) so that benefits of the research and innovations in the field of agriculture are availed by them."

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

"Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) have been proposed for establishment in 82 new rural districts (notified after approval of EFC 2017-20) in the EFC proposal 2021-26, which is submitted for appraisal and approval. The post of the KVKs are to be filled by respective Host Organizations. In this regard, the Heads of Host Organizations are time to time requested by Directors of respective ATARIs (to vice chancellors of Agricultural Universities); by Secretary (DARE) & DG (ICAR) (to Chief Secretaries of the States) and Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and President of ICAR (to the Hon'ble Chief Ministers of the States). Recently, such requests were sent on 22.03.2023. The ICAR has created an online Platform KisanSarathi for two-way communication with farmers for solving their field problems through latest technologies including varieties. Farmers registered on this platform are able to ask questions and get answers in their own language."

1.13 Recognizing the role played by the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in extension services, the Committee had recommended the Department to open a KVK in those 128 Districts which do not have even a single KVK and also to fill up the vacancies in KVKs on priority basis. The Committee had also recommended the Department to strengthen the existing mechanism and also develop online mechanism to ensure demonstration and dissemination of information about new varieties and technologies among farmers and to lay emphasis on providing training to farmers and Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) so that benefits of the research and innovations in the field of agriculture are availed by them.

The Department in its Action-taken reply has submitted that Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) have been proposed for establishment in 82 new rural districts

(notified after approval of EFC 2017-20) in the EFC proposal 2021-26, which is submitted for appraisal and approval. As regard filling of vacant posts in KVKs, the Department has submitted that these are to be filled by respective Host Organizations and they have been requested time to time by the Department to fill up the vacant posts. Further, the Department has stated that ICAR has created an Online Platform KisanSarathi for two-way communication with farmers for solving their field problems through latest technologies including varieties.

The Committee, while appreciating the efforts made by the Department, are of the view that KVKs would not be able to discharge their responsibilities fully if there exist vacancies in them. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to impress upon the Host Organizations to fill up the vacant posts in KVKs on priority basis so that farmers of the country take maximum benefits through KVKs.

**D. Manpower in ICAR Institutes
Recommendation (Serial No. 13)**

1.14 The Committee had observed/recommended as under:—

"The Committee note that a large number of posts including those in scientific, administrative and technical categories are lying vacant at various Institutes of the ICAR. The Department has apprised the Committee that the Department makes all out efforts for filling up of vacant positions of different cadre as and when the vacancies arise. The recruitment process for filling up of vacant position is a regular process through an established procedure of the Recruitment, subject to availability of appropriately qualified candidates in the required areas of specialization. Further, due to restructuring of Agricultural Scientist Recruitment Board and outbreak of Covid-19, the conduct of direct recruitment examination during last three years was adversely affected. However, the recruitment of Scientists, Administrative and technical staff in

ICAR has been vigorously pursued. The Committee recommend the Department to fill up the vacant scientific, administrative and technical posts at Institutes of ICAR at the earliest for the smooth and more meaningful functioning of the Institutes. The Committee also recommend the Department to initiate recruitment process well in advance so that posts do not remain vacant for a long period."

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

"The recruitment process for filling up of vacant positions in ICAR Institutes is a regular process and ICAR make out all efforts for filling up of vacant posts, as and when arise. The recruitment process of 102 Research Management Positions has been completed. A total of 208 entry level scientists have been recruited and scientists are under three months training. The requisitions for the recruitment of DR-Principal Scientists and DR-Senior Scientists (total 340) have been sent for advertisement. In order to maintain the rationalization and for the purpose of providing opportunity for the future eligible aspirants every year, approximately 1/3rd of the total vacancies are filled in recruitment cycle at entry level Scientists. The mains examination for the recruitment of Administrative Officers and Finance and Account Officers have been completed. The result of Preliminary Examination for Assistant Grade has been declared; process is finalized for posting at the Institutes considering the requirement."

1.16 Taking note of large number of posts including those in scientific, administrative and technical categories lying vacant at various Institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the Committee had recommended the Department to fill up the vacant scientific, administrative and technical posts at Institutes of ICAR at the earliest for the smooth and more meaningful functioning of the Institutes. The Committee had also recommended the Department to initiate recruitment process well in advance so that posts do not remain vacant for a long period.

The Department in its Action-taken reply has submitted that the recruitment process for filling up of vacant positions in ICAR Institutes is a regular process and ICAR make out all efforts for filling up of vacant posts, as and when arise. The recruitment process of 102 Research Management Positions has been completed. A total of 208 entry level scientists have been recruited and scientists are under three months training. The requisitions for the recruitment of DR-Principal Scientists and DR-Senior Scientists (total 340) have been sent for advertisement. In order to maintain the rationalization and for the purpose of providing opportunity for the future eligible aspirants every year, approximately 1/3rd of the total vacancies are filled in recruitment cycle at entry level Scientists. The mains examination for the recruitment of Administrative Officers and Finance and Account Officers have been completed. The result of Preliminary Examination for Assistant Grade has been declared; process is finalized for posting at the Institutes considering the requirement.

The Committee, while appreciating the Department for taking steps for filling of the vacant posts, note that even after the completion of the recruitment processes of the various posts, substantial number of posts will remain lying vacant at the Institutes of ICAR. The Committee also note that the Department is silent on the recommendation to initiate recruitment process well in advance so that posts do not remain vacant for a long period of the Committee.

The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation to fill up the vacant scientific, administrative and technical posts at Institutes of ICAR at the earliest for the smooth and more meaningful functioning of the Institutes and

also to initiate recruitment process well in advance so that posts do not remain vacant for a long period.

CHAPTER - II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Budgetary Allocation

Recommendation Serial No. 1

The Committee note that allocations (BE) of Rs. 9504.00 Crore has been made to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education which is 0.21% of total budget of Rs. 4503097.00 Crore of Central Government for the year 2023-24, though the Department had proposed Rs. 10390.53 Crore for BE 2023-24. The allocation of Rs. 9504.00 Crore made in BE 2023-24 for the DARE is higher than the allocations of Rs. 8513.62 Crore made in BE 2022-23 and Rs. 8658.89 Crore made in RE 2022-23, the proportion (in % terms) of Budgetary Allocation (BE) in favour of the Department out of the total Budget of the Government of India has been reduced from 0.22% in the year 2022-23 to 0.21% in 2023-24. The Committee further note that at the Revised Estimate Stage, the Budgetary Allocation out of the total Budget of the Government of India was reduced from 0.23% in the year 2021-22 to 0.20% in 2022-23.

The Committee feel that progressive reduction in proportion of Budgetary Allocation with respect to the total Budget of the Government of India is not a healthy trend particularly in view of the fact that the Department of Agricultural Research and Education/Indian Council of Agricultural Research is the largest Agri-Research Organization not only in India but also in the world. This Research Organization has contributed immensely in making the nation food and nutrition secure. The Committee are of the considered view that the present level of budgetary support/grant to DARE/ICAR is inadequate, which may impact its functioning and hamper the Department in achieving its cherished vision and mandate. The Committee, having taken the view of challenges before DARE/ ICAR and inadequate funds allocated to it, recommend the Government to enhance the allocation for the Department of Agricultural Research and Education at the Revised Estimates 2023-24 Stage. The Committee also desire the Department to pursue for enhancement of allocation with the Ministry of Finance through Supplementary Grants.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Department is continuously seeking increased budget allocation for the Department of Agricultural Research and Education from the Ministry of Finance. The Department takes all steps to get the Budgetary allocation enhanced from Ministry of Finance through the supplementary demand for grants and also at the RE 2023-24 stage, as suggested by the Committee. Further, the Secretary DARE and Financial Advisor DARE have been raising this issue for increasing the allocation of DARE at appropriate forums on regular basis.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
F. No. 7(2)/2023-PIM Dated 11.5.2023]

Allocation Under Scheme Head **Recommendation Serial No. 2**

The Committee note that out of the total allocation (BE) of Rs. 9504.00 Crore for the Department (DARE) for the year 2023-24, Rs. 2423.41 Crore has been allocated under Scheme Head which constitutes around 25.49% of the total allocation. The Allocation under Scheme Head in BE 2023-24 (Rs. 2423.41 Crore) is 427.58 Crore more than the allocation of Rs. 1995.83 Crore in BE 2022-23, however, it is Rs. 262.59 Crore less than BE 2021-22 allocation of Rs. 2686.00 Crore. The Committee also note that BE 2023-24 allocation is Rs. 490.89 Crore less than the Department's proposed amount of Rs. 2914.30 Crore for the Scheme Head for the year 2023-24.

The Committee are of considered view that inadequate allocation in BE 2023-24 particularly under Scheme Head would adversely impact the Schemes and Programmes planned by various Subject Matter Divisions (SMDs) and may impact the overall working of Research Institutes under the ICAR. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to take up the matter of enhancing the allocation under Central Sector Schemes with the Ministry of Finance at RE Stage.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Department is continuously making all the efforts to get the allocation under Schemes enhanced. It continuously tries to utilize all the channels available in Government setup for seeking additional scheme allocation and makes all efforts for the enhancement of scheme budget at the RE stage with the Ministry of Finance.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
F. No. 7(2)/2023-PIM Dated 11.5.2023]

Internal Revenue Generation and its Utilization **Recommendation Serial No. 3**

The Committee note that the Institutes of ICAR/DARE generate revenue internally through consultancy, training, services, etc. The Committee also note that an amount of around Rs. 1500.00 Crore is available at ICAR Headquarter upto 31.03.2022 as bank balances in the books of accounts of the ICAR.

The Committee have been apprised that due to the Recommendations/Observations of the previous Committee contained in the 2nd Report (16th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2014-15) and subsequent 15th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the 2nd Report, the Department/ ICAR suspended utilization of funds from its available revenue resources since 2016-17 which has resulted in financial hardships to the Department/ICAR to carry out its mandated research activities in the absence of grant-in-aid received by the Department from the Ministry of Finance. The Budgetary support to DARE has seen a decline over the past few successive years. The Committee have also been apprised of the relevant provisions of the General Financial Rules, 2017 with regard to generation of the internal resources and their utilization by autonomous bodies receiving grant-in-aid from the Government of India.

The Secretary (DARE) and Director General (ICAR) also requested the Chairperson to review the concerned Recommendations of the Committee so that the ICAR was able to utilize the funds generated through internal resources. Having considered all aspects of the issue in totality, the Committee accede to

the request of the Department to use its internal resources including already accumulated funds since 2014-15 for its own requirements, provided that existing rules including General Financial Rules 2017, regulations, provisions, instructions, etc issued by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India from time to time in this regard are scrupulously adhered to.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Department is obliged to the Hon'ble Committee for accepting the request of the Department to use its internal resources including already accumulated funds since 2014-15 for its own requirement. The Department is making sincere efforts to maximize fund generation through internal resources and ensures its utilization as per the existing Government rules including General Financial Rules 2017, regulations, provisions, instructions, etc issued by the Ministry of Finance.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
F. No. 7(2)/2023-PIM Dated 11.5.2023]

Surrender of Funds Recommendation Serial No. 4

The Committee note that the Department has surrendered unspent balances of Rs. 68.63 Crore and Rs. 66.86 Crore for the Financial Years 2020-21 and 2021-22 respectively. The break-up of the surrendered amount is Rs. 68.13 Crore under Scheme and Rs. 0.50 Crore under Non-Scheme in the Financial Year 2020-21 and Rs. 64.3 Crore under Scheme and Rs. 2.56 Crore under Non-Scheme in the Financial Year 2021-22. However, an amount of Rs. 35.37 Crore pertaining to National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) was revalidated for utilization during 2021-22. However, the Committee also note the percentage utilization of RE-allocations for the Financial Years 2020-21 and 2021-22 are 98.48% and 99.13% respectively, which in the opinion of the Committee is highly appreciable. Further, during the Financial Year 2022-23, 96.71% of RE allocation has been utilized upto January, 2023.

The Committee having taken a holistic view, are of the considered opinion that surrender of allocated funds is not at all a healthy practice as it adversely affects implementation of the Schemes especially in view of the Department's request for enhancing Budgetary Allocations. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the pace of expenditure and flow of funds under various Schemes should be monitored regularly so as to avoid surrender of funds. The Committee also recommend the Department to identify the factors/reasons which hinder or restrict the utilization of funds and take appropriate action accordingly.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Department is making all efforts to minimize the surrender of funds for the financial year 2022-23. The pace of expenditure is regularly monitored by the respective SMDs. Further, the Senior Most Officers of the Department monitor the pace of expenditure regularly through the SOC (Senior Officers Committee) meetings held every month.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
F. No. 7(2)/2023-PIM Dated 11.5.2023]

Promotion of Climate Resilient Farming **Recommendation Serial No. 5**

The Committee note that the Natural Resources Management Division covers the area of sustainable management of natural resources and is conducting research in farmers' participatory mode addressing issues at ground level to develop location specific, cost effective, eco-friendly, climate resilient technologies keeping in view the resource availability with the farmers, traditional/ indigenous technological knowhow and grass-roots farm innovations to enhance agricultural production, productivity and profitability in the country. The Committee further note that 64 Climate Resilient Integrated Farming System models for 26 States/UTs, 68 Organic Cropping System packages for 16 states have been developed, evaluated, and demonstrated. Moreover, 65 Climate Resilient Technologies such as crop varieties, intercropping systems, conservation agriculture, crop diversification, agro forestry systems, zero till drill sowing of wheat to escape terminal heat stress, alternate methods of rice

cultivation (system of rice intensification, aerobic rice and direct seeded rice), *in-situ* moisture conservation, etc. have also been developed and disseminated in 151 vulnerable Districts across the country.

The Committee also note that Capacity Building Programmes on various Climate Resilient Technologies are being organized for benefit of the farmers. The Committee, while appreciating the efforts of the DARE/ICAR, are of the view that more appropriate steps are required to be taken to promote Climate Resilient Farming by giving priority to Research for development of location-specific, cost-effective, eco-friendly Climate Resilient Practices and Technologies and their dissemination and demonstration on large scale in the country so that adverse impact of climate change on Indian Agriculture is minimized and food and nutritional security of the nation is maintained. The Committee recommend the Department to develop a mechanism to ensure income safety to the farmers, so that they are inclined to adopt new cropping pattern/crops having Climate Resilient and water efficient qualities/traits.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Department has continued the development of climate resilient technologies and their dissemination to the stakeholders to address the climate change impact on agriculture. ICAR has already developed 446 climate resilient villages. Likewise, 151 districts have been mapped for vulnerability assessment. Multi-stake capacity building programmes on various aspects of climate resilient agriculture have been conducted. To achieve food and nutritional security at household level, Integrated Farming System (IFS) research and extension was another priority across the ecologies. States like Tamilnadu, Kerala, Odisha and Telangana, and the UT J&K have supported the viable IFS models in their respective states. During the year 2023-24, 92.0 crores have been earmarked for promotion of IFS models by Tamilnadu, Kerala and Odisha Governments. To support the research and extension of climate resilient agriculture, an amount of Rs. 366.40 crores have been earmarked by ICAR for the period of 2021-2026.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
F. No. 7(2)/2023-PIM Dated 11.5.2023]

Availability of Quality Seeds to Farmers
Recommendation Serial No. 6

The Committee note that Crop Science Division undertakes research programs in the areas of management of genetic resources, crop improvement and crop management (production and protection). The focus of crop science program is on genetic enhancement of field crops using modern tools of genome editing, genomics and phenomics for yield, quality and tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses. The Committee also note that many Biofortified and Hybrid Varieties of several Field Crops have been developed, released and notified for commercial cultivation by the farmers. The Committee are of the view that awareness among farmers about newly developed Biofortified and Hybrid Varieties of various Field Crops and their productivity and nutritional quality is limited. Also quality seeds of Field Crops are not easily available to them. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to take proactive steps for popularizing and disseminating the information about newly released varieties of Field Crops. The Committee also recommend the Department to give emphasis not only on increasing production and productivity of various crops but also on making available quality seeds to farmers. The Department should also lay emphasis on increasing the nutritional value of such modified crops.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is mandated to production and delivery of breeder seed to various public and private sector agencies for their downstream multiplication to foundation and certified seeds. ICAR-All India Coordinated Research Project on Seed (Crops) coordinates quality seed production including breeder seed and development of region-specific technologies to address seed technological issues of various stakeholders through network of 65 centres across 27 state/Union Territories in the country. Crop and variety-wise breeder seed indents are submitted by the states for developing their seed rolling plan. Before finalization of indents list of all the varieties less than 10 years old including the latest one is shared with the states along with their yield and quality traits, area of recommendation and source of seed. Once the indents of breeder seed from States and Central seed

production agencies, Public Sector Undertakings and Private sector are received, a meeting is coordinated by DAFW under co-chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Seeds) and Assistant Director general (Seed), ICAR invites all these stakeholder and all Directors/ Project Coordinators of ICAR Institutes for inclusion/ enhancing the quantity of breeder seed of newly released climate resilient and biofortified varieties in the seed rolling plan. This helps in enhancing both seed and varietal replacement rates. ICAR is fulfilling the requirement of all the seed production agencies and during last three years (2019-20 to 2021-22), 333707.5 quintals of breeder seed of more than 1400 varieties has been produced against the indent of 243951.4 quintals in field crops.

Department made all efforts for popularization of newly developed varieties through front line demonstration, publication of pamphlets/ bulletins, programmes on DD Kisan, Doordarshan, KisanMelas, KisanGosthis, Field Days and through print and social media. Further focused efforts made to ensure the popularization of newly released varieties among the farmers ensuring their seed availability.

A special Consortium research Project on Biofortification was initiated during 2014-15 which focused on enhancing the nutritional value in crop varieties and as a result a total 114 biofortified varieties of 16 field and horticultural crops have been released during past nine years.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
F. No. 7(2)/2023-PIM Dated 11.5.2023]

Availability of Quality Planting Material for Horticulture Crops **Recommendation Serial No. 7**

The Committee have been apprised that several Biofortified and Hybrid varieties with increased nutritional value and productivity of various Horticulture Crops have been developed, released and notified for commercial cultivation by the farmers. However, the Committee feel that availability of quality planting material of various Horticulture Crops particularly orange, mango, apples, etc are limited and as a result farmers are not able to procure quality planting material in sufficient quantity. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to produce quality planting material of various Horticulture Crops particularly

orange, mango, apples, etc and make available to the farmers in the sufficient quantity at cheaper rate.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Department has already produced 44.403 lakh(nos.) quality planting materials of different traditional/improved varieties/hybrids of various Horticulture Crops including orange, mango, apples, etc. during the year 2022-23 and out of that 36.9187 lakh(nos.) of quality planting materials were provided to farmers of different regions at cheaper rate according to their requirement.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
F. No. 7(2)/2023-PIM Dated 11.5.2023]

Research and Development (R&D) in Agriculture **Recommendation Serial No. 11**

The Committee note that Research and Development and its application in Agriculture and Allied sector play a major role in realisation of sustainable agriculture practice that efficiently meets the objectives of food and nutritional security and improvement in farm income. The Committee also note that every rupee spent on agricultural research and development yields much better returns as Benefit: Cost of Investment in Agri-Research is 10.7:1.0.

The Committee further note that in 2020-21, only 0.49 percent of Agri-GDP was spent on agricultural research and education in the country. However, to ensure long term food and nutrition security atleast 1% of the Agri-GDP is needed in R&D services in Agriculture.

The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to take pro-active steps for raising the expenditure on agricultural research, education and innovation to atleast 1% of the Agri-GDP so as to ensure food and nutritional security for the largest population of this planet.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Department is taking necessary steps to get the allocation enhanced from the Ministry of Finance for the RE 2023-24 as per the recommendations of the committee (to at least 1% of Agri GDP) to ensure food and nutritional security for India. The department also pursue this recommendation with the Ministry of Finance at the Supplementary Demand of Grants 2023-24 for additional allocation of funds.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
F. No. 7(2)/2023-PIM Dated 11.5.2023]

Global Hub for Millets: "Shree Anna" **Recommendation Serial No. 12**

The Committee note that Millets are Smart Food with high nutritional value and are also climate resilient. These are also important by virtue of their mammoth potential to generate livelihood, increase farmers' income and ensure food and nutritional security all over the world. The Committee also note that several types of Millets are grown in the country and India is the largest producer and second largest exporter of Millets in the world. The Committee have been apprised that to make India a global hub for Millets, the Indian Institute of Millet Research, Hyderabad would be supported as the Centre of Excellence for sharing best practices, research and technologies at the international level. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to make research to know the specialties and health benefits of Millet crops and disseminate this knowledge among people on large scale. The Committee also recommend the Department to do research for improving the production, productivity and nutritional values of Millets. The Committee further recommend the Department to take all efforts for making the Indian Institute of Millet Research, Hyderabad as the Centre of Excellence so as to make India a global hub for Millets and reap the maximum benefits for the country.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Realizing the importance of Shree Anna and lot of efforts made by the Government, the Hon'ble Finance Minister made the following budget announcement during the budget session 2023:

“We are the largest producer and second largest exporter of ‘Shree Anna’ in the world. We grow several types of 'Shree Anna' such as jowar, ragi, bajra, kuttu, ramdana, kangni, kutki, kodo, cheena, and sama. These have a number of health benefits, and have been an integral part of our food for centuries. I acknowledge with pride the huge service done by small farmers in contributing to the health of fellow citizens by growing these ‘Shree Anna’.”

A total Rs. 250 crores have been allotted for making Indian Institute of Millet Research as a Centre of Excellence for making India a Global Hub under ‘Shree Anna’ for sharing best practices, research and technologies at the international level. A special programme has been developed by ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research and following components have been identified for accomplishing this important national responsibility during next three years i.e. 2023-24 to 2025-26:

Sr. No	Component
1	Establishing Long-term Germplasm Storage Facility to Strengthen Millets GeneBank for Conservation, Trait-specific Characterization and Utilization of Millet Biodiversity for Crop Improvement.
2	Technology Innovation Centre for Trait, Seed and Crop Improvement of Millets for enhancing Yield and Productivity.
3	Nutricereal Analytical, Food Safety and Quality Assurance National Referral Laboratory for Millets.
4	Centre of Excellence for Millet Value Chain and Business Facilitation for Entrepreneurship, Incubation and Startup Nurturing.
5	Establishment of International Knowledge, Skill Development and Capacity Enablement Centre with International Millet Museum & Halls of Residence.
6	Global Facility for Millet Pilots on Feed, Fodder, Biofuels, Malting, Brewing and Promotion of Industrial utilization of Millets.
7	Regional Millet Technology Innovation and Outreach Hubs.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
F. No. 7(2)/2023-PIM Dated 11.5.2023]

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

Manpower in ICAR Institutes

Recommendation Serial No. 13

The Committee note that a large number of posts including those in scientific, administrative and technical categories are lying vacant at various Institutes of the ICAR. The Department has apprised the Committee that the Department makes all out efforts for filling up of vacant positions of different cadre as and when the vacancies arise. The recruitment process for filling up of vacant position is a regular process through an established procedure of the Recruitment, subject to availability of appropriately qualified candidates in the required areas of specialization. Further, due to restructuring of Agricultural Scientist Recruitment Board and outbreak of Covid-19, the conduct of direct recruitment examination during last three years was adversely affected. However, the recruitment of Scientists, Administrative and technical staff in ICAR has been vigorously pursued. The Committee recommend the Department to fill up the vacant scientific, administrative and technical posts at Institutes of ICAR at the earliest for the smooth and more meaningful functioning of the Institutes. The Committee also recommend the Department to initiate recruitment process well in advance so that posts do not remain vacant for a long period.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The recruitment process for filling up of vacant positions in ICAR Institutes is a regular process and ICAR make out all efforts for filling up of vacant posts, as and when arise. The recruitment process of 102 Research Management Positions has been completed. A total of 208 entry level scientists have been recruited and scientists are under three months training. The requisitions for the recruitment of DR-Principal Scientists and DR-Senior Scientists (total 340) have been sent for advertisement. In order to maintain the rationalization and for the purpose of providing opportunity for the future eligible aspirants every year, approximately 1/3rd of the total vacancies are filled in recruitment cycle at entry level Scientists. The mains examination for the recruitment

of Administrative Officers and Finance and Account Officers have been completed. The result of Preliminary Examination for Assistant Grade has been declared; process is finalized for posting at the Institutes considering the requirement.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
F. No. 7(2)/2023-PIM Dated 11.5.2023]

Comments of the Committee

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

CHAPTER - V

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

Preparedness to tackle spread of Disease in Animals

Recommendation Serial No. 8

The Committee note that some of the focused research areas in Animal Science are preventive health care, vaccine production, handling emerging diseases, surveillance and forecasting of diseases among livestock and poultry. The Committee have been apprised that the research on veterinary biologicals in the ICAR has led to successful eradication of important diseases viz., rinderpest and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia from the country. ICAR has developed vaccines for economically important diseases for cattle in the country viz., Foot and Mouth Disease, Anthrax Spore, Black Quarter (BQ), Haemorrhagic Septicaemia (HS), Brucella Abortus (S-19 Strain), Buffalo pox, Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis and Lumpy Skin Disease. The Committee are also aware about death of cattle on large scale in various regions of the country last year due to spread of Lumpy Skin Disease resulting in economic loss and hardships to animal farmers. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to prepare itself to prevent spread of diseases among livestock and poultry in the country and if spread of disease occurs, prompt steps be taken to prevent its further spread on large scale so as to minimize the losses.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Prompt steps have been taken by ICAR for prevention of diseases in animals as various vaccines and diagnostics have been developed to tackle economically important diseases of animals. Recently, Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) affected cattle on large scale basis in various states of the country. Many studies were carried on LSD through surveillance, sero-monitoring and identification of the etiological agent. The LSD vaccine production technology has been transferred to the four firms. Regulatory approvals have been provided by DCGI and DAHD also. The Biovet has submitted formal application cum dossier to DCGI Office, Delhi to issue manufacturing license,

NOC (No Objection Certificate). Quality control testing of LSD vaccine has been carried out by IVRI, Izatnagar and the Biovet conducted complete animal trials in-house on safety, reversion to virulence, efficacy etc. on LSD vaccine, so that it is available in the market.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
F. No. 7(2)/2023-PIM Dated 11.5.2023]

Comments of the Committee

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

Characterization, Cataloguing and Registration of Animal Genetic Resources of the Country

Recommendation Serial No.9

The Committee note that one of the focused research areas in animal science is characterization and registration of new populations of indigenous livestock, poultry and dogs. The Committee have been apprised that the ICAR has established a standard process of characterization, cataloguing and registration of animal genetic resources of the Country, which has been appreciated by UN recently. Department has launched "Mission toward non-descript Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) in India" to characterize livestock, poultry and dog breeds. Under the Mission, registration of a total number of 212 breeds of livestock, poultry and dogs has been completed.

The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to make best efforts to achieve the targets set under "Mission toward non-descript AnGR in India" so that all the indigenous livestock, poultry and dog breeds of the country would get registered.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Department registered 10 native livestock breeds of 5 states during 2022-23. The breeds include 3 cattle breeds, 1 buffalo, 3 goats and 3 pig breeds. The characterization of 8 new native populations of 6 states/UTs has been carried out. The Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) survey was conducted in 9 states (Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Tripura, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, HP, UP, Bihar, Rajasthan), Ladakh (UT) and Organized in

four State Interface meets (Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar). Department has initiated 3 Network Units for characterization of native populations (Maharashtra, Bihar and Arunachal Pradesh).

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
F. No. 7(2)/2023-PIM Dated 11.5.2023]

Comments of the Committee

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

Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) **Recommendation Serial No. 10**

The Committee note that Agricultural Extension Division is carrying out on-farm testing to identify the location specificity of agricultural technologies and frontline demonstration to demonstrate the production potential of different crops. The Division also provides training to farmers and extension personnel about knowledge and skill improvement and creating awareness. This is done through a network of 731 Krishi Vigyan Kendras spread all over the country. The Committee also note from the reply of the Department that at present there are 766 districts in the country, 93 districts have two KVKs, 638 districts have single KVK and 128 districts do not have KVK. The Committee further note that the KVKs across the country have 3499 vacancies (Senior Scientist -187, Subject matter specialist - 1090, Technical Officer T4 - 688, Assistant-279, Stenographer- 280, Driver 432 and Skilled supporting staff - 543).

As the KVKs play an important role in extension services, the Committee recommend the Department to open a KVK in those 128 Districts which do not have even a single KVK. The Committee also recommend the Department to fill up the vacancies in KVKs on priority basis.

The Committee also recommend the Department to strengthen the existing mechanism and also develop online mechanism to ensure demonstration and dissemination of information about new varieties and technologies among farmers. The emphasis should also be laid on providing training to farmers and Farmer Producer

Organisations (FPOs) so that benefits of the research and innovations in the field of agriculture are availed by them.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) have been proposed for establishment in 82 new rural districts (notified after approval of EFC 2017-20) in the EFC proposal 2021-26, which is submitted for appraisal and approval. The post of the KVKs are to be filled by respective Host Organizations. In this regard, the Heads of Host Organizations are time to time requested by Directors of respective ATARIs (to vice chancellors of Agricultural Universities); by Secretary (DARE) & DG (ICAR) (to Chief Secretaries of the States) and Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and President of ICAR (to the Hon'ble Chief Ministers of the States). Recently, such requests were sent on 22.03.2023. The ICAR has created an online Platform KisanSarathi for two-way communication with farmers for solving their field problems through latest technologies including varieties. Farmers registered on this platform are able to ask questions and get answers in their own language.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education)
F. No. 7(2)/2023-PIM Dated 11.5.2023]

Comments of the Committee

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

NEW DELHI;
08 August, 2023
17 Sravana, 1945 (Saka)

P.C. GADDIGOUDAR
Chairperson
Standing Committee on Agriculture,
Animal Husbandry and Food Processing

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD
PROCESSING BRANCH**

(2022-23)

MINUTES OF THE NINETEENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE

**The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 08 August, 2023 from 1500 hrs.
to 1530 hrs. in Hon'ble Chairperson's Chamber, Room No. 103, 1st Floor, Block -
B, PHA Extn., New Delhi.**

PRESENT

Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar, Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri A. Ganeshamurthi
3. Shri Mohan Mandavi
4. Shri Devji Mansingram Patel
5. Smt. Sharda Anilkumar Patel
6. Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao Patil
7. Shri Shrinivas Dadasaheb Patil
8. Mohammad Sadique
9. Shri Devendra Singh *alias* Bhole Singh
10. Shri Virendra Singh
11. Shri V.K. Sreekandan

RAJYA SABHA

12. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
13. Shri Masthan Rao Beeda
14. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde
15. Shri Kailash Soni
16. Shri Ram Nath Thakur
17. Shri Vaiko

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. | Shri Shiv Kumar | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Uttam Chand Bharadwaj | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Prem Ranjan | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. | Shri N. Amarathiagan | - | Under Secretary |

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

- * (i) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX;
- (ii) Draft Action Taken Report on Action-taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Fifty-Second Report of the Committee on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24)', pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agricultural Research and Education);
- * (iii) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX;
- * (iv) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX;
- * (v) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX;
- * (vi) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX;

3. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the Draft Action Taken Reports without any modifications and the Committee authorized the Chairperson to finalize and present these Reports to Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

*** Matter not related to this Report.**

APPENDIX - I

(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE FIFTY-SECOND REPORT (17TH LOK SABHA) OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING (2022-23)

(i)	Total number of Recommendations	13
(ii)	Observations/ Recommendations that have been Accepted by the Government Para Nos. 1,2,3,4,5,6,7, 11 and 12 Total	09
	Percentage	69.23%
(iii)	Observations/ Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies Para Nos. NIL Total	00
	Percentage	00.00%
(iv)	Observations/ Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee Para No. 13 Total	01
	Percentage	07.70%
(v)	Observations/ Recommendations in respect of which Final replies of the Government are still awaited Para Nos. 8,9 and 10 Total	03
	Percentage	23.07%