



**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING**
(2024-25)

EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA

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

**SPREAD OF LUMPY SKIN DISEASE IN CATTLE IN THE COUNTRY
AND ISSUES RELATED THEREWITH**

[Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Sixty-Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2023-24)]

FIFTEENTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

August, 2025 / Shravana, 1947 (Saka)

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ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING
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*Presented to Lok Sabha on
Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on*

*20.08.2025
20.08.2025*



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

August, 2025 / Shravana, 1947 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING (2023-24)**

Shri P.C. Gaddigoudar - Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Horen Sing Bey
3. Shri Kanakmal Katara
4. Shri Abu Taher Khan
5. Shri Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu
6. Shri Mohan Mandavi
7. Shri Devji Mansingram Patel
8. Smt. Sharda Anilkumar Patel
9. Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao Patil
10. Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb Patil
11. Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut
12. Shri Pocha Brahmananda Reddy
13. Shri Sushil Kumar Rinku
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 Beedha Yadav
24. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde
25. Shri S. Kalyanasundaram
26. Shri Kailash Soni
27. Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala
28. Shri Ram Nath Thakur
29. Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar^{*}
30. Shri Vaiko
31. Shri Harnath Singh Yadav

[#]Shri A. Ganeshamurthi, MP, Lok Sabha expired on 28.03.2024.

[^]Vacant since Constitution of the Committee.

^{*}Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar, MP, Rajya Sabha nominated *vice* Shri Surendra Singh Nagar *w.e.f.* 26.09.2023 *vide* Bulletin Part-II, dated 29.09.2023 (para No. 7523).

**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING
(2024-25)**

SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI – CHAIRPERSON

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Patel Umeshbhai Babubhai
3. Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal
4. Shri Rajkumar Chahar
5. Smt. Anita Nagarsingh Chouhan
6. Shri Kuldeep Indora
7. Shri Rajpalsinh Mahendrasinh Jadav
8. Md. Abu Taher Khan
9. Shri Rahul Singh Lodhi
10. Shri Sukanta Kumar Panigrahi
11. Smt. Krishna Devi Shivshankar Patel
12. Shri Naresh Chandra Uttam Patel
13. Shri Narayan Tatu Rane
14. Shri Murasoli S
15. Shri Dharambir Singh
16. Shri Dushyant Singh
17. Shri Sudhakar Singh
18. Shri Kodikunnil Suresh
19. Shri Tejasvi Surya
20. Smt. Geniben Nagaji Thakor
21. Shri Bhausahab Rajaram Wakchaure

RAJYA SABHA

22. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
23. Shri Masthan Rao Yadav Beedha*
24. Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde
25. Shri Banshilal Gurjar
26. Shri S. Kalyanasundaram
27. Shri Nitin Laxmanrao Jadhav Patil
28. Shri Madan Rathore
29. Shri Ramji Lal Suman
30. Shri P. P. Suneer
31. Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala

Shri Krishan Lal Panwar, Member resigned from Rajya Sabha on 14.10.2024.

**Shri Masthan Rao Yadav Beedha, Member, Rajya Sabha has been nominated to the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing w.e.f on 8th August 2025, vide Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II, Para No. 3117 dated 13.08.2025.*

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri Dhiraj Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Maheshwar | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Prem Ranjan | - | Deputy Secretary |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2024-25), having been authorized by the Committee to submit this Report on their behalf, present this 15th Report on action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Sixty Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2023-24) on the Subject 'Spread of Lumpy Skin Disease in cattle in the country and issues related therewith' pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying).

2. The Sixty Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2023-24) on the Subject 'Spread of Lumpy Skin Disease in cattle in the country and issues related therewith' pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying) was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 19 December, 2023. The Action Taken Notes on the Report were received on 26 February, 2024.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 18 August, 2024

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

NEW DELHI;
18 August , 2025
27Shravana, 1947 (Saka)

CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI
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 Sixty Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2023-24) on the subject "Spread of Lumpy Skin Disease in Cattle in the Country and issues related therewith" pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying) which was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 19th December, 2023.

1.2 The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying) have furnished Action Taken Replies in respect of all the 08 Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report. These Replies have been scrutinised and categorised as under:-

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| (i) Observations/Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government:
Recommendation Para Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 | Total - 07
Chapter II |
| (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies:
Recommendation Para No. NIL | Total - NIL
Chapter III |
| (iii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies:
Recommendation Para No. 3 | Total- 01
Chapter IV |
| (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited.
Recommendation Para No. NIL | Total - NIL
Chapter V |

1.3 The Committee desire that utmost importance would be given by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying) 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 be intimated in writing to the Committee with reasons for non-implementation. The Committee desire that further Action Taken Notes on the Observations/Recommendations contained in Chapter-I of this Report be furnished to them at an early date.

1.4 The Committee will now deal with the Action Taken by the Government on some of the Observations/Recommendations in the succeeding paragraphs.

A. Control and Containment of Lumpy Skin Disease in the Country

RECOMMENDATION (PARA NO.1)

1.5 The Committee had observed/recommended:-

The Committee noted that the country battled the devastating Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) outbreak among cattle in 2021-22, which killed and emaciated large number of cattle, hurting milk production and farm Income. The Committee also noted that the first outbreak of LSD was reported in Odisha in September, 2019 which in subsequent years acquired Pandemic Scale. The Committee were assured that presently the disease is showing less infection and death in affected States indicating the decrease in severity of infection. The Committee were Informed that the Government through vaccination, awareness creation, isolation and treatment of infected animals and following the other measures are able to control and contain the spread of the disease to a large extent which is quite appreciable. However, the Committee feel that the disease should have been prevented and contained at initial stage of its first reporting in September 2019 itself by taking prompt and effective measures as this would have avoided it taking pandemic form and would have saved large number of cattle from death and emaciation. The Committee, having taken note of all steps taken by the Government, recommend the Department to develop a mechanism and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) so that immediate and effective action is taken if spread of such disease is reported instead of waiting for a longer period. The Committee also recommends the Department to make comprehensive efforts to ramp up disease surveillance, treatment and diagnostic infrastructure, improve veterinary services, build capacity of animal

health professionals, etc to address animal pandemic in a holistic manner in future.

1.6 The Department, in its Action Taken Reply, has submitted:-

“Lumpy Skin Disease was initially suspected from Odisha based on the test report of IVRI, Bareilly. Department constituted the team of scientists from ICAR-NIVEDI (Bengaluru), ICAR-NIHSAD (Bhopal) and ICAR-IVRI (Bareilly) for further investigation of suspected Lumpy Skin Disease and Capripox disease in Odisha. The investigations confirmed the disease in the state of Odisha by PCR and nucleotide sequencing using the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) prescribed methods for LSD agent identification. Department took immediate and proactive steps to control the Lumpy Skin Disease and Capripox disease in Odisha and other states which include epidemiological investigation in the states and ring vaccination strategy with available Goat pox vaccine. Department in consultation with the experts formulated the guidelines and SOPs for control and containment of the disease in definite timeline which include isolation and treatment of affected animals, vaccination protocols, disinfection protocols etc. States/UTs are regularly advised to adopt carpet and controlled vaccination strategy with available Goat pox vaccine (Uttarakashi strain) in cattle on annual basis as per the timeline communicated state/UT wise. Department also deputed Central expert teams to the affected states for taking first hand stock of the outbreak of Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) and to guide on corrective measures and technical ground support. Advisories issued to non-affected states also for awareness and advance preparedness. Department has established the control room and also advised the states to establish the control room for technical support to the states/UTs and to address the issues of animal owners including awareness at all times. Funds have been provided to affected States for undertaking trainings, surveillance, awareness campaigns and vaccination under Assistance to states for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD) as per the demand. States are also advised the possibility to utilize the emergency funds of the state/district for control operations. Department also communicated the animal certification and

identification guidelines under items and norms in regard to eligibility for compensation on animal mortality to MHA in respect to assistance to states through SDRF and NDRF.

Further, Department is supporting and augmenting livestock health care through the implementation of Livestock Health & Disease Control Programme (LHDCP) which is a Central sector scheme, in all states/UTs, with the aim of reducing risk to animal health by prophylactic vaccination against diseases of animals, capacity building of Veterinary services, disease surveillance and strengthening Veterinary infrastructure. The major activities supported are vaccination against Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Brucellosis, Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) and Classical Swine Fever (CSF), Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD) for control of state prioritized economically important exotic, emergent and zoonotic animal diseases and Establishment and Strengthening of Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries-Mobile Veterinary Units (ESVHD-MVU). Further, under ESVHD-MVU, the Central Government has provided 100% financial assistance to the States/UTs towards procurement and customization of MVUs to strengthen veterinary health services. Additionally, the Animal Pandemic Preparedness Initiative (APPI) is a comprehensive plan of the Department to be implemented nationwide to address the preparedness for emerging pandemic diseases in animals. The key strategies to address the outbreaks of pandemic diseases include enhanced disease surveillance in collaboration with other line departments for developing integrated disease surveillance system and establishment of investigation and outbreak response teams at the national and state level.

The honorable Supreme court of India vide WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO(S). 872 OF 2022 also expressed satisfaction with measures taken by centre and States to prevent LSD in cattle. The disease is presently under control with 2907 active cases (as on 5.1.2024) in 05 states namely Mizoram, Odisha, Kerala, Maharashtra and Sikkim. More than 18.26 crore (more than 90%) cattle have been vaccinated/re-vaccinated in the country including 8.14 and 10.20 crore in 2022 and 2023 respectively. The vaccination including surveillance and biosecurity measures as per the EXIT plan are

underway. States/UTs are advised to conduct the random LSD surveillance (for detection of affected animals) in the state after 30 days of the last laboratory confirmed (PCR positive) case detected in the entire state through the DAHD designated LSD testing laboratories for the concerned State/UT. In case the disease is confirmed in the animal (s), then the DAHD control and treatment advisory shall be implemented immediately.”

1.7 In order to save large number of cattle from death and emaciation from the outbreak of diseases like Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD), the Committee had recommended the Department to develop a mechanism and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) so that immediate and effective action was taken if spread of such disease was reported instead of waiting for a longer period. The Committee had also recommended the Department to make comprehensive efforts to ramp up disease surveillance, treatment and diagnostic infrastructure, improve veterinary services, build capacity of animal health professionals, etc. to address animal pandemic in a holistic manner in future. The Department in its Action Taken Reply has submitted that after confirmation of spread of Lumpy Skin Disease, the Department took immediate and proactive steps such as epidemiological investigation, formulation of guidelines and SOPs in consultation with the experts, issuing of advisories to States/UTs, deputing of Central expert teams to the affected States, establishment of Control Room, provision of funds under Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD), etc. to control the Lumpy Skin Disease. The Department has also submitted that it is supporting and augmenting livestock healthcare through the implementation of a Central Sector Scheme ‘Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP)’. Additionally, the Department has planned a comprehensive plan - the Animal Pandemic Preparedness Initiative (APPI) to be implemented nationwide to address the preparedness for emerging pandemic diseases in animals. The Committee express their satisfaction that due to measures and steps taken by the Department, State Governments and other stakeholders, spread of Lumpy Skin Disease among cattle was contained and controlled in the country. The Committee also appreciate the Department for the Animal Pandemic Preparedness Initiative (APPI) which will address the outbreaks of pandemic diseases by developing integrated disease surveillance

system and establishment of investigation and outbreak response teams at the National and State level.

B. Veterinary Infrastructure and Veterinary Manpower

RECOMMENDATION (PARA NO. 3)

1.8 The Committee had observed/recommended:-

“The Committee had been apprised about decentralization of existing Diagnostic facilities for rapid diagnosis and control of Lumpy Skin Disease. Thirty-three laboratories with required bio-safety level had been allowed for screening the disease by PCR and States were allotted to a specific laboratory to avoid overcrowding. According to the Department, these laboratories are presently sufficient to cater to the diagnostic needs of the country. The Committee had also been apprised by the Department that the States/UTs had been advised to ensure round the clock availability of Veterinary and Para-Veterinary trained Staff in the affected areas so that they can contribute effectively in disease control programme. Further as per 'Guidelines for Prevention of Lumpy Skin Disease' circulated to the States/UTs, farms with affected animals should be visited regularly by the field Veterinarians until all cases are recovered. The Veterinary Staff should take all precautionary hygiene measures to avoid further spread of the disease to other Farms/Households. However, the Committee observed that Veterinary/Para-Veterinary Staff were either unavailable or absent in various affected regions/areas of the country leading to large scale death of infected cattle in absence of proper treatment at right time. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to ensure availability and presence of Veterinary/Para-Veterinary and other trained Staff in the regions affected by the disease, particularly in remote and inaccessible areas of the country so that timely treatment to infected cattle and vaccination can be provided and losses can be minimized. The Committee further recommend the Department to take steps for strengthening and upgrading of Veterinary Infrastructure such as Veterinary Hospitals, Laboratories, etc so that country can effectively contain diseases like Lumpy Skin Disease and minimize the economic loss to the country.”

1.9 The Department, in its Action Taken Reply, has stated:-

“There are no reports from States/UTs regarding the shortage of trained staff to deal with the spread of diseases like Lumpy Skin Disease. Animal Husbandry is a State subject. Hence, public employment of veterinarians, as per their requirement is the responsibility of the State Government. However, Department in the advisories and during meetings and field visits regularly advised the States/UTs that the Veterinarians and para-veterinarians working in the infected zone should not be deputed for other works so that their services are available round the clock and they can contribute effectively in disease control programme. Also, Proper TA/DA and incentives should be given and announced for veterinarians, para-veterinarians and other staff to motivate them in disease control operations. States were advised to deploy Rapid Action Teams in the affected areas including formation of District Level Committee under the Chairmanship of District Collector for better monitoring and implementation of control measures effectively at local level. Advisory also issued to establish Control room and activate 24x7 toll free number to address the issues of farmers immediately and also to undertake door to door awareness and vaccination drive with the help of NGOs, village leaders, youths, cooperatives, school teachers and other stakeholders. States/UTs were also advised to increase the role of MVUs in awareness, treatment and vaccination drive in far-flung areas at farmer's door step. Further, under Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD) states/UTs are supported as per the demand for control of state prioritized economically important exotic, emergent and zoonotic animal diseases, capacity building and Establishment and Strengthening of Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries-Mobile Veterinary Units (ESVHD-MVU). Under ESVHD-MVU, the Central Government has provided 100% financial assistance to the States/UTs towards procurement and customization of MVUs to strengthen veterinary health services.”

1.10 Taking note of the fact that Veterinary/Para-Veterinary Staff were either unavailable or absent in various Lumpy Skin Disease affected regions/areas of the country leading to large scale death of infected cattle - in absence of proper treatment at right time, the Committee had recommended the Department to ensure availability and presence of Veterinary/Para- Veterinary and other trained

Staff in the regions affected by the disease, particularly in remote and inaccessible areas of the country so that timely treatment to infected cattle and vaccination can be provided and losses can be minimized. The Committee had further recommended the Department to take steps for strengthening and upgrading of Veterinary Infrastructure such as Veterinary Hospitals, Laboratories, etc. so that country can effectively contain diseases like Lumpy Skin Disease and minimise the economic loss to the country. The Department in its Action Taken Reply has submitted that the Animal Husbandry being a State subject, the public employment of Veterinarians is the responsibility of the State Government, however, the Department through advisories, field visits, meetings etc. has advised the States/UTs for making available the services of the Veterinarians/Para-Veterinarians round the clock in disease control programme. At the same time, the Department has denied any report of shortage of trained staff to deal with the spread of Lumpy Skin Disease, which the Committee consider far from the actual ground realities. The Committee also note that the Department has not stated anything about the steps taken/to be taken for strengthening and upgrading of Veterinary Infrastructure such as Veterinary Hospitals, Laboratories etc. except mentioning the programmes – Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD), and Establishment and Strengthening of Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries – Mobile Veterinary Units (ESVHD-MVU). The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation and desire the Department to take steps for strengthening and upgrading of Veterinary Infrastructure, such as Veterinary Hospitals, Laboratories etc. so that country can effectively contain diseases like Lumpy Skin Disease and minimize the economic loss to the Country.

CHAPTER – II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Control and containment of Lumpy Skin Disease in the country

Recommendation (Para No. 1)

The Committee noted that the country battled the devastating Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) outbreak among cattle in 2021-22, which killed and emaciated large number of cattle, hurting milk production and farm Income. The Committee also noted that the first outbreak of LSD was reported in Odisha in September, 2019 which in subsequent years acquired Pandemic Scale. The Committee were assured that presently the disease is showing less infection and death in affected States indicating the decrease in severity of infection. The Committee were Informed that the Government through vaccination, awareness creation, isolation and treatment of infected animals and following the other measures are able to control and contain the spread of the disease to a large extent which is quite appreciable. However, the Committee feel that the disease should have been prevented and contained at initial stage of its first reporting in September, 2019 itself by taking prompt and effective measures as this would have avoided it taking pandemic form and would have saved large number of cattle from death and emaciation. The Committee, having taken note of all steps taken by the Government, recommends the Department to develop a mechanism and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) so that immediate and effective action is taken if spread of such disease is reported instead of waiting for a longer period. The Committee also recommends the Department to make comprehensive efforts to ramp up disease surveillance, treatment and diagnostic infrastructure, Improve veterinary services, build capacity of animal health professionals, etc to address animal pandemic in a holistic manner in future.

Reply of the Government

Lumpy Skin Disease was initially suspected from Odisha based on the test report of IVRI, Bareilly. Department constituted the team of scientists from ICAR-NIVEDI (Bengaluru), ICAR-NIHSAD (Bhopal) and ICAR-IVRI (Bareilly) for further investigation of suspected Lumpy Skin Disease and Capripox disease in Odisha. The

investigations confirmed the disease in the state of Odisha by PCR and nucleotide sequencing using the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) prescribed methods for LSD agent identification. Department took immediate and proactive steps to control the Lumpy Skin Disease and Capripox disease in Odisha and other states which include epidemiological investigation in the states and ring vaccination strategy with available Goat pox vaccine. Department in consultation with the experts formulated the guidelines and SOPs for control and containment of the disease in definite time line which include isolation and treatment of affected animals, vaccination protocols, disinfection protocols etc. States/UTs are regularly advised to adopt carpet and controlled vaccination strategy with available Goat pox vaccine (Uttarakashi strain) in cattle on annual basis as per the time line communicated state/UT wise. Department also deputed Central expert teams to the affected states for taking first hand stock of the outbreak of Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) and to guide on corrective measures and technical ground support. Advisories issued to non-affected states also for awareness and advance preparedness. Department has established the control room and also advised the states to established the control room for technical support to the states/UTs and to address the issues of animal owners including awareness at all times. Funds have been provided to affected States for undertaking trainings, surveillance, awareness campaigns and vaccination under Assistance to states for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD) as per the demand. States are also advised the possibility to utilize the emergency funds of the state/district for control operations. Department also communicated the animal certification and identification guidelines under items and norms in regard to eligibility for compensation on animal mortality to MHA in respect to assistance to states through SDRF and NDRF.

Further, Department is supporting and augmenting livestock health care through the implementation of Livestock Health & Disease Control Programme (LHDCP) which is a Central sector scheme, in all states/UTs, with the aim of reducing risk to animal health by prophylactic vaccination against diseases of animals, capacity building of Veterinary services, disease surveillance and strengthening Veterinary infrastructure. The major activities supported are vaccination against Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Brucellosis, Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) and Classical Swine Fever (CSF), Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD) for control of state prioritized economically important exotic, emergent and zoonotic animal diseases and Establishment and Strengthening of Veterinary Hospitals and

Dispensaries-Mobile Veterinary Units (ESVHD-MVU). Further, under ESVHD-MVU, the Central Government has provided 100% financial assistance to the States/UTs towards procurement and customization of MVUs to strengthen veterinary health services. Additionally, the Animal Pandemic Preparedness Initiative (APPI) is a comprehensive plan of the Department to be implemented nationwide to address the preparedness for emerging pandemic diseases in animals. The key strategies to address the outbreaks of pandemic diseases include enhanced disease surveillance in collaboration with other line departments for developing integrated disease surveillance system and establishment of investigation and outbreak response teams at the national and state level.

The honorable Supreme court of India vide WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO(S). 872 OF 2022 also expressed satisfaction with measures taken by centre and States to prevent LSD in cattle. The disease is presently under control with 2907 active cases (as on 5.1.2024) in 05 states namely Mizoram, Odisha, Kerala, Maharashtra and Sikkim. More than 18.26 crore (more than 90%) cattle have been vaccinated/re-vaccinated in the country including 8.14 and 10.20 crore in 2022 and 2023 respectively. The vaccination including surveillance and biosecurity measures as per the EXIT plan are underway. States/UTs are advised to conduct the random LSD surveillance (for detection of affected animals) in the state after 30 days of the last laboratory confirmed (PCR positive) case detected in the entire state through the DAHD designated LSD testing laboratories for the concerned State/UT. In case the disease is confirmed in the animal (s), then the DAHD control and treatment advisory shall be implemented immediately.

[Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
(Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)
Letter No. K-11/86/2022-LH dated 26.2.2024]

Comments of the Committee

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

Vaccination

Recommendation (Para No. 2)

The Committee noted that vaccination of cattle is an important part of the strategy of the Government to tackle the spread of Lumpy Skin Disease among cattle in the country. The Department had issued the vaccination guidelines and advisories for carpet/preventive vaccination, controlled vaccination along with protocols related to animal eligibility, dose and route of vaccine and measures for safe and effective vaccination. The Vaccination of eligible and healthy susceptible cattle is underway by available Goat Pox vaccine (Uttarakashi strain) with no adverse effect on animal as stated by the Department. The Committee also note that three manufacturers viz. Biovet Pvt. Ltd, Malur, Bengaluru; Indian Immunological, Hyderabad and Institute of Veterinary Biological Products, Pune have got the vaccine technology from ICAR National Research Centre on Equines (NRCE), Hisar to manufacture the indigenous homologous live attenuated LSD vaccine (Lumpi-ProVacnd). The Commercial Product had been tested by the Competent Authorities (as per DCGI guidelines) and the final regulatory approvals are awaited. Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Central Drugs Control Standard Organization are taking up for early approval and production of the Indigenous vaccine 'Lumpi-ProVac against Lumpy Skin Virus. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Department should take proactive steps for getting all regulatory approvals for commercial production/ manufacturing of 'Lumpi- ProVac Vaccine that has been developed specially for controlling and containing the spread of Lumpy Skin Disease among cattle. The Committee also desire that all eligible cattle be vaccinated as per the Vaccination Protocols on priority basis in order to contain Lumpy Skin Disease among the cattle.

Reply of the Government

The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) serves as the nodal agency for approving drugs, conducting clinical trials, and establishing standards for drugs and vaccines. The ECAH Subcommittee of DAHD assesses the veterinary drugs & vaccines, at the behest of CDSCO. The application of Lumpy Skin Disease Vaccine, Live attenuated is presently progressing through different stages of regulatory approval and their status is as follows:

- M/s Biovet Pvt Ltd: The Department has issued a No Objection Certificate (NOC) to Biovet to manufacture the new drug and its formulation for market authorization for

“Lumpy Skin Disease Vaccine, Live attenuated, Freeze-dried (BV117)” and Sterile Diluents on 25.01.2024.

- M/s Indian Immunologicals: The Department has recommended the grant of permission for Field Trial on 25.01.2024.
- M/s Hester Biosciences Limited: The Department has recommended the manufacturing of a new vaccine formulation, “Lumpy Skin Disease Vaccine, Live Attenuated (Ranchi Strain),” for the purpose of examination, test, and analysis on 13.12.2023.
- IVBP, Pune: The Department has recommended manufacturing a new vaccine formulation, “Lumpy Skin Disease Vaccine, Live Attenuated (Ranchi Strain),” for examination, test, and analysis on 5.4.2023.

As of the current date, there are no pending matters at the DAHD regarding the approval of the Lumpy Skin Disease Live attenuated vaccine. Further, Department has communicated the vaccination strategy along with indicative time-line for annual vaccination and re-vaccination to all states/UTs so that all eligible and susceptible healthy cattle are vaccinated from April to June with available Goatpox vaccine- Uttarkashi Strain. The states/UTs are financially supported as per the demand through ASCAD. States namely Sikkim, Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Assam, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura are advised to undertake carpet vaccination in the bordering districts including creation of 5 Km wide vaccination barrier all along the borders of Nepal and Bangladesh covering grazing route, migration channels and other sensitive areas.

Indicative annual vaccination schedule for LSD (in cattle) as per DAHD Control and Vaccination Guidelines is as under:

S.No.	State Name	Time of vaccination
1.	Madhya Pradesh	May 16 to May 31
2.	Maharashtra	May 16 to May 31
3.	Bihar	April 16 to April 30
4.	Chhattisgarh	April 16 to April 30
5.	Jharkhand	April 16 to April 30
6.	Odisha	April 16 to April 30
7.	West Bengal	April 16 to April 30
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	May 1 to May 15

9.	Assam	May 1 to May 15
10.	Manipur	May 1 to May 15
11.	Meghalaya	May 1 to May 15
12.	Mizoram	May 1 to May 15
13.	Nagaland	May 1 to May 15
14.	Sikkim	May 1 to May 15
15.	Tripura	May 1 to May 15
16.	Delhi	May 16 to May 31
17.	Haryana	May 16 to May 31
18.	Himachal Pradesh	May 16 to May 31
19.	Jammu & Kashmir	May 16 to May 31
20.	Punjab	May 16 to May 31
21.	Uttar Pradesh	May 16 to May 31
22.	Uttarakhand	May 16 to May 31
23.	Chandigarh	May 16 to May 31
24.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	April 1 to April 15
25.	Lakshadweep	April 1 to April 15
26.	Puducherry	April 1 to April 15
27.	Andhra Pradesh	April 1 to April 15
28.	Karnataka	April 1 to April 15
29.	Kerala	April 1 to April 15
30.	Tamil Nadu	April 1 to April 15
31.	Telangana	April 1 to April 15
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	June 1 to June 15
33.	Daman & Diu	June 1 to June 15
34.	Goa	June 1 to June 15
35.	Gujarat	June 1 to June 15
36.	Rajasthan	June 1 to June 15

[Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
(Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)
Letter No. K-11053/81/2017-LH dated 26.2.2024]

Adherence to Bio-Security Measure for Disposal of Carcasses and Infected Material

Recommendation (Para No. 4)

The Committee observed that as per the bio-security measures of the 'Guidelines for Prevention of Lumpy Skin Disease, carcass should be disposed of by deep burial method observing all hygienic measures. The Guidelines and Advisories circulated to the States/UTs include proper disposal of carcasses, disinfection and hygiene protocol. States/UTs have been advised to undertake proper carcass disposal in consultation and cooperation with municipal and panchayat bodies and other stakeholders which include regular monitoring, disinfection of the area, liming etc. The Committee, however, observed that there were large number of instances of careless

dumping of carcasses of animals dying due to infection from Lumpy Skin Disease which poses serious health threats not only to other healthy animals but also to human beings. The Committee, therefore, recommends the Department to make sure in future complete adherence to bio-security measures for disposing of carcasses of infected cattle and infected material as per the Guidelines for prevention of Lumpy Skin Disease. The Committee further recommend the Department to formulate a policy at National Central Level for 'recovery and carriage process' Nation for the disposal of dead animals (Carcasses) and an 'App' or Helpline so that the 'recovery and carriage' can be ensured without any hiccups of jurisdiction and responsibility.

Reply of the Government

DAHD has developed the National Carcass Disposal and Disinfection guidelines to help the states/UTs and other stake holders for safe and secure disposal of animal carcass, animal waste including the disinfection procedures and hygienic measures. Department has also issued the advisory to all states/UTs to stay vigilant and proactively implement stringent measures, ensure effective collaboration between State/UT Animal Husbandry Department (AHD), Wildlife Authorities, Administration and Municipal/Panchayat bodies and to dispose of animal waste and carcasses under official veterinary supervision, following national guidelines on carcass disposal and disinfection to prevent further Incidences of LSD. Arrangement for safe disposal of carcass and related materials by following zoo sanitary measures are to be made by respective State/UT AHDs are advised to constitute Animal Carcass Retrieval Teams and provide requisite training to team members with awareness to all stakeholders.

Further, the requirements for disposal of carcasses and other potentially contaminated fomites in case of infectious and contagious diseases are also provided in the Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Act, 2009' and Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals (Form of Vaccination Certificate, Manner of Post Mortem Examination and Disposal of Carcass) Rules, 2010. Proper disposal of the carcass is mandatory as per Act and the destruction and disposal of the animals and material shall be documented by the Animal Husbandry Department officials. States should also follow the provisions of India Code Disposal of Dead animals and may involve NGOs and cooperatives. State/UT AHDs are advised for advance cooperation between the Veterinary

Service and other relevant government bodies for proper disposal of dead animals and to identify the disposal sites in advance and develop them scientifically with buffer zones. States/UTs AH Department are advised to organize and ensure proper awareness and sensitization to all stakeholders, other authorities, farmers/animal owners in respect to effective biosecurity measures, scientific disposal and management, disinfection, vector management and safety measures taken to prevent spread of the disease by disposal method.

Additionally, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying vide Order no. 2023-24 dated 12.12.2023, issued direction under Section 39 of the Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Act, 2009. As per the order all the birth and death details shall be registered mandatorily on Bharat Pashudhan app/web portal. State government shall also designate the village level Nodal person to ensure recording of animal birth and animal death within his/her jurisdiction and within the specified time period (the animal owner shall report the death of animal within 24 hours of the death of animal to the designated village level nodal person, nearest veterinary health centre, call centre etc. indicating unique Tag ID of the dead animal along-with date and time of death) on the NDLM portal.

[Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
(Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)
Letter No. K-11053/81/2017-LH dated 26.2.2024]

Awareness Programme

Recommendation (Para No. 5)

The Committee noted that raising mass awareness about the disease among people particularly Animal Owners and other Stakeholders had been one of the strategies to control and contain Lumpy Skin Disease and it has been incorporated in the Guidelines and Advisory issued to States/UTs. The Committee had been apprised by the Department that it raised awareness through social media posts, virtual meetings with the States, through Central team visits and through the 24X7 Control Room, established in the Department and at the level of the States. Further, States periodically conducted TV talks, Radio Talks, Press Conference, Press Release, Field Visits, Rallies, School Student Rallies, distribution of Pamphlets and Leaflets for awareness creation. However, the Committee feel that awareness among Animal

Owners and other Stakeholders regarding treatment and management of infected animals and effective control and containment of Lumpy Skin Disease was lacking resulting in the wide spread of the disease and death of large number of infected cattle. The Committee, therefore, desire that awareness drive regarding treatment, control, containment and other related aspects of the disease should be undertaken on a large scale so that it reaches to every region and people of the country. Proper and wide spread awareness creation would not only help in controlling and containing the disease but would also help in dispelling the rumours/myths related to the disease and avoiding panic related therewith in the public. The Committee further desire that the Department may seriously consider to organize 'Workshops/Seminars' for the rural youth engaged in animal rearing profession so as to enlighten them with basic knowledge/First Aid about how to deal with such diseases at ground level.

Reply of the Government

Animal Husbandry is a state subject. However, Department is regularly advising the states/UTs for strict implementation of guidelines and SOPs for containment of the disease, isolation of infected animals, vaccination, hygiene/disinfection, treatment including awareness to stakeholders. Control Room at the centre was set up which coordinated efforts of the States in controlling LSD including the awareness to the state authorities. Whatsapp group also created to make the state authorities aware of various development in disease control programmes and to address the queries. Central teams deputed for investigation and monitoring also undertake awareness and sensitization meetings in the field and at local headquarters. Advisories were also issued to unaffected States for appropriate awareness and preparedness. Funds have also been provided to the States for awareness programme as per their demand. Department advised the states to create awareness to animal owners and other stakeholders to identify the suspected animals at an early stage by observing initial signs like off feed, dullness, fever and inform to local veterinarian for immediate isolation and treatment of suspected animal and to control the infection at early stage before disease become severe. Department advised the states for formation of RRTs and trainers for immediate response and awareness and to explore the possibility to involve local animal owners, panchayat members, Pradhans, NGOs, local youth and other stakeholders in awareness programmes including door to door awareness and vaccination drive. Department also circulating the awareness through social media

posts and through the 24x7 control room established in the department and at the level of the states. As a initiative for awareness, states/UTs were advised to constitute a District level monitoring and co-ordination committee headed by District Collector along with District officials and representatives of Dairy Unions for effective control and containment of Lumpy Skin Disease in the District. States/UTs are requested to conduct village wise household survey for the disease. State periodically conducted TV talks, Radio Talks, Press Conference, Press release, Field visits, Rallies, School Students rallies, Pamphlets, leaflets. States/UTs were also advised to increase the role of MVUs in awareness, treatment and vaccination drive in far-flung areas. Funds have been provided to affected States for undertaking trainings, awareness campaigns and vaccination under Assistance to states for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD) as per the demand.

Further, the action plan for awareness creation will also include:

- i. Tailored workshop and seminars for rural youth engaged in animal rearing.
- ii. Develop more brochures, pamphlets, community radio programmes and posters for Lumpy Skin Disease.
- iii. Host webinars and seminars accessible to farmers and livestock owners, emphasizing the significance of timely treatment.
- iv. Collaborate with schools and colleges to include educational modules like E-learning
- v. Tailored workshop and capacity building programme for Panchayat president/Sarpanch and Members, in collaboration with Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

[Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
(Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)
Letter No. K-11053/81/2017-LH dated 26.2.2024]

Popularisation of traditional Ethno-Veterinary Medicine and Treatment

Recommendation (Para No.6)

The Committee observed that various traditional/ Ethno-Veterinary methods of treatment were quite effective in treating LSD Infected cattle. The Committee noted that as per Indicative Management and Treatment of Lumpy Skin Diseases (LSD) in Animals", formulated and issued by the Department, use of Herbal Solutions,

Homeopathy Preparations, Ethno-Veterinary Formulations, etc also offered a supportive role in management of Lumpy Skin Disease and might have been used. However, the Committee had been apprised by the Department that the use of preparations only support the affected animals in recovery with no surety of recovery and therefore, no sure treatment Guidelines could be recommended. The Committee have also been apprised that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) and the Ministry of AYUSH, on 7 April, 2021 to Introduce the concept of Ayurveda and its allied disciplines into Veterinary Science with the objective to develop regulatory mechanism for the use of Ayurveda in the Veterinary Sector for the benefit of animal health. Welcoming the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between DAHD and the AYUSH, the Committee desire the Department to take steps to promote the use of traditional/Ethno-Veterinary medicine and treatment in controlling and containing the spread of diseases among animals.

Reply of the Government

Department signed the MOU with Ministry of Ayush during 2021 with the aim to support Ministry of Ayush in areas like awareness with support of NDDB in respect to herbal, veterinary medicine and scientific and technological collaboration to research institutes. The department has created the "e-GOAPLA" android and web application. In September 2020, for direct usage by farmers. There are 12 languages supported by this application, including Hindi, Gujarati, Marathi, Odiya, Kannada, Malayalam, Punjabi, Telugu, Bengali, Tamil, Assamese and English helping farmers in management of nearly 29 common ailments of dairy animals e.g. mastitis, indigestion, diarrhoea etc. using Ethno-Veterinary Medicine (EVM). This section also contains videos in various languages on disease management protocols through Ethno-Veterinary Medicine including Lumpy Skin Disease. Department also formulated the indicative management and treatment guidelines for the symptomatic treatment of cattle affected by Lumpy Skin disease which include Ethno-veterinary formulations. The formulations include oral and external application preparations including maggots management. Ethnoveterinary formulations are also accessible on NDDB website (www.nddb.coop). On the e-GOPALA app, also LSD treatment using ethno-veterinary medicine is also available.

Accuracy of Data

Recommendation (Para No.7)

The Committee noted that the country faced devastating outbreak of Lumpy Skin Disease among cattle in 2021-22 resulting in large scale death and emaciation of cattle. The Committee, however, express doubt on the data relating to death of the cattle in the country as a result of the Lumpy Skin Disease and also noted with anguish that there was a gap/mismatch in data relating to number of cattle affected and died as furnished by the Department and the actual ground realities. The Department had apprised the Committee that it is totally dependent on State Governments/UTs for data regarding infected, vaccinated, treated and dead cattle in country and they (States/UTs) are following proper mechanism/system for ensuring compilation of accurate data. Further, during the visits of Central teams comprising Departmental Veterinarians and ICAR-NISHAD Scientists to the affected States, no such mismatch between the cumulative data for spread of LSD infection, mortality and recovery rate in State and UTs and that of the actual situation of the ground are noticed. The Committee are of considered view that the data regarding Infection, mortality, recovery of cattle from LSD should have been accurate as it would not have only helped in understanding the gravity of the situation but would also have helped in controlling and containing the disease and its further spread. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to ensure proper compilation of data relating to spread of infection and mortality of cattle from LSD so that cases of Infection and mortality do no remain unreported and underreported.

Reply of the Government

Department has issued regular advisories to all states/UTs to stay vigilant and proactively implement stringent measures and ensure effective collaboration between State/UT Animal Husbandry Department (AHD), Wildlife Authorities, Administration and Municipal/Panchayat bodies. States/UTs are also advised to compile and report data related to LSD cases, vaccination and mortality regularly as per the format developed by the Department. The data is regularly analyzed and monitored at

headquarter and also through meetings, whatsapp messages, telephonic calls and central team on ground visit.

Further, as per the advisory, LSD Nodal Officers are nominated at each district level who are responsible for collecting the data from their respective districts through Veterinarians and parveterinarians at the grass root level on a daily basis. The State Nodal Officer/s also make field visit to various districts to verify and authenticate the data by the checking daily case reports entered in their registers/proformas. State officials correlated their cumulative data with field visits and meetings arranged in the affected districts, ensuring that there are no gaps in data being received. A State Level Control Room are also established in the State with toll free number to assist in data generation on daily basis. Adequate checks and balances are in place and the data is also analyzed at the State Directorate level for data accuracy before reporting. The states also constituted a district committee under the chairmanship of the DM and Collector of the respective district for reviewing and monitoring of the control operations. Control Room at the centre was set up, which coordinates efforts of the States in controlling. The Department is collecting figures from affected States daily with updates and accordingly verify the data wherever there is any doubt. Department is also taking follow-up through WhatsApp group and 24x7 control room. Department deputed Central teams comprising departmental veterinarians and ICAR-NISHAD scientists to the affected states for taking first hand stock of the outbreak of Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) in coordination with State Animal Husbandry Department for investigations and suggestions where the actual field conditions were examined and correlated with the reports. During the visits, no as such mismatch between the cumulative data for

spread of LSD infection, mortality and recovery rate in State and UTs and that of the actual situation on the ground are noticed.

[Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
(Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)
Letter No. K-11053/81/2017-LH dated 26.2.2024]

Compensation to Livestock Owners

Recommendation (Para No. 8)

The Committee noted that large number of Livestock/Cattle owners lost their cattle due to spread of Lumpy Skin Disease resulting in severe economic hardship to them. The Committee also noted that the Department did not have any Scheme to compensate for Cattle losses due to spread of disease. The Committee had been apprised that the State Government of Maharashtra and Karnataka had provided/are providing compensation/financial help to Livestock Owners, who lost their cattle due to Lumpy Skin Disease. The Committee are of the view that providing compensation/financial help to Livestock Owners, who lost their cattle to Lumpy Skin Disease would reduce their economic hardship to some extent. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Department in coordination with State Government should make the necessary provisions for compensating Livestock owners who loses their cattle to Lumpy Skin Disease or any such outbreak of other animal diseases.

Reply of the Government

Animal Husbandry is a state subject. Department do not have any scheme to compensate cattle losses due to spread of disease. Further, as gathered from Ministry of Home Affairs, the primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the State Governments concerned. The concerned State Government undertakes relief measures in the wake of natural disasters from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) already placed at their disposal in accordance with Government of India's approved items and norms. Additional financial assistance in the form of relief and not compensation is provided from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) as per the established procedure. Further, as communicated by MHA, assistance for the loss of milch animals, draught animals or animals used for haulage is provided from NDRF as one of the component of entire scheme. Department also communicated the animal certification and identification guidelines under items and norms in regard to eligibility for compensation on animal mortality to MHA in respect to assistance to states through SDRF and NDRF. Further, Department under the component Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases (ASCAD) provides financial support to the states/UTs as per the demand on 50:50 (Centre: State) sharing basis to compensate the animal owners for animals culled to control the epidemics namely ASF and HPAI. (no culling is followed for LSD)

[Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
(Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)
Letter No. K-11053/81/2017-LH dated 26.2.2024]

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

Veterinary Infrastructure and Veterinary Manpower

Recommendation (Para No. 3)

The Committee had been apprised about decentralization of existing Diagnostic facilities for rapid diagnosis and control of Lumpy Skin Disease. Thirty-three laboratories with required bio-safety level had been allowed for screening the disease by PCR and States were allotted to a specific laboratory to avoid overcrowding. According to the Department, these laboratories are presently sufficient to cater to the diagnostic needs of the country. The Committee had also been apprised by the Department that the States/UTs had been advised to ensure round the clock availability of Veterinary and Para-Veterinary trained Staff in the affected areas so that they can contribute effectively in disease control programme. Further as per 'Guidelines for Prevention of Lumpy Skin Disease' circulated to the States/UTs, farms with affected animals should be visited regularly by the field Veterinarians until all cases are recovered. The Veterinary Staff should take all precautionary hygiene measures to avoid further spread of the disease to other Farms/Households. However, the Committee observed that Veterinary/Para-Veterinary Staff were either unavailable or absent in various affected regions/areas of the country leading to large scale death of infected cattle in absence of proper treatment at right time. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to ensure availability and presence of Veterinary/Para-Veterinary and other trained Staff in the regions affected by the disease, particularly in remote and inaccessible areas of the country so that timely treatment to infected cattle and vaccination can be provided and losses can be minimized. The Committee further recommend the Department to take steps for strengthening and upgrading of Veterinary Infrastructure such as Veterinary Hospitals, Laboratories, etc so that country can effectively contain diseases like Lumpy Skin Disease and minimize the economic loss to the country.

Reply of the Government

There are no reports from States/UTs regarding the shortage of trained staff to deal with the spread of diseases like Lumpy Skin Disease. Animal Husbandry is a State subject. Hence, public employment of veterinarians, as per their requirement is the responsibility of the State Government. However, Department in the advisories and during meetings and field visits regularly advised the States/UTs that the Veterinarians and para-veterinarians working in the infected zone should not be deputed for other works so that their services are available round the clock and they can contribute effectively in disease control programme. Also, Proper TA/DA and incentives should be given and announced for veterinarians, para-veterinarians and other staff to motivate them in disease control operations. States were advised to deploy Rapid Action Teams in the affected areas including formation of District Level Committee under the Chairmanship of District Collector for better monitoring and implementation of control measures effectively at local level. Advisory also issued to establish Control room and activate 24x7 toll free number to address the issues of farmers immediately and also to undertake door to door awareness and vaccination drive with the help of NGOs, village leaders, youths, cooperatives, school teachers and other stakeholders. States/UTs were also advised to increase the role of MVUs in awareness, treatment and vaccination drive in far-flung areas at farmer's door step. Further, under Assistance to States for Control of Animal Disease (ASCAD) states/UTs are supported as per the demand for control of state prioritized economically important exotic, emergent and zoonotic animal diseases, capacity building and Establishment and Strengthening of Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries-Mobile Veterinary Units (ESVHD-MVU). Under ESVHD-MVU, the Central Government has provided 100% financial assistance to the States/UTs towards procurement and customization of MVUs to strengthen veterinary health services.

[Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
(Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)
Letter No. K-11053/81/2017-LH dated 26.2.2024]

Comments of the Committee

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

CHAPTER – V

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

- NIL-

NEW DELHI;

18 August, 2025

27 Shravana, 1947 (Saka)

CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI

Chairperson

*Standing Committee on Agriculture,
Animal Husbandry and Food Processing*

**MINUTES OF THE THIRTY FIFTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING (2024-25)**

The Committee sat on Monday, the 18th August, 2025 from 1500 hrs. to 1530 hrs. in Committee Room No. 3, Block-A, Extension to Parliament House Annexe (EPHA), New Delhi.

Present

Shri Charanjit Singh Channi – Chairperson

Members

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Umeshbhai Babubhai Patel
3. Shri Rajkumar Chahar
4. Smt. Anita Nagarsingh Chouhan
5. Shri Rajpalsinh Mahendrasinh Jadav
6. Md. Abu Taher Khan
7. Shri Sukanta Kumar Panigrahi
8. Smt. Krishna Devi Shivshankar Patel
9. Shri Naresh Chandra Uttam Patel
10. Shri Murasoli S.
11. Shri Dharambir Singh
12. Shri Sudhakar Singh
13. Shri Kodikunnil Suresh
14. Smt. Geniben Nagaji Thakor
15. Shri Bhausahab Rajaram Wakchaure

Rajya Sabha

16. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
17. Shri Masthan Rao Yadav Beedha
18. Shri Banshilal Gurjar
19. Shri Nitin Laxmanrao Jadhav Patil
20. Shri Madan Rathore
21. Shri Ramji Lal Suman
22. Shri P.P. Suneer

Secretariat

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri Dhiraj Kumar | – | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Maheshwar | – | Director |
| 3. | Shri Prem Ranjan | - | Deputy Secretary |

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

- (i) *xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx;
- (ii) *xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx;
- (iii) *xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx;
- (iv) Draft Action-taken Report on the Action taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the 66th Report of the Committee on the subject, "Spread of Lumpy Skin Disease in Cattle in the Country and issues related therewith" pertaining to Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying) presented during 17th Lok Sabha;
- (v) *xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx;
- (vi) *xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx;
- (vii) *xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx
- (viii) *xxxxx. xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxxxx.

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

The Committee then adjourned.

* Matter not related to this Report

APPENDIX

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE SIXTY SIXTH REPORT (17TH LOK SABHA) OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING (2023-24)

(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

(i)	Total Number of Recommendations	08
(ii)	Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted By the Government Para Nos. 1,2,4,5,6,7 and 8	Total 07 Percentage 87.50%
(iii)	Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies Para No. NIL	Total 00 Percentage 0.00%
(iv)	Observations/Recommendations in respect of which Replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee Para No. 3	Total 01 Percentage 12.50%
(v)	Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited Para No. NIL	Total 00 Percentage 0.00%