

SEVENTEENTH REPORT

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (1994-95)

(TENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION)

ANNUAL REPORT – 1992-93

[*Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/ observations
contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee
on Agriculture (1993-94) (Tenth Lok Sabha)]*



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24 MAR 1995

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(1994-95)

Shri Nitish Kumar - *Chairman*

MEMBERS

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2. Shri D. Pandian
3. Shri Birbal
4. Shri Nathuram Mirdha
5. Shri G. Ganga Reddy
6. Shri Ankushrao Raosaheb Tope
7. Shri Sarat Pattanayak
8. Shri Govindrao Nikam
9. Kumari Pushpa Devi Singh
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20. Dr. Parshuram Gangwar
21. Shri Rajendra Kumar Sharma
22. Smt. Krishnendra Kaur (Deepa)
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25. Shri Zainal Abedin
26. Shri B. N. Reddy

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40. Dr. Ranbir Singh
41. Shri Shiv Charan Singh
42. Shri Som Pal
- **43. Shri H. Hanumanthappa
- 44. Shri Govindrao Adik
- 45. Shri Satyanarayana Dronamraju

SECRETARIAT

1. Smt. Roli Srivastava — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri P.D.T. Achary — *Director*
3. Shri S. Bal Shekar — *Under Secretary*

* Nominated to the Committee w.e.f. 22.8.94.

** Nominated to the Committee w.e.f. 21.4.94.

• Nominated to the Committee w.e.f. 29.7.94.

•• Nominated to the Committee w.e.f. 16.11.94.

COMPOSITION OF SUB-COMMITTEE 'A' ON DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION

Shri Som Pal - *Convenor*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Zainal Abedin - *Alternate Convenor*
3. Shri Ramnarayan Goswami
4. Shri Bhupinder Singh Mann
5. Dr. Ranbir Singh
6. Smt. Krishnendra Kaur (Deepa)
7. Shri Shiv Charan Singh
8. Shri Uttamrao Deorao Patil
9. Shri D. Pandian

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Standing Committee on Agriculture having been authorised by the Committee to present the report on its behalf present this Seventeenth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (1993-94) (Tenth Lok Sabha) on the Annual Report (1992-93) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation).

2. The Third Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 21st December, 1993 and contained 60 recommendations/observations. The Government furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations/observations contained in the Report on 15th November, 1994.

3. The Sub-Committee 'A' in its meeting held on 19th January, 1995 considered these action taken replies furnished by the Government and approved the Draft Report. The Sub-Committee further decided to place the Draft Report before the whole Committee for final approval.

4. The Committee considered and adopted the Seventeenth Report at their sitting held on 13th February, 1995.

5. An analysis of the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Third Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in Appendix II.

NEW DELHI;
16 March, 1995
25 Phalgun, 1916 (Saka)

NITISH KUMAR,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Agriculture.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

1.1 The report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture deals with action taken by Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 3rd Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the Annual Report (1992-93) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Cooperation).

1.2 The Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 21st December, 1993. It contained 60 recommendations/observations. Action Taken Replies have been received in respect of the 60 recommendations/observations contained in the Report.

1.3 The Action Taken replies on the recommendations of the Committee have been categorised as follows :-

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

Recommendations Sl. Nos. 1, 7, 8, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 22, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 36, 41, 42, 44, 45, 48, 49, 52, 54, 55 & 59 (total 25, included in Chapter II of the Report)

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

Recommendations Sl. Nos. 4, 5, 6, 9, 15, 17, 39, 40, 46(i), 47 & 56 (total 11, included in Chapter III of the Report)

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

Recommendations Sl. Nos. 2, 11, 12, 16, 21, 23, 24, 32, 33, 37, 46(ii), 50, 51 & 57 (total 14, included in Chapter IV of the Report)

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

Recommendations Sl. Nos. 3, 10, 26, 31, 34, 35, 38, 43, 53 & 58 (total 10, included in Chapter V of the Report)

1.4 The Committee will now deal with action taken by Government on some of the recommendations/observations.

Recommendation SL Nos. 2 & 37 (Page No. 39, Para No. 2)

1.5 The Committee in Para 2.9 of the Third Report and in the Summary of Recommendations observed that the Committee were happy to note that a thinking was underway to prepare a 25 years perspective plan for the development of rainfed areas and hoped that the plan would be prepared within a period of six months to one year. The Committee was of the view that a substantial amount would be required for the development of watershed areas. Considering that the NWDPRAs had been accorded the highest priority, the Committee was of the opinion that the present allocation of Rs. 1100 crores was not realistic. The Committee was of the view that the plan allocation for five year plan should be approximately to the tune of 15,000 crores which was more realistic. Besides that, the Committee also felt that the ongoing rural development schemes such as Jawahar Rozgar Yojana should be tied up with the NWDPRAs.

1.6 The Government in their reply have stated as under :-

“Since Planning Commission prepares Five Year Plans/perspective plans of various Departments, Committee’s observation for preparing a perspective plan for 25 years for Rainfed Agriculture was communicated to the Planning Commission. A Committee has been constituted for the preparation of 25 years perspective plan for the development of rainfed areas, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Jayant Patil, Member (Agriculture), Planning Commission. The views of the Committee pertaining to allocation to the tune of Rs. 15,000 crores for Five Year Plan have been communicated to the Planning Commission.

NWDPRAs are an integrated project with a single window financing arrangement prepared in consultation with the local people keeping their requirement in view. Similar activities from other programmes in the same project area would result in duplication of activities and may result in misutilisation of funds. However, complementary and supplementary activities, works like rural roads, markets, primary schools, public distribution system shops, primary health care centres, drinking water wells, rural electricity etc. may be taken up in the NWDPRAs watershed area from the ongoing rural development schemes like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana for the benefit of the watershed community. Besides, the Ministry of Rural Development have their own watershed development programme which they would take up in areas not covered by NWDPRAs.”

1.7 The Committee note the reply of the Government that the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has merely communicated to the Planning Commission the views of the Committee that funds to the

tune of Rs. 15,000 crores should be got allocated for the National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR) as the present allocation of Rs. 1100 crores is not realistic, considering the fact that NWDPR has been accorded the highest priority among all the projects. The Committee feel that the reply of the Government does not reflect in any measure, the level of urgency and importance which this matter merits. Also it does not indicate at what level the matter was taken up, the reaction of the Planning Commission in the matter and also the extent to which the Planning Commission raised the allocation in view of the Committee's recommendations. The Committee feel that it is not enough to bring the recommendations to the notice of the Planning Commission and desired that a realistic assessment for the allocation of funds should be made. The Government has allocated Rs. 30,000 crores for rural development. Since NWDPR is a very important programme 50% of this allocation i.e. Rs. 15,000 crores should be made available for it. Further, the National Perspective Plan for the next 25 years should be prepared in such a way that agriculture becomes an economically viable operation. The Committee desire that Government should make concerted efforts to obtain the allocation of Rs. 15,000 crores from the Planning Commission for the current plan period and report back to the Committee the results achieved. The Committee observe that it is also not clear from the reply as to whether final action has been taken at all to tie up the on-going rural development schemes such as Jawahar Rozgar Yojana with NWDPR. The Committee would like that there should be proper coordination between the Ministry of Rural Development and the Ministry of Agriculture to take up measures to tie up Jawahar Rozgar Yojana with NWDPR as also to avoid duplication of activities under these schemes. The Committee are not satisfied with this vague reply and would like to be apprised of details of action taken by the Government in the matter.

Recommendation Sl. No. 11 (Page No. 13, Para No. 4.13)

1.8 The Committee in their Third Report noted that continuous mono-cropping pattern was causing depletion of micro-nutrients which was ultimately responsible for slowing down the agricultural production. The Committee felt that this trend of depletion of micro-nutrients should be contained and efforts should be made to change the cropping pattern from mono-cropping to multiple and inter-cropping.

1.9 The Government in their reply have stated as under :-

"Under the scheme on Balanced and Integrated use of Fertilisers, Central assistance is being made available for setting up of soil testing laboratories having micro-nutrient testing facilities. Under this programme demonstrations on the use of micro-nutrients other than Zinc are also being conducted through State Governments. The

utilisation of organic manure/compost is being promoted which help in ameliorating the deficiency of micro-nutrients.”

1.10 The Committee note the reply of the Government that they are making efforts to contain the trend of depletion of micro-nutrients under the Scheme on Balanced and Integrated use of Fertilizers. They, however, observe that nothing has been said in their reply about the implementation of the recommendation urging the Government to make efforts to change the cropping pattern from mono-cropping to multiple rotational and inter-cropping pattern. The Committee do not approve of the practice of tendering such incomplete replies to the recommendations of the Committee. The Committee expect the Government to analyse various aspects of a problem dealt with in the recommendations of the Committee and it should be the bounden duty of the Government to take action on each of the aspects dealt with in a recommendation and then make a detailed action taken report specifically on each aspect of a recommendation for the information of the Committee and the Parliament. The Committee take a serious view of this kind of inadequate and incomplete reply on the part of the Government and desire that in future the Government should come forth with complete action taken replies on all aspects of the recommendations of the Committee.

Recommendation Sl. No. 12 (Page No. 14, Para No. 4.16)

1.11 In the Third Report of the Committee, it was reported that when asked about the development of other Bio-fertilisers apart from B.G.A., Ministry of Agriculture during evidence stated :-

“Like BGA, Azolla has been identified one of the bio-fertilisers as supplementary source of nitrogen. Exact data for its production are not available as its production and application is limited to one or two States in Eastern Region. Production of Azolla is not very economical as it is labour intensive. Azolla may grow only in specific Agro Climatic Zone in Eastern India. Per acre total requirement of BGA and Azolla is given as under :-

	(per acre)
(i) BGA	4 kg.
(ii) Azolla	4 tonnes

BGA and Azolla can supplement nearly 30 and 60 kgs. of nitrogenous chemical fertilisers respectively. 10 kg. BGA which costs Rs. 20 is sufficient for one hectare land and similarly 0.5 tonne Azolla which costs Rs. 40 is enough for application in one hectare field as dual cropping method in rice. Thus, application of BGA and Azolla can save chemical nitrogen worth Rs. 200 and Rs. 400 respectively. Total

requirement of BGA and Azolla is estimated to be about 2,52,000 tonnes (in low land) and 16,80,00,000 tonnes (inupland as green manure) respectively."

The Committee thereupon observed in the report that they would like to be informed of the total potential taking into account those areas where it was possible to grow these bio-fertilizers. Concrete action plan might also be framed to produce these bio-fertilizers in adequate quantities. Efforts should be made to educate the farmers on the use of new and alternative use of chemical fertilizers.

1.12 The Government in their reply have stated as follows :-

"For production and use of BGA, an action plan to strengthen the BGA centre to produce more BGA for use in rice has already been initiated. So far 20 BGA centres have been strengthened by way of providing financial support to BGA centres in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. Efforts are being made to strengthen more BGA centres in other States also to produce additional quantity of BGA.

Of course Azolla has been identified as one of the supplementary source of nitrogen but its production and application is limited for wetland rice crops as water is essentially required for the existence of Azolla. During dry season, supply of water is very limited and it is a costly resource. Temperature is also another limiting factor as high & low temperature both inhibit growth of Azolla. Therefore, chances of its production and propagation are limited due to climatic conditions in the country."

1.13 The Committee in their earlier recommendation had desired that they should be informed of the total potential taking into account those areas where it is possible to grow BGA and Azolla Bio-fertilisers and had recommended for framing of a concrete action plan to produce these bio-fertilisers in adequate quantities. The Committee had also recommended that efforts be made to educate farmers on the use of new and alternative use of chemical fertilisers.

The Committee note that the action taken reply of the Government does not indicate the total potential to grow bio-fertilisers in the country as asked for in the recommendation of the Committee. The Committee also find that the reply does not give any detail about the efforts made by the Government to educate the farmers on the use of new and alternative fertilisers and is completely silent on the matter. Even the only aspect covered in the reply relating to action plan for production of bio-fertilisers has not been comprehensive. The reply given is sketchy and incomplete. The reply does not indicate the extent to which BGA growth has increased

as a result of the strengthening of BGA centres; even the names of the other States where efforts are being made to strengthen BGA centres and the actual target of additional quantity of BGA proposed to be produced in those States have not been given in the reply.

The Committee observe that out of the three aspects of the matter raised in the recommendation of the Committee, the Government's reply is completely silent on action taken on two aspects and even the only aspect dealt with in the reply is sketchy and incomplete. From such reply, the Committee could not but come to the conclusion that the Government have not been taking the recommendations of the Committee seriously and a very casual approach has been adopted in the processing of the recommendations of the Committee and an effort has been made to dish out incomplete action taken replies quite loosely. The Committee find that the Government have not analysed the various aspects of the matter raised in the recommendations in order to initiate action on each aspect towards the implementation of the recommendations.

The Committee are constrained to point out that a very casual approach has been adopted by the Government in the matter of discharging their accountability to the Parliament and if this tendency grows further, it would have serious implications on the very functioning of the system. The Committee, therefore, expect the Government to take action in right earnest on all aspects of the recommendation and submit their action taken replies for the consideration of the Committee.

Recommendation Sl. Nos. 16 & 46(ii) (Para No. 5.12, Page No. 18 & Para No. 11, Page No. 42)

1.14 In para 11 of the Summary of Recommendations and in para 5.12 of the Report, the Committee observed that an amount of Rs. 166 lakhs was released in 1991-92 for the construction of National Seed Training Centre at Varanasi. The Committee were not satisfied with the progress of work since only drawings had been prepared by the Architect during the last one and a half years. The Committee desired the work to be expedited and delay should be avoided. Identifying, selecting and producing of good native varieties and their propagation, which have natural disease and pest resistance, less water and chemical fertiliser requirement, lesser time to mature and higher nutritional value, having good export potential should be made an integral part of Seed Production programme.

1.15 The Government in their reply stated as follows :-

"The building designs have been finalised in consultation with the all concerned technical officers of ICAR, IARI, Central Seed Testing Laboratory, National Seeds Corporation and concerned Architect Engineer of CPWD. However, it was felt that Grow-Out Test Farm

and campus of Central Seed Testing and Seed Training Centre should be at one place and not at two different locations as proposed at present. Their locations at one place would ensure better supervision and operational efficiency. The issue of the location of site has been finalised in consultation with the U.P. Government. The U.P. Government has agreed to provide contiguous land at Madwadi. However, confirmation in writing is awaited and further work for establishment of NSTC would be taken up after the same is confirmed.

ICAR is vested with the mandate of organising breeder seed production of various crops as per the indents received by them. The situation on breeder seed front is quite comfortable. In breeding programmes, emphasis is laid on developing varieties having high yield with inbuilt resistance to diseases and pests. Emphasis is also laid on having varieties with better nutritional qualities."

1.16 The Committee note the reply of the Government that the issue of location of site for the National Seed Training Centre has been finalized in consultation with U.P. Government only very recently and confirmation in writing from U.P. Government is still awaited. The Committee note that the Seeds Act, 1988 has envisaged the Quality Control Programme which included the setting up of National Seed Training Centre. The Committee in their earlier recommendation had, therefore, urged upon the Government to expedite the construction of the National Seed Training Centre. The Committee has now been informed that the entire question of location of NSTC at a particular site has been re-examined after a lapse of more than 6 years since the Seeds Act of 1988 has been passed. The Committee are dissatisfied with the tardy progress made by the Government in the matter of setting up of National Seeds Training Centre, as the Government are now back to square one in the matter, which indicates total lack of perception in the planning and execution of the whole issue. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation to speed up the setting up of the National Seed Training Centre by drawing out a time bound plan. The Committee also recommend that if the U.P. Government is not coming forward with a positive response for the location of site for the National Seed Training at Varanasi, an alternative site should be chosen in other States in order to expedite the setting up of the Centre.

**Recommendation Sl. Nos. 21 & 50 (Page No. 24, Para No. 7.12,
Page No. 43 & Para No. 15)**

1.17 The Committee in Para 15 of the Summary of Recommendation in the Third Report and also in Para 7.12 had observed that 17 States had their own State Agro Industries Corporation which have been established with Central assistance. But w.e.f. 1.4.1979, the scheme of equity contribution to State Agro Industries Corporation had been entirely transferred to the state

sector. The Committee observed that most of the Agro Industries Corporations were running into losses. However, no efforts had been made by the Central Ministry to improve the situation. The Committee recommended that Central Ministry should give guidelines and directions to the State from time to time and ways and means should be found to improve Agro Industries Corporations.

1.18 The Government in their reply have stated as follows :

“An Expert Group of Managing Directors of the State Agro Industries Corporation has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Machinery), to examine and suggest programmes of diversification of activities and turn around strategies. The Group was also asked to suggest the methodology for completion of annual accounts. The report is expected soon.

Efforts have also been made through Central Directors on Board of Directors of State Agro Industries Corporation and through normal channels to regularise the accounts and improve upon the performance of the Corporation. However, the State Agro Industries Corporations function under the administrative control of the respective State Governments and hence it is primarily for them to take action.”

1.19 The Committee note that an Expert Group of Managing Directors of State Agro Industries Corporations has been constituted to suggest turn around strategies to improve the financial condition of chronically loss-making State Agro Industries Corporations and the report is expected soon. However, the reply of the Government does not indicate the date when this expert group was constituted and the time-limit fixed for submission of their report. The Committee observe that the accumulated losses incurred by various State Agro Industries Corporation as on 31 March, 1992 was a staggering amount to the tune of Rs. 13326.04 lakhs. The Committee express their dismay at the heavy losses incurred by Government by undertaking activities which could be better handled by private sector. The Committee are very much concerned about the inability of the Government to allocate sufficient funds for high priority areas such as NWDPR, while the Government could afford to incur heavy losses by investing the scarce resources in State-run Agro Industries Corporations. It appears to the Committee that the Government have not been unduly perturbed over these accumulated losses over a period of time and no effort was made for a long time to have a comprehensive review conducted to identify the reasons for the losses and to take remedial measures. The Committee are extremely upset over the manner in which the matter has been allowed to drift despite the presence of Central Directors in the Board of Directors in the State Agro Industries Corporations upon whose report the Union

Government should have decided long back to have a comprehensive review. The Committee has not also been apprised of the result, if any, achieved in terms of improvement and the performance of these corporations, due to the efforts which the Ministry claims to have made in this regard. The Committee, therefore, desire that the report of the Expert Group should be expeditiously finalised and submitted to the Government. The Committee further desire that the Report of the Expert Group should be quickly processed on receipt in the Ministry and the implementation of the accepted recommendations should begin without any further loss of time and a report be submitted to the Committee for their information.

Recommendation Sl. Nos. 23, 24 & 51 (Page No. 26, Para Nos. 8.8 & 8.9 and Page 43, Para No. 16)

1.20 The Committee, in Para 8.8, 8.9 and in Para 16 of Summary of Recommendations had observed that the important aspect of incentives to NGOs who show tremendous success in the implementation of soil and water conservation projects in River Valley Project areas and in Flood Prone River areas should be looked into. The Committee felt that unless NGOs were provided some kind of assistance, their active participation would not be ensured wholeheartedly. Mere organising seminar for NGOs would not be enough.

The Committee further felt that new guidelines should be followed strictly and financial assistance should be provided to the NGOs so as to ensure their active involvement in these programmes to accelerate the progress. The Committee, further, felt that fund allocation for these programmes should be increased since slow progress of these programmes was to some extent due to financial resource constraints.

1.21 The Government in their reply have stated as follows :

“Regarding involving NGOs under these schemes steps have been initiated. Two workshops one at Gopeshwar in U.P. during November, 1992 and the other at Conoor (Tamil Nadu) during May, 1993 were organised in which selected NGOs Senior State Govt. Officers and Central Government Officers participated to work out the strategies for involving NGOs in these schemes. Based on the recommendations of the workshop, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which envisages a Joint Management System between Government functionaries and Field Workers of an NGO has been prepared and circulated to all States. Under this MoU, the project funds for a year could be deposited into the Bank Account of this Joint Management Committee for taking up implementation of these programmes.”

1.22 The Committee note that a Memorandum of Understanding envisaging a Joint Management system consisting of Government

functionaries and field workers of NGOs who can operate jointly funds deposited in a Bank Account for implementation of soil and water conservation measures in River Valley Project areas and Flood Prone River areas has been circulated to all States. The reply does not indicate as to what element in the Joint Management System would prove to be an encouraging incentive for NGOs to take active part in the implementation of the schemes and to that extent the Committee feels that the reply is vague and unsatisfactory. The reply also does not indicate whether any increase in funds allocation for these schemes was made at all as recommended by the Committee and therefore, the Committee consider the reply as incomplete. They, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that it should be ensured that any system introduced by the Government in respect of the soil and water conservation schemes should contain sufficient in-built incentives to NGOs to secure their active participation in order to make the schemes a success. The Committee also reiterate their earlier recommendation that fund allocation to the schemes should be increased to speed up the implementation.

Recommendation Sl. Nos. 32, 33 & 57 (Page No. 37, Para Nos. 11.6 and 11.7 Page No. 44, Para No. 22)

1.23 The Committee in Para 22 of the summary of recommendation in the Third Report had observed that cooperative movement in some parts of the country was very successful while in other parts it was a neglected area. The Committee had found the Model Cooperative Act by Choudhary Brahm Prakash Committee the most suitable one for the development of cooperative movement. The Model Act had been sent to the State Govt./U.T. Administration for amending their State acts on the line of Model Act. The Committee had recommended that continuous efforts should be made to prevail upon State Governments so as they take steps to amend their cooperative law. The Committee had, further, desired that amendment to the Industrial Dispute Act which had been passed in 1982 should be notified without fail as it had provided therein exemption of cooperatives with fewer than 10 employees from the provision of IDA.

1.24 The Government in their reply have stated as under :

“Cooperation being a State subject, the State Government have to take action for amendment of their respective State Acts on the lines of recommendations of Choudhary Brahm Prakash Committee Report recommending, *inter-alia*, regular elections of Co-operative Societies. Choudhary Brahm Prakash Committee has treated these provisions as of restrictive nature. Deletion of these provisions require amendments in State Acts which come under the purview of State Governments. However, the report of the Committee has been accepted by this Department, in principle, and reformulation of Multi-

State Co-operative Societies Act, 1984 on the lines of recommendations of the Committee is under active consideration of this Department.

It is true that there are practical difficulties in materialising the strategy for revitalisation of cooperatives since cooperative society is a State subject. The Central Government is, however, working towards a comprehensive approach to cooperative development. This approach includes initiating action for evolving a national cooperative policy, a suitable legal frame work, strengthening the role of federal cooperatives, business development planning etc.

The matter is being actively pursued with State Governments to prevail upon all the State Governments to amend their Co-operative Acts on the line of Model Act. Most of the States have already amended their respective Co-operative Acts. Draft Multi-State Cooperative Societies Bill, 1994 is under active consideration in this Department. The Industrial Disputes Act is subject matter of Ministry of Labour. Regarding issuing the notification to give effect to the amendment in Industrial Dispute Act, excluding cooperatives from the ambit of the Act, this Department has raised the issue with Ministry of Labour. The Ministry of Labour has responded that formulation of a comprehensive proposal for amendment in the Industrial Dispute Act is under consideration. Moreover, in the meeting of Committee of Secretaries, it has been decided that Ministry of Labour should consult with Ministry of Law in the matter."

1.25 The Committee note that the Central Government is working towards a comprehensive approach to cooperative development and that the Draft Multi-State Co-operative Societies Bill 1994 on the lines of recommendations of the Choudhary Brahm Prakash Committee is under active consideration in the Department. The Committee desire that expeditious action should be taken to finalise the Draft Bill and place it before the Parliament on priority basis within six months in the final form for enactment. The Committee also note that the reply of the Government does not indicate the names of the States which have already amended their State Co-operative Laws on the lines of the Model Act circulated to them and also the names of the States which have not amended their respective cooperative laws on the lines suggested in the Model Act. The reply also does not indicate the level at which the matter was taken up with the State Governments to effect such amendments. The Committee are not satisfied with the vague reply of the Government and they reiterate their earlier recommendation that the State Governments should be persuaded to take immediate steps to amend their cooperative laws on the lines of the Model Act and the Government should take up the matter at the highest level to achieve the desired results.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation Sl. No. 1 (Page Nos. 3 & 4, Para No. 2.6)

2.1 The Committee is of the view that particular emphasis should be given towards the States which have not made much progress. The reasons should be asked from such States as to what are the hurdles that are coming in the way of progress of the programmes, even after providing them funds, training and necessary guidelines, and efforts should be made to sort out the problems. In case it is felt that even after continuous pursuance of the Central Government much progress has not been achieved by the States or States are found to be lacking in the implementation of programme, the same should be highlighted in the Annual Report of the Department. The Committee, further, found the reply of the Ministry unsatisfactory as they stated that details are being collected from the States. The Annual Report itself has stated that ten States have initiated reporting through NICNET the progress of the project in the prescribed quarterly annual schedules. The Ministry could have given details at least with respect to ten States where NICNET are in operation.

2.2 The Committee feel that Ministry should furnish replies taking into account what they have stated in their Annual Report.

Reply of the Government

2.3 States of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Sikkim, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are doing very well under the project, whereas the remaining States/UTs except for Bihar and West Bengal have achieved considerable progress. In respect of Bihar and West Bengal, it is gathered that lack of progress is on account of funds not being released timely to the implementing department by the State Governments despite DAC having pursued the matter even at the level of Agriculture Minister of these States.

2.4 The status of reporting through NICNET, is shown at Annexures I to IV.

2.5 The Committee note the reply of the Government that in Bihar and West Bengal considerable progress has not been made in the implementation of the National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR) due to the reasons that funds are not released in time to the implementing Departments by the State Governments concerned despite the fact that the matter was pursued at the level of Agriculture Ministers of these States by

the Department of Agriculture and Co-operation. The Committee desire that the matter may be taken up at the level of the Chief Ministers of the States so that funds are released in time in order to make good progress under NWDPR project, which has been accorded the highest priority by the Union Government.

Recommendation Sl. No. 7 (Page No. 8, Para No. 3.13)

2.6 The Committee note that input services such as Oil Palm seedlings are very essential for the success of Area Expansion Programme of Oil Palm and having sufficiency in the seeds, the desired target could be achieved. The Committee emphasize that focus should be on adequate seed availability so as an area of 80,000 ha. could be developed well in time during Eighth Five Year Plan keeping in view highest yielding capacity of Oil Palm which would no doubt, ultimately, augment supply of indigenous edible oil.

Reply of the Government

2.7 In view of the limited domestic availability of oil palm seeds, 3 seed gardens have been established in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka & Kerala to meet the future seed requirements of the country. A number of oil palm nurseries have been established in the States to import good quality oil palm planting material and raise them in the nursery for the distribution among the oil palm growers. A team was sent to identify the sources for the supply of oil palm seeds during Eighth Plan, the team visited a number of countries in East Asia, Africa & Europe. On the basis of the recommendation of the team, a Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary and the Director Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses to finalise the terms and conditions for the import of oil palm seeds during Eighth Plan. The recommendations of the Committee are expected to be finalised shortly. However, all the State Governments and the private parties are being allowed to import oil palm seeds from the identified sources abroad.

2.8 Permission was given to State Governments/Co-operatives/Private Companies to import 38.10 lakhs Oil Palm Seeds during 1992-93 and 72.72 lakhs during 1993-94 (till 31.01.1994) from the identified sources abroad.

Recommendation Sl. No. 8 (Page No. 9, Para No. 3.18)

2.9 The Committee are of the opinion that lesser production of pulses than the target fixed in 1991-92 due to unfavourable weather conditions could be narrowed down if the technology developed and harnessed so far could be utilised properly. After all weather condition remains erratic and uncertain. Therefore, Committee feel that alternative measures should be devised and technology improved in order to improve pulses production. It should also

be ensured that the fund utilised for Research and Development in Post Harvest Technology in pulses gives desired results.

Reply of the Government

2.10 The observation of the Committee is right. Pulses are being grown in rainfed areas and the production fluctuates from year to year depending upon the behaviour of monsoon. The irrigated area is about 9.8 per cent. The other constraints in raising the production of pulses are cultivation of pulse crops as mixed crop, application of low level of production inputs, susceptibilities to pests and diseases and lack of genetic breakthrough. Instances are there that as soon as irrigation facilities are made available the area is diverted from pulses to other more remunerative crops. Therefore, efforts are being made to transfer the production technologies to farmer's field through frontline and block demonstrations and popularisation of cultivation of summer pulses in irrigated areas in location specific crop sequence.

Recommendation Sl. No. 13 (Page Nos. 14 & 15, Para Nos. 4.17 & 4.18)

2.11 The Committee note that the production of Rhizobium and BGA during the year 1992-93 are expected to be far below the targets of 375 tonnes and 600 MT respectively. The Committee is concerned to note wider gap of targets and production. The Committee are of the view that use of Bio-fertilizer should be increased particularly in view of the fact that Bio-fertilizers are conducive to save chemical nitrogen.

2.12 The Committee strongly feel that the steps taken by the Ministry to increase production of Bio-fertilizers may be reviewed and efforts made to narrow down demand and supply gap. The Committee would also like to know about the concrete action plan for producing these Bio-fertilizers in adequate quantities.

Reply of the Government

2.13 Use of Bio-fertilizer in Agriculture is demand oriented. The farmers are still being educated about the application and benefits of Bio-fertilizer in Agriculture which ultimately is resulting in increasing the production and use of this low cost input from year to year.

2.14 To narrow down the demand and supply gap of Bio-fertilizer, the Ministry has already initiated action to set up Bio-fertilizer production units by way of providing financial assistance to States/Fertilizer/Seed Companies etc. So far 22 such units have been approved by the Ministry. It is proposed to set up additional Bio-fertilizer production units and strengthen additional BGA centres in the remaining period of eighth plan. State Governments are

also advised to produce and promote use of Bio-fertiliser, Private/Volunteer Organisations are also coming forward to produce and promote this low cost Technology.

Recommendation Sl. No. 14 (Page No. 17, Para No. 5.7)

2.15 Viewing in the context of above situation, the Committee fail to understand that when seed availability was satisfactory then what were the reasons for uneven distribution of certified/quality seed in respect of oilseeds. Has this happened due to reduction in demand of the seed. The Committee is of the opinion that distribution of seeds in respect of oilseeds should be augmented so as production of edible oil could be increased which would ultimately reduce burden of foreign exchange required for import of edible oil.

Reply of the Government

2.16 In respect of distribution of certified/quality seed of oilseed, it is submitted that on the basis of assessed requirement total availability of seed was sufficient and therefore, it was felt that the position was satisfactory. However, the requirement may sometime fluctuate depending upon the cropping pattern adopted by the farmers which depends upon the remunerative prices which they are likely to fetch for various crops as well as certain climatic factors such as incidence of rain, drought, floods etc. The demand under such circumstances varies to a small extent. Previously, distribution of total of certified seed and truthfully labelled seed was being monitored but from the year 1992-93 onwards targets are being fixed only for certified seed as clarified in the footnote to para 7.5 of the Annual Report (1992-93). Actual position of distribution of certified and truthfully labelled seed for the four years upto 1992-93 is given below :

Distribution (In lakh quintals)

Year	Certified Seed	Truthfully labelled	Total
1989-90	2.34	6.42	8.76
1990-91	2.59	6.10	8.69
1991-92	3.27	5.94	9.21
1992-93	3.77	6.98	10.75

2.17 Thus, it would be noted that there has been a trend of increase in use of certified seed of oilseeds. The total of certified and truthfully labelled seed also shows generally an increasing trend with marginal reduction in 1990-91 which could be due to lesser requirement as explained above. For the year

1992-93 the target of distribution of certified seed was 5.45 lakh quintals, but the actual distribution came to 3.77 lakh quintals only which could be, due to lower price of truthfully labelled seed and also preference of a particular variety of the oilseed for which the truthfully labelled seed would be more easily available.

Recommendation Sl. No. 18 (Page No. 21, Para No. 6.8)

2.18 The Committee are of the opinion that emphasis should be laid on the plant origin pesticides as plant origin are comparatively cheaper and at the same time safer for use by the users than the chemical pesticides. Mass educational programmes through news papers and other media on biological control and making these controlling agents in adequate quantities according to the agro-climatic and crop requirement should be done.

Reply of the Government

2.19 Promotion of bio-pesticides including pesticides of plant origin :

In order to encourage the use of bio-pesticides (Neem based pesticides and biocides based on *Bicillus thuringiensis* and *Bacillus sphaericus*) for the control of insect pests of agricultural importance and malaria vector control, the Registration Committee constituted under the Insecticides Act, 1968 has taken the following major steps in this regards :

- (i) Simplification of registration procedures for the promotion of formulations of bio-pesticides.
- (ii) Commercialization of bio-pesticides formulations during the period of provisional registration.
- (iii) A number of bio-pesticides formulations have been registered in favour of a number of entrepreneurs for indigenous production of these bio-pesticides.

2.20 Popularisation of biological control :

Keeping in view the global concern about the harmful impact of chemical pesticides in the environment and experiences in certain cotton growing states due to use and misuse of pesticides, the Government of India reoriented its policy on Plant Protection during 1985 by adopting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as its cardinal principle and main plank of Plant Protection strategy in the overall crop production with optimum cost, preserving the eco-system in the environment, improving the quality of agricultural produce and minimising health hazards, the Government of India has taken a number of positive initiatives for the promotion of IPM among the extension functionaries and farmers. These included education regarding non-chemical methods of pest control by employing biological control agents

like parasites, predators and pathogens. In addition, plant products like neem formulations have been registered under the liberalised criteria as per the Insecticide Act, 1968. Use of neem formulations are being popularised through IPM Farmer's field guides in cotton and rice and Manual on IPM in cotton and rice recently published by the Government of India. These safe chemicals are also being given wide publicity through demonstration-cum-training in Farmer's Field School and by using electronic media and printed material all over the country.

Recommendation Sl. No. 19 (Page No. 23, Para No. 7.8)

2.21 The Committee is of the view that neither publicity has been given to the implements developed by the Bhopal Institutes nor their utilization has been seen in vogue. The entire thing has been left on the States and no efforts have been made on the part of Central Government for their popularisation. The Committee feel that implements developed by Bhopal Institute should be popularised and all efforts should be made by the Central Government in this regard. As a measure to popularise them, listing of the implements should be done by the Ministry of Agriculture so as these implements reach to the farmers.

Reply of the Government

2.22 The Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering Bhopal, the Agricultural Engineering Departments of several Agricultural Universities are undertaking the research and developmental work in respect of agricultural implements. The field performance and the design aspect of the developed implement are to be fully established before the industry takes up their production. In order to coordinate the developmental work and the transfer of technology to the field, an Agricultural Implement and Machinery Review and Release Committee was constituted by the Department. The Committee felt that most of these items developed by the ICAR-SAU system are of functional design type and a manufacturer is reluctant to take up their production unless the design is further improved incorporating the production, metallurgical and cost factor. The Committee after detailed consideration has already released 36 items (Annexure-VI). The State Directors of Agriculture, State Agro Industries Corporations and other concerned agencies are informed as and when the items are released and they are requested to popularise these items in their respective areas. Gujarat State Agro Industries Corporation has made good contribution in this regard *viz.*, besides manufacturing the items they are also supplying these items in Gujarat and in other States. To further help to improve the design and developmental work of agricultural machinery, a Central Sector Scheme of Development of Industrial Prototype of Selected Agricultural implements has been approved. Under this scheme, the industrial prototypes of selected implements will be developed.

Recommendation Sl. No. 20 (Page Nos. 23 & 24, Para No. 7.9)

2.23 The Committee, further, hope that proposals for setting up the institutes in Rajasthan & Tamil Nadu would be cleared early and the work for the setting up of the Institutes would be stepped up. The Committee, further, suggest that it should be ensured that the benefit of training imparted in these Institutes reach to the farmers and desired goals are achieved.

Reply of the Government

2.24 The administrative orders for setting up of Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes in Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu have already been issued in June, 1994. Necessary action for filling up the 22 posts sanctioned for each of the Institutes, is already in progress. These Institutes are likely to start functioning during VIII Five Year Plan.

2.25 These Institutes will undertake training programme on selection, operation, repair, maintenance and management of farm machinery. Farmers will also be the beneficiaries of the training imparted by these Institutes.

Recommendation Sl. No. 22 (Page No. 26, Para No. 8.6)

2.26 The Committee find progress unsatisfactory keeping in view that this problem has been on the agenda of the Ministry since Third and Sixth Five Year Plan and only 14.6% area has been treated. The Committee feel that if old guidelines were implemented in letter and spirit, no doubt progress would have been much more. The Committee also note new guidelines an improvement on the earlier guidelines as it involves beneficiaries and emphasize on low cost vegetative measures.

Reply of the Government

2.27 The low coverage under RVP and FPR Schemes are mainly due to financial resources constraints in previous plan periods. The targets fixed annually based on allocation available have been achieved. For increasing allocations for these schemes, Planning Commission is pursued every year at the time of deciding allocations of the Ministry.

Recommendation Sl. No. 25 (Page No. 28, Para No. 8.13)

2.28 The Committee note that Annual Report of the Ministry indicates that AIS & LUS is primarily engaged in conducting soil surveys in order to provide sound data base for land based activities and that about 60 field parties continued survey work during the year under report. But the reply of the Ministry is contradictory as nowhere in the Annual Report it has been mentioned that efforts are being made to update the old maps. The Committee

view such mistakes seriously because Annual Report is an index of the activities of the Ministry undertaken in a year which are placed before Parliament. The Committee is of the opinion that if updated information is not furnished, reasons should be recorded in the Annual Report since the linkage of surveys is direct with the formulation of planning in respect of Land use management and soil & water conservation programmes.

Reply of the Government

2.29 The old map has been updated by super imposing the district boundaries of the new districts. *A copy of the updated map is enclosed for perusal.

2.30 The observation contained in para 8.13 has been noted for future guidance.

Recommendation Sl. No. 27 (Page No. 31, Para No. 9.7)

2.31 The Committee note that even after executing above programmes the total production would be 4.40 M.T. at the end of Eighth Plan while current demand is of the order of 5.3 lakh M.T. which shows that there would be wide gap between demand and supply of raw cashewnuts. Keeping in view this factor, the Committee are of the view that more emphasis should be given to the production of cashew and if need be allocation could be increased.

Reply of the Government

2.32 The production of cashewnut is expected to increase to 4.72 lakh M.T. (and not 4.40 lakh M.T. as stated in the report) by the end of 8th Plan. Continuous efforts are being made to increase the production and productivity of the cashew. Every year the allocations are being increased for the implementation of the programmes approved for the 8th Plan. However, the main constraint is to improve the availability of planting material (clones). The steps have already been initiated to overcome this constraint and improve the availability of planting material through the setting up of Regional Nurseries both in public and private sector. However, the efforts being made during the current plan would give the desired results in the next plan.

Recommendation Sl. No. 28 (Page No. 32, Para No. 9.12)

2.33 The Committee is of the opinion that biological control scheme should be implemented in other States also and the close monitoring should be done in expansion programme to ensure that coconut production is stepped up.

*Map is not being appended in the Report due to printing difficulties.

Reply of the Government

2.34 The Biological Control Scheme is at present implemented in the States of Karnataka and Orissa only. During the remaining period of the 8th Plan, the programme is proposed to be extended to the States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. Close monitoring of the various programmes on coconut development being implemented is done by the Coconut Development Board and enhanced allocations are made every year.

Recommendation Sl. No. 29 (Page Nos. 32 & 33, Para No. 9.16)

2.35 The Committee note that the scheme was operational from 1984-85 to 1990-91. The scheme remained in operation for 7 years. The Committee are unaware that what happened to this scheme after 1991. Whether it has been discontinued and what impact would be on the processing of cardamom should have been analysed by the Ministry and alternative means be devised if Flue Pipe system has become outdated. Further, Committee feel that production of Large cardamom should be increased since it is commercial crop and suitable schemes formulated in this direction.

Reply of the Government

2.36 The Flue Pipe system of curing cardamom was initiated with a view to educate the growers the advantages of curing the cardamom in a scientific way and the scheme was operated from 1984-85 to 1992-93.⁶ During this period 206 curing houses of different capacities were constructed for individual growers and 5 curing houses under co-operative sector. Necessary technical guidance was also given to the growers on processing techniques and storage practices. Since 206 curing houses had been constructed with subsidies from the Spices Board, it was decided that this programme may be discontinued for sometime. It was expected that more and more curing houses of this type will be constructed by the farmers with their own resources as they are realizing the advantages of energy conservation and price preference.

2.37 The Spices Board under the Ministry of Commerce is implementing various programmes, viz. Extension Advisory Scheme, production and supply of planting material, provision of irrigation facilities, replanting scheme and laying cut demonstration plots for increasing the production of cardamom in the country.

Recommendation Sl. No. 30 (Page No. 33, Para No. 9.20)

2.38 The Committee are of the view that lack of plant material would definitely slow down the development of Horticulture and the benefit of increased allocation may not be reaped unless adequate plant material is made available. The Committee, therefore, feel that increasing plant material

should be accorded first priority within the Horticulture developmental programmes and schemes to evaluate the potential of yield for fruit should be formulated with reference to the agro climatic suitability and planned area coverage in a targetted manners.

Reply of the Government

2.39 For supply of quality planting material in respect of fruit crops, adequate measures have been taken and a substantial amount has been allocated for establishment of various nurseries during 8th Plan.

	Nos.	Amount allocated (Rs. in lakhs)
(1) Large Nurseries	85	1530.00
(2) Tissue Culture Nurseries:		
Private	20	200.00
Public	17	357.00
(3) Small Nurseries	587	121.80

2.40 Area Expansion in all the major fruit crops has been taken up as per the potential of the area. In all 35027 Ha. is proposed to be expanded under fruit crops with an outlay of Rs. 2511 lakhs during 8th Plan Period.

Recommendation Sl. No. 36 (Page No. 39, Para No. 1)

2.41 National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR) is an ambitious project which has been accorded priority during Eighth Five Year Plan. The Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation) during the course of evidence has admitted that some of the States have not done much progress even after providing them fund, training and necessary guidelines. The Committee regret to note that expected progress has not been achieved due to lack of concentrated efforts on the part of some of the States. The Committee, therefore, recommend that particular emphasis should be given towards the States found to be slow in the progress of project and reasons should be asked from them as to what are the hurdles that are coming in their ways in implementing this project. Efforts should be made to iron-out their problems and in case it is felt that even after continuous pursuance of the Central Government no progress is achieved by the States, the same should be highlighted in the Annual Report of the Department concerning specific States. The Committee also recommend that in order to avoid thin spread of resources it would be better if the watersheds are made contiguous so as to bring about cumulative effect.

Reply of the Government

2.42 States of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Sikkim, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are doing very well under the project, whereas the remaining States/UTs except for Bihar and West Bengal have achieved considerable progress as far as sanction of the projects is concerned but implementation of the project has not picked up as funds are not being released timely to the Implementing Department by the State Governments despite DAC having pursued the matter even at the level of Agriculture Minister of these States.

During VIII Five Year Plan in each eligible block a model watershed will be evolved. Contiguous areas would be developed to bring about cumulative effect, if there are savings in the States in the VIII Plan. In successive plans further contiguous areas could be taken up under this programme.

Recommendation Sl. No. 41 (Page No. 40, Para No. 6)

2.43 For oil palm cultivation an area of 80,000 ha. has to be developed during Eighth Five Year Plan. The total number of nurseries established so far are 14 and the total domestic production of oil palm seedlings is only 4 lakh. Since there is limited domestic availability, 15 million oil palm seedlings are required to be imported during Eighth Plan. The Committee recommend that focus should be on adequate seed availability of oil palm seeds so as an area of 80,000 ha. could be developed well in time during Eighth Five Year Plan keeping in view highest yielding capacity of oil palm which would no doubt, ultimately, augment supply of indigenous edible oil.

Reply of the Government

2.44 In view of the limited domestic availability of Oil Palm seeds, 3 seed gardens have been established in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala to meet the future seed requirements of the country. A number of Oil Palm nurseries have been established in the States to import good quality Oil Palm planting material and raise them in the nursery for the distribution among the Oil Palm growers. A team was sent to identify the sources for the supply of Oil Palm seeds during Eighth Plan, the team visited a number of countries in East-Asia, Africa and Europe. On the basis of the recommendation of the team, a Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary and the Director, Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses to finalize the terms and conditions for the import of Oil Palm seeds during Eighth Plan. The recommendations of the Committee are expected to be finalized shortly. However, all the State Governments and the Private parties are being allowed to import oil palm seeds from the identified sources abroad.

2.45 Permission was given to State Governments/Cooperative, Private companies to import 38.10 lakhs Oil Palm seeds during 1992-93 and 72.72 lakhs during 1993-94(till 31.01.1994) from the identified sources abroad.

Recommendation Sl. No. 42 (Page No. 40, Para No. 7)

2.46 Lesser coverage of area due to unfavourable weather condition in the major pulses growing States has been the cause for the slow production of pulses during 1991-92. The Committee observe that weather condition remains erratic and uncertain which may affect pulse production in future also. The Committee recommend that National Production Programme Pulses, the objective of which is to increase production of pulses through adoption of location specific varieties and improved technology with particular emphasis on increasing the area through multiple and intercropping as also increasing yield per unit of area should be given utmost attention and technology developed and harnessed so far should be utilised fully and properly. Further, alternative measures should be devised and technology improved in order to tackle situation arising out of unfavourable weather condition.

Reply of the Government

2.47 The observation of the Committee is right. Pulses are being grown in rainfed areas and the production fluctuates from year to year depending upon the behaviour of monsoon. The irrigated area is about 9.8 percent. The other constraints in raising the production of pulses are cultivation of pulse crops as mixed crop, application of low level of production inputs, susceptibility to pests and diseases and lack of genetic break-through. Instances are there that as soon as irrigation facilities are made available the area is diverted from pulses to other more remunerative crops. Therefore, efforts are being made to transfer the production technologies to farmer's field through frontline and block demonstrations and popularisation of cultivation of summer pulses in irrigated areas in location specific crop sequence.

Recommendation Sl. No. 44 (Page No. 41, Para No. 9)

2.48 The Committee would also like to stress that use of Bio-fertilizer should be increased particularly in view of the fact that bio-fertilizers are conducive to save chemical nitrogen. Further, there is wide gap between demand and supply of bio-fertilizers. The Committee strongly recommend that the steps taken to increase production of bio-fertilizer should be reviewed and efforts made to narrow down demand and supply gap. The Committee would also like to know the concrete action plan for producing these bio-fertilizers in adequate quantities as also the total potential taking into account those areas where it is possible to grow these bio-fertilizers.

Reply of the Government

2.49 In view of the fact that bio-fertilizers are supplementary source of Plant Nutrient, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing a National Project on Development and use of bio-fertilisers to produce, distribute, promote and increase the use of bio-fertilizers. To increase the production and use of bio-fertilizers, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation in the 8th Five Year Plan has proposed setting up of additional bio-fertilizer production units by the State Governments/Companies/Institutional Agencies to produce adequate quantities of bio-fertilizers in the potential areas. Bio-fertilizers being crops and soils specific, efforts have been made/are underway to identify specific strains of bio-fertilizer suited to local conditions and specific crops. Under the bio-fertilizer project there is a strong component of training, demonstration and orientation to train farmers/extension workers to popularise and increase the use of bio-fertilizers.

Recommendation Sl. No. 45 (Page Nos. 41 & 42, Para No. 10)

2.50 The target for the distribution of certified seed has been fixed for the year 1992-93 only but no such target has been fixed in respect of quality seed. The Committee do not find any reason mentioned in the Annual Report for fixing the target. The Committee recommend that reasons should be mentioned in the Annual Report for not fixing targets in order to have first hand knowledge about the subject. Further, distribution of seed in respect of oilseeds has not been even for the last 4-5 years despite the fact that the overall availability position of seed was satisfactory to meet the requirement. The Committee recommend that distribution of seed for oilseeds should be augmented so as production of edible oil could be increased which would ultimately reduce burden of foreign exchange required for import of edible oil.

2.51 Identifying, selecting and producing of good native varieties and their propagation, which have natural disease and pest resistance, less water and chemical fertiliser requirement, lesser time to mature and higher nutritional value, having good export potential should be made an integral part of seed production programme.

Reply of the Government

2.52 Since certified seed is the progeny of foundation seed produced under the supervision of the Seed Certification Agency, this ensures third party guarantee for quality. Keeping this fact in view, target is fixed only for certified seed.

2.53 The efforts made under the Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses to increase the production of oilseeds have given positive results. The

production of oilseeds has increased two fold in the period from 1985-86 to 1992-93. The production of oilseeds has increased from a level of 10.83 million tonnes to 20.27 million tonnes in this period. As a result the import of oil has decreased from 11.80 lakh tonnes valued at Rs. 488.95 crore in 1985-86 to 0.22 lakh tonne valued at Rs. 21.29 crore during 1993-94. As a result of increase in production, export of oilseeds/oil extractions has also increased from 12.05 lakh tonnes in 1987-88 to 38.00 lakh tonnes in 1992-93. Distribution of seed is the responsibility of respective State Governments. The crop production programme of DAC also provides incentives for the distribution of certified seeds of oilseeds. In addition the Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses is implementing the scheme *viz.* Oilseed Production Programme (OPP). The rate of assistance provided under the scheme for various components on seeds is as follows:

	<i>Component</i>	<i>Rate of assistance under OPP</i>
1.	Production of foundation seed	Rs. 200/- per quintal
2.	Production of certified seed	Rs. 200/- per quintal
3.	Distribution of certified seed	Rs. 300/- per quintal
4.	Distribution of seed under Minikit	Free of cost

2.54 The pattern of assistance is shared on 75:25 basis by the Government of India and State Governments respectively. The actual amount which has been spent on seed component under the said scheme from 1990-91 to 1993-94 (anticipated) is as under:

	(Rs. in Lakhs)
Year	Expenditure incurred on seed component under O.P.P.
1990-91	932.41
1991-92	1043.04
1992-93	1453.04
1993-94	3883.54 (Anticipated)

2.55 The ICAR is vested with the mandate of organising breeder seed production of various crops as per the indents received by them. The situation on breeder seed front is quite comfortable. In breeding programmes, emphasis is laid on developing varieties having high yield with inbuilt resistance to diseases and pests. Emphasis is also laid on having varieties with better nutritional qualities.

Recommendation Sl. No. 48 (Page No. 42 Para No. 13)

2.56 The Committee recommend that emphasis should be laid on the plant origin pesticides as plant origin pesticides are comparatively cheaper and at the same time safer for use by the users than the chemical pesticides. Mass educational programmes through newspapers and other media on biological control and making these controlling agents in adequate quantities according to the agro climatic zones and crop requirement should be done.

Reply of the Government

2.57 Government of India have adopted Integrated Pest Management as the cardinal principle of Plant protection strategy. This strategy has a potential to reduce 50 to 75% chemical pesticides and their high costs.

2.58 During the ensuing Rabi season, an ambitious programme for training of Subject-Matter Specialists and Farmers in the skill of IPM including biological control has been drawn up. Further, it has been decided to involve Teachers, Students, Village Panchayats, Women Organisations, Agro-Industries Corporations & Cooperatives in the publicity programme under IPM.

2.59 The Registration Secretariat has provisionally registered two bio-pesticides namely *Bacillus thuringiensis* (B.t.) and *Bacillus sphaericus* (B.s.) and allowed its commercialisation during the provisional registered period.

2.60 Further the following neem based pesticides have been registered to control insects/pests of various crops against specified diseases:

1. Neem tritene emulsion containing Azadirachtin 0.15% w/w.
2. Neem Oil emulsion containing Azadirachtin 0.03%
3. Neem oil based wsp emulsion containing Azadirachtin 0.03%
4. Neem oil emulsion containing 300 ppm Azadirachtin in (Nimbecidine).
5. RD-9 Repellin Neem oil 93 EC.

2.61 26 CIPMCs and 125 bio-control laboratories located in various States are already engaged in mass production and mass rearing of bio-control agents. Further to make available bio-control agents in adequate quantities according to agroclimatic zones and crop requirements, Government of India is providing assistance of the order of Rs. 1500.00 lakhs during VIIIth Plan to set-up 30 bio-control laboratories in various States/UTs.

Recommendation Sl. No. 49 (Page No. 42, Para No. 14)

2.62 The Committee have observed that due publicity has not been given to the agricultural implements developed by the Bhopal Engineering Institute as a result farmers have been deprived of the benefit of modern and improved implements. The Committee recommend that the implements developed by this Institute should be popularised among the farmers and listing of them should be done by the Ministry of Agriculture so as these implements may be exposed to the farmers. The Committee, further, recommend that the proposals for setting up of Farm Machinery and Testing Institutes in the States of Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu should be cleared speedily to augment the availability of implements with an easy access to the farmers.

Reply of the Government

2.63 Due importance has been given to the implements developed by the Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal, which have been found field effective. Besides showing these implements in the National and International Trade Fairs, the items developed by CIAE, Bhopal were also considered by the Central level 'Agricultural Implement Review and Release Committee' and a number of these items were released. All the State Directors of Agriculture have been informed of this and they were requested to popularise the same in their respective States. A list of those items released by the Committee is attached (Annexure-VI).

2.64 In respect of the proposal for setting up of the Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes in the States of Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu, as already stated, the administrative orders for setting up these Institutes have already been issued. Necessary action for filling up the posts sanctioned for the Institutes, is already in progress. These Institutes are likely to start functioning during the VIII Five Year Plan.

Recommendation Sl. No. 52 (Page No. 43, Para No. 17)

2.65 The Committee are dismayed to note that map showing areas covered by different intensities of soil surveys under the All India Soil & Land use Survey as shown in the Annual Report (1992-93) of the Department is old one. The Committee recommend that as far as possible updated information should be furnished in the Annual Report and in case updated information is not furnished, reasons alongwith the present status of the work should be mentioned in the Annual Report.

Reply of the Government

2.66 The old map has been updated by super imposing the district boundaries of the new districts*. A copy of the updated map is enclosed for

*Map is not being appended in the Report due to printing difficulties.

perusal. The observations contained in para 8.13 has been noted for future guidance.

Recommendation Sl. No. 54 (Page No. 43 & 44, Para No. 19)

2.67 The Committee observe that indigenous raw cashewnut is not sufficient to meet the installed capacity of processing units and there is wide gap between demand and supply of cashewnut as total production is only around 3.50 lakh metric tonnes against the demand of 5.3 lakh metric tonnes. Therefore, raw cashewnuts are imported. Various programmes are being contemplated for Eighth Five Year Plan. But even after executing these programmes there would persist demand and supply gap. The Committee, therefore, recommend that more emphasis should be given to the production of cashew so as import of rawnuts could be reduced.

2.68 The Committee, further recommend that the scheme for the biological control of coconut leaf eating caterpillar which is being implemented in two States *viz.* Orissa and Karnataka presently should be extended to other States also and the close monitoring should be done of the area expansion programme in respect of coconut.

Reply of the Government

2.69 During VIII Five Year Plan, greater emphasis has been laid down for increasing the production and productivity of Cashewnut through the implementation of the Centrally sponsored Integrated Development Programme of Cashew. The strategy for development of cashew during VIII Plan period involving an outlay of Rs. 478.5 million include both long term measures like undertaking new planting with clones (42,700 ha.) replanting and rejuvenation by top working (10,000 ha.) and short term measures like promoting the adoption of comprehensive production technologies including application of fertilizers, organic manures (25,000 ha.) and intensive plant protection measures (1,45,800 ha.), production and distribution of clonal planting material (88 units), establishment of model clonal garden (313 ha.) and systematic transfer of technology. The implementation of these programmes will considerably improve the productivity of cashewnut which is the major constraint in cashewnut production. The production of raw cashewnut by 2000 AD is likely to be around 6.0 lakh M.T. This will to a great extent reduce dependence of cashew processing units on imported raw cashewnuts.

2.70 It is proposed to establish 4 new biological control laboratory units, during VIII Plan, one each in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala for culturing, multiplying and maintaining parasites for release in pest prone area and popularise other plant protection measures. These units are in addition to the already established units in Karnataka and Orissa.

2.71 The programme for expansion of area under coconut is being monitored by the Coconut Development Board.

Recommendation Sl. No. 55 (Page No. 44, Para No. 20)

2.72 The Committee observe that one of the constraints that has been felt in the development of Horticulture is shortage of plant material and even after launching various programmes, Ministry of Agriculture have admitted that they would not be able to meet the requirement of plant material during Eighth Five Year Plan. The Committee are concerned to note that lack of plant material would definitely slow down the development of Horticulture and benefit of increased allocation which the Horticulture has received during 8th Five Year Plan may not be reaped unless adequate plant material is made available. The Committee recommend that increasing plant material should be accorded first priority within the Horticulture development programmes and schemes to evaluate the potential of yield for fruit should be formulated with reference to the agro climatic suitability and planned area coverage in a targeted manner.

Reply of the Government

2.73 During VIII Plan Period greater attention is being paid for increasing the production of planting material. An outlay of Rs. 105.98 crores has been proposed for meeting the requirement.

2.74 The strategy proposed for the area expansion under different horticulture crops calls for a total availability of 1.18 billions plants and 5.83 lakh tonnes of seed by the end of the VIII Plan. This demand will have to be met both from the public as well as private sector sources. Improving supply of planting/seed material therefore has been identified as one of the major area for strengthening and would receive over eleven per cent (Rs. 106 crore) of the total outlay earmarked for crop production programmes. The investment is designed for setting up of nurseries and seed production farms for ensuring adequate supply of seed/planting material of improved varieties/hybrid to be used for planting in the new areas as well as for improving productivity of existing plantations. Under this, assistance is also being provided for commercial adoption of new technologies such as micro propagation through tissue culture of fruits, flowers, mushroom tuber crops and use of true potato seed (TPS) for potato, improved vegetative propagation methods in fruits, tree spices and cashew.

2.75 Assistance to private sector is also proposed for the first time to augment the availability and encourage quality production.

Recommendation Sl. No. 59 (Page No. 45, Para No. 24)

2.76 The Committee recommend that the avenues for the promotion and export of flower in such areas where they are particularly grown with particular reference being given to orchid farming may be developed so as to bring about value addition products. The Committee further stress the need for producing flowers of Aromatic and medicinal value. There has been no attempt for cataloguing and listing the existing species. This should be done at the earliest.

Reply of the Government

2.77 Government of India is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on commercial cultivation of floriculture during VIII Plan with an outlay of Rs. 10.00 crores. Under this scheme Orchid farming is also included.

2.78 A scheme on Medicinal & Aromatic Plants is also being implemented with an outlay of Rs. 5.00 crores during VIII Plan period. Attempt has been made by ICAR through coordinated Project and CSIR through their various Regional Research Laboratories and CIMAP, Lucknow for cataloguing of medicinal and aromatic plants. Cataloguing of 4 major crops *viz.* Lemon grass, Palmarosa, Vetiver and Opium is being done by ICAR under its coordinated Project.

CHAPTER III

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

Recommendation Sl. No. 4 (Page No. 7, Para No. 3.4 & 3.5)

3.1 The Committee find that there is no equal distribution of retail outlets as it is evident from the fact that Madhya Pradesh which is a big state has only 2 retail outlets. Further, Committee understand that these retail outlets are run only by the State Governments and Central Government have not opened on its own any retail outlets.

3.2 The Committee is of the view that the Central Ministry could open its own retail outlets in those areas and States where the need of such retail outlets are felt to be necessary and, particularly, where State government have not opened their retail outlets as a measure to increase oilseed production. Otherwise, the Committee feel strategy would remain more on the paper unless it is executed in right direction.

Reply of the Government

3.3 Agriculture is a State subject and Central Government only supplements the efforts of the State Governments for increasing the production of oilseeds through the Centrally Sponsored Oilseed Production Programme (OPP). The implementation agency of OPP is States Department of Agriculture who have been given the flexibility to increase or decrease the financial allocation and physical targets under various components of OPP according to their location specific situations. This procedure is equally applied to the component of retail outlets as well under the programme. Under this provision States may increase or reduce the financial and physical targets suiting to their requirements. Government of India cannot open and operate the retail outlets in the State because neither it is feasible nor practicable.

Recommendation Sl. No. 5 (Page Nos. 7-8, Para No. 3.7)

3.4 The Committee have noted that both agencies i.e. NDDB and NAFED are engaged in the procurement of oilseeds and oils with the difference that NAFED procures oilseeds in the events of fall in prices below support prices to prevent distress sale whereas NDDB procures at prevailing prices to provide remunerative prices. The Committee find the set up existing at present

to be overlapping one. No rationale seems to be pertinent for engaging two agencies for the same work. The Committee is in favour of reviewing the present set up so as to ensure that this set up may not affect the oilseeds growers due to multiplicity of procuring agencies. The Committee is of the opinion that the whole work concerning oilseeds and edible oil could be diverted to a single agency which would be able to manage the whole affair in a better way.

Reply of the Government

3.5 The role of NAFED and NDDDB in the handling of oilseeds and oils is independent and separate to each other. NDDDB procures oilseeds/oils at prevailing market prices from its Oilseeds Federations and associate agencies as a part of MIO for building up a buffer stock to ensure remunerative prices to farmers and release the same in lean season at moderate price to consumers. NDDDB's operations in oilseeds/edible oil helped market sentiments and assured remunerative prices to producers.

3.6 NAFED is Central Nodal agency of the Government of India for undertaking price support scheme (PSS) in oilseeds and pulses and provide minimum support prices to farmers and prevent distress sales. NAFED also undertakes commercial purchases in open market at regulated market yards. The area of operations in the case of NAFED is extended to almost all the major up country centres of the oilseeds producing States for procurement of 7 major oilseeds under PSS or for commercial operations. From the above, it would be observed that the role being played by NAFED and NDDDB has been quite different.

Recommendation Sl. No. 6 (Page No. 8, Para Nos. 3.8 & 3.9)

3.7 As a consequence of payment of remunerative prices to farmers through market intervention operation, NDDDB did not incur any losses till March, 1991 and had a surplus of Rs. 21.01 crores. However, it incurred a loss of Rs. 92.54 crores during the period April, 1991 to March, 1992, as a result there was net loss of Rs. 71.53 crores as on 31.3.93. The fall in value of stocks and carrying costs from the flush to the lean season have been stated to be reasons for the loss. Rs. 10.56 crores have been reimbursed to NDDDB in March, 1992 and balance amount of Rs. 60.97 crores is yet to be reimbursed.

3.8 The Committee advise that there should be no delay in reimbursement of balance amount of Rs. 60.97 crores so that NDDDB is not defeated in its mission of providing timely remunerative prices to the farmers.

Reply of the Government

3.9 A note regarding reimbursement of losses to NDDDB under Market Intervention Operation (MIO) during 1991-92 & 1992-93 has been

submitted for the approval of CCEA. The decision of CCEA in this regard is still awaited.

3.10 Meanwhile, Cabinet Committee on Prices approved a proposal to permit NDDB to import 1.5 lakh tonnes of edible oil during financial year 1994-95 at concessional duty of 20% to enable them to partly recoup the losses incurred by NDDB under MIO, pending a final decision by CCEA.

Recommendation Sl. No. 9 (Page Nos. 9 & 10, Para No. 3.20)

3.11 The Committee apprehend that since NAFED is the nodal marketing agency in respect of pulses, less procurement of pulses by NAFED during 1992-93 would affect farmers adversely because other agencies would purchase their produce at prices below support prices. Though it has been stated that prices of pulses continued to remain above the support price level, it is very difficult to gauge the problems of farmers if the agency designed for procurement purposes does not procure their produce to the maximum possible extent and that too in time. The Committee therefore, suggest that efforts should be made to avoid such kind of situation in future.

Reply of the Government

3.12 Procurement of pulses by NAFED price support schemes is undertaken depending on the needs in particular area. During 1991-92 9999 MT and during 1992-93 6034 MT pulses were procured in areas where prices of pulses fell below the support price.

3.13 There is no doubt that the quantum of procurement of pulses under commercial operation by NAFED during 1992-93 was comparatively less as compared to 1991-92. While the procurement during 1992-93 was 58871 MT (as against 72566 MT during 1991-92) NAFED had to carry forward stocks of 14,538 MT from the previous year. Further, 6500 MT of various pulses were imported from other countries. The purchases by NAFED under commercial operations depend upon several factors such as overall productivity, marketable surplus, quantum of imports, market trends, availability of finance, storage space etc.

Recommendation Sl. No. 15 (Page No. 17, Para No. 5.9)

3.14 The incentives were 'proposed'. The Committee note that no incentives were given in actual. The Committee find that New Policy on Seed development which is under implementation since October, 1988 envisages incentives to the seed producing/distributing agencies. Therefore, it is evident from the fact that mandate of seed policy is not being fulfilled when incentives are not actually being given. The Committee is of the opinion that there seems to be no rationale to mention in the Annual Report of the things which

are not actually materialised. The Committee advise that concrete position should be given in the Annual Report.

Reply of the Government

3.15 Under the New Seed Policy, 1988 the indirect incentives have been given to the domestic seed industry for import of seeds. The incentives include 100% exemption on customs duty for import of seeds of oilseeds, pulses, vegetables, flowers, ornamental plants, tubers and bulbs of flowers, cuttings or sappling of flowers, plants and seeds or plants of fruits for sowing or planting. In addition, for import of machinery and equipment for seed processing/production, duty has been reduced @ 25%. Pre and post shipment credit and facility of cash compensatory support has also been envisaged under the Seed Policy, 1988. These are the incentives which are being given to the seed importers.

3.16 However, the incentives mentioned as proposed to be give are those which relate to increase in the production and availability of certified seed of high yielding varieties specific to the problematic areas. The incentives for seed production/distribution are given under various crop production schemes of Crop Division/TMOP on rice, wheat, jute, cotton, oilseeds, pulses, maize and millers. The Seed Policy deals with policy initiatives for increasing the availability of certified seed through a package of measures. The incentives are meant for the production of certified seeds of varieties/hybrids which were released during the past ten years, as well as if the production was atleast 10% higher than the average production of the previous three years and is also higher than the previous best production year of the last three years and for the varieties specific to problematic areas, the crop production schemes also provide incentives for the distribution of certified seeds. The amount of incentives provided under crop production schemes on rice, wheat, maize and millets and cotton during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 (anticipated) are as under:

<u>Year</u>	<u>(Rs. in Lakhs)</u> <u>Amount</u>
1991-92	3136.89
1992-93	5128.88
1993-94	4735.40

Recommendation S.. No. 17 (Page No. 18, Para No. 5.13)

3.17 The Committee note that Buffer Stocking Scheme on seeds which was in operation since April, 1978 had been operated as a Central Sector Scheme upto March, 1987, and from 1987 after modification, it was operated as Centrally Sponsored Scheme to incorporate participation of States SSCs. Further mention has been made that this scheme has been modified and will

be operated as a Central Sector Scheme during the Eighth Five Year Plan. Consequent upon the decision of National Development Council Committee, the scheme stands transferred to States. The Committee fail to understand why the scheme is being shifted from Central Sector to Centrally Sponsored and now transferred to States. The Committee feel that shifting of scheme time and again will not bear the fruits. The Committee advise that the reasons in brief should be specified in the Annual Report for such shifting.

Reply of the Government

3.18 It may be stated that the Planning Commission vide their d.o. letter No. M.12043/2/91-PC dated 5.5.1992 had desired that if Ministry of Agriculture propose to retain the scheme "Buffer Stocking of Seeds" under the Central Sector, then the approval of Cabinet may be obtained for operation of the scheme under the Central Sector during the VIIIth Plan period. The observation of the Planning Commission were as under:

"There are some other schemes which the Ministry feels that these are not CSS but were Central Sector Schemes in nature as there is no involvement of the State Government or the schemes are of national importance. In such cases, it is presumed that there were no transfer of funds to the State Governments in the past. However, the schemes in its present form need to be treated as CSS and transferred to the State Governments with funds. Continuance of the scheme in its present or modified form at the Centre as a Central Scheme would need to be treated as a new scheme initiated during 1992-93 and the required procedure in this regard will have to be followed."

3.19 On 31.8.1992 this Ministry had moved the CCEA after obtaining the approval of Agriculture Minister regarding the proposal for the retention of the scheme of maintenance of Buffer Stock of Seeds for operation under the Central Sector during the VIIIth Plan Period (1992-97) in modification of NDC's decision to transfer it to the State Sector.

3.20 Cabinet Secretariat vide their letter No. 4/1/92-Cab. dated 4th September, 1992 had desired that the financial implications of the scheme require consultation with the Ministry of Finance. Accordingly, Ministry of Finance were also approached in the matter 17.9.1992. Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) vide their letter No. 5(55)PF.II/92 dated 5.1.1993 had intimated as under:

"This Ministry does not agree with the proposal to retain the scheme in the Central Sector particularly in view of the fact that the NDC has already decided to transfer this scheme to the State and recently while approving the package of schemes recommended to State Governments for implementation (Out of Rs. 500 crores package)

following the JPC recommendations this is one of the schemes to be taken up by the State."

3.21 Keeping in view the observations of Ministry of Finance, it was decided with the approval of Agriculture Minister to withdraw the proposal for retention of the scheme on 20.4.1993 from the Cabinet Secretariat for further operation under the Central Sector during the VIIIth Plan period (1992-97) in modification of NDC decision.

3.22 In view of the position indicated above, the matter may please be treated as closed.

Recommendation Sl. No. 39 (Page No. 40, Para No. 4)

3.23 Under the OPP, distribution of seed minikits is undertaken to popularise new improved varieties and distribution of seeds is ensured through retail outlets which are generally run by the State Departments of Agriculture/Growfed/Market/Agros. The Committee observe that there is no equal distribution of retail outlets as a result strategy to popularise new improved varieties and opening additional retail outlets in remote areas has not been successful. The Committee, therefore, recommend that Central Government could open its own retail outlets in those areas and State where the need of such retail outlets are felt to be necessary and particularly where State Governments have not opened their outlets as a measure to increase oilseed production.

Reply of the Government

3.24 Agriculture is a State subject and Central Government only supplements the efforts of the State Governments for increasing the production of oilseeds through the Centrally Sponsored Oilseed Production Programme (OPP). The implementation agency of OPP is States Department of Agriculture who have been given the flexibility to increase or decrease the financial allocation and physical targets under various components of OPP according to their location specific situations. This procedure is equally applied to the component of retail outlets as well under the programme. Under this provision States may increase or reduce the financial and physical targets suiting to their requirements. Government of India cannot open and operate the retail outlets in the State because it is neither feasible nor practicable.

Recommendation Sl. No. 40 (Page No. 40, Para No. 5)

3.25 NDDB and NAFED are engaged in the procurement of oilseeds and oils with the difference that NAFED procures oilseeds in the event of fall in prices below support prices to prevent distress sale whereas NDDB procures

at prevailing prices to provide remunerative prices. The Committee find the existing set up as overlapping one. The Committee recommend that present set up should be reviewed in order to ensure that oilseed growers are not affected due to multiplicity of procuring agencies and whole work concerning oilseed and edible oil should be assigned to a single agency which could be able to manage the whole affair in a better manner.

Reply of the Government

3.26 National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation (NAFED) is the implementing agency to implement the Price Support Scheme of Government of India in oil seeds and pulses.

Recommendation Sl. No. 46(i) (Page No. 42, Para No. 11)

3.27 New Policy on seed development as also Annual Report (1992-93) envisage incentives to the seed producing/distributing agencies. However, Ministry of Agriculture in their written reply stated that incentives were 'proposed' to be given for increasing the production and availability of certified seed of high yielding varieties specific to the problem areas. The Committee is unaware whether incentives have actually been given or it were merely proposed as replied by the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, recommend that concrete position should be specified in the Annual Report in this regard.

Reply of the Government

3.28 While specific incentives for seed production/distribution are given under various crop production schemes of Crop Division/TMOP on rice, wheat, jute, cotton, oilseeds, pulses, maize and millets, the Seed Policy deals with policy initiatives for encouraging availability of certified seed through a package of measures. The production of seeds under the aforesaid schemes was to be implemented by National Seeds Corporation (NSC), State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) and Agriculture Departments of State Governments. The incentives are meant for the production of certified seeds of varieties/hybrids which were released during the past ten years, as well as if the production was atleast 10% higher than the average production of the previous three years and is also higher than the previous best production year of the last three years. For rice and wheat, the production incentives are for the varieties specific to problematic areas. The crop production scheme also provides incentives for the distribution of certified seeds. A statement showing the rate of incentives for the distribution of seeds under crop production scheme from 1991-92 to 1993-94 is enclosed at Annexure-VII. The amount of incentives provided under crop production scheme on rice, wheat,

maize and millets and cotton during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 (anticipated) are as under :

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1991-92	3136.89
1992-93	5128.88
1993-94	4735.40

In so far as Seed Policy is concerned, incentives have been given to the domestic seed industry for production of best quality seed to ensure farmers' access to the same. The incentives include 100% exemption on custom duty for import of seeds of oilseeds, pulses, vegetables, flowers and ornamental plants for sowing or planting, reduced duty on import of machine and equipments for seed producing/production, pre and post-shipment credit facility and cash compensatory support. Additionally, on periodical review of the said policy, the requirement of multi-locational testing for a period of three years has been revised and relaxed to provide for two years testing if the Indian Seed Companies having foreign collaboration, or MRTP Companies have authentic In-House R&D arrangements, and have sufficient authentic data in support of their claims about superiority of yield. Testing period is further reduced to one year for such companies if the imported material has been officially released in the country of import. Basic objectives of these relaxations are to bridge the gap between evaluation and evolution of new varieties, and boost the availability of good quality seeds in the country.

Recommendation Sl. No. 47 (Page No. 42, Para No. 12)

3.30 Buffer stocking scheme on seeds was operated as a Central Sector Scheme upto 1987 and thereafter as Centrally sponsored scheme. But Annual Report stated that with some modification, the scheme will be operated as Central Sector Scheme during the Eighth Five Year Plan. Further it has been stated that consequent upon the decision of National Development Council Committee the scheme stands transferred to States. The Committee observe that shifting of scheme time and again will not bear fruits. The Committee therefore recommend that efforts should be made to make the schemes stable and if shifting is felt necessary reasons in brief should be recorded in the Annual Report.

Reply of the Government

3.31 It may be stated that the Planning Commission vide their D.O. letter No. M.12043/2/91-PC dated 5.5.1992 had desired that if Ministry of Agriculture proposed to retain the scheme "Buffer Stocking of Seeds" under the Central Sector, then the approval of Cabinet may be obtained for operation

of the scheme under the Central Sector during the VIII Plan period. The observations of the Planning Commission were as under :

“There are some other schemes which the Ministry feels that these are not CSS but were Central Sector Schemes in nature as there is no involvement of the State Governments or the schemes are of national importance. In such cases, it is presumed that there were no transfer of funds to the State Governments in the past. However, the schemes in its present form need to be treated as CSS and transferred to the State Governments with funds. Continuance of the scheme in its present or modified form at the Centre as a Central Scheme would need to be treated as a new scheme initiated during 1992-93 and the required procedure in this regard will have to be followed.”

3.32 On 31.8.1992 this Ministry has moved the CCEA after obtaining the approval of Agriculture Minister regarding the proposal for the retention of the scheme of maintenance of Buffer Stock of Seeds for operation under the Central Sector during the VIIIth Plan period (1992-97) in modification of NDC's decision to transfer it to the State Sector.

3.33 Cabinet Secretariat vide their letter No. 4/1/92-Cab. dated 4th September, 1992 had desired that the financial implications of the scheme require consultation with the Ministry of Finance. Accordingly, Ministry of Finance were also approached in the matter on 17.9.1992. Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) vide their letter No. 5(55)/PF.II/92 dated 5.1.1993 had intimated as under:

“This Ministry does not agree with the proposal to retain the scheme in the Central Sector particularly in view of the fact that the NDC has already decided to transfer this scheme to the State and recently while approving the package of schemes recommended to State Governments for implementation (out of Rs. 500 crores package) following the JPC recommendations this is one of the Schemes to be taken up by the State.”

3.34 Keeping in view the observations of Ministry of Finance, it was decided with the approval of Agriculture Minister to withdraw the proposal for retention of the scheme on 20.4.1993 from the Cabinet Secretariat for further operation under the Central Sector during the VIIIth Plan period (1992-97) in modification of NDC decision.

3.35 In view of the position indicated above, the matter may please be treated as closed.

Recommendation Sl. No. 56 (Page No. 44, Para No. 21)

3.36 Estimated potential yield of Marine Fishery and Inland Fishery is of the order of 39 lakh tonnes and 45 lakh tonnes respectively while the production of marine and inland fish during 1991-92 is 24.47 and 17.10 lakh tonnes respectively. The Committee observe that much of the potential area is yet to be tapped. The Committee would like that emphasis should be laid on tapping this vast potential so as fish production is increased which would ultimately increase our export capacity. Further, coastal land should be made available to traditional fisherman and processing units should be installed near that areas.

Reply of the Government

3.37 The emphasis of NCDC is also on tapping this vast potential so as to increase fish production through Cooperatives by creating necessary infrastructure facilities as well as introduction of fishing inputs. Towards development of fisheries through Cooperatives, NCDC has sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 182 crores and released 78 crores upto 31.3.1993. Making available the coastal land to traditional fisherman is the responsibility of the State Governments. NCDC, also supports this recommendation.

CHAPTER IV

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

Recommendation Sl. No. 2 (Page No. 4, Para No. 2.9)

4.1 The Committee is of the view that a substantial amount would be required for the development of watershed areas. Considering that the NWDPRAs have been accorded the highest priority, the Committee is of the opinion that the present allocation of Rs. 1100 crores is not realistic. The Committee is of the view that the plan allocation for five year plan should be approximately to the tune of 15,000 crores which is more realistic. Besides that, the Committee also feel that the ongoing rural development schemes such as Jawahar Rozgar Yojana should be tied up with the NWDPRAs.

Reply of the Government

4.2 NWDPRAs are an integrated project with a single window financing arrangement prepared in consultation with the local people keeping their requirement in view. Similar activities from other programmes in the same project area would result in duplication of activities and may result in misutilisation of funds. However, complementary and supplementary activities/works like rural roads, markets, primary schools, public distribution system shops, primary health care centres, drinking water wells, rural electricity etc. may be taken up in the NWDPRAs watershed areas from the ongoing rural development schemes like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana for the benefit of the watershed community. Besides, the Ministry of Rural Development have their own watershed development programme which they would take up in areas not covered by NWDPRAs. The views of the Committee pertaining to allocation to the tune of Rs. 15000 crores for five year plan have been communicated to the Planning Commission.

Recommendation Sl. No. 11 (Page No. 13, Para No. 4.13)

4.3 The Committee feel that this trend of depletion of micro-nutrients should be contained and efforts should be made to change the cropping pattern from mono-cropping to multiple and intercropping.

Reply of the Government

4.4 Under the scheme on Balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilisers, Central assistance is being made available for setting up of soil testing

laboratories having micro-nutrient testing facilities. Under this programme demonstrations on the use of micro-nutrients other than Zinc are also being conducted through State Governments. The utilisation of organic manure/compost is being promoted which help in ameliorating the deficiency of micro-nutrients.

Recommendation Sl. No. 12 (Page No. 14, Para No. 4.16)

4.5 On being asked about the development of other Bio-fertilisers apart from BGA, the Ministry of Agriculture stated:

“Like BGA, Azolla has been identified one of the bio-fertilisers as supplementary source of nitrogen. Exact data for its production are not available as its production and application is limited to one or two States in Eastern Region. Production of Azolla is not very economical as it is labour intensive. Azolla may grow only in specific Agro Climatic Zone in Eastern India. Per acre total requirement of BGA and Azolla is given as under :-

	(Per Acre)
(i) BGA	4 Kg.
(ii) Azolla	4 Tonnes

BGA and Azolla can supplement nearly 30 and 60 Kgs. of nitrogenous chemical fertilisers respectively. 10 Kg. BGA which costs Rs. 20 is sufficient for one hectare land and similarly 0.5 tonne Azolla which costs Rs. 40 is enough for application in one hectare field as dual cropping method in rice. Thus, application of BGA and Azolla can save chemical nitrogen worth Rs. 200 and Rs. 400 respectively. Total requirement of BGA and Azolla is estimated to be about 2,52,000 tonnes (in low land) and 16,80,00,000 tonnes (inupland as green manure) respectively.”

4.6 The Committee would like to be informed of the total potential taking into account those areas where it is possible to grow these bio-fertilisers. Concrete action plan may also be framed to produce these bio-fertilisers in adequate quantities. The efforts should be made to educate the farmers on the use of new and alternative use of chemical fertilisers.

Reply of the Government

4.7 For production and use of BGA, an action plan to strengthen the BGA Centre to produce more BGA for use in rice has already been initiated. So far 20 BGA centres have been strengthened by way of providing financial support to BGA Centres in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka,

Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. Efforts are being made to strengthen more BGA centres in other States also to produce additional quantity of BGA.

4.8 Of course, Azolla has been identified as one of the supplementary source of nitrogen but its production and application is limited for wetland rice crops as water is essentially required for the existence of Azolla. During dry season, supply of water is very limited and it is a costly resource. Temperature is also another limiting factor as high and low temperature both inhibit growth of Azolla. Therefore, chances of its production and propagation are limited due to climatic conditions in the country.

Recommendation Sl. No. 16 (Page No. 18, Para No. 5.12)

4.9 The Committee note that an amount of Rs. 166 lakhs was released in 1991-92. The Committee are not satisfied with the progress of work since only drawings have been prepared by the Architect during the last one and a half years. The Committee would, therefore, like the work to be expedited and delay should be avoided. Identifying, selecting and producing of good native varieties and their propagation, which have natural disease and pest resistance, less water and chemical fertiliser requirement. Lesser time to mature and higher nutritional value, having good export potential should be made an integral part of Seed Production Programme.

Reply of the Government

4.10 The building designs have been finalised in consultation with all concerned technical officers of ICAR, IARI, Central Seed Testing Laboratory, National Seeds Corporation and concerned architect engineer of CPWD. However, it was felt that Grow-Out Test Farm and campus of Central Seed Testing and Seed Training Centre should be at one place and not at two different locations as proposed at present. Their locations at one place would ensure better supervision and operational efficiency. The issue of location of site has been finalised in consultation with the U.P. Government. The U.P. Government has agreed to provide contiguous land at Madwadi. However, confirmation in writing is awaited and further work for establishment of NSTC would be taken up after the same is confirmed.

4.11 ICAR is vested with the mandate of organising breeder seed production of various crops as per the indents received by them. The situation on breeder seed front is quite comfortable. In breeding programmes, emphasis is laid on developing varieties having high yield with inbuilt resistance to diseases and pests. Emphasis is also laid on having varieties with better nutritional qualities.

Recommendation Sl.No. 21 (Page No. 24, Para No. 7.12)

4.12 The position as shown in Annexure-I clearly indicates that most of the Agro-Industries Corporations are running into losses. The Committee find that no efforts have been made by the Central Ministry to improve the situation. The Committee are of the opinion that Central Government should give guidelines and directions to Agro-Industries from time to time and find out ways and means to improve them.

Reply of the Government

4.13 The activities of State Agro Industries Corporations in the field of agricultural machinery have been undergoing changes due to developments in this field. Presently, in the field of distribution of agricultural tools and machinery including popular brands of tractors, power tillers, pesticides, bio-gas plants etc. The Corporation of A.P., Karnataka and Rajasthan are engaged in providing machinery services for land Development Programmes. Some Corporations have also taken up inwell drilling activities and assist the farmers who desire to lower submersible pumpsets for more efficient irrigation. Apart from the distribution of spare parts for tractors, power tillers and commonly used machinery to the farmers, most of the Corporations are also providing repair facilities for such equipment.

Agro-Based Activities

4.14 Apart from distribution of Agricultural machinery and implements and setting up custom centre and workshops, most of the Corporations have further diversified their activities in other fields like processing of fruit and vegetable products, setting up of cattle and poultry feed plants, cold storage, oil extraction plants, compost plants, maize milling plants, processing of fish products etc.

Recommendation Sl. No. 23 (Page No. 26, Para No. 8.8)

4.15 The Committee feel that important aspect of incentives to NGOs who show tremendous success in the implementation of those projects should be looked into. Unless NGOs are provided some kind of assistance, their active participation would not be ensured wholeheartedly. Mere organising seminar for NGOs would not be enough.

Reply of the Government

4.16 Regarding involving NGOs under these schemes steps have been initiated. Two workshops one at Gopeshwar in U.P. during November, 1992 and the other at Conoor (Tamil Nadu) during May, 1993 were organised in which selected NGOs, Senior State Government Officers and Central

Government Officers participated to work out the strategies for involving NGOs in these schemes. Based on the recommendations of the workshop, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which envisages a Joint Management System between Government functionaries and Field Workers of an NGOs has been prepared and circulated to all States. Under this MoU, the project funds for a year could be deposited into the Bank account of this Joint Management Committee for taking up implementation of these programmes.

Recommendation Sl. No. 24 (Page No. 26, Para No. 8.9)

4.17 The Committee are of the opinion that new guidelines should be followed strictly and financial assistance should be provided to the NGOs so as to ensure their active involvement in these programmes to accelerate the progress. The Committee, further, feel that funds allocation for these programmes should be increased since slow progress of these programmes is to the some extent due to financial resource constraints.

Reply of the Government

4.18 Regarding involving NGOs under these schemes steps have been initiated. Two workshops one at Gopeshwar in U.P. during November, 1992 and the other at Conoor (Tamil Nadu) during May, 1993 were organised in which selected NGOs, Senior State Government Officers and Central Government Officers participated to work out the strategies for involving NGOs in these schemes. Based on the recommendations of the workshop, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which envisages a Joint Management system between Government functionaries and Field Workers of an NGOs has been prepared and circulated to all States. Under this MoU, the project funds for a year could be deposited into the Bank Account of this Joint Management Committee for taking up implementation of these programmes.

Recommendation Sl. No. 32 (Page No. 37, Para No. 11.6)

4.19 The Committee are of the opinion that continuous efforts should be made on the part of Central Government to prevail upon State Governments so as they amend their Cooperative laws on the lines of the Model Act.

Reply of the Government

4.20 The matter is being actively pursued with State Governments to prevail upon the all State Governments to amend their Cooperative Acts on the lines of Model Act. Most of the States have already amended their respective Cooperative Acts. Draft Multi-State Cooperative Societies Bill, 1994 is under active consideration in this Department.

Recommendation Sl. No. 33 (Page No. 37, Para No. 11.7)

4.21 Further, it has come to the light that in 1982, Parliament had made small attempt by exempting cooperatives with fewer than 10 employees from the provisions of the Industrial Dispute Act so as functioning of farmer-owned Cooperatives could be strengthened. But the amendment to Industrial Disputes Act has not been notified so far even after more than 10 years have elapsed. Thus, the very purpose with which the legislation was framed has been defeated. The Committee take this seriously and are of the opinion that the amendment be notified without fail so as the strategy for the cooperative development could be successful.

Reply of the Government

4.22 The Industrial Disputes Act is subject matter of Ministry of Labour. Regarding issuing the notification to give effect to the amendment in Industrial Dispute Act, excluding cooperatives from the ambit of the Act, this Department has raised the issue with Ministry of Labour. The Ministry of Labour has responded that formulation of a comprehensive proposal for amendment in the Industrial Dispute Act is in consideration. Moreover, in the meeting of Committee of Secretaries, it has been decided that Ministry of Labour should consult Ministry of Law in the matter.

Recommendation Sl. No. 37 (Page No. 39, Para No. 2)

4.23 The Committee are happy to note that a thinking is underway to prepare a 25 year perspective plan for the development of rainfed areas and hope that the plan will be prepared within a period of six months to one year. The Committee is of the view that a substantial amount would be required for the development of watershed areas. Considering that the NWDPRAs has been accorded the highest priority, the Committee is of the opinion that the present allocation of Rs. 1100 crores is not realistic. The Committee is of the view that the plan allocation for five year plan should be approximately to the tune of 15,000 crores which is more realistic. Besides that, the Committee also feel that the ongoing rural development schemes such as Jawahar Rozgar Yojana should be tied up with the NWDPRAs.

Reply of the Government

4.24 Since Planning Commission prepares Five Year Plans/perspective plans of various Departments, Committee's observation for preparing a perspective plan for 25 years for Rainfed Agriculture was communicated to the Planning Commission. A Committee has been constituted for the preparation of 25 year perspective plan for the development of rainfed areas, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Jayant Patil, Member (Agriculture), Planning Commission. The views of the Committee pertaining to allocation to the tune

of Rs. 15,000 crores for five year plan have been communicated to the Planning Commission.

4.25 NWDPRRA is an integrated project with a single window financing arrangement prepared in consultation with the local people keeping their requirement in view. Similar activities from other programmes in the same project area would result in duplication of activities and may result in misutilisation of funds. However, complementary and supplementary activities, works like rural roads, markets, primary schools, public distribution system shops, primary health care centres, drinking water wells, rural electricity, etc. may be taken up in the NWDPRRA watershed area from the ongoing rural development schemes like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana for the benefit of the watershed community. Besides, the Ministry of Rural Development have their own watershed development programme which they would take up in areas not covered by NWDPRRA.

Recommendation Sl. No. 46(ii) (Page No. 42, Para No. 11)

4.26 The Committee also note that for the construction of NDTC at Varanasi fund was released in 1991-92 but only drawings have been prepared by the Architect so far. The Committee is unhappy to note the slow progress of work. The Committee would, therefore, like the work to be expedited and delay be avoided.

Reply of the Government

4.27 The building designs have been finalised in consultation with all concerned technical officers of ICAR, IARI, Central Seed Testing Laboratory, National Seeds Corporation and concerned architect engineer of CPWD. However, it was felt that Grow Out Test Farm and Campus of Central Seed Testing Laboratory and Seed Training Centre should be at one place and not at two different locations as proposed at present. Their locations at one place would ensure better supervision and operational efficiency. The issue of location would be finalised after site inspection by a senior representative of Seed Division of the rank of Joint Secretary or so alongwith CPWD officers shortly.

Recommendation Sl. No. 50 (Page No. 43, Para No. 15)

4.28 17 States have their own State Agro Industries Corporation which have been established with Central assistance. But w.e.f. 1.4.1979, the scheme of equity contribution to State Agro Industries Corporation has been entirely transferred to the State sector. The Committee observe that most of the Agro Industries Corporation are running into losses. However, no efforts have been made by the Central Ministry to improve the situation. The Committee recommend that Central Ministry should give guidelines an directions to the

States from time to time and ways and means should be found out to improve Agro Industries Corporation.

Reply of the Government

4.29 An Expert Group of Managing Directors of the State Agro Industries Corporation has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Machinery) to examine and suggest programmes of diversification of activities and turn around strategies. The Group was also asked to suggest the methodology for completion of annual accounts. The report is expected soon.

4.30 Efforts have also been made through Central Directors on Board of Directors of State Agro Industries Corporation and through normal channels to regularise the accounts and improve upon the performance of the Corporation. However, the State Agro Industries Corporations function under the administrative control of the respective State Governments and hence it is primarily for them to take action.

Recommendation Sl. No. 51 (Page No. 43, Para No. 16)

4.31 The Committee are unhappy to note that only 14.6% of the treatable areas has been treated under RVPs and only about 10.3% of the treatable area has been treated under FPRs which is not satisfactory since soil and water conservation programmes have been on the agenda of the Ministry from the third and sixth five year plan. The financial resource constraint has been stated as the reason for slow progress. The Committee also note that no financial assistance has been given to NGOs for implementation of RVPs and FPRs programmes. The Committee recommend that fund allocation should be increased for these programmes and financial assistance should be provided to NGOs in order to encourage them so as they take active participation in the implementation of these programmes.

Reply of the Government

4.32 The low coverage under RVP and FPR scheme are mainly due to financial resources constraints in previous plan period. The targets fixed annually based on allocation available have been achieved. For increasing allocation for these schemes, Planning Commission is pursued every year at the time of deciding allocations of the Ministry.

4.33 Regarding involving NGOs under these schemes steps have been initiated. Two workshops one at Gopeshwar in U.P. during November 1992 and the other at Conoor (Tamil Nadu) during May, 1993 were organised in which selected NGOs, Senior State Government Officers and Central Government Officers participated to work out the strategies for involving

NGOs in these schemes. Based on the recommendations of the workshop, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which envisages a Joint Management system between Government functionaries and Field Workers of NGOs has been prepared and circulated to all States. Under this MoU, the project funds for a year could be deposited into the Bank Account of this Joint Management Committee for taking up implementation of these programme.

Recommendation Sl. No. 57 (Page No. 44, Para No. 22)

4.34 The Committee observe that cooperative movement in some parts of the country is very successful while in other parts it is a neglected area. The Committee find that Model Cooperative Act by Choudhary Brahm Prakash Committee the most suitable one for the development of cooperative movement. The Model Act has been sent to the State Government/U.T. Administration for amending their State acts on the line of Model Act. The Committee recommend that continuous efforts should be made to prevail upon State Governments so as they take steps to amend their cooperative law. Further, as a measure to strengthen cooperative movement, the Committee would like the amendment to the Industrial Dispute Act notified without fail which was passed in 1982 and providing therein exemption of cooperatives with fewer than 10 employees from the provision of IDA.

Reply of the Government

4.35 Cooperation being a State subject, the State Government have to take action for amendment of their respective State Acts on the lines of recommendations of Choudhary Brahm Prakash Committee Report recommending, *inter-alia*, regular elections of Cooperative Societies. Choudhary Brahm Prakash Committee has treated these provisions as of restrictive nature. Deletion of these provisions require amendments in State Acts which come under the purview of State Governments. However, the report of the Committee has been accepted by this Department, in principle, and reformulation of Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 on the lines of recommendations of the Committee is under active consideration of this Department.

4.36 It is true that there are practical difficulties in materialising the strategy for revitalisation of cooperatives since cooperative society is a State subject. The Central Government is, however, working towards a comprehensive approach to cooperative development. This approach includes initiating action for evolving a national cooperative policy, a suitable legal frame work, strengthening the role of federal cooperatives, business development planning etc.

4.37 The matter is being actively pursued with State Governments to prevail upon the all State Governments to amend their Cooperative Acts on

the line of Model Act. Most of the States have already amended their respective Cooperative Acts. Draft Multi-State Cooperative Societies Bill, 1994 is under active consideration in this Department. The Industrial Disputes Act is subject matter of Ministry of Labour. Regarding issuing the notification to give effect to the amendment in Industrial Dispute Act, excluding cooperatives from the ambit of the Act, this Department has raised the issue with Ministry of Labour. The Ministry of Labour has responded that formulation of a comprehensive proposal for amendment in the Industrial Dispute Act is in consideration. Moreover, in the meeting of Committee of Secretaries, it has been decided that Ministry of Labour should consult with Ministry of Law in the matter.

CHAPTER V

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

Recommendation Sl. No. 3 (Page No. 4-5 Para No. 2.11)

5.1 The Committee even after the reply of the Ministry are in the dark in respect of planned capacity, number of plants supplied, and the population of surviving plants from these nurseries. No doubt local watershed development committees suiting to their local condition decide upon the type and quantity of planting material yet some estimation or assessment in the light of queries raised by the Committee should have been done by the Ministry. The Committee is unable to understand the motive behind just mentioning about the number of nurseries in the Annual Report when Ministry do not possess detailed information with them. In the lack of such information, it would be very difficult to judge the requirement of more nurseries to be set up in future and the planting material which might also adversely affect the planning formulation. The Committee feel that, Ministry of Agriculture being a nodal agency at national level should undertake this task which may be ultimately useful for planning formulation.

Reply of the Government

5.2 Information with respect to 11 States have been received. Details of which are given in Annexure-V. Other States have been requested to furnish information in this regard which will be forwarded to the Committee shortly.

Recommendation Sl. No. 10 (Page No. 12, Para Nos. 4.6 & 4.7)

5.3 The Committee is happy to note that the scheme, as stated earlier, which was initially applicable for three months has now been continued this year also. But Committee fail to understand that how the purpose of another scheme for the benefit of small and marginal farmers would be fulfilled when (i) only Rs. 365 crores were made available (ii) the scheme is still pending for the approval. Since the scheme is linked with the consumption of fertiliser and the representative of the Ministry of Agriculture has admitted that "the present condition is such that fertiliser has become expensive and in regard to potassic fertilisers we totally depend on foreign supplies", the scheme should have been approved early. The Committee observe that if the approval to this scheme is delayed or the scheme is itself discontinued, the infrastructure already created after expending Rs. 365 crores will become infructuous and

creation of permanent infrastructure as stated in the Annual Report will be merely a mirage. Further, consumption of phosphatic/potassic fertiliser would decrease.

5.4 The Committee strongly feel that the approval may be given forthwith to this scheme so as already built infrastructure may be maintained, utilised and further building of infrastructure may be augmented.

Reply of the Government

5.5 Under the scheme for Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers, an amount of Rs. 362.06 crores was released during 1992-93. During 1993-94, an additional amount of Rs. 100.51 crores was released to the State Governments. Thus the total release under the scheme during 1992-93 and 1993-94 was Rs. 462.57 crores. The purpose of the scheme was to develop infrastructure for the benefit of the small and marginal farmers and the State Governments took a number of programmes under this scheme *e.g.*, land reclamation, small tractors, input testing labs, dairy/poultry/horticulture/fishery/cooperative development, seed storage, buffer stocking, biological control lab, distribution of small equipments, pump sets and energization of wells, fertiliser promotion and rebate on fertilisers. Thus the objective of the scheme was not only to increase P&K consumption but also to develop overall infrastructure for the benefit of the small and marginal farmers.

5.6 The proposal for continuation of the scheme for remaining three years of the 8th Five Year Plan (1994-95 to 1996-97) at the total cost of Rs. 1500 crores is under the active consideration of the Planning Commission.

Recommendation Sl. No. 26 (Page No. 28, Para No. 8.15)

5.7 The Committee find that there is tremendous delay in finalising Perspective Plan. Even after 7 years since the first initiative was taken in 1986 in this direction, it is still difficult to ascertain that when the Plan would be finalised. The Committee are of the opinion that vigorous efforts should be made to expedite the work.

Reply of the Government

5.8 The Reports of the Zonal Perspective Plan (PP) for Southern and Eastern Zones have already been received and are under Government consideration. The report of the Central, Northern and Western Zones are likely to be received by the end of this year.

Recommendation Sl. No. 31 (Page No. 35, Para No. 10.6)

5.9 The Committee find that in one place just active fishermen, while in another place active fishermen under the programme for traditional fishermen have been mentioned. Further in written note active marine fishermen and inland active fishermen have been mentioned. The Committee is still confused to find out that how many fishermen have been insured and how many are still to be insured. The facts should be brought out in the Annual Report that there are so many marine fishermen and inland fishermen, so many has been insured and so many are yet to be insured so as to make transparency of the facts.

Reply of the Government

5.10 Group Accident Insurance Scheme aims at providing benefit of insurance coverage to active fishermen, both from inland sector and marine sector. However, the actual data are being obtained from the State Governments and others concerned and will be presented in future Annual Reports as per the recommendation of the Committee on Agriculture.

Recommendation Sl. No. 34 (Page No. 38, Para No. 11.10)

5.11 The Committee are of the view that new sugar factories should be established in the areas where sugarcane crushing capacity is very low in order to strike regional balance. Further Committee feel that establishment of new sugar factories and expansion of existing units should be expedited.

Reply of the Government

5.12 This concerns Ministry of Food. They have been requested to furnish the comments. These will be furnished shortly. The matter is being pursued with them.

Recommendation Sl. No. 35 (Page No. 38, Para No. 11.12)

5.13 The Committee are of the opinion that farmers may not be made under compulsion to sell their sugarcane to particular Cooperative Society, it is imperative that sugarcane control order should be modified and made explicit by specifying that farmers on their own option can sell sugarcane either to the sugar factory as notified or to cooperative society so as interest of farmers is safeguarded.

Reply of the Government

5.14 This concerns Ministry of Food. The matter is being pursued with them to expedite their comments. These will be furnished shortly.

Recommendation Sl. No. 38 (Page Nos. 39 & 40, Para No. 3)

5.15 1849 Composite/Kisan and Government nurseries have been established under NWDPRRA for producing planting material. The Committee are in the dark in respect of planned capacity, number of plants supplied and the population of surviving plants from the nurseries. The Committee are not satisfied with the reply from the Department that local watershed development committees in consultation with the beneficiaries of the watershed decide upon the type and quantity of planting material to be developed in the nurseries. The Committee, therefore, recommend that some estimation or assessment should be done so as to judge both the requirement of more nurseries to be set up in future and the requirement of planting material because just mentioning about the establishment of nurseries do not serve the purpose.

Reply of the Government

5.16 Informations with respect to 11 States has been received, details of which are given at Annexure-V. Other participating States/UTs have been reminded repeatedly to furnish the information and the same will be made available shortly.

Recommendation Sl. No. 43 (Page No. 41, Para No. 8)

5.17 The Committee is happy to note that the scheme which was taken up during 1992-93 in order to make fertiliser available to the farmers at reduced cost has now been continued this year also. However, Committee regret to note that another scheme for the benefit of small and marginal farmers for the development of infrastructure which is likely to increase the consumption of phosphatic/potassic fertiliser is still pending the approval. The Committee observe that the representative of the Ministry of Agriculture has admitted during the course of evidence that fertiliser has become expensive and in regard to potassic fertiliser total dependence is on foreign supplies. In such a situation if the approval to this scheme is delayed or the scheme is itself discontinued the consumption of phosphatic/potassic fertiliser would be affected badly and the infrastructure already created after expending Rs. 365 crores in the scheme will become infructuous. The Committee strongly recommend that the approval to the scheme should be given forthwith in order to safeguard the interest of farmers.

Reply of the Government

5.18 Under the infrastructure development scheme to benefit small and marginal farmers, Rs. 500 crores were sanctioned in 1992-93 out of which an amount of Rs. 362.06 crores was released. The balance amount of Rs. 137.94

crores is being released during the year 1993-94 by re-appropriation of fund from other schemes of the Department.

Recommendation Sl. No. 53 (Page No. 43, Para No. 18)

5.19 The Committee note that the preparation of Perspective Plan on land resources was initiated on the decision of National Land Use & Conservation Board in 1986 and since then a national consultation of finalisation of PP was organised in 1991. The national consultation has recommended that similar type of consultation may also be organised at state level and draft Zonal PP may be reformulated in the light of recommendation of national and state level consultation. The Committee regret to note that even after 7 years since the first initiative was taken the PP is yet to be prepared and it is difficult to ascertain that when the plan would be finalised. The Committee find tremendous delay in finalising perspective plan. The Committee would like the work to be expedited for the better utilisation of land resources.

Reply of the Government

5.20 The report of the Zonal Perspective Plan (PP) for Southern and Eastern Zones have already been received and are under Government consideration. The report of the Central, Northern and Western Zones are likely to be received by the end of this year.

Recommendation Sl. No. 58 (Page Nos. 44 & 45, Para No. 23)

5.21 The Committee observe that generally farmers are under compulsion to sell their sugarcane to the cooperative societies for which a particular areas has been delineated. The distribution and movements of sugarcane is regulated under clause 6 of the Sugarcane Control Order, 1966. The Committee, however, recommend that sugarcane control order should be made more explicit specifying that farmers on their own option can sell sugarcane either to the sugar factory as notified or to cooperative society so as interest of farmers is safeguarded.

Reply of the Government

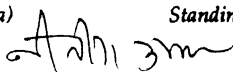
5.22 This concern Ministry of Food. They have been requested to expedite their comments. These will be furnished shortly.

NEW DELHI;

16 March, 1995

25 Phalgun, 1916 (Saka)

AUTHENTICATED



NITISH KUMAR
CHAIRMAN

NITISH KUMAR,
Chairman,

Standing Committee on Agriculture.

ANNEXURE - I
(Vide Para No. 2.4 of the Report)

**Statement showing the STATUS of NWDPR data on Krishi Bhavan
4860 Computer**

Block Quarterly Format

As on 07/11/94

State Name	Total Dist-ri-cts	Total Blo-cks	Number of Blocks reporting for								
			3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd
			qtr	qtr	qtr	qtr	qtr	qtr	qtr	qtr	qtr
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Andhra Pradesh	19	94	94 (19)	94 (19)	94 (19)	85 (19)	94 (19)	94 (19)	94 (19)	89 (19)	0 (0)
Assam	23	109	71 (20)	78 (21)	84 (22)	85 (22)	76 (22)	76 (22)	77 (18)	83 (19)	0 (0)
Bihar	44	300	27 (3)	36 (4)	31 (3)	36 (4)	36 (4)	36 (4)	40 (4)	39 (4)	40 (4)
Gujarat	19	168	126 (14)	126 (15)	142 (15)	128 (15)	148 (17)	165 (19)	159 (18)	167 (19)	0 (0)
Haryana	3	5	3 (1)	0 (0)	3 (1)	3 (1)	5 (2)	4 (2)	4 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Himachal Pr.	11	58	58 (11)	58 (11)	57 (11)	56 (11)	58 (11)	58 (11)	58 (11)	58 (11)	0 (0)
Jammu & Kashmir	12	45	26 (5)	26 (5)	31 (6)	31 (6)	30 (6)	31 (6)	31 (6)	25 (5)	31 (6)
Karnataka	20	85	28 (8)	56 (13)	21 (5)	18 (3)	42 (10)	48 (10)	41 (8)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Kerala	14	114	64 (9)	56 (8)	82 (11)	83 (10)	85 (12)	101 (13)	73 (10)	41 (6)	0 (0)
Madhya Pr.	44	385	306 (37)	290 (36)	312 (38)	313 (38)	384 (44)	385 (44)	361 (43)	372 (43)	0 (0)
Maharashtra	29	266	237 (25)	226 (25)	214 (24)	206 (24)	265 (29)	266 (29)	266 (29)	232 (27)	0 (0)
Manipur	2	5	5 (2)	5 (2)	5 (2)	5 (2)	5 (2)	5 (2)	5 (2)	5 (2)	0 (0)
Meghalaya	6	8	5 (4)	5 (4)	5 (4)	5 (4)	5 (4)	5 (4)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Mizoram	3	20	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3 (1)	14 (2)	17 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Nagaland	7	28	7 (7)	0 (0)	7 (7)	7 (7)	7 (7)	7 (7)	28 (7)	28 (7)	26 (6)
Orissa	30	258	235 (12)	144 (9)	190 (10)	159 (9)	48 (3)	126 (6)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Punjab	3	12	13 (3)	4 (2)	13 (3)	4 (2)	12 (3)	13 (3)	5 (2)	13 (3)	12 (3)
Rajasthan	30	190	117 (20)	17 (3)	124 (21)	128 (21)	146 (20)	146 (25)	135 (23)	121 (22)	0 (0)
Tamil Nadu	15	84	82 (13)	84 (14)	84 (14)	82 (14)	63 (12)	84 (14)	84 (14)	84 (14)	62 (11)
Tripura	3	17	6 (1)	6 (1)	6 (1)	6 (1)	17 (3)	16 (3)	16 (3)	17 (3)	0 (0)
Uttar Pr.	34	186	184 (34)	183 (34)	185 (34)	183 (33)	132 (26)	148 (26)	186 (34)	186 (34)	0 (0)
West Bengal	16	170	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	96 (11)	114 (12)	115 (12)	0 (0)
Sikkim	4	12	8 (4)	8 (4)	8 (4)	7 (3)	10 (4)	10 (4)	10 (4)	10 (4)	0 (0)
Goa	2	7	2 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Andaman & Nicobar Is.	1	4	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Arunachal Pradesh	3	3	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (1)	1 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Dadra & Ngr. Haveli	1	3	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Daman & Diu	2	2	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
	400	2638	1704	1502	1698	1633	1683	1938	1787	1685	171

Source : Block Quarterly format

Note : Figures in brackets indicate the number of Districts from which the data have been received.

[Ministry of Agriculture O.M. No. H-11013/1/94-Parl. dt. 14.11.94]

ANNEXURE - II
(Vide Para No. 2.4 of the Report)

**Statement showing the STATUS of NWDPR data on Krishi Bhavan
4860 Computer**

District Quarterly Format

As on 07/11/94

State Name	Total Districts	Number of Districts reporting for								
		3rd qtr 1992	4th qtr 1992	1st qtr 1993	2nd qtr 1993	3rd qtr 1993	4th qtr 1993	1st qtr 1994	2nd qtr 1994	3rd qtr 1994
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Andhra Pradesh	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	16	0
Assam	23	13	13	15	15	15	14	14	15	0
Bihar	44	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5
Gujarat	19	9	9	11	9	13	0	11	12	0
Haryana	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Himachal Pradesh	11	10	9	10	10	10	11	11	11	0
Jammu & Kashmir	12	3	2	4	4	4	4	4	3	5
Karnataka	20	1	0	1	1	3	10	7	0	0
Kerala	14	1	3	3	4	0	0	0	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	44	36	37	38	39	0	41	39	40	0
Maharashtra	29	25	25	23	21	28	27	27	24	0
Manipur	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0
Meghalaya	6	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	7	7	0	7	7	7	7	7	7	6
Orissa	30	9	8	6	8	3	5	0	0	0
Punjab	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Rajasthan	30	1	1	2	2	4	5	0	4	0
Tamil Nadu	15	6	9	9	8	10	7	9	7	8
Tripura	3	1	1	1	1	3	3	0	0	0

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Uttar Pradesh	34	34	34	34	34	21	20	34	34	0
West Bengal	16	1	0	0	0	0	9	9	9	0
Sikkim	4	4	4	4	3	0	0	4	4	0
Goa	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Andaman & Nicobar Is.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arunachal Pradesh	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Daman & Diu	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
	400	191	185	198	196	194	194	203	194	27

Source : District Quarterly format.

ANNEXURE - III
(Vide Para No. 2.4 of the Report)

**Statement showing the STATUS of NWDPR data on Krishi Bhavan
4860 Computer**

Block Annual Format

As on 07/11/94

Sl. No.	State Name	Total Districts	Total Blocks	Number of Block-reporting for 1992	Number of Block-reporting for 1993
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19	94	94 (19)	91 (19)
2.	Assam	23	109	61 (18)	72 (22)
3.	Bihar	44	300	17 (1)	17 (1)
4.	Gujarat	19	168	27 (3)	130 (14)
5.	Haryana	3	5	0 (0)	0 (0)
6.	Himachal Pradesh	11	58	0 (0)	0 (0)
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	12	45	17 (4)	22 (5)
8.	Karnataka	20	85	0 (0)	0 (0)
9.	Kerala	14	114	36 (5)	85 (13)
10.	Madhya Pradesh	44	385	263 (33)	0 (0)
11.	Maharashtra	29	266	216 (23)	225 (24)
12.	Manipur	2	5	5 (2)	5 (2)
13.	Meghalaya	6	8	4 (3)	5 (4)
14.	Nagaland	7	28	7 (7)	7 (7)
15.	Orissa	30	258	108 (6)	0 (0)
16.	Punjab	3	12	10 (2)	10 (2)
17.	Rajasthan	30	190	77 (14)	106 (22)
18.	Tamil Nadu	15	84	32 (5)	0 (0)
19.	Tripura	3	17	4 (1)	11 (3)
20.	Uttar Pradesh	34	186	171 (32)	193 (34)
21.	West Bengal	16	170	0 (0)	0 (0)
22.	Sikkim	4	12	8 (4)	9 (4)
23.	Goa	2	7	1 (1)	0 (0)
24.	Andaman & Nicobar Is.	1	4	0 (0)	0 (0)
25.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	3	0 (0)	0 (0)
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	3	0 (0)	0 (0)
27.	Daman & Diu	2	2	0 (0)	0 (0)
28.	Mizoram	3	20	0 (0)	0 (0)
		400	2638	1158	988

Source : Block Annual format annstat.txt

Notes : Figures in brackets indicate the number of Districts from which data have been received. NIC

For ORISSA Total Districts has become 30 and Total Blocks has become 258 from 1st quarter 94.
For RAJASTHAN Total Districts has become 30 and Total Blocks has become 190 from 3rd quarter 94.

[Ministry of Agriculture O.M. No. H-11013/1/94-Parl. Dt. 14.11.94]

ANNEXURE - IV
(Vide Para No. 2.4 of the Report)

**Statement showing the STATUS of NWDPR data on Krishi Bhavan
4860 Computer**

State Quarterly Format

As on 07/11/94

State Name	Whether reported through NICNET								
	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd
	qtr	qtr	qtr	qtr	qtr	qtr	qtr	qtr	qtr
	1992	1992	1993	1993	1993	1993	1994	1994	1994
Andhra Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Assam	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Bihar	-	-	Yes	Yes	-	-	Yes	Yes	-
Gujarat	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Haryana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Himachal Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Jammu & Kashmir	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Karnataka	-	-	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-
Kerala	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Maharashtra	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Manipur	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nagaland	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Orissa	Yes	-	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-
Punjab	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rajasthan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tamil Nadu	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Tripura	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Uttar Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
West Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sikkim	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Goa	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Andaman & Nicobar Is.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mizoram	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	-	-
	18	15	17	19	17	19	17	17	4

Source : State Quarterly format

[Ministry of Agriculture O.M. No. H-11013/1/94-Parl. Dt. 14.11.94]

ANNEXURE - V
(Vide Para No. 5.2 & 5.16 of the Report)

Details of Planting Material Raised, Their Supply and Survival

Sl. No.	Name of State	Total No. Nurseries established	Capacity of Nurseries in terms of plants which may be raised (in lakhs)	Plants raised (Nos. in lakhs)	Plants supplied (Nos. in lakhs)	Survival after Plantation (Nos. in lakhs)	%
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	2.710	0.60	0.600	0.40	67%
2.	Assam	142	39.670	34.90	30.960	20.91	67%
3.	Gujarat	261	149.390	107.50	105.230	44.97	43%
4.	Manipur	15	5.250	3.54	2.020	1.69	84%
5.	Meghalaya	6	1.080	0.11	0.094	0.076	80%
6.	Orissa	258	601.130	79.66	56.010	34.25	61%
7.	Sikkim	12	7.050	5.94	5.600	4.58	82%
8.	Tamil Nadu	41	-	30.87	30.530	not reported	not reported
9.	Tripura	13	13.510	3.99	0.449	0.395	88%
10.	Uttar Pradesh	195	261.180	145.41	91.520	45.73	50%
11.	West Bengal	10	34.000	6.47	1.140	not reported	not reported
		956	1114.970	418.99	324.153		

(Ministry of Agriculture O.M. No. H-11013/1/94-Parl. dated 14.11.94)

Agricultural Implements and Machinery Review & Release Committee

Implements released

1. Naveen Bakher Blade
2. Birsa Ridger Plugh
3. APAU Radial blade puddler
4. 3 Type hand hoe rubber weeder
5. Jyoti seed-cum-fertiliser planter
6. Jyoti 3 row seed-cum-fertiliser drill
7. Naveen sickle
8. Groundnut Decorticator (Manual)
9. Tubular Maize Sheller
10. Dibbling Stic with metallic conetip
11. Mould board plough (Luha Langaia)
12. 3 row manually metred fertiliser-cum-Seed drill (Eenati Gourre)
13. Animal drawn fertiliser drill for puddled soils
14. Paddy top dresser
15. Manually operated paddy straw baler
16. Power operatee paddy straw baler
17. Hand operated castor shellor
18. Power operated castor thresher
19. Pedal-cum-power operated air screen grain cleaner
20. Hand operated double screen grain cleaner
21. Sack Holder
22. GAIC Improved serrated sickle
23. GAIC Hand Maize sheller
24. GAIC Manually operated groundnut/castor decorticator

25. GAIC Hand rake (Light)
26. GAIC Hand rake (Medium)
27. GAIC Hand rake (Heavy)
28. GAIC Hand hoe
29. GAIC Khurpi
30. GAIC Fertiliser Injector
31. GAIC Rotary weeder
32. GAIC Cotton stalk puller
33. GAIC Sugarcane harvesting knife
34. TNAU Improved Dryland weeder (Star and Peg.)
35. Bullock drawn Seed-cum-fertiliser drill for ragi
36. Rotavator (Krushivator)

[Ministry of Agriculture O.M. No. H-11013/1/94-Parl. dated 14.11.94]

ANNEXURE-VII
(Vide Para 3.14 of the Report)

**Statement showing rate of incentives for the distribution of seeds under
Crop Production Scheme during 1991-92, 1992-93**

(Rs./Qtls.)

S. No.	Crop.	1991-92	1992-93 & 1993-94		
			Age of variety / hybrid		
			10 years	10-15 years	Specific Varieties
1.	Rice	200	200	180	250 (non-Basmati) 400 (Basmati)
2.	Wheat	200	200	100	250 (for durum & rust resistant varieties for hills)
3.	Jute	800	800 (irrespective of period)		
4.	Cotton	400 (for acid delinted) 300 (for mechani- cally delinted)	800 (for hybrids) 400 (for varieties acid delinted) 300 (for varieties mechanically delinted)	500 (for hybrids)	250 (for varieties)
5.	Oilseeds	300	300 (irrespective of period)		
6.	Pulses	300	300 (irrespective of period)		
7.	Maize & Millets	500 (for hybrids) 400 (for varieties)	500 (for hybrids) 400 (for varieties)	200	

[Ministry of Agriculture O.M. No. H-11013/1/94-Parl. dated 14.11.94]

APPENDIX - I

MINUTES OF 64TH SITTING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE 'A' ON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION HELD ON THURSDAY, THE 19TH JANUARY, 1995 FROM 11.15 HRS. IN ROOM NO. 118, FIRST FLOOR, PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI

The Committee sat from 11.15 hrs. to 1230 hrs.

PRESENT

Shri Som Pal - *Convenor*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Ramnarayan Goswami
3. Shri Bhupinder Singh Mann
4. Dr. Ranbir Singh
5. Shri Uttamrao Deorao Patil
6. Shri D. Pandian
7. Shri Tara Singh
8. Dr. Bapu Kaldate
9. Kum. Pushpa Devi Singh

SECRETARIAT

1. Smt. Roli Srivastava — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri P.D.T. Achary — *Director*
3. Shri S. Bal Shekar — *Under Secretary*

The Sub-Committee took up for consideration the Draft Action Taken Report on the recommendations contained in the 3rd Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture. The Sub-Committee made the comments on the following recommendations in Chapter I of the Draft Action Taken Report:

Recommendation Sl. Nos. 2 & 37 (Page No. 39, Para No. 2):

In para 1.7, the Sub-Committee suggested that the recommendation might be modified indicating that a realistic assessment of the allocation of funds should be made. The Government has allocated Rs. 30,000 crores for rural development. Since the NWDPR is a very important programme 50% of

this allocation *i.e.* Rs. 15,000 crores should be made available for it. Further the National Perspective Plan for the next 25 years should be prepared in a way that agriculture becomes an economically viable operation.

Sub-Committee further desired that concerted efforts should be made to obtain the allocation of Rs. 15,000 crores from the Planning Commission for the current plan period.

Recommendation Sl. No. 11 (Page No. 13 Para 4.13):

In para 1.10, the Sub-Committee desired to add the word "Rotational Cropping Pattern".

Recommendation Sl. No. 12 (Page No. 14 Para 4.16):

In para 1.13 sub-para 3, the Sub-Committee substituted the word "mechanically" with "loosely".

Recommendation Sl. Nos. 16 & 46 (ii) (Para 5.12 Page 42):

In para 1.16, the Sub-Committee desired that the paragraph might be modified to indicate that if the U.P. Government was not coming forward with a positive response for the location of site for the National Seed Training Centre at Varanasi, an alternative site should be chosen in other States.

Recommendation Sl. No. 21 & 50 (Page No. 24 Para 7.12, Page No. 43 & Page No. 15):

In para 1.19, commenting on the losses incurred by various State Agro Industries Corporations as on 31st March, 1992, the Sub-Committee expressed their dismay at the heavy losses incurred by Government by undertaking activities which could be better handled by private sector. They were very much concerned about the inability of the Government to allocate sufficient funds for high priority areas such as NWDPRA, while the Government could afford to incur heavy losses by investing the scarce resources in State-run Agro Industries Corporations.

2. The Sub-Committee further desired that the Recommendation Sl. No. 57 which *inter alia* recommended for the amendment of Cooperative Laws of the States on the line of the Model Cooperative Act at Chapter II should be shifted to Chapter I and suitably commented upon.

3. At the end the Sub-Committee approved the Draft Action Taken Report with modifications indicated above and decided to place it before the main Committee for their consideration and adoption.

The Sub-Committee then adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE SIXTY FIFTH SITTING OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE HELD ON MONDAY,
THE 13TH FEBRUARY, 1995 IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'A',
PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI

The Committee sat from 1520 hrs. to 1530 hrs.

PRESENT

Shri Nitish Kumar - *Chairman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri D. Pandian
3. Shri Sarat Chandra Pattanayak
4. Shri Tara Singh
5. Shri V. V. Nawale
6. Shri Upendra Nath Verma
7. Shri Zainal Abedin
8. Shri Ram Tahal Chaudhary

Rajya Sabha

9. Shri Anant Ram Jaiswal
10. Dr. Bapu Kaldate
11. Shri David Ledger
12. Shri Bhupinder Singh Mann
13. Shri S. K. T. Ramachandran
14. Shri K. N. Singh
15. Shri Som Pal
16. Shri Satyanarayana Dronamraju

SECRETARIAT

1. Smt. Roli Srivastava — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri P.D.T. Achary — *Director*
3. Shri S. Bal Shekar — *Under Secretary*

The Committee took up for consideration the following Draft Reports and adopted them without any modification:

- (i) * * * * *
- (ii) Draft Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Committee on the Annual Report (1992-93) of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation.

The Committee then authorised the Chairman to present the reports on behalf of the Committee to the Parliament.

The Committee adjourned.

APPENDIX -II
(Vide Introduction of the Report)

**ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE
RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE THIRD REPORT
OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (10TH LOK SABHA)**

I.	Total number of Recommendations	60
II.	Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government (Nos. 1, 7, 8, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 22, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 36, 41, 42, 44, 45, 48, 49, 52, 54, 55 & 59)	
	Total	25
	Percentage	41.66%
III.	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies (Nos. 4, 5, 6, 9, 15, 17, 39, 40, 46(i), 47 & 56)	
	Total	11
	Percentage	18.33%
IV.	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee (Nos. 2, 11, 12, 16, 21, 23, 24, 37, 46(ii), 50, 51 & 57)	
	Total	14
	Percentage	23.33%
V.	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies are still awaited (Nos. 3, 10, 26, 31, 34, 35, 38, 43, 53 & 58)	
	Total	10
	Percentage	16.66%