

TWENTY FIFTH REPORT
STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(1995-96)

TENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(DEPTT. OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION)

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (1994-95)

[Action taken by Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Eighth Report of Standing Committee on Agriculture]

Presented to Lok Sabha on 16.5.1995

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 16.5.1995



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

May, 1995/Vaisakha, 1917 (Saka)

C.O.A. No. 25

Price: Rs. 10.00

© 1995 BY LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

Published under Rule 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of
Business in Lok Sabha (Seventh Edition) and Printed by National Printers,
New Delhi.

Corrigenda

Twenty Fifth Report Standing Committee on Agriculture
Action Taken Report (1994-95)

<u>Page</u>	<u>Para</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
1	1.3	2	which have been accepted	which have not been accepted
4	3.6	4	decreas	decrease
4	3.7	7	fee	feed

CONTENTS

	PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE	(iii)
COMPOSITION OF SUB COMMITTEE 'B'	(v)
INTRODUCTION	(vii)
CHAPTER I Report	1
CHAPTER II Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government	2
CHAPTER III Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies	3
CHAPTER IV Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee	5
CHAPTER V Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited	6

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I. Minutes of the 78th sitting of the Sub-Committee 'B' held on 3.5.1995 and Minutes of the 81st sitting of the Committee held on 9.5.1995.	7
APPENDIX II. Analysis of Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the Eighth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (Tenth Lok Sabha)	10

COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE
(1995-96)

CHAIRMAN

Shri Nitish Kumar

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

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
10. Shri Channaiah Odeyar
11. Shri Tara Singh
12. Shri Anantrao Deshmukh
13. Shri Uttamrao Deorao Patil
14. Shri V.V. Nawale
15. Shri Rajvir Singh
16. Kumari Uma Bharati
17. Shri Rudrasen Chaudhary
18. Shri Ganga Ram Koli
19. Dr. Gunawant Rambhau Sarode
20. Dr. Parshuram Gangwar
21. Shri Rajendra Kumar Sharma
22. Smt. Krishnendra Kaur(Deepa)
23. Shri Ram Tahal Chaudhary

24. Shri Zainal Abedin
25. Shri B.N. Reddy
26. Shri Kamla Mishra Madhukar
27. Dr. R.K.G. Rajulu
28. Shri Upendra Nath Verma
29. Shri Shibu Soren

Rajya Sabha

30. Shri Govindrao Adik
31. Shri Satyanarayana Dronamraju
32. Shri Ramnarayan Goswami
33. Shri H. Hanumanthappa
34. Shri Anant Ram Jaiswal
35. Dr. Bapu Kaldate
36. Shri David Ledger
37. Shri Bhupnder Singh Mann
38. Shri N. Thangaraj Pandian
39. Shri S.K.T. Ramachandran
40. Shri K.N. Singh
41. Shri Maheshwar singh
42. Dr. Ranveer Singh
43. Shri Shiv Charan Singh
44. Shri Som Pal

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri S.N. Mishra	—	<i>Additional Secretary</i>
2. Smt. Roli Srivastava	—	<i>Joint Secretary</i>
3. Shri P.D.T. Achary	—	<i>Director</i>
4. Shri S. Bal Shekar	—	<i>Under Secretary</i>

COMPOSITION OF SUB-COMMITTEE 'B'

Shri Rajvir Singh	— <i>Convenor</i>
2. Shri Anantrao Deshmukh	— <i>Alternate Convenor</i>
3. Shri Rudrasen Chaudhary	
4. Shri Sarat Pattanayak	
5. Shri K.N. Singh	
6. Shri Anant Ram Jaiswal	
7. Shri Shibu Soren	
8. Shri B.N. Reddy	
9. Shri Govindrao Adik	

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (1995-96) having been authorised by the Committee to submit Report on their behalf, present this 25th Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 8th Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (1994-95) (Tenth Lok Sabha) on the Demands for Grants (1994-95, of the Ministry of Agriculture (Dept. of Agricultural Research & Education).

2. The Eighth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (1994-95) on Demands for Grants (1994-95) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Dept. of Agricultural Research & Education) was presented to Lok Sabha on 22nd April, 1994, The Ministry of Agriculture (Dept. of Agricultural Research & Education) was requested to furnish action taken replies of the Government to recommendations contained in the Eighth Report by 21st October, 1994. The replies of the Government to all the recommendations contained in the report were received.

3. The Department was also requested to furnish the extent to which the Demands for Grants (1995-96) have been modified in the light of recommendations of the committee contained in the Eighth Report on Demands for Grants (1994-95) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Dept. of Agricultural Research & Education). The replies in this regard were also received.

4. The Sub-Committee 'B' of the Standing Committee on Agriculture considered these action taken replies and subsequent replies furnished by the Government in its sitting held on 2.5.1995 and approved the draft comments and decided to place the same before the whole committee on 9th May, 1995, for final approval and adoption.

5. The Committee considered and adopted the 25th Report at their sitting held on 9.5.1995.

6. An analysis of the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 8th Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in Appendix II.

NEW DELHI;
12 May, 1995

22 Vaisakha, 1917 (Saka)

NITISH KUMAR,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Agriculture.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

This Report of the Committee on Agriculture deals with the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Eighth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (1994-95) on the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agricultural Research & Education) which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 22nd April, 1994.

1.2 Action taken notes and the extent to which Demands for Grants for the year 1995-96 have been modified have been received from the Government in respect of all the 5 recommendations contained in the Report. These have been categorised as follows:-

- i) Recommendations/Observations that have been accepted by the Government:-
Recommendation No 3.4 (Total 1)
- ii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies:
Recommendation Nos. 3.1, 3.2 & 3.3 (Total 3)
- iii) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which reply of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee:-
NIL
- iv) Recommendation in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited:-
Recommendation No. 3.5 (Total 1)

1.3 The Committee has not placed any of the Governments replies in Chapter IV i.e. replies which have been accepted by the Committee, therefore, there is no recommendation in this Chapter.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

Recommendation Sl. No. 3.4

Sub-Head B(1) (I)—Research & Education

2.1 The Committee are pleased at the increase in Planned Assistance to Agricultural Research & Education. However, it is observed that frontline demonstration is being aided by Ministry, ICAR & State Government. The Committee recommend that the expenditure by Central Government through two offices over the same demonstration *i.e.* Major Head '2401' of Agricultural Cooperation & Major Head '2415' of DARE may be avoided and clubbed under Major Head '2415' in the interest of proper utilisation of funds and monitoring.

2.2 The Department in their reply stated:—

The frontline demonstration conducted by the KVks (Krishi Vigyan Kendras) in collaboration with the SMSs (Subject Matter Specialists) of the SAUs (State Agricultural Universities) are only a part of the activities of the KVks for developing feed back information for the scientists. These demonstration also make indepth constraint analysis on oilseeds and pulse production. Therefore, these demonstration cannot be equated with the Frontline demonstrations on rice, wheat and coarse grains which are basically instruments of dissemination of new production technologies. Therefore, there is no duplication of frontline demonstration efforts. These are only funded by the DOA&C.

2.3 The Department further giving the extent to which demand stands modified in the Demands for Grants 1995-96 stated:—

The frontline demonstration conducted by the KVks (Krishi Vigyan Kendras) in collaboration with the SMSs (Subject Matter Specialists) of the SAUs (State Agricultural Universities) are only a part of the activities of the KVks for developing feed back information for the scientists. These demonstration also make indepth constraint analysis on oilseeds and pulse production. Therefore, these demonstrations on rice, wheat and coarse grains which are basically instruments of dissemination of new production technologies. Therefore, there is no duplication of frontline demonstration efforts. These are only funded by the DOA&C.

CHAPTER III

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

Recommendation Sl. No. 3.1

3.1 In its Eighth Report on Demands for Grants 1994-95 the Committee made the following recommendation:—

Major Head '3451'-Secretariat Economic Services-'Non-Plan'

Sub-Head A1(1) Salaries—There is an increase in the Salaries head upto 35% calculated over the base year 1992-93. The Committee is not satisfied with the explanation that this is due to the joining of a Financial Adviser & a Joint Secretary and, therefore, observe that the estimates on this head are overpitched.

3.2 The action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government was as under:—

“a review of the estimates and expenditure will be undertaken and maximum economy measures will be adopted”

3.3 On scrutiny of the Demands for Grants 1995-96 in respect of DARE the Department was asked to state the extent to which the demands stand modified. The Department stated that “As a result of the Review the provision under RE 94-95 has been reduced from 37.00 lakhs to 34.00 lakhs.”

Recommendation Sl. No. 3.2

3.4 In recommendation No. 3.2 on office expenses the Committee recommended that the budgetary provisions reflect an increase of +93% over 1992-93 and +43% over 1993-94. Reasons for such an increase are attributed to joining of Financial Adviser and Joint Secretary. The Committee are not convinced with the adequacy of this reason and recommend measures to exercise control on such expenses.

3.5 The Department in its Action taken/proposed to be taken stated:—

“A review of the estimates and expenditure will be undertaken and maximum will be adopted”.

3.6 On scrutiny of the Demands for Grants 1995-96 in r/o DARE the Department was asked to state the extent to which demand stands modified. It stated "As recommended by the Committee the provision under RE-1994-95 has been reduced 20.00 to 16.00 (a decrease of 20%)"

Recommendation Sl. No. 3.3

3.7 *Major Head '2451'- Agricultural Research and Education*—In the year 1992-93 an amount of Rs. 24.22 crores has been reallocated from Plan to Non-plan. This had been done to accommodate the payment of arrears on the fitment of scientists in higher pay scales, payment to Provident Fund Commissioner and meet liabilities towards Interim Relief, Merger of 20% DA of Staff, payment of Bonus etc. The Committee are dismayed over the reallocation from Plan to Non-plan which directly means cutting on the Agricultural development process to free overheads and recommend that such reappropriation should be avoided and the excess liabilities, If any, should be met through supplementary Demands.

3.8 The Committee also recommends that in order to enable ICAR to achieve its objective, it should be provided with additional funds.

Action taken/proposed to be taken:

3.9 It may be pointed out that there was no intention to curtail Plan expenditure. The reappropriation was resorted to only when surrender under Plan side became unavoidable and the requirements under Non-plan became much higher. Moreover the reappropriation was done with the approval of Ministry of Finance. It needs to be emphasised that a major part of research work in the Institutes and Research Centres of ICAR is being done on the Non-plan side also. Hence, Non-plan Expenditure is equally important for research programmes.

Extent to which demand stands modified:

3.10 It may not be correct to say that Plan allocation has been cut to meet the extra requirements of Non-plan. The amount left unutilised or surrender under Plan has only been reallocated to meet the extra requirements under Non-plan with the approval of Ministry of Finance. In this connection, it is also relevant to say that a major part of the research work done in the Institutes and Research Centres of ICAR pertains to Non-plan side also. As such Non-plan Expenditure is equally important for research programmes.

3.11 The Planning Commission have been requested for raising allocation of ICAR so as to be targeted to reach a graded level of 1% of the total agricultural GDP for having meaningful achievements in the country's Agricultural sector. The extract of recommendations (No. 2) in this connection of Standing Committee on Agriculture (Lok Sabha) has been sent to them.

CHAPTER IV

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

— NIL —

CHAPTER V

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

Recommendation Sl. No. 3.5

5.1 Agricultural Extension—Seeing to the funds meant for KVKs the Committee recommends that a separate sub-head under Major Head '2415' may be created for funding the KVKs.

5.2 The Action Taken/proposed to be taken by the Government was as under:—

The Standing Committee has observed that some SAUs are either diverting the money allocated to KVKs project to some other areas or not utilising the grants properly. There is no diversion of funds for KVKs at the ICAR Hq. As per the observations of the Standing Committee all the SAUs have been requested not to divert KVK funds for any other purpose and open a separate head of account for KVK funds. Since no diversion of KVK funds has been observed at the ICAR Hq. Separate Budget head for KVKs at the Hq. may not be of much help.

5.3 The Department further giving the extent to which demand stands modified in the Demands for Grants 1995-96 stated:—

The Standing Committee has observed that some SAUs are either diverting the money allocated to KVK project to some other areas or not utilising the grants properly. There is no diversion of funds for KVKs at the ICAR Hq. As per the observation of the Standing Committee all the SAUs have been requested not to divert KVKs funds for any purpose and open a separate head of account for KVK funds. Since no diversion of KVK funds has been observed at the ICAR Hq. separate Budget head for KVKs at the Hq. may not be of much help.

5.4 Seventy eight new Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) have been sanctioned during 1994-95 on 12.9.94 with the outlay of Rs. 54.74 crores for the VIII Plan. More KVKs will be opened subject to availability of funds.

5.5 Committees comments:

The reply does not state how many SAUs have opened a separate head of account and what is the action of the Government against those SAUs who have not opened separate Heads of Accounts for KVKs.

NEW DELHI;
12 May, 1995

22 Vaisakha, 1917 (Saka)

NITISH KUMAR,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Agriculture.

APPENDIX I

MINUTES OF THE 78TH SITTING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE 'B'
ON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION
ON 2ND MAY, 1995 IN ROOM NO. 118, FIRST FLOOR,
PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI

PRESENT

Shri Rajvir Singh — *Convenor*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rudrasen Chaudhary
3. Shri K.N. Singh
4. Shri Govindrao Adik

The Sub-committee considered the memorandum, the Action Taken Replies and unanimously agreed with the categorization of the replies of the Government as prepared by the Secretariat.

The Sub-committee decided to place Chapter I of the Report before the whole Committee in its meeting scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 9th May, 1995 for consideration and adoption.

The meeting then adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTY FIRST SITTING OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE HELD ON TUESDAY, THE 9TH MAY,
1995 AT 15.30 Hrs. IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'C' PARLIAMENT HOUSE
ANNEXE, NEW DELHI

The Committee sat from 15.30 hrs. to 17.40 hrs.

PRESENT

Shri Nitish Kumar *Chairman*

MEMBERS

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Birbal
3. Shri Nathuram Mirdha
4. Shri G. Ganga Reddy
5. Shri Govindrao Nikam
6. Shri Tara Singh
7. Shri Uttamrao Deorao Patil
8. Shri Rajvir Singh
9. Dr. Gunawant Rambhau Sarode
10. Shri Zainal Abedin
11. Shri Upendra Nath Verma

Rajya Sabha

12. Shri Govindrao Adik
13. Shri H. Hanumanthappa
14. Shri David Ledger
15. Shri Bhupinder Singh Mann
16. Shri N. Thangaraj Pandian
17. Dr. Ranveer Singh
18. Shri Som Pal

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri S.N. Mishra	—	<i>Additional Secretary</i>
2. Smt. Roli Srivastava	—	<i>Joint Secretary</i>
3. Shri P.D.T. Achary	—	<i>Director</i>

At the outset Chairman (AC) welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and requested them to take up the adoption of the Draft Action Taken Reports on the Demands for Grants for 1994-95 in respect of all five Departments/Ministries.

2. Members drew the attention of Chairman (AC) to the shortage of staff in the Agriculture Committee Branch and expressed the hope that the shortage will be fulfilled without any further delay failing which they would address the Hon'ble Speaker in the matter.

3. The Draft Reports were considered one by one and adopted with certain modifications. The Members of the Committee, thereafter, authorised the Chairman to present the Action Taken Reports on Demands for Grants 1994-95 in respect of Ministry of Agricultural (Department of Agricultural Research & Education), Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying), Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Cooperation), Ministry of Water Resources and Ministry of Food Processing Industries to the House on a date convenient to him.

The meeting then adjourned.

APPENDIX II

(*Vide* Introduction of the Report)

Analysis of Action taken by Government on the 8th Report of Standing Committee on Agriculture (10th Lok Sabha)

I.	Total number of Recommendations.	5
II	Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government (Nos. 3.4)	
	Total	1
	Percentage	20%
III	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies (Nos. 3.1 3.2 & 3.3)	
	Total	3
	Percentage	60%
IV	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee	
	Total	NIL
	Percentage	NIL
V	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies are still awaited (No. 3.5)	
	Total	1
	Percentage	20%