

**52**

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
(2013-2014)**

**FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CO-OPERATION)**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2013-2014)**

**{Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/  
Recommendations contained in the Forty-Sixth Report  
of the Committee on Agriculture (2012-2013)}**

**FIFTY SECOND REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

December 2013/Agrahayana, 1935 (Saka)

**FIFTY SECOND REPORT**

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
(2013-2014)**

**(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & COOPERATION)**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS**

**(2013-2014)**

**(Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/  
Recommendations contained in the Forty-Sixth Report of the  
Committee on Agriculture (2012-2013))**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 09.12.2013

Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 09.12.2013



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

**NEW DELHI**

**December, 2013/Agrahayana, 1935 (Saka)**

COA No. ....

Price: Rs.

© 2013 By Lok Sabha Secretariat

Published under Rule 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Fourteenth Edition) and Printed by

## **<CONTENTS>**

		PAGE
<b>COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE.....</b>		(iii)
<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>		(v)
CHAPTER I	Report .....	01
CHAPTER II	Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government .....	20
CHAPTER III	Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies .....	51
CHAPTER IV	Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee .....	52
CHAPTER V	Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited .....	61
<b><u>ANNEXURES</u></b>		
I.	State-wise Outstanding Utilisation Certificates in respect of Grant No. 1 as on 30-04-2013 for the grant released upto 31-03-2011	64
II.	Year-wise Outstanding Utilisation Certificates in respect of Grant No. 1 as on 09-05-2013 for the grant released upto 31-03-2011	65
III.	Component details of the Central Sector Scheme 'Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds'	66
IV.	All India Requirement (Demand) & Production (Availability) of Certified / Quality Seed.	69
V.	Commodity-wise/State-wise/Year-wise procurement of Oilseeds, Pulses & Cotton under Price Support Scheme from 2006-2007 to 2011-2012.	70
VI.	Commodity-wise/State-wise/Year-wise procurement under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) from 2001-02 to 2011-12	75
<b><u>APPENDICES</u></b>		
I.	Minutes of the Fifth Sitting of the Committee held on 29 October, 2013.	81
II.	Analysis of Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Forty-Sixth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Agriculture (2012-2013).	83

## COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (2013-14)

Shri Basudeb Acharia - Chairman

### MEMBERS

#### LOK SABHA

2. Shri Narayansingh Amlabe
3. Shri Sanjay Singh Chauhan
4. Shri H.D. Devegowda
5. Smt. Ashwamedh Devi
6. Shri L. Raja Gopal
7. Smt. Paramjit Kaur Gulshan
8. Shri Anant Kumar Hegde
9. Shri Premdas Katheria
10. Shri P. Kumar
11. Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi
12. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Libra
13. Dr. Jyoti Mirdha
14. Shri Kachhadia Naranbhai
15. Shri Devji M. Patel
16. Smt. Bhavana Gawali (Patil)
17. Shri Jagdish Singh Rana
18. Shri Rajaiah Siricilla
19. Shri Patel Kishanbhai V.
20. Dr. Vinay Kumar Pandey 'Vinnu'
21. Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav

#### RAJYA SABHA

22. Shri N. Balaganga
23. Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi
24. Smt. Mohsina Kidwai
25. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan
26. Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao
27. Shri Parshottam Khodabhai Rupala
28. Shri Rajpal Singh Saini
29. Shri S. Thangavelu
30. Shri Shivanand Tiwari
31. Shri Darshan Singh Yadav

(iii)

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri A. Louis Martin - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. Abha Singh Yaduvanshi - Director
3. Shri C. Vanlalruata - Deputy Secretary

## **INTRODUCTION**

I, the Chairman, Committee on Agriculture (2013-14), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Fifty-second Report on action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Forty-sixth Report of the Committee on Agriculture (201-2-13) on Demands for Grants (2013-2014) pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation).

2. The Forty-sixth Report of the Committee was presented to Lok Sabha on 23 April, 2013 and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 25 April, 2013. The Action Taken Notes on the Report were received on 16 July, 2013.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 29 October, 2013.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Forty-sixth Report of the Committee is given in **Appendix-II**.

**NEW DELHI;**  
**03 December, 2013**  
**12 Agrahayana, 1935 (Saka)**

**BASUDEB ACHARIA**  
***Chairman,***  
***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 Forty-sixth Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2013-14) pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) which was presented to Lok Sabha on 23 April, 2013 and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 25 April, 2013.

1.2 The Government have furnished Action Taken Replies in respect of all the 26 Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report. These have been categorised as under:

- (i) Observations/Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government :  
Recommendation Nos. 1.4, 2.8, 2.9, 2.10, 2.11, 2.12, 3.23, 3.24, 3.25, 3.27, 4.51, 4.53, 4.54, 4.55, 4.58, 4.59, 4.61 and 4.64 (Chapter II – 18)
- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply:  
Recommendation Nos. Nil (Chapter III – Nil)
- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which action taken replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee  
Recommendation Nos 3.26, 3.28, 4.52, 4.60, 4.62 and 4.63. (Chapter IV – 6)
- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited.  
Recommendation Nos. 4.56 and 4.57 (Chapter V – 2)

**1.3 The Committee trust that utmost importance would be given to implementation of the Observations/Recommendations accepted by the Government. In cases where it is not possible for the Government to implement**



**the Recommendations in letter and spirit for any reason, the matter should be reported to the Committee with reasons for non-implementation. The Committee desire that further Action Taken Notes on the Observations/Recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Chapter-V of this Report be furnished to them at an early date.**

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

**TWELFTH PLAN DOCUMENT**  
**(Recommendation Para No. 3.26)**

1.5 The Committee were exasperated to be apprised that all agencies concerned with finalization of the Twelfth Plan Document had not paid any heed to the advice contained in their Thirty-fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2012-13) for streamlining the planning process as the extant process is riddled with the need for obtaining multi-agency clearances which are time consuming. The National Development Council approved the Twelfth Plan on 27 December, 2012, yet it had not seen the light of the day.

The Committee also took an adverse view of the concerned agencies taking refuge that extant planning process as well thought of and one that has stood the test of time even after the representatives of the Planning Commission had confessed during the Oral Evidence that even during the Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plan, there had been remarkable delay in their finalization, which had a negative impact on not only the new Schemes but the prospects of ongoing Schemes were also severely hampered. Having been a witness to the detrimental effects of the prevalent system in terms of

reduced outlays and staggering of timelines, the Committee had recommended that all the concerned should break free from the shackles of the past and streamline this time consuming process and also ensure compliance to the guidelines of the extant planning process, and thereby aid the planning process in getting rid of its systemic ills.

1.6 The Government in their Action Taken Note, have submitted that there is a standard procedure to finalize the Five Year Plan which starts with constitution of Working Groups of various sectors and ends with approval by NDC. The schemes as have been decided to be continued are required to go through the process of obtaining fresh in-principle approval of Planning Commission. Thereafter, these schemes are put up before EFC/CCEA for approval as required in the guidelines after which, the schemes are implemented in the revised format, as approved. It may however be stated that the schemes being implemented during the Eleventh Five Year Plan continue to be implemented as per extant guidelines till EFC/CCEA approvals are obtained. This ensures that ongoing schemes are not affected by the approval process.

**1.7 Based on their experience during the course of the Eleventh Plan period, the Committee had witnessed first hand, the systemic weaknesses in the present planning process which being riddled with multi-agency clearances was time consuming. This ultimately resulted in staggering of timelines and under-utilization of funds, ultimately reducing the efficacy of all Schemes of the Government. To save the Twelfth Plan Document from the same fate, the Committee had recommended for streamlining the extant planning process. However, much to their dismay, the Department have sought refuge behind their**

stock reply about there being a standard procedure to finalize the Five Year Plan which starts with Constitution of Working Groups of various sectors and ends with approval by National Development Council (NDC). The Committee are also not at all happy with the reply that all the Schemes being implemented during the Eleventh Five Year Plan continue to be implemented as per extant guidelines till Expenditure Finance Committee/Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, approvals are obtained. The Committee also take strong umbrage to the Department's assertion that the procedure being followed in the absence of formal Plan and requisite clearances/approvals ensures that ongoing Schemes are not affected by the approval process. The Department has conveniently forgotten that during the Twelfth Plan the Government wants to drastically prune down the number of schemes to usher better efficiency in implementation and financial management with more than a third of the duration of Twelfth Plan being over, the Committee can draw their own conclusions about the inaction of the Government towards systemic improvement in the development delivery system. The Department in the past, on being queried about the under-utilization of funds, non-achievement of physical targets have always attributed the same to delay in approval of the Plan Document. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that all concerned agencies streamline the time consuming process.

**FINANCIAL ALLOCATION AND UTILIZATION DURING FIRST YEAR OF THE TWELFTH PLAN**  
**(Recommendation Para No 3.28)**

1.8 The Committee were constrained to note that the financial performance of the Department during the first fiscal of the Twelfth Plan was reminiscent of the problems plaguing the system of planning and implementation in previous years. During the year 2012-13 against a proposal of Rs.49,674.34 crore, the allocation by the Planning Commission as reflected in BE for 2012-13 was a mere \*Rs.20,308.00 crore. Further, due to the tardy utilization of funds by implementing agencies during the first two quarters, the RE was curtailed to Rs.17867.32 crore. The actual expenditure was approximately ^Rs.13478.19 crore (till 31 December, 2012). The Department attributed this to reduction at BE in funds sought by RKVY. Though the Department sought Rs.25,000.00 crore, they were allocated only Rs.9217.00 crore as BE. This was further pruned at RE to Rs.8400.00 crore. The Committee had, therefore, urged all the agencies concerned to introspect at their working, identify their weak areas, work on them and thereby ensure a turnaround in the next Fiscal so that the variation between proposals, allocation and utilization is negated to the extent possible.

1.9 In their Action Taken Note, the Government have stated that the outlay of the Department for Fiscal 2012-13 was reduced to Rs. 17867.32 crore at RE stage. Out of this, Department utilized an amount of \*\*Rs.17690.19 crore which works out to# 99% of the allocated amount. In respect of RKVY, entire allocated amount at RE stage has been utilized. To reduce the variation between allocation and expenditure, State Governments were exhorted by the Department at various levels to increase their pace of utilization of funds, submission of Utilization Certificates and approval of projects under the schemes. The concern of the Committee has been noted.

---

***\* At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC updated this figure to Rs.20,208.00 crore as on 31.10.2013.***

***^ At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC updated this figure to Rs.14238.46 crore as on 31.10.2013.***

***\*\* At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC updated this figure to Rs.17730.72 crore as on 31.10.2013.***

***# At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC updated this figure to 99.24% as on 31.10.2013.***

**1.10 The Committee express their serious concern over that fact that a high priority Department like DAC, continues to witness curtailing of BE funds at RE stage due to tardy utilization of funds by implementing agencies i.e. State Governments and Union Territory Administrations during the first two quarters of the Fiscal. Rather than just noting the concern of the Committee and drawing solace from having spent 99% of their RE allocation the Department tackle this perennial problem in right earnest and with the alacrity it deserves. The implementing agencies need to be apprised in no uncertain terms that procedural delays on their part are hampering the progress of Schemes, which ultimately proves detrimental to the overall progress of the Agriculture sector firstly in their own administered areas and finally culminates in the same holding true at the National level. The Committee would appreciate being informed of the efforts of the Department in this regard at the earliest.**

**NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY MISSION (NFSM)**  
**(Recommendation Para No. 4.52)**

1.11 The Committee having noted with concern that the malaise afflicting the physical achievements against the target set under NFSM had continued unabated during the years 2011-12 and 2012-13 and on being apprised by the Department that this mismatch was due to non-receipt of report from States had deprecated this delay as it hampered the monitoring and evaluation of the Scheme and ultimately delayed the initiation of corrective measures that would ensure increase the viability of the National Food Security Mission. Also, not buying the argument of the Department that rather than looking at individual components, the overall picture should be looked into, they

had recommended that all implementing agencies undertake an in-depth analysis into the performance of individual components of this Scheme and thereby ensure that the existing gap between achievements and the targets set gets bridged in quickly.

1.12 In their Action Taken Note, the Government have stated that for the fiscal year 2012-13, achievement against targets under demonstrations is \*92.19%, cropping based trainings ^224%, seed distribution \$80.94%, IPM #82.77% and machineries @134.24%. States and implementing agencies are regularly pursued for submission of component-wise progress reports as also effective implementation of programmes. Progress of implementation is also monitored through correspondence, constant dialogue, monitoring visits and in NFSM EC and GC meetings. States have also been asked to complete process of concurrent evaluation of the scheme. !

---

**\* At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC updated this figure to 96.08% as on 31.10.2013.**

**^ At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC updated this figure to 227.05% as on 31.10.2013.**

**\$ At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC updated this figure to 81.23% as on 31.10.2013.**

**# At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC updated this figure to 87.98% as on 31.10.2013.**

**@ At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC updated this figure to 149.12% as on 31.10.2013.**

**! At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC indicated that so far, state of Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu have submitted Report of Concurrent Evaluation.**

1.13 The Committee are pained at the rather casual reply of the Government towards their instant recommendation for timely furnishing of component-wise progress reports by the States/Union Territories under the National Food Security Mission (NFSM). They also note that the nodal Department have till date not been successful in being able to ensure timely submission of data. What further aggrieves the Committee is that in the absence of data of individual components, overall data for the physical parameters of the Scheme is being accepted by the nodal Department, as they are of the view that rather than looking at individual components, the overall picture should be looked into. Deprecating this rather callous reply of the Department as it clouds the authenticity of the data received from the implementing agencies, and ultimately would lead to compromising of the final data, the Committee recommend that the Central Government start insisting upon the States/Union Territories to firstly collect data of individual components of the physical achievements under NFSM and then furnish the same to the Centre in the stipulated time. This would ensure timely furnishing of accurate data that would help in a thorough analysis of this pivotal Scheme and thus increase its viability.

**OILSEEDS PRODUCTION UNDER INTEGRATED SCHEME OF OILSEEDS, PULSES, OILPALM AND MAIZE**  
**(Recommendation Para Nos. 4.56 and 4.57)**

1.14 Noting the yawning gap between demonstration average yield and local average obtained in field in Oilseeds Production Programme being implemented under ISOPOM from 1 April, 2004 in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat,

Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and expressing their concern over the fluctuating trend in production of oil seeds, due to the vagaries of climate and the yields as well, the Committee had impressed upon the Government to look into these areas urgently and ensure that oilseeds production and productivity receives a shot in the arm, as this would enable to Country to attain self sufficiency in oils, whilst reducing the nation's import bill and also help boost the production of animal fodder. Furthermore, deprecating the repetitive constraints in oilseeds production as listed by the Government, the Committee had urged the Government to synergize various programmes being implemented in the Agriculture Sector to ensure that benefits from Schemes are interlinked and constraints in oil seeds production are overcome. They had further desired the Government embark upon an action plan as suggested, post haste and intimate the Committee of the same. As efforts to tap potential from Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBO) have not yielded the desired results, the Committee had also desired focused attention towards this nascent area.

1.15 The Government in their Action Taken Note have submitted that \*they are in the process of finalizing the National Mission on Oilseeds & Oil Palm (NMOOP) for increasing production/productivity of oilseeds and area expansion under oil palm/Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBOs) for augmenting the domestic availability of vegetable oils in the country. The broad strategy would include:

---

\* *At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC intimated that NMOOP has been finalized.*



- Strategies for yield improvement in districts with low yield high spread and to explore the possibilities of area expansion in districts with low spread high yield;
- Cluster demonstrations on improved production technologies of oilseeds including use of micro-nutrients, gypsum; etc.
- Augmenting production and availability of certified/quality seeds with emphasis on seed treatment;
- Enhancing irrigation through Sprinklers/Rain-guns/water carrying pipes and pump-sets;
- Encouraging cultivation of oilseeds in areas of low wheat productivity , rice fallows and intercropping with coarse cereals, pulses;
- Promotion of Sunflower cultivation in Zaid season;
- Capacity building through Frontline demonstrations/ Farmers Field Demonstration in Pest & Disease Management;
- Procurement tie-up through NAFED.

They have further stated that NAFED would be involved for procurement of Oilseed Crops to ensure that the benefit of MSP reaches the farmers. As regard, harnessing potential of TBOs, TRIFED a multi State Cooperative Society would be involved to facilitate the procurement of TBOs, which are largely collected by the Tribals. National Mission on Oilseeds & Oil Palm would encourage/ provide linkage for dovetailing of resources from other schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), National Mission on Agriculture Extension & Technology (NMAET) and National Food Security Mission (NFSM) for enhancing production of oilseeds in the country. Efforts would be made by National Mission on Oilseeds & Oil Palm (NMOOP) and NFSM to promote inter/mix-cropping of oilseeds and pulses under similar agro-climatic conditions. #

---

**# At the time of factual verification DAC stated that mission containing support for opening of procurement centres and operational charges and support to TRIFED for collection and procurement for TBOs has been approved by CCEA. The details of guidelines of Mission, which includes linkage of resources from other schemes, is being prepared.**

1.16 The Committee are highly disappointed to note that the Department have not yet # finalized the National Mission on Oilseeds and Palm (NMOOP) which was intended for increasing productivity/productivity of oilseeds and extra expansion under Oil Palm/Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBOs) for augmenting the domestic availability of vegetable oils in the Country. The inordinate delay in finalisation of this Scheme of immense national importance is a sad manifestation of the delay in finalisation of the Twelfth Plan. The Committee wonder how many other such Schemes of national interest would be similarly stuck for want of necessary approvals/clearances, thereby, derailing the developmental process. Keeping in view the present deficiency in domestic oilseeds production, due to which the nation has to resort to costly imports to cater to the domestic needs, the Committee urge the Department to immediately push for the finalization of the NMOOP and also work towards speedy multi-agency clearances so that the Scheme sees the light of the day without any further delay.

**SUPPORT TO STATE EXTENSION PROGRAMMES FOR EXTENSION REFORMS**  
**(Recommendation Para No. 4.58)**

1.17 Having noted that manpower including subject matter specialists, were not be employed, as per sanctioned strength, impacting the implementation of the Scheme. The Committee had accordingly recommended the removal of systemic bottlenecks retarding the progress of this Scheme which aims at making extension system farmer

---

# At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC intimated that NMOOP has been finalized.

driven and farmer accountable by way of new institutional arrangements for technology dissemination during the course of the Twelfth Plan period and thereby ensure optimum utilization of funds that would directly lead to increased dissemination of technology to farmer.

1.18 The Government in their ATRs have stated that the Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms”, popularly known as ATMA Scheme was launched in May, 2005 and aimed at making extension system farmer driven and farmer accountable by way of institutional arrangements for technology dissemination in the form of an Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) at district level to operationalize Extension Reforms. The detail of year-wise budgetary position under the Scheme is given below: -

(Rs. in Crore)

<b>Year</b>	<b>B.E.</b>	<b>R.E.</b>	<b>Release</b>
2005-06	45.00	45.00	43.44
2006-07	75.00	50.00	48.27
2007-08	230.00	150.00	155.81
2008-09	298.00	198.00	193.01
2009-10	298.00	188.98	178.59
2010-11	250.00	220.00	240.28
2011-12	500.00	458.60	434.02
2012-13	600.00	504.13	508.07
2013-14	550.00	-	-*

Above table reveals that public investment in Agricultural Extension by Central Government has increased from Rs.43.44 crore during the year 2005-06 to Rs.508.07 Crore in 2012-13 under the Scheme. Since modification of the Scheme in the year 2010, the increase has been more substantial. Amount released to the States during last 3 years is nearly 100% of the Revised Estimates. Expenditure incurred by the States during these 3 years has also been keeping pace with the releases by the centre. On the basis of experience gained during the implementation of Extension

---

**\* At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC furnished the figure of Rs. 272.94 crore as on 31.10.2013.**

Reforms Scheme from 2005 to 2009 and after consulting the State Governments, the Government of India has revised the ATMA Scheme in the year 2010-11. The revised scheme provides for dedicated specialist and functionary support to take-up training and extension initiatives at State, District and Block level. Besides this, improvement in extension outreach right down to the village level was expected to be achieved through Farmers Friends. 12,276 posts have been filled up as against 18,326 sanctioned. There is a short fall due to the fact that there are administrative delays in the States as the process involves approval of the Finance Department/ Cabinet of the State Government. If contractual posts are filled up through outsourcing, bidding process also takes time. Further, the current emoluments paid to ATMA functionaries are rather low in current scenario especially in the case of Subject Matter Specialists (SMSs) at the block level. This has led to some States actually not finding any takers for these posts. In some other States, there is attrition due to low emoluments paid to SMSs. Enhancement in emoluments is under consideration. # The States are also being pursued continuously to clear the backlog vacancies. Regular follow-up has been taken up with States to accelerate implementation of Modified ATMA Scheme through Review Meetings, Conference/ Workshops and field visits. \*\* In the last 9 months 100 districts have been extensively traversed down to village level. As a result of regular and concerted efforts, a record State Extension Work Plans (SEWPs) of ^30 States for @613 districts across the country were approved and an ~ expenditure of Rs.544.01 crore reported during 2012-13 (excluding expenditure from 6 States, the Reports of which are still awaited).

---

**# At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC stated that EFC for National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology for 12<sup>th</sup> plan has been approved on 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2013.**

**\*\* At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC stated that during last one year 108.**

**^ At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC revised this figure to 29 as on 31.10.2013.**

**@ At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC updated this figure to 628 as on 31.10.2013.**

**~ At the time of factual verification DAC stated that amount of Rs. 272.94 crore has been released during 2013-14 (upto 31.10.2013) against BE of Rs. 550.00 crore.**

**1.19 Taking note of various administrative and procedural infirmities, which have impacted the implementation of the Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) to a very large extent, the Committee had recommended corrective measures in their Forty-sixth Report. They find that some corrective steps have been initiated by the Government which will affect positively the performance of the Scheme. Unfortunately, one measure which would impact the performance of ATMA in a significant way i.e. the enhancement of emoluments of Subject Matter Specialists (SMSs) is still under consideration. The Committee would appreciate an expeditious decision in the matter so that further attrition of manpower at this level in the ATMA mechanism is checked.**

**SUPPORT TO STATE EXTENSION PROGRAMMES FOR EXTENSION REFORMS**  
**(Recommendation Para No. 4.60)**

1.20 Hugely perturbed to know that formulation of District Level Plans were being held up as the District Magistrate being preoccupied with other work is unable to Chair the meeting of Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) which is the farmer driven institutional arrangement at district level for dissemination of farm technology and knowledge and this was affecting upstream as delay in finalization of District Plans, ultimately further delay finalization of State Extension Work Plans which then block release of funds for extension activities. The Committee had recommended that if the District Magistrate was hard pressed for time, either the Chairmanship of ATMA be entrusted to some other senior official or otherwise the District Magistrate be duty bound to Chair the Sitting of ATMA. They had further desired that elected representatives of the people be also co-opted in the working body of ATMA to ensure accountability of the

executive and also to ensure that extension system is truly farmer driven and farmer accountable.

1.21 The Government in their Action Taken Note, have informed that convergence among the developmental departments is *sine qua non* for effective implementation of agricultural extension activities. In particular, all Agriculture & allied departments and associated offices like the District Administrative Centre, Agriculture Marketing Board, lead bank etc. all have to work together for effective delivery of extension services. District Magistrate is associated with all such departments in one way or the other. Hence, it was decided to have District Magistrate/Collector as the Chairman of ATMA Governing Body. It has also been provided in the Guidelines for various schemes such as National Food Security Mission, National Project on Management of Soil Health & Fertility that their implementation should be done through ATMA. In case of RKVY also, the State Governments have to base their District Agriculture Plans on Strategic Research and Extension Plans developed under ATMA. The States have been requested that all these and other related schemes should also be discussed in the ATMA Governing Body Meeting to be held under the chairmanship of District Magistrate/Collector. In case of such a scenario of limited meetings on Agriculture, presence of DM/Collector can be better ensured. In any case, there is a provision in the Scheme Guidelines that the States may choose anyone else as the Chairman of Governing Body of ATMA but such an officer should not be below the rank of CEO, Zila Parishad / Additional District Collector in place of District Collector. In order to ensure accountability of the executives, ATMA Governing Board also includes one Farmer Representative, one Horticulture Farmer, one Livestock Farmer and Representatives of women SHG & SC/ST Farmers. All these farmers are nominated to the Governing Board by the District Farmers Advisory Committee. The Scheme has a provision of constitution of Farmers Advisory Committees (FACs) at State Districts and Block levels comprising a group of farmers to advise and provide Field level inputs to the administrative bodies. A total of \*5913 such Committees have been constituted in the country.

---

\* *At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC updated this figure to 5933 as on 31.10.2013.*

**1.22 Notwithstanding, the elaborate response of the Department, it is an open secret that ATMA has failed to serve its purpose and the single most important factor for its dormancy is the pre-occupation of its Chairman, the District Magistrate/Collector with here/his responsibilities, which are several. The Committee, therefore, strongly feel that the time has finally dawned for a revision of the guidelines for ATMA especially regarding the provision dealing with the Chairmanship of ATMA by the concerned District Magistrate/Collector. As a first step it ought to be made mandatory that ATMA would meet at least a specific number of times in a year. If due to paucity of time, a District Magistrate is unable to Chair the meeting of ATMA, then an alternate authority to Chair such meetings has also to be codified so that these mandatory meetings are held even in her/his absence. The Committee desire that necessary changes in the guidelines for ATMA be accordingly made without any further loss of time. The reply of the Government is silent on the recommendation about the elected representatives being co-opted on ATMA. The Committee consider the reply of the Government incomplete to that extent and desire that the considered views of the Government in this aspect be furnished to them without any further delay.**

**NATIONAL PROJECT ON MANAGEMENT OF SOIL HEALTH AND FERTILITY**  
**(Recommendation Para No. 4.62)**

1.23 Noting with concern that out of 1292.22 lakhs land holdings, only 505 lakh soil health cards had been issued. Further, Geo-referenced soil fertility maps of only 118 districts had been completed and against the target of 242 static/mobile Soil Testing Labs, only 105 were in position, the Committee had directed the Government to embark upon the task of firstly obtaining the Soil Health status by the three pronged strategy of

issue of Soil Health Cards/digital soil maps/increasing the number of Static/Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories/development of Mini Soil Testing Kit and then putting in place the remedial measures post haste. They had also desired that the testing should be comprehensive both in terms of Macro/Micro nutrients and this information should not be confined to District Headquarters, but be readily available at the farm level and the process of improving soil health be initiated once this exercise is completed. The Committee had further desired that the process of soil testing be completed across the Country during the next two fiscals.

1.24 In their Action Taken Note, the Government have stated that as per latest information received from Indian Institute of Soil Science, digital soil maps of 152 districts out of 171 districts have been completed. This component on preparation of digitized maps is proposed to be continued in Twelfth Plan period to cover remaining districts. Similarly, setting up/strengthening of soil testing laboratories is proposed to be continued in Twelfth Plan period. Provision for soil testing kits has been incorporating in the Twelfth Plan proposal @ Rs.15,000 per kit subject to the approval of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture. The Soil Testing Laboratories being sanctioned under NPMSH&F include comprehensive testing facilities both for macro and micro nutrients. Most of the states are using innovative methods of making information available to farmers through internet & SMS, apart from conventional methods like through extension staff and by post. Soil testing is an ongoing process which is to be repeated every 3-4 years and there is no fixed time period to complete this activity. In addition, there are other methods available like digital soil maps to give soil fertility



status and package of practices developed by State Governments also provide fertilizer recommendations.

**1.25 The instant recommendation of the Committee was made with full awareness that soil testing is an ongoing process which is to be repeated every three-four years and apart from Soil Health Cards, there are other methods available like digital Soil Maps to give Soil Fertility Status and package of practices developed by State Governments also provide fertilizer recommendations. But this all warrants complete and comprehensive coverage of the entire Country once and at the soonest. Once that is done and a data base is available to the Government and the other stakeholders, all the other ways and means which have been detailed by the Department can be utilised as follow-up measures. The Committee not only recommend that the Government get completed the process of soil testing across the Country in a stipulated time but also desire that Soil Health Cards be issued to all farmers without wasting time as these cards would be under the direct possession of the farmers, whereas the digital soil maps would be restricted to Government agencies.**

**OUTSTANDING UTILIZATION CERTIFICATES (UCs)**  
**(Recommendation Para No. 4.63)**

1.26 The Committee while applauding the efforts of the Department for their concerted efforts leading to substantial reduction of pending Utilization Certificates from 1306 as on 1 April, 2012 to 201 at that point of time had recommended that since the pendency was reflective of bad accounting and financial management being practiced by State Governments/Union Territories, necessary correctives needed to be put in place as ultimately it was they who had to be on the consequences. The Committee had also desired the Government to ensure that all pending Utilization Certificates got eliminated in the current Plan period.

1.27 In their Action Taken Note, the Government have submitted that as on 30 April 2013, 187 UCs for amount of Rs.416.50 crores are outstanding. (The state wise and year wise break up of the 187 UCs pending as on 30 April, 2013 is enclosed as

**Annexures-I & II).** Principal Accounts Office, Ministry of Agriculture has taken various steps to liquidate the outstanding Utilisation Certificates. The special UCs Audit have been conducted for the various States which has yielded tremendous results. Principal Accounts Office is monitoring status of UCs rigorously for all the Divisions and had directed PAOs not to make any payment without submission of the UCs by the Divisions. Divisions have also responded positively and submitted many UCs and only 187 UCs were pending as on 30 April, 2013. Out of these 187 UCs, only 02 UCs for RKVY Rs. 235.98 crores are pending. All efforts are being made to liquidate the remaining UCs. RKVY Division has also been requested to liquidate the outstanding UCs before 31 March, 2013. Further, special UCs Audit of the States/Implementing Agencies against whom more number of UCs are outstanding shall be conducted to liquidate the UCs during special audit itself.

**1.28 From the reply furnished by the Department, it is evident that action is ongoing to ensure liquidation of outstanding utilization certificates. Principal Accounts Office of the Ministry is monitoring status of UCs rigorously for all the Divisions and has directed PAOs not to make any payment without submission of UCs by the Divisions. These steps have resulted in reduction in the number of pending UCs being reduced to 187 as on 30 April, 2013. Moreover, out of these 187 pending UCs amounting to Rs. 416.50 crore only two UCs of RKVY account for staggering sum of Rs. 235.98 crore. Appreciating the efforts put in by the Department, the Committee desire that they continue with their good work and motivate all States/Union Territories to furnish UCs of past utilization, so as to ensure liquidation of all outstanding utilization certificates at the soonest.**

## **CHAPTER-II**

### **OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT**

#### **IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION (Recommendation Para No. 1.4)**

The Committee note that the Action Taken Replies regarding the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Thirty-fourth Report of the Committee were furnished by the Government within the stipulated three months. The Committee further note that in pursuance of Direction 73-A of Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, the Minister concerned is required to make a Statement on the status of implementation of Observations/Recommendations contained in the Original Reports of the Committee within six months of their presentation to the Parliament. However, the Committee are deeply perturbed to note that the Minister concerned did not make the Statement under Direction 73-A in the context of Thirty-fourth Report of the Committee within the stipulated time. The Committee take strong exception to the failure of the Ministry time and again to adhere to stipulations laid down in Direction 73-A in respect of Statements to be made by the Minister concerned. They expect that there will not be a repeat of such lapses in future. The analysis of the action taken by the Government reveals that 65% of Recommendations have been implemented. 29% Recommendations have not been implemented and 6% of Recommendations are in various stages of implementation. The Committee desire the Government to take conclusive action in respect of the eight Recommendations commented upon in their Thirty-eighth Action Taken Report and furnish further action taken notes to the Committee expeditiously.

#### **Reply of the Government**

In respect of Statement to be made by Hon'ble AM under Direction 73-A, it is stated that Parliament was not in session during the months of September and October,

hence the Statement could be made by the Hon'ble AM only during Winter Session of Parliament. The Committee's direction to avoid repeat of such delays in future is noted and would be complied with.

Regarding further action taken notes on 38<sup>th</sup> report of the Committee, it is mentioned here that the required number of copies of English and Hindi versions of ATN were duly submitted by this Department to the Lok Sabha Secretariat on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **CHALLENGES CONFRONTING INDIAN AGRICULTURE** **(Recommendation Para No. 2.8)**

Land degradation, deteriorating Soil Health, shrinking land base, dwindling water resources, adverse impact of climate change, shortage of farm labour and increasing costs of inputs, declining returns and uncertainties associated with volatility in international markets are some of the challenges besetting Indian Agriculture. Some of these have been there in the past and some are recent phenomenon. However, these challenges pose a real and serious threat to our farming community and the Nation as a whole too. Enhancing public sector investment particularly in research and technology transfer, institutional reforms towards delivery, conservation of land water and biological resources, development of rain-fed agriculture, efficient use of water, timely and adequate availability of inputs, developing efficient marketing infrastructure and increasing flow of credit particularly to the small and marginal farmers, are some of the areas requiring focussed policy interventions so as to ensure food security commitments.

In spite of the fact that India being an agrarian dominant economy, the Committee have observe that this sector is not getting its due from the planners in terms of public investment, which with the advancing years is on the decline. Further, though the Schemes being implemented by the Central and State Governments seem well meaning on paper, yet their implementation on the ground has left a lot to be desired.

And unless the gap between formulation and implementation is narrowed down comprehensively, Indian agriculture will unfortunately continue to be stuck in a quagmire.

The burgeoning population too is posing a serious challenge to our aim of food security to all. Thus, the need of the hour is to increase productivity as well as ensure viability, sustainability and induce profitability in this vital sector. The Committee, therefore, recommend that all agencies entrusted in functioning of the agriculture sector across the length and breadth of the Country work in unison and tandem from now on and not work at cross-purposes as is evidently in vogue now. If the implementing agencies justly keep the farming community at the epicentre of all their activities and then start their formulation of Schemes, a turnaround in the fortunes of this Sector would surely be on the anvil. In addition, a judicious blend of modern scientific techniques along with traditional agricultural practices would act as a fillip. Lastly, the Committee are sanguine that if concerned parties pay heed to their recommendation, the Nation would be able to tactfully confront these challenges and successfully overcome them.

### **Reply of the Government**

1. DAC assesses the requirement of fertilizers of all the States before each cropping season in consultation with State Government and Department of Fertilizers. After the requirement of various fertilizers is assessed, statement indicating month-wise requirement of various fertilizers is prepared by the States, which is forwarded to Department of Fertilizers (DOF). On the basis of this month wise requirement, Department of Fertilizers prepare monthly supply/allocation plan for each State and arranges for supply of fertilizers accordingly.
2. In addition, DAC and Department of Fertilizers (DOF) jointly organise weekly audio-visual conference with all the States to monitor availability of fertilizers as per monthly supply plan. If any problem is raised by any State in the video conference, the same is addressed by Department of Fertilizers.

For conservation of land, water and biological resources, DAC (NRM/RFS Divisions) has been implementing watershed development programmes, namely, National Watershed Development Programme in Rainfed Areas (NWDPR) and River Valley Project & Flood Prone Rivers. However, these programmes have been discontinued w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2013 due to closure of Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme. The programmes of Macro Management of Agriculture have been subsumed under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana from 2013-14.

To promote agriculture growth in the rainfed areas, this Department has launched the scheme “Rainfed Area Development Programme (RADP)” in the year 2011-12 as a sub-scheme under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). It aims at improving quality of life of farmers, especially small and marginal farmers, by offering a complete package of activities to maximize farm returns. RADP focuses on Integrated Farming System (IFS) for enhancing productivity and minimizing risks associated with climatic variabilities. It seeks to harness efficiency of natural resources/assets/commodities by supporting location-specific farming systems. Apart from promoting crop specific farming systems, activities like construction of ponds, land development, water management are converged/supplemented to promote value addition through a sustainable farming system.

Similarly, to address issues regarding ‘Sustainable Agriculture’ in the context of risks associated with climate change, Ministry of Agriculture is in the process of launching National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) under National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). The NMSA has devised appropriate adaptation and mitigation strategies for ensuring food security, enhancing livelihood opportunities and contributing to economical stability at national level. Further, it has identified ten key dimensions for promoting sustainable agricultural practices, which will be operationalised by implementing a Programme of Action (POA) that covers both adaptation and mitigation measures through four functional areas, namely, Research and Development, Technologies, Products and Practices, Infrastructure and Capacity Building. While recognizing the role of modern technologies and research in promoting the sustainability of agricultural production, the Mission also emphasizes the need to

harness traditional knowledge and agricultural heritage for in-situ conservation of genetic resources. As approved by the Planning Commission, the Programme of Action has been embedded and mainstreamed under the on-going schemes/Missions of Ministry of Agriculture through selective up-scaling and course correction measures.

Experiences from Green Revolution demonstrate that agricultural research and development (R&D) investments have greatly contributed to economic growth, agricultural progress and poverty reduction in developing regions over the past five decades. Effectively disseminated new technologies and crop varieties resulting from R&D investments have enhanced the quantity and quality of agricultural products, at the same time increasing sustainability, reducing consumer food prices, providing rural producers with access to markets, and improving gender-based allocations and accumulations of physical and human capital within households. Given important challenges-such as rapid population growth, adaptation to climate change, increasing weather variability, water scarcity, and the volatility of prices in global markets-policymakers are increasingly recognizing the value of greater investment in agricultural R&D as an essential element in increasing agricultural productivity.

The public spending on agri. R&D and education, as percent of GDP agri. has now increased from 0.44 in 1997-98 to around 0.6% in the recent years. The ICAR had made efforts to get more funds through the highest levels in the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission. Adequate funding of NARS has been emphasized in the past at various fora, like Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture, which has recommended an allocation equivalent to 1 % of AGDP and the XII Plan Working Group on Agricultural Research and Education which has recommended a sum of Rs. 55,000 crore. However, the Planning Commission has communicated a total outlay of Rs. 25,553 crore against the DARE/ICAR's proposed outlay of Rs. 57,887.21 crore for XII Plan.

Developing multi-enterprise Integrated Farming System (IFS) comprising of crops, horticulture, agro-forestry, livestock, fisheries, poultry, piggery, mushroom cultivation, bee-keeping etc. is considered to be the appropriate approach for enhancing

agricultural productivity & profitability ensuring viability, sustainability and livelihood of farm sector. Accordingly, the Council through Project Directorate on Farming System Research, Modipuram has initiated an AICRP on Development of Integrated Farming System (IFS) models for small and marginal farmers of different agro-ecological zones in the country during XI Plan which is being further strengthened during the current Plan. The project is being implemented in farmers' participatory mode with due cognizance of farmers' resource availability imbibing improved scientific technologies with indigenous technology knowhow and grass-root innovations. The ICAR Research Complexes for Eastern Region, Goa and NEH region, NRC Agro-forestry, CRIDA Hyderabad, CAZRI Jodhpur, CSSRI Karnal, CSWCRTI, Dehradun are also engaged in a similar endeavour. Few examples of IFS models developed are listed below.

- Crop-dairy based farming system for small farming families of Bihar having 1 acre of irrigated land and four crossbred cows.
- Watermill based integrated farming system for north western Himalayas.
- Trench cum raised bed based horticulture-fish farming system for seasonally waterlogged areas of Bihar.
- Multi-enterprise farming system model for reclaimed sodic lands.
- Rice, coconut and rabbit based integrated farming system for Western Ghats.
- Rainfed farming system model with 1.15 ha area for small and marginal farmers in Telangana region of AP.

Within Agriculture, Horticulture sector has been a prime mover in accelerating growth besides providing increased returns per unit area. In order to capitalize this potential, National Horticulture Mission (NHM) Scheme is being implemented since 2005-06 in 18

states and three union territories of Andaman Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry. North Eastern States including Sikkim and the State of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand are covered under a similar scheme called the Horticulture Mission for North East & Himalayan States (HMNEHS).

The main focus of NHM Scheme is on increasing profitability of the farmers through various interventions and through creation of infrastructure for production of planting material, Post Harvest Management, marketing, capacity building of farmers



and field functionaries. Modern techniques, such as protected cultivation, precision farming and organic farming are also promoted under the scheme.

For ensuring better delivery, the scheme is being implemented through State Horticulture Missions (SHMs) which are registered societies formed for this purpose. State Government is contributing 15% of the total outlay since Eleventh Plan. The Scheme is implemented on the basis of annual Action Plan which is prepared by the SHMs in consultation with district level functionaries.

Water being a critical input for agriculture as well as horticulture, efficient methods of irrigation, such as drip and sprinkler irrigation system are being promoted under National Mission on Micro Irrigation Scheme.

Strengthening of farmer's capabilities and their bargaining power by mobilizing them into Farmer Interest Groups (FIG) and Farmer Producer Organizations are other interventions to enable them to harness full benefits and realizations of their produce.

About 72% oilseeds are grown under rain fed conditions in the country. The oilseeds crops are also prone to various biotic stresses. Productivity of oilseeds is directly influenced by the rainfall pattern during the crop season. Seed Replacement Rate (SRR) is also low in case of major oilseeds crops like groundnut and soybean mainly due to high seed rates and low Seed Multiplication Ratio (SMR). The international prices of Crude Palm Oil (CPO) have declined during 2012-13 leading to increase in imports of CPO. This has put downward pressure on prices of edible oils in domestic market, further discouraging farmers to take up oilseeds cultivation. Despite all these factors, the production of oilseeds has increased from 25.19 million tonnes in 2003-04 (prior to ISOPOM) to 30.72 million tonnes in 2012-13. This was brought about not only by increase in area but also by improving the productivity from 1064 kg. to 1147 kg. per hectare during the above period (as per 3<sup>rd</sup> Advance Estimates of DES of DAC). Despite increase in production and productivity, the production of oilseeds is less than the demand.

In order to enhance production of oilseeds, the Government of India is implementing Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) to increase the production of these crops including oilseeds. An amount of Rs. 500/-crore has been allocated for the year 2013-14 under ISOPOM.

In order to overcome the constraints and to narrow the gaps between existing productivity and yields of oilseeds achieved under demonstrations, the Government of India has focused on transfer of technology through demonstration and trainings and supply of critical inputs under the scheme through production and distribution of seeds, seed minikits, critical inputs, transfer of technologies, and training.

For sustainable agriculture growth in the context of Climate Change, Ministry of Agriculture has formulated National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) under the aegis of National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). The NMSA aims at transforming Indian Agriculture into a sustainable and climate resilient production system by mainstreaming/embedding appropriate climate change adaptation measures onto ongoing and future programmatic/schematic interventions in ten key dimensions namely; 'Improved crop seeds, livestock and fish cultures', 'Water Use Efficiency', 'Pest Management', 'Improved Farm Practices', 'Nutrient Management', 'Agricultural insurance', 'Credit support', 'Markets', 'Access to Information' and 'Livelihood diversification'. During XII Five Year Plan, DAC proposes to address these dimensions through a matrix of restructured programmatic/schematic interventions.

To address the concerns of rainfed areas with particular focus to small and marginal farmers, Rainfed Area Development Programme (RADP) has been introduced as a sub scheme of Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) w.e.f 2011-12. The scheme promotes Integrated Farming Systems (IFS) suitable to local land use and agro-climatic condition to help farmers opportunities of diverse source of livelihood by integrating horticulture, livestock, fishery, forestry, agri based small value addition units 'etc. into cropping systems.

The Department of Agriculture implements various crop development programmes.

National Food Security Mission aims to increase production of rice, wheat and pulses through area expansion and productivity enhancement by focusing on low yielding districts with exploitable yield potential. The implementation of the Mission includes active involvement of all stakeholders in planning, execution and monitoring of the programme, promotion and extension of improved technologies (seed, nutrients, plant protection, soil amendments, resource conservation technologies and farm machineries), capacity enhancement of extension functionaries and farmers, integration of interventions with district plans, regular monitoring and concrete evaluation for impact assessment.

To focus on tapping the yield potential of Eastern States, scheme of Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) is being implemented from 2010-11 to promote rice based cropping system in Eastern India so as to widen the food basket and reduce dependence on North-West India for foodgrain availability. Sustained efforts over the past three years have produced very encouraging outcomes resulting in significant increase in the share of Eastern Region in the total production of rice in the country to more than 50%.

To ensure long term-sustainability of agriculture and ecological balance, crop diversification programme is being introduced to shift cropping pattern away from rice-wheat farming system, especially in the original Green Revolution states of Punjab, Haryana and Western UP, which are suffering due to over exploitation of natural resources and ground water as a result of intensive cereal-cereal cropping.

Production of coarse cereals is also being promoted through the INSIMP programme, and is to be included under NFSM from the XII Plan.

The Department is implementing number of schemes for development of agriculture for the ultimate benefit of the farmers and to make agriculture vocation as remunerative as possible. Several new initiatives have been undertaken in the recent

past for the purpose. To provide flexibility to the States, a state plan scheme, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, has been started where states are funded 100% on agricultural related activities/projects. States can take any project for development of agriculture considering its special requirements and agro climatic conditions.

The Budget provision of the DAC is on the rise continually. As against a provision of Rs.10105.67 crore in the year 2009-10, it is now Rs.21609.00 crore. Taking Ministry of Agriculture as a whole the provision for 2013-14 is Rs.27,049.00 crore.

The schemes of the DAC are proposed to be restructured into five missions, five central sector schemes and one state plan scheme in order to have focussed approach in XII Plan.

Implementing agencies are exhorted by the Department at various levels to increase their pace of utilization of funds.

A Central Sector Scheme 'Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds' is being implemented by the Division since 2005-06 on an all India basis. The objective of the ongoing scheme is to ensure production and multiplication of high yielding certified/quality seeds of all crops in sufficient quantities and make the seeds available to farmers, including those in remote areas, not easily accessible by rail/road on time. Component-wise details of the scheme is enclosed at **Annexure – III.**

The production/availability of seed is consistently more than the requirement/demand throughout last five years. Statement showing details is enclosed at **Annexure – IV.**

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

## **CHALLENGES CONFRONTING INDIAN AGRICULTURE** **(Recommendation Para No. 2.9)**

The Committee note that as the developing economy moves from a traditional agriculture-based to industrial including service sector, the growth in agriculture sector dips. The Department too have informed that transition from agricultural to industrial society will lead to decline in the size of population involved in the agriculture sector. Also, the agriculture sector is becoming non-remunerative day-by-day leading many to migrate towards urban areas for better employment opportunities. Since these migrants are not skilled, there is an added handicap to their employment opportunities, coupled with the pressure of leaving behind their social support group, being rendered landless and with no assured source of income.

Expressing their serious concern over the fact that the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation have no mechanism/provision that would provide succour to such migrants who have shifted from agricultural to non-agricultural sector, the Committee recommend the Department to proactively take up in coordination with the other concerned agencies so as to enable these economically and socially vulnerable strata of our society to find gainful employment at the earliest and not to be left at the mercy of vested interests of the unscrupulous sections of the society. They further desire that the progress achieved herein be intimate to them at the earliest.

### **Reply of the Government**

It may be noted that the agriculture sector has grown @ 2.5% and 2.4% during 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Plan period respectively and @ 3.64% during the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan period. However, the share of agriculture in GDP of the country is declining consistently which is the normal case in respect of any economy transiting from agrarian to a modern, developed economy. Thus, Agriculture and allied sector accounted for 19.0% of GDP of the country in 2004-05. Its share came down to 15.8% in 2008-09 and 14% during 2011-12. Notwithstanding, agriculture continues to remain very important for the economy as its share in total employment continues to be high.

The Ministry has been taking various steps for development of agriculture and allied sectors so that it remains a remunerative vocation. A budget provision of Rs.21609 cr. has been provided to the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for the year 2013-14.

For attracting youth to Agriculture sector, the National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007 envisages support to educated youths for setting up agri-clinics and production-cum-processing centres, introduction of vocational training courses in different aspects of agricultural & allied activities and support to trained persons to launch self-employment ventures. Under Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (ACABC) scheme, 31,008 candidates have been trained and 11,675 agri-ventures established in the country till January, 2013.

Further Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) and State Agricultural Universities train rural youth on various aspects of agriculture like productivity enhancement, orchard management, value addition, livestock production and management, protective cultivation, farm machinery, fishery, production of inputs etc. Similarly, Small Farmers' Agro-Business Consortium (SFAC) promotes agri-business projects for generating income and employment in rural areas.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **CHALLENGES CONFRONTING INDIAN AGRICULTURE** **(Recommendation Para No. 2.10)**

On a more alarming note, the Committee express their concern over the Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) entered in the agriculture sector. Having experienced that Indian farmers have been hit hard by the earlier FTAs which have negatively impacted the plantation and cash crops, cheap imports of these commodities have led to drastic fall in domestic production and destruction of livelihoods. Sudden spurt in farmer's suicides in regions where these crops are grown optimise the stark reality of domestic interests being blind sighted at the altar of free trade. However, rather than adopt of policy of going slow on these FTAs, the Government went on entering into more FTAs.

In spite of the widespread protests against Indo-ASEAN FTA, the Government is not yet ready to introspect on this contentious issue. Strongly deprecating this parochial attitude of the Government of carrying forward its agenda of trade liberalization, which has cost farming community heavily, the Committee exhort upon the Government to first work on building the broad consensus amongst various stakeholders across the country encompassing all strata of society, for not only safeguarding the interests of the ever tolling farmer, but simultaneously negate the nefarious designs of vested interests, before entering into further FTAs.

### **Reply of the Government**

The Government has initiated several measures for mitigation of farmers' distress. The major steps taken by the Government are as follows:

(i) Implementation of the rehabilitation package for mitigation of agrarian distress in 31 identified farmer's suicide prone districts of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra.

(ii) Other schemes/ programs such as, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Agriculture Extension, National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS) etc. are being implemented to rejuvenate agriculture sector, improve productivity, production & viability of farm operations, increase income of farmers and thereby ameliorate agrarian distress.

(iii) Other measures taken by the Government for the benefit of farmers include enhancement in minimum support prices of agricultural commodities, increase in credit flow to agriculture sector, debt waiver / relief, interest subvention on crop loans, etc.

While negotiating Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)/ Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs), important agricultural products of India are kept in negative list on which no tariff concession is offered. While protecting India's sensitive agricultural products, efforts have been made to obtain market access and duty reduction for agricultural products of India's export potential in FTAs/PTAs. Unilateral concessions have been offered by India only for countries of South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA)

and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) under Duty Free Tariff Preference Scheme (DFTP).

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **CHALLENGES CONFRONTING INDIAN AGRICULTURE** **(Recommendation Para No. 2.11)**

Another area of concern is the price support mechanism in agricultural commodities, which is perceived to be distorted. Non remunerative prices of agricultural commodities and deficient institutionalised price support mechanism have impacted the agriculture sector badly. Distress sale of various commodities; have been reported, for one reason or the other, causing great economic loss and temptation to withdraw from the profession forever. Market interventions price support, which is seldom conducted timely, has not been able to ameliorate the sufferings of the farmers. The present support price mechanism, which is applicable for few commodities, has been found to be wanting since the farmers' interest is not being protected adequately for variety of reasons. In the absence of state sponsored price support for majority of the crops, the farmers are left to fend for themselves. The unbridled market forces which come into play and determines the price structure of agriculture commodities do not often meet the aspirations and expectations of farmers. Many a times, the farmers have been reported to unable to recover the production cost even. It has been also noticed that sometime import of agricultural produce resorted to contain inflationary trends, tend to depress domestic price, causing manifold loss and untold misery to the farmers. In order to harmonise the interest of farmers and consumers, the Committee desire that Govt. should maintain price parity between imports and domestic price, so as to afford reasonable fair and just price to the farmers, for his produce. At the same time, the Committee recommend that all the agricultural commodities including cash and plantation crops be subjected to state determined price support mechanism, so as to prevent distress sale and protect farmers' interest. The Committee is of the view that if implemented, these steps will go a long way in improving the conditions of the farmers. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken in the matter.



## **Reply of the Government**

Assurance of a remunerative and stable price environment for growers/farmers is very important for increasing agricultural production and productivity. The agricultural markets tend to be unstable and volatile which may result into undue losses to the growers and discourage adoption of the modern technology and required inputs. The Government's price policy for agricultural commodities seeks to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production and to safeguard the interest of consumers by making available supplies at reasonable prices with low cost of intermediation. The price policy also seeks to evolve a balanced and integrated price structure in the perspective of the overall needs of the economy. Towards this end, the Government announces, Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for 25 major agricultural commodities each year in both the Crop seasons after taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). Besides, announcement of MSP, the Government also organizes procurement operations of these agricultural commodities through various public and cooperative agencies such as Food Corporation of India (FCI), Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), Jute Corporation of India (JCI), Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), National Consumer Cooperative Federation of India Ltd. (NCCF) and Tobacco Board. Besides, State Governments also appoint state agencies to undertake PSS operations.

While deciding the Minimum Support Price for various agricultural commodities, the recommendations of CACP, the views of Central Ministries and State Governments and such other relevant factors which are important in the opinion of the Government are considered. The CACP, while recommending the Minimum Support Price keeps in view (i) the need to provide incentives to the producers for adopting improved technology and for developing a production pattern broadly in the light of national requirements (ii) the need to ensure rational utilization of land, water and other production resources and (iii) the likely effect of the price policy on the rest of the economy, particularly, on the cost of living, level of wages, industrial cost structure etc.

During the last two-three years the prices of most of the oilseed and pulses ruled above the Market Support Price (MSP) hence, the necessity of implementation of Price Support Scheme (PSS) was not required except for copra , urad, gram etc. A statement indicating the commodities procured under PSS for the last five years is placed at **Annexure –V.**

Similarly, the Division is also implementing the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of horticultural and agricultural commodities which are generally perishable in nature and not covered under Price Support Scheme (PSS) to provide remunerative prices to the growers and protect their interest. The MIS is implemented when the prices tend to fall below the economic levels/cost of production to avoid distress sale during the peak arrival period of the produce. The Scheme is implemented when there is at least 10% increase in production or 10% decrease in the ruling rates over the previous normal year. Further proposal of MIS is approved on the specific request of State/UT Government ready to bear 50% loss (25% in case of North-Eastern States), if any, incurred on its implementation. However, the loss is restricted to 25% of the total procurement value which includes Market Intervention Price (MIP) paid to the farmers plus permitted overhead expenses. Profit earned, if any, in implementing the MIS is retained by the procuring agencies. Procurement is made by the Central and State agencies

A statement indicating the MIS sanctioned by the Department for procurement of various commodities from 2001-02 to 2011-12 is placed at **Annexure-VI.** The said procurement details indicates that various commodities have been procured under MIS in different states. Further, the MIS guidelines stipulates that the state government should furnish the MIS proposal to the Department 15 days before the proposed date of its implementation and the Department sanctioned the proposal within 15 days from the date of its receipt. Hence, no such delay is made in sanctioning the MIS proposal.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

**(Recommendation Para No. 2.12)**

The subsequent narratives deals with detailed examination of the working of the Department in terms of implementation of its Schemes and financial performance during the Fiscal, 2012-13 and projections for the year 2013-14. The Committee desire that the Demand No.1 of the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, be approved.

**Reply of the Government**

No reply is required.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

**ALLOCATION AND UTILIZATION OF FUNDS DURING ELEVENTH PLAN PERIOD**  
**(Recommendation Para No. 3.23)**

During the course of the Eleventh Plan period the Committee have observed the Department were allocated an amount of Rs.59137.61 crore only against the approved outlay of Rs.66577.00 crore by the Planning Commission. This in spite of the fact that the Department's expenditure being in the range of 95% of the amount finalized in the revised estimates. They are of the firm opinion that had the balance of Rs.5049.10 crore been allocated, the Department would have been able to acquit themselves better in the implementation of Schemes. The Committee further observe that the allocations at BE vis-a-vis RE stage fluctuated in that while for the fiscals 2007-08 and 2010-11, showed increased RE, in the remaining three fiscals the RE was less than the approved BE. They are aggrieved to note that their constant pleas to rectify the imbalances have gone unheard during the Eleventh Five Year Plan is in its nascency, the Committee impress upon all the agencies concerned i.e. the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) to approach allocation to the Department on a new platform and not cling onto the past as a benchmark. The allocation of funds to the Department must be evenly spread across all the five fiscals to avoid back loading of

plan funds. This would ensure that the Department are allocated maximum funds out of the approved outlay and are able to absorb these funds easily and ensure optimum utilization of allocated resources.

### **Reply of the Government**

The concern of the Committee has been noted. Planning Commission has also been apprised of Committee's observations for suitable necessary action in future.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **ALLOCATION AND UTILIZATION OF FUNDS DURING ELEVENTH PLAN PERIOD (Recommendation Para No. 3.24)**

The Committee also observe that the Department have not accredited themselves well as they have been unable to utilize even this reduced allocation in its entirety during the course of the Eleventh Plan. Being well aware of the reasons for this, they exhort the Department to take proactive steps to utilise even the reduced allocations to the hilt as in the entire Eleventh Plan period, the Department consistently failed to utilise the same. They also impress upon the Department to incorporate the views of States/UTs while drawing up the modalities of a Scheme. This in their considered opinion would ensure active participation of States/UTs in all Centrally Sponsored and Central Schemes which would result in optimum utilization of allocated funds.

### **Reply of the Government**

Department has utilized about 99.85% of outlay allocated at RE stage during Eleventh Plan period and also utilized 99% of allocated outlay at RE stage during 2012-13, the first year of the Twelfth Plan. All Annual Action Plans of the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes are finalized after discussions with the States.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

## **ALLOCATION AND UTILIZATION OF FUNDS DURING ELEVENTH PLAN PERIOD (Recommendation Para No. 3.25)**

Noting that the lack of absorption capacity in the North-Eastern States was blotting the otherwise excellent performance of the Department in terms of utilization of funds, the Committee desire that agriculture related developmental schemes/projects specifically tailor made for North-Eastern be drawn up for implementation. At the same time, the North-Eastern States be motivated to improve their absorption capacity by furnishing utilization certificates of past utilizations as well as furnishing of fresh proposals on a timely basis. If worked upon methodically, the Department would be in a position to ensure cent per cent utilization of allocation in the years to come.

### **Reply of the Government**

#### **(1) Infrastructure projects**

Considering special circumstances in NER, the Department is providing higher rates of subsidy for the Region. Under Rural Godown Schemes, the subsidy is @33.33% in NER as against 15% to 25% in other areas (33.33% for SCs/STs). Similarly, under the scheme for creating Marketing infrastructure projects, the subsidy is 33.33% for NE Region as against 25% in other areas. The Department will endeavour to ensure cent per cent utilization of allocation in the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan.

#### **2. Venture Capital Assistance Scheme of SFAC for NE Region and Sikkim:-**

Efforts have been made in periodical meetings with State Govt. Officials of NE Region and Sikkim to motivate entrepreneurs/farmers to set up agri-business projects under SFAC scheme. As against target of 12.57 crore for Xth Plan, XIth Plan and 2012-13 the achievement has been 9.30 crore.

### **RKVY**

RKVY does not prescribe any specific project/activity to be taken up under the scheme. Any project that can contribute to generation of additional growth in agriculture and allied sectors can be taken up by the states under the scheme. States have also been empowered in selection, planning, approval of projects/programmes under RKVY

and execution of the same on the basis of their priorities and local needs. As such all states have flexibility to choose projects under RKVY as per their requirement.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

**FINANCIAL ALLOCATION AND UTILIZATION DURING FIRST YEAR OF THE  
TWELFTH PLAN**  
**(Recommendation Para No. 3.27)**

The Committee are aggrieved to note the quantum variation in the funds sought by the Department and the actual allocation done by the Planning Commission, which seems to make a mockery of the extant planning process. The rather candid admittance of the Secretary that their proposal for allocation of funds to the Planning Commission is a negotiation ploy and is more like a first offer in a negotiation process to arrive at negotiated amount does not augur well for the process of planning being witnessed in the Country. The Committee further note the contradiction in the above-stated stand of the Ministry and the one stated by them in their written relies wherein they submitted that proposed allocation for Fiscal 2012-13 was projected based on allocation for Fiscal 2012-13 was projected based on requirement Scheme-wise and based on pattern of expenditure during past year. The Planning Commission on its part have stated that funds are provided after taking into consideration resource availability and demands for other competing national priorities.

Having enlightened themselves with the viewpoint of the Department and the Planning Commission, the Committee impress upon both the agencies to arrive at a model wherein the figures of proposed allocation and actual allocation are brought on an even keel.

**Reply of the Government**

The concern of the Committee has been noted and communicated to Planning Commission.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

**NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY MISSION (NFSM)**  
**(Recommendation Para No. 4.51)**

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Food Security Mission (NFSM) was launched from Rabi 2007-08 to increase production of rice, wheat and pulses by 10 million tonnes, 8 million tonnes and 2 million tonnes respectively by the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan i.e. March, 2012. From the year 2012-13 NFSM is being implemented in 27 States of the Country. The Committee, however, note with concern that under this Scheme, BE 2011-12 of Rs.1350.00 crore was revised downward at RE stage of Rs.1316.00 crore and the actual expenditure was Rs.1285.95 crore only. Similarly, during 2012-13 BE of Rs.1850.00 crore was revised downward to Rs.1763.57 crore and actual expenditure was Rs.1671.63 crore (as on 22.03.2013). The Department have attributed the grant between BE,RE and Actual Expenditure in the Fiscal 2011-12 due to reduction in allocation of North-East States from Rs.100.00 crore at BE to Rs.66 crore at RE. It has further been stated that during the year 2011-12 only two North-East States viz. Assam and Tripura were covered under NFSM. The Committee, however, note with appreciation that the Department acted upon their recommendation contained in their Thirty-fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2012-13) wherein they had emphasized the need to increase the coverage of the Scheme in the North-East States and also re-work the guidelines to suit the needs of this geographically unique area. From the year 2012-13 with the inclusion of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim, the whole North East Region has been brought under the ambit of NFSM. However, they note with concern that the geographical expansion of the Scheme has not resulted in improved financial performance of the Scheme during the last Fiscal. Keeping in view the pivotal nature of this Scheme in enhancing the production of rice, wheat and pulses in the identified areas, the Committee exhort upon the Department to motivate all implementing agencies to come forward and actively participate in the Scheme, which would ensure optimum utilization of fund and ensure synergy between allocation and utilization during the current Plan period.

## **Reply of the Government**

The details of allocation and release in 2012-13 are as under :

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Year	Allocation		Actual Expenditure (Released)	Percentage (%) with reference to RE
		BE	RE		
1.	2012-13	1850.00	1763.57	1725.65	97.85

All efforts are made to ensure active participation of States and implementing agencies in planning and implementation of NFSM. Finalisation of Action Plans is done in consultation with States and progress of implementation of the Mission is reviewed through monthly progress reports, utilization certificates, monitoring visits and also in NFSM Executive Committee (EC) and General Council (GC) meetings. Mid-course corrections, wherever required, are also discussed and approved in EC/GC meetings.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

## **NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY MISSION (NFSM)** **(Recommendation Para No. 4.53)**

The Committee note that in spite of various inherent shortcomings, the National Food Security Mission since its inception has helped to widen the food basket of the Country with significant contributions coming from the NFSM areas. The focussed and target oriented implementation of mission initiatives by resulted in bumper production of wheat, rice and pulses. The production of wheat has increased from 75.81 million tonnes in the year 2006-07 to 94.88 million tonnes in 2011-12. Similarly, the total production of rice has increased from 93.35 million tonnes in the year 2006-07 to 105.31million tonnes in 2011-12. The total production of pulses has also increased from 14.20 million tonnes during 2006-07 to 18.24 million tonnes during 2010-11. They further note that interventions via NFSM seem to have gone done well with the farming community who have enthusiastically responded to NFSM supported farm machinery components, capacity building exercises, awareness generation programmes which have resulted in new farm practises. However, they exhort the Government not to rest



upon their laurels and continue to further fine tune the NFSM in accordance with the needs and requirements of the States and farmers. If done so, the Committee are sanguine that NFSM will usher in the desired results and bring the Nation closer towards attaining Food Security to all in near future.

### **Reply of the Government**

NFSM is proposed to be strengthened on the basis of experiences and feedback from States in the XI Plan. Accordingly, NFSM is being extended to include all food crops, including rice, wheat, pulses, coarse cereals and commercial crops (cotton, jute and sugarcane). Accelerated Crop Production Programme is proposed for holistic treatment through adoption of cropping system based implementation of package of practices in compact blocks in cluster approach for maximum benefit to farmers. Special projects have also been proposed for promoting resource conservation technologies in high productive areas. To improve access to technology for small holders, special projects are being included for remote and inaccessible areas involving NGOs and promoting agri-services in farm operation. Inclusion of Value chain integration and marketing support, especially for pulses and coarse cereals will also improve economic returns to farmers. The overall target of additional foodgrain production for the XII Plan period has also been enhanced to 25 million tonnes (Rice - 10 million tonnes, Wheat - 8 million tonnes, Pulses – 4 million tonnes and Coarse Cereals – 3 million tonnes).

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **NATIONAL MISSION ON MICRO-IRRIGATION** **(Recommendation Para No. 4.54)**

The Committee observe that as per the recommendation of the Task Force on Micro-Irrigation constituted by the Government of India during 2004, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro-Irrigation was launched in January, 2006. The Scheme is continuing in mission mode since June 2010 as the National Mission on Micro-Irrigation.

They are, however, discerned to note that the BE figures have generally been pruned at RE stage during the last six Fiscals, though the actual expenditure has matched the RE figures and exceeded the RE in the year 2011-12. The rationale put forth by the Department for pruning of funds at RE stage to the fact that in 2007-08 and 2008-09, funds were released directly to the districts which resulted in the Scheme not being so popular. However, consequent to the Scheme being launched in mission mode during 2010-11, wherein funds were released to the State Headquarters, the pace of expenditure improved. Notwithstanding, the arguments put forth by the Department, the Committee note that apart from the Fiscal year 2011-12 where BE funds were maintained at RE stage and the actual expenditure was in excess of the allocation, the same story has been repeated in the Fiscal 2012-13. Pruning of BE funds at RE stage is resorted to by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) based on the financial performance of a Scheme during the first six months of a Fiscal. As witnessed here, the slow-paced utilization in the first two quarters results in Department of Expenditure using its sniping scissors. As this is a perennial problem, the Committee exhort the nodal agency and the implementing agencies to make a concerted effort and reverse this dismal trend. In the instant Scheme wherein actual utilization more or less matches the allocation, an even paced utilization of funds would ensure optimal utilization of funds and avoid pruning of BE funds at RE stage. If successful, the National Mission on Micro-Irrigation would go a long way in freeing the toiling agriculturist from over dependence on rain fed irrigation and ensure that his irrigation woes would be greatly limited, which then would have a positive impact on his produce.

### **Reply of the Government**

The recommendations of the Committee have been noted for compliance. It has been observed that the demand for Micro Irrigation System is higher from November till June. During monsoon period, demand for installation of Micro Irrigation system is less. However, efforts will be made to achieve even paced utilization of funds.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

**NATIONAL MISSION ON MICRO-IRRIGATION**  
**(Recommendation Para No. 4.55)**

On the physical achievements front, the Committee have observed that as against the target of 34.43 lakh hectares, the actual achievement is 33.65 lakh hectares for the last six Fiscals. The gap between achievement and target has attributed to reduction of funds at RE stage. However in percentage terms, the achievement rate is a healthy 97%. The achievement for the Fiscal Years 2011-12 & 2012-13 (upto Feb.201) does not inspire much confidence. However, being aware of the pitiable situation prevalent at the ground level, the Committee impress upon the Government to work on bringing greater areas under the coverage of micro-irrigation by not only increasing the targets, but also ensuring that the same are achieved as well in the ensuring years. This will then ultimately contribute to NMMI being able to attain its five pronged outcome.

**Reply of the Government**

The recommendations of the Committee have been noted for compliance. The target of 7.7 lakh hectare was set against the BE of Rs. 1500.00 crore. The achievement for the F.Y. 2012-13 is 5.8 lakh hectare as against the RE of Rs.1217.29 crore.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

**SUPPORT TO STATE EXTENSION PROGRAMMES FOR EXTENSION REFORMS**  
**(Recommendation Para No. 4.58)**

The Committee note that the Scheme of Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms was launched in 2006 and aimed at making extension system farmer driven and farmer accountable by way of new institutional arrangements for technology dissemination in the form of an Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) at District Level to operationalise extension reforms. However, the Committee observe that Budget Outlays for the last six fiscals were always revised downward at Revised Estimate stage. This was attributed to procedural delays by

various agencies involved in according clearances/approvals for this revised Scheme, which lead to timelines being staggered for this Scheme till 19 March, 2010. However, much to their chagrin they note that nothing much has changed here as it evident in periodic reduction of BE at RE stage and actual utilization being lower in comparison to the allocation save for the Fiscal 2010-11. The ills plaguing the Scheme in the Eleventh Plan have spilled over to the Twelfth Plan as well. It is disheartening to note that manpower including subject matter specialists, were not be employed, as per sanctioned strength, impacting the implementation of the Scheme. Keeping in view the vital nature of this Scheme, the Committee implore upon the Government to take a proactive approach in the instant matter and ensure the removal of systemic bottlenecks retarding the progress of this Scheme which aims at making extension system farmer driven and farmer accountable by way of new institutional arrangements for technology dissemination during the course of the Twelfth Plan period and thereby ensure optimum utilization of funds that would directly lead to increased dissemination of technology to farmer.

### **Reply of the Government**

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms”, popularly known as ATMA Scheme was launched in May, 2005 and aimed at making extension system farmer driven and farmer accountable by way of institutional arrangements for technology dissemination in the form of an Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) at district level to operationalize Extension Reforms. The detail of year-wise budgetary position under the Scheme is given below: -

(Rs. in Crore)

<b>Year</b>	<b>B.E.</b>	<b>R.E.</b>	<b>Release</b>
2005-06	45.00	45.00	43.44
2006-07	75.00	50.00	48.27
2007-08	230.00	150.00	155.81
2008-09	298.00	198.00	193.01
2009-10	298.00	188.98	178.59
2010-11	250.00	220.00	240.28
2011-12	500.00	458.60	434.02
2012-13	600.00	504.13	508.07
2013-14	550.00	-	-

Above table reveals that public investment in Agricultural Extension by Central Government has increased from Rs.43.44 crore during the year 2005-06 to Rs.508.07 Crore in 2012-13 under the Scheme. Since modification of the Scheme in the year 2010, the increase has been more substantial. Amount released to the States during last 3 years is nearly 100% of the Revised Estimates. Expenditure incurred by the States during these 3 years has also been keeping pace with the releases by the centre.

On the basis of experience gained during the implementation of Extension Reforms Scheme from 2005 to 2009 and after consulting the State Governments, the Government of India has revised the ATMA Scheme in the year 2010-11. The revised scheme provides for dedicated specialist and functionary support to take-up training and extension initiatives at State, District and Block level. Besides this, improvement in extension outreach right down to the village level was expected to be achieved through Farmers Friends. 12,276 posts have been filled up as against 18,326 sanctioned. There is a short fall due to the fact that there are administrative delays in the States as the process involves approval of the Finance Department/ Cabinet of the State Government. If contractual posts are filled up through outsourcing, bidding process also takes time. Further, the current emoluments paid to ATMA functionaries are rather low in current scenario especially in the case of Subject Matter Specialists (SMSs) at the block level. This has led to some States actually not finding any takers for these posts. In some other States, there is attrition due to low emoluments paid to SMSs. Enhancement in emoluments is under consideration. The States are also being pursued continuously to clear the backlog vacancies.

Regular follow-up has been taken up with States to accelerate implementation of Modified ATMA Scheme through Review Meetings, Conference/ Workshops and field visits. In the last 9 months 100 districts have been extensively traversed down to village level. As a result of regular and concerted efforts, a record State Extension Work Plans (SEWPs) of 30 States for 613 districts across the country were approved and an

expenditure of Rs.544.01 crore reported during 2012-13 (excluding expenditure from 6 States, the Reports of which are still awaited).

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **Comments of the Committee**

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.19 of Chapter I of this Report.

### **SUPPORT TO STATE EXTENSION PROGRAMMES FOR EXTENSION REFORMS (Recommendation Para No. 4.59)**

Guided by the fact that under the provisions of the Indian Constitution, wherein Agricultural is listed as a State Subject, the Committee cannot but overemphasize the pivotal nature played by the State Governments and Union Territory Administration in determining the outcome of the Schemes of the Central Government. Thus, in the opinion of the Committee, the need of the hour is to motivate the States/UTs to enhance their participation in the said Scheme and avail more funds. As the Committee have been recommending time and again, the Central Government should consult the States/UTs while devising the Modalities of the Scheme and call for periodic feedback and then accordingly revise the guidelines of the Scheme under consideration. This would ensure that States/UTs consider themselves as active partners in the Scheme, which would ultimately result in optimum utilization of funds and ensure that the benefits of Extension Programmes percolate down to the field.

### **Reply of the Government**

In order to motivate the States/UTs to enhance their active participation in planning and implementation of ATMA Scheme, a regular follow-up is taken up through periodic review meetings and written communication at various levels. The progress of implementation of the scheme is also reviewed in Zonal Conferences for Agriculture

Inputs for Rabi and Kharif Seasons and National Conferences. Apart from above, officers from Department of Agriculture & Cooperation and experts from MANAGE have been visiting the States to get feedback from the field and suggest appropriate solutions to overcome the constraints.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

**NATIONAL PROJECT ON MANAGEMENT OF SOIL HEALTH AND FERTILITY**  
**(Recommendation Para No. 4.61)**

The National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility was taken up from 2008-09 in order to promote balanced and judicious use of fertilizer in conjunction with organic manure on soil test basis. The Central Sector Scheme on Central Fertility Quality Control and Training Institute/Regional Laboratories has been subsumed in the Scheme from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2009.

The Committee are, however, constrained to note that actual expenditure under the Scheme during the last five fiscals has always been lower than the allocated funds. The department have attributed the same to non-furnishing of Utilization Certificates and progress by States and less demand from Central Fertilizer Quality Control and Training Institute. It was further stated that States were developing preference for seeking funds for these components under RKVY due to flexible guidelines.

Guided by the candid explanation put forth by the Department, the Committee are of the opinion that this Scheme be subsumed with the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana as the success of RKVY was one of the factors retarding the progress of this Scheme. They further recommend that the Department take up post haste the construction of Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratories after obtaining the land clearance for these Labs from the concerned State Governments.

**Reply of the Government**

National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility (NPMSH&F) is proposed to be subsumed under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA).

The matter regarding allocation of land for establishment of Regional Fertilizer Control Laboratories (RFCLs) at Kandla, Vizag and Mangalore is being pursued vigorously with concerned authorities.

(a) This Ministry has requested Ministry of Shipping to allot land nearby Kandla Port Trust on easy terms and conditions for establishment of Lab at Kandla.

(b) Director of Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested Collector & DM, Visakhapatnam for early allotment of land for establishment of RFCL at Vizag.

(c) We have also requested Secretary (Agriculture), Government of Karnataka and Chairman, New Mangalore Port Trust for allotment of land at Mangalore for establishment of RFCL at Mangalore.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **BUDGETARY ALLOCATION FOR NORTH EASTERN STATES OUT OF CENTRAL PLAN ALLOCATION**

#### **(Recommendation Para No. 4.64)**

The Committee are aware that all Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, except a few specifically exempted ones, earmark 10% of their annual budget, less allocation for externally aided schemes and local or event specific schemes/projects, for expenditure in North Eastern Region. However, they are unhappy to note that utilization of funds has been lower in comparison to the RE during the Fiscals 2007-08 to 2010-11. The Committee are given to understand that the broad reasons for gross underutilization of funds earmarked for North Eastern States are reduction in BE at RE stage, absence of proposals/non- finalization of proposals from States. Also, as some of the Schemes are demand driven, expenditure is dependent on the initiatives taken by the stakeholder. They are, however, happy to note that the situation is not beyond redemption and with all North-Eastern States having been



covered under the ambit of the National Food Security Mission, the change in fortunes is almost knocking at the door.

The Committee, therefore, recommend that the reasons for poor performance of these States augurs an in-depth study and the problems addressed with the feed back from the recipient States, their farmers and other Stakeholders. The Committee would also like the Department to prepare a case for ensuring that the funds accumulated in the Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) be invariably utilized for development of infrastructure for the agriculture sector, that can help implementation of Schemes more effectively. They also desire that the Department should take up this matter, with utmost alacrity in the North East Council and impress upon all State Governments to come up with initiatives through Schemes specific to the special requirements of the Region.

### **Reply of the Government**

Utilization of funds for NE Region during the last few years has been in the range of 75%-90% of the funds allocated. During XII Plan period the Department will monitor utilization of funds for NR Region and will try to fully utilize the allocation.

The committee's suggestions on utilization of NLCPR have been noted.

No specific percentage of RKVY funds are earmarked to North Eastern states under RKVY. The year-wise states' share of allocation of RKVY funds are decided on the basis of the allocation criteria prescribed in the scheme guidelines.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

**CHAPTER - III**

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

**-NIL-**

## **CHAPTER - IV**

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

#### **TWELFTH PLAN DOCUMENT** **(Recommendation Para No. 3.26)**

The Committee are exasperated to be apprised that all agencies concerned with finalization of the Twelfth Plan Document have not paid any heed to their advise contained in their Thirty-fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2012-13) for streamlining the planning process as the incumbent process is riddled with the need for obtaining multi-agency clearances which are time consuming. The fate that befell the Eleventh Plan was the guiding factor for the Committee's instant recommendation. On being informed that though the National Development Council approved the Twelfth Plan on 27 December, 2012, yet it is unable to see the light of the day, further aggravates the Committee. The representatives of the Planning Commission have confessed during the Oral Evidence that even during the Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plan, there had been remarkable delay in their finalization, which had a negative impact on not only the new Schemes but also the prospects of ongoing Schemes were also severely hampered. Such a position on this important issue worries the Committee that the coming Thirteenth Five Year Plan would also be delayed. The concerned agencies taking refuge that extant planning process as well thought of and one that has stood the test of time does not cut any ice with the Committee. Having been a witness to the detrimental effects of the prevalent system in terms of reduced outlays and staggering of timelines, the Committee recommend that all the concerned should break free from the shackles of the past and streamline this time consuming process and also ensure compliance tot the guidelines of the extant planning process, and thereby aid the planning process in getting rid of its systemic ills.

### **Reply of the Government**

There is a standard procedure to finalize the Five Year Plan which starts with constitution of Working Groups of various sectors and ends with approval by NDC. The schemes as have been decided to be continued are required to go through the process of obtaining fresh in-principle approval of Planning Commission. Thereafter, these schemes are put up before EFC/CCEA for approval as required in the guidelines after which, the schemes are implemented in the revised format, as approved. It may however be stated that the schemes being implemented during the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan continue to be implemented as per extant guidelines till EFC/CCEA approvals are obtained. This ensures that ongoing schemes are not affected by the approval process.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **Comments of the Committee**

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

### **FINANCIAL ALLOCATION AND UTILIZATION DURING FIRST YEAR OF THE TWELFTH PLAN** **(Recommendation Para No. 3.28)**

Constrained to note that the financial performance of the Department during the first fiscal of the Twelfth Plan is reminiscent of the problems plaguing the system of planning and implementation. During the year 2012-13 against a proposal of Rs.49,674.34 crore, the allocation by the Planning Commission as reflected in BE for 2012-13 was mere Rs.20,308.00 crore. Further, due to the tardy utilization of funds by implementing agencies during the first two quarters, the RE was curtailed to Rs.17867.32 crore. The actual expenditure was approximately Rs.13478.19 crore (till 31 December, 2012). The Department attributed this to reduction at BE in funds sought

by RKVY. Though the Department sought Rs.25,000.00 crore, they were allocated only Rs.9217.00 crore as BE. This was further pruned at RE to Rs.8400.00 crore.

Being concerned to note that the first Fiscal of the Twelfth Plan is reminiscent of the past ones, the Committee urge all the agencies concerned to introspect at their working, identify their weak areas, work on them and thereby ensure that things turnaround in the next Fiscal and the variation between proposals, allocation and utilization is negated to the extent possible.

### **Reply of the Government**

The outlay of the Department for fiscal year 2012-13 was reduced to Rs. 17867.32 crore at RE stage. Out of this, Department utilized an amount of Rs.17690.19 crore which works out to 99% of the allocated amount. In respect of RKVY, entire allocated amount at RE stage has been utilized. To reduce the variation between allocation and expenditure, State Governments were exhorted by the Department at various levels to increase their pace of utilization of funds, submission of Utilization Certificates and approval of projects under the schemes. The concern of the Committee has been noted.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **Comments of the Committee**

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

### **NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY MISSION (NFSM)** **(Recommendation Para No. 4.52)**

The Committee note with concern that the malaise afflicting the physical achievements against the target set have continued unabated during the year 2011-12 and 2012-13. The Ministry on their part have pleaded that this mismatch between achievement and target during the Fiscal 2012-13 is because report from States are yet

to be received. However, they have been requesting all concerned States repeatedly to submit their monthly reports along with fund utilization regularly. Also, the progress of States in terms of physical and financial achievements against targets is also monitored in the NFSM Executive Committee meetings quarterly as well as through monitoring visits of the Department's officials. The Committee deprecate this delay in timely furnishing of data by the States as this hampers the monitoring and evaluation of the Scheme. This ultimately delays the initiation of corrective measures that would ensure increased viability of the National Food Security Mission. They also do not buy the argument of the Department that rather than looking at individual components, the overall picture should be looked into. Guided by the adage that "Drops make an Ocean", the individual components should be looked into as they ultimately shape the overall picture. They, therefore, recommend that all implementing agencies undertake an in-depth analysis into the performance of individual components of this Scheme and thereby ensure that the existing gap between achievements and the targets set is bridged in quick time.

### **Reply of the Government**

In the fiscal year 2012-13, achievement against targets under demonstrations is 92.19%, cropping based trainings 224%, seed distribution 80.94%, IPM 82.77% and machineries 134.24%. States and implementing agencies are regularly pursued for submission of component-wise progress reports as also effective implementation of programmes. Progress of implementation is also monitored through correspondence, constant dialogue, monitoring visits and in NFSM EC and GC meetings. States have also been asked to complete process of concurrent evaluation of the scheme.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

## **Comments of the Committee**

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

### **SUPPORT TO STATE EXTENSION PROGRAMMES FOR EXTENSION REFORMS (Recommendation Para No. 4.60)**

Observing that Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) is a purportedly farmer-driven institutionalized arrangement at district level for dissemination of farm technology and knowledge. Notwithstanding the arguments put forth by the Government, the Committee are flabbergasted to know that formulation of District Level Plans are being held up as the District Magistrate being preoccupied with other work is unable to Chair the meeting of ATMA. The meeting of ATMA are hardly being held, which has a cascading effect down the lane in terms of delay in finalization of District Plans, which ultimately further delay finalization of State Extension Work Plans which then block release of funds for extension activities. In view of the fact that District Magistrate is rather hard pressed for time, the Committee recommend that either the Chairmanship of ATMA be entrusted to some other senior official or otherwise the District Magistrate be duty bound to Chair the Sitting of ATMA. Further, they desire that elected representatives of the people be also co-opted in the working body of ATMA to ensure accountability of the executive, which will ensure that extension system, is truly farmer driven and farmer accountable.

## **Reply of the Government**

Convergence among the developmental departments is *sine qua non* for effective implementation of agricultural extension activities. In particular, all Agriculture & allied departments and associated offices like the District Administrative Centre, Agriculture Marketing Board, lead bank etc. all have to work together for effective delivery of extension services. District Magistrate is associated with all such departments in one way or the other. Hence, it was decided to have District

Magistrate/Collector as the chairman of ATMA Governing Body. It has also been provided in the Guidelines for various schemes such as National Food Security Mission, National Project on Management of Soil Health & Fertility that their implementation should be done through ATMA. In case of RKVY also, the State Governments have to base their District Agriculture Plans on Strategic Research and Extension Plans developed under ATMA. The States have been requested that all these and other related schemes should also be discussed in the ATMA Governing Body Meeting to be held under the chairmanship of District Magistrate/Collector. In case of such a scenario of limited meetings on Agriculture, presence of DM/Collector can be better ensured. In any case, there is a provision in the Scheme Guidelines that the States may choose anyone else as the Chairman of Governing Body of ATMA but such an officer should not be below the rank of CEO, Zila Parishad / Additional District Collector in place of District Collector.

In order to ensure accountability of the executives, ATMA Governing Board also includes one Farmer Representative, one Horticulture Farmer, one Livestock Farmer and Representatives of women SHG & SC/ST Farmers. All these farmers are nominated to the Governing Board by the District Farmers Advisory Committee. The Scheme has a provision of constitution of Farmers Advisory Committees (FACs) at State Districts and Block levels comprising a group of farmers to advise and provide Field level inputs to the administrative bodies. A total of 5913 such Committees have been constituted in the country.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **Comments of the Committee**

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.22 of Chapter I of this Report.



**NATIONAL PROJECT ON MANAGEMENT OF SOIL HEALTH AND FERTILITY**  
**(Recommendation Para No. 4.62)**

The Committee has taken note of the fact that presently as against 1292.22 lakhs land holdings, only 505 lakh soil health cards issued. Further, Geo-referenced soil fertility maps of only 118 districts have been completed. As against target of 242 static/mobile Soil Testing Labs, only 105 are in position. The Committee take the issue of deteriorating Soil Health/Fertility across the Country very seriously and direct the Government to embark upon the task of firstly obtaining the Soil Health status and then the remedial measures post haste. As stated by the Department this could be achieved by the three pronged strategy of issue of Soil Health Cards/digital soil maps/increasing the number of Static/Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories/development of Mini Soil Testing Kit. The testing should be comprehensive both in terms of Macro/Micro nutrients and this information should not be confined to District Headquarters, but be readily available at the farm level.

Once this exercise is accomplished then only can the process of improving soil health be initiated. The Committee, therefore, desire that the process of soil testing be completed across the Country during the next two fiscals. This would not only ensure in arresting the deteriorating soil health but would also ensure the inception of soil health improvement which directly reflects upon the production and productivity.

**Reply of the Government**

As per latest information received from Indian Institute of Soil Science, digital soil maps of 152 districts out of 171 districts have been completed. This component on preparation of digitized maps is proposed to be continued in 12<sup>th</sup> plan period to cover remaining districts. Similarly, setting up/strengthening of soil testing laboratories is proposed to be continued in 12<sup>th</sup> Plan period. Provision for soil testing kits has been incorporating in the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan proposal @ Rs.15,000 per kit subject to the approval of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture.

The Soil Testing Laboratories being sanctioned under NPMSH&F include comprehensive testing facilities both for macro and micro nutrients. Most of the states are using innovative methods of making information available to farmers through internet & SMS, apart from conventional methods like through Extension staff and by post.

Soil testing is an ongoing process which is to be repeated every 3-4 years and there is no fixed time period to complete this activity. In addition, there are other methods available like digital soil maps to give soil fertility status and package of practices developed by State Governments also provide fertilizer recommendations.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **Comments of the Committee**

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.25 of Chapter I of this Report.

### **OUTSTANDING UTILIZATION CERTIFICATES (UCs)** **(Recommendation Para No. 4.63)**

The Committee applaud the Department for their concerted efforts which have resulted in a drastic reduction in the number of pending UCs from a figure of 1306 as on 1 April, 2012 to 289 as on 31 December, 2012. The figure has further been lowered to 201. However, as the liquidation of all Outstanding Utilization Certificates has not been achieved till date, the Committee recommend that the Government tackle this issue on a warfront and impress upon all States/UTs to clear their backlog. They further observe that this pendency is reflective of bad accounting and financial management being practiced by the errant States/UTs, and urge them to initiate corrective measures at the

earliest as in absence of the same, they are the ones who have to bear the consequences. Lastly, they plead upon the Government to ensure that the case of outstanding utilization certificates is eliminated during the current plan period.

### **Reply of the Government**

As on 30.04.2013, 187 UCs for amount of Rs.416.50 Crores are outstanding. (The state wise and year wise break up of the 187 UCs pending as on 30.04.2013 is enclosed as **Annexures- I & II**).

Principal Accounts Office, M/o Agriculture has taken various steps to liquidate the outstanding Utilisation Certificates. The special UCs Audit have been conducted for the various States which has yielded tremendous results. Principal Accounts Office is monitoring status of UCs rigorously for all the Divisions and had directed PAOs not to make any payment without submission of the UCs by the Divisions. Divisions have also responded positively and submitted many UCs and only 187 UCs were pending as on 30.04.2013.

Out of these 187 UCs, only 02 UCs for RKVY Rs. 235.98 Crores are pending. All efforts are being made to liquidate the remaining UCs. RKVY Division has also been requested to liquidate the outstanding UCs before 31.03.2013.

Further, special UCs Audit of the States/Implementing Agencies against whom more number of UCs are outstanding shall be conducted to liquidate the UCs during special audit itself.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **Comments of the Committee**

For comments of the Committee please refer to Para No. 1.28 of Chapter I of this Report.

## **CHAPTER - V**

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

#### **OILSEEDS PRODUCTION UNDER INTEGRATED SCHEME OF OILSEEDS, PULSES, OILPALM AND MAIZE** **(Recommendation Para No. 4.56)**

Oilseeds production programme is being implemented under ISOPOM from 1 April, 2004 in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. As informed, this programme has helped in increasing the production of oilseeds from 10.83million tonnes in 1985-86 to 29.80 million tonnes during 2011-12. The maximum yield achieved was 1133kg/ha during the Fiscal 2011-12. Although, various schemes/projects, were instrumental, in improving the productivity, much more needs to be desired to enhance it further. Then there is yawning gap between demonstration average yield and local average obtained in the fields. For instance demonstration yield of mustard, soyabean and sunflower is in the vicinity of 14-16 q/ha, whereas it just 12 in a farmers' field. However, what concerns the Committees is not only the fluctuating trend in production of oil seeds, as a result of the vagaries of climate but also yielded. The Committee, therefore, impress upon the Government to look into these areas urgently and ensure that oilseeds production and productivity receives a shot in the arm, as this will not only enable to Country to attain self sufficiency in oils, whilst reducing the nation's import bill as well. This would also help boost the production of animal fodder.

#### **Reply of the Government**

The Department is in the process of finalizing the National Mission on Oilseeds & Oil Palm (NMOOP) for increasing production/productivity of oilseeds and area expansion under oil palm/Tree Born Oilseeds (TBOs) for augmenting the domestic availability of vegetable oils in the country. The broad strategy would include:

- Strategies for yield improvement in districts with low yield high spread and to explore the possibilities of area expansion in districts with low spread high yield;

- Cluster demonstrations on improved production technologies of oilseeds including use of micro-nutrients, gypsum; etc.
- Augmenting production and availability of certified/quality seeds with emphasis on seed treatment;
- Enhancing irrigation through Sprinklers/Rain-guns/water carrying pipes and pump-sets;
- Encouraging cultivation of oilseeds in areas of low wheat productivity , rice fallows and intercropping with coarse cereals, pulses;
- Promotion of Sunflower cultivation in Zaid season;
- Capacity building through Frontline demonstrations/ Farmers Field Demonstration in Pest & Disease Management;
- Procurement tie-up through NAFED.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **Comments of the Committee**

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

### **OILSEEDS PRODUCTION UNDER INTEGRATED SCHEME OF OILSEEDS, PULSES, OILPALM AND MAIZE** **(Recommendation Para No. 4.57)**

On a serious note, the Committee deprecate the repetitive constraints in oilseeds production as listed by the Government. It has further been stated that 72% oilseeds are grown under rainfed conditions in the Country and oilseed crops are also prone to various biotic stresses. This further gets compounded by low Seed Replacement Rate (SRR) and low Seed Multiplication Ratio (SMR). Lack of Minimum Support Price (MSP) also compounds the problems. Noting the above-mentioned systemic inadequacies, which in the Committee's opinion have to be tackled headon, they urge the Government to synergize various programmes being implemented in the Agriculture Sector to ensure that benefits from Schemes are interlinked. Then only the constraints in oil seeds production will be overcome. They, further desire that the Government embark upon an action plan as suggested post haste and intimate the Committee of the same. As efforts to tap potential

from Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBO) have not yielded the desired results, the Committee desire focused attention towards this nascent area.

### **Reply of the Government**

NAFED would be involved for procurement of Oilseed Crop to ensure that the benefit of MSP reaches the farmers. As regard, harnessing potential of TBOs, TRIFED a multi State Cooperative Society would be involved to facilitate the procurement of TBOs, which are largely collected by the Tribals.

National Mission on Oilseeds & Oilpalm would encourage/ provide linkage for dovetailing of resources from other schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), National Mission on Agriculture Extension & Technology (NMAET) and National Food Security Mission (NFSM) for enhancing production of oilseeds in the country. Efforts would be made by National Mission on Oilseeds & Oil Palm (NMOOP) and NFSM to promote inter/mix-cropping of oilseeds and pulses under similar agro-climatic conditions.

[Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Co-operation),  
OM No.6-3/2013-B&A dated the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013]

### **Comments of the Committee**

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

**NEW DELHI;**  
**03 December, 2013**  
**12 Agrahayana,1935 (Saka)**

**BASUDEB ACHARIA**  
***Chairman***  
***Committee on Agriculture***

**Annexure - I**

<b>State-wise Outstanding Utilisation Certificates in respect of Grant No. 1 as on 30-04-2013 for the grant released upto 31-03-2011</b>		
<b>Name of states</b>	<b>No. Of Ucs</b>	<b>Amount in Rs.</b>
Andhra Pradesh	8	1726482800
Assam	1	2156000
Bihar	10	192285343
Chhattisgarh	2	34788700
Daman & Diu	2	1200000
Gujarat	1	5900000
Haryana	5	32725000
Himachal Pradesh	6	4249000
J & K	3	1302078
Jharkhand	3	29335000
Karnataka	13	495448000
Kerala	13	30248528
Lakshadweep	1	200000
Madhya Pradesh	10	65546300
Maharashtra	10	94247856
Manipur	3	21150000
MEGHALAYA	3	22673000
Mizoram	1	1000000
Nagaland	2	1100000
New Delhi	33	420731760
Orissa	12	49312878
Punjab	1	3500000
Rajasthan	8	113726500
Sikkim	2	7100000
Tamil Nadu	7	11723000
Tripura	3	13680000
Uttar Pradesh	13	45557937
Uttrakhand	4	5629000
West Bengal	7	731953750
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>4164952430</b>

**Annexure -II**

<b><u>Year-wise Outstanding Utilisation Certificates in respect of Grant No. 1 as on *09-05-2013 for the grant released upto 31-03-2011</u></b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>No. of Ucs</b>	<b>Amount in Rs.</b>
1992-93	1	410800
1993-94	3	216234
1994-95	1	250000
1995-96	2	1191080
2000-01	2	331500
2001-02	7	905856
2002-03	4	162550
2003-04	6	375400
2004-05	6	15272987
2005-06	6	49955950
2006-07	15	27439343
2007-08	22	31725500
2008-09	24	2942695500
2009-10	33	600116730
2010-11	55	493903000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>4164952430</b>

---

*\* At the time of factual verification of the Report DAC revised this figure to 30.04.2013 as on 31.10.2013.*



### Annexure-III

#### **Component details of the Central Sector Scheme 'Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds'**

The Department of Agriculture and Co-operation is implementing a Central Sector Scheme known as 'Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds' since 2005-06 on an all India basis. The objective of the ongoing scheme is to ensure production and multiplication of high yielding certified/quality seeds of all crops in sufficient quantities and make the seeds available to farmers, including those in remote areas, not easily accessible by rail/road on time. The Scheme has the following components:-

S. No	Name of the Component	Details of the component
(i)	Transport Subsidy on Movement of Seeds	This component covers North-Eastern States including Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and hill areas of West Bengal. The component provides for (a) 100% reimbursement of difference between rail and road transportation cost for the movement of seeds produced outside the State and (b) the actual cost, restricted to maximum limit of Rs.60 per quintal whichever is less for the movement of seed within the State from State capital / district headquarters to sale outlets/sale counters.
(ii)	Establishment & Maintenance of Seed Bank.	<p>In order to ensure that seeds are available to the farmers at the time of natural calamities like floods, droughts, etc. this component is implemented to establish a seed bank to maintain stocks of foundation and certified seeds of different crops / varieties which can be utilised for such contingent requirements.</p> <p>Under this component, grants-in-aid are released to National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India, State Seeds Corporation, Kerala Seed Development Authority, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand, etc.</p>
(iii)	Quality Control Arrangement on Seeds	This component deals with arrangement to regulate the quality of seeds under the Seeds Act, 1966 to strengthen quality control organisations like State Seed Certification Agencies, State Seed Testing Laboratories, Central Seed Testing Laboratory and Central Seed Committee apart from imparting training to officials engaged in the seed sector and for enforcing the seed law in order to ensure the production and distribution of quality seeds to protect the interest of farmers. This component also deals with the strengthening of National Seed Research and Training Centre at

		<p>Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh). This Centre is accredited as Central Seed Testing Laboratory and acts as referral seed testing laboratory as well as a premier training centre on all aspects of seed technology to different stakeholders.</p> <p>Under this component, grants-in-aid are released to State/UT Departments of Agriculture, National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India, State Seed Certification Agencies, State Seed Corporations, State Agricultural Universities, etc.</p>
(iv)	Seed Village Programme	<p>To upgrade the quality of farmer-saved seed, which is about 70-75% of the total seed used for crop production programme, financial assistance is provided for distribution of foundation/certified seeds at 50% cost of the seed of crops for production of certified/quality seeds only and for training on seed production and technology to the farmers.</p> <p>The seed produced in these seed villages are preserved/stored till the next sowing season. In order to encourage farmers to develop storage capacity of appropriate quality, assistance is given to farmers for making/procuring of Pusa Bin/Mud bin/Bin made from paper pulp for storing of seed produced by the farmers on their farms.</p> <p>Under this component, grants-in-aid are released to State/UT Departments of Agriculture, National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India, State Seed Certification Agencies, State Seed Corporations, State Agricultural Universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, etc.</p>
(v)	Assistance for Creation/ Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities in Public Sector.	<p>In order to establish/strengthen infrastructure facilities for production and distribution of quality seeds, assistance for creating facilities of seed cleaning, grading, processing, packing and seed storage is provided. Assistance for strengthening of the existing seed corporation with respect to above mentioned infrastructure is also considered on case to case basis. The assistance is available in the form of grants-in-aid for specific purpose of creating infrastructure facilities mentioned above only.</p> <p>Assistance is provided at the standard rate of Rs.22.25 lakh per seed processing plant of 1000 MTs (including construction of building and machinery/equipment) or multiples thereof. For construction of seed storage godown, assistance is provided at the standard rate of Rs.25 lakh per seed godown of 1000 MT capacity and multiples thereof.</p> <p>Under this component, grants-in-aid are released to State/UT Departments of Agriculture, National Seeds Corporation, State</p>

		Farms Corporation of India, State Seed Corporations, etc.
(vi)	Application of Biotechnology in Agriculture.	<p>This component is being implemented for providing financial assistance for post-release monitoring of transgenic crops through State Agricultural Universities (SAUs)/Department of Agriculture of States/Krishi Vigyan Kendras, strengthening of State Seed Testing Laboratories for quality control of GM seeds, public awareness campaign through SAUs, scientific organisations/Institutes and for promotion of tissue culture through SAUs/specialised institutions/seed corporations.</p> <p>Under this component, grants-in-aid are released to State/UT Departments of Agriculture, National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India, State Seed Corporations, State Agricultural Universities, etc.</p>
(vii)	Assistance for Boosting Seed Production in Private Sector	<p>Under this component, credit linked back-ended capital subsidy is provided at the rate of 25% of the project cost subject to a maximum limit of Rs.25.00 lakh per unit on seed infrastructure development. Private companies, individual entrepreneurs, self help groups, seed cooperatives, partnership firms are eligible for subsidy. The component is implemented through nationalised/scheduled commercial banks. The assistance is for creation of infrastructure facilities relating to seed cleaning, grading, processing, seed treating, packaging and storage units as well as for seed testing facilities. This assistance is primarily for high volume low value seeds. National Seeds Corporation is the nodal agency for implementation and monitoring of this component.</p>
(viii)	Promoting for Hybrid Rice Seed Production	<p>Under this component, assistance is provided for production as well as distribution of hybrid rice seeds. Production subsidy @ Rs.20/- per kg. and distribution subsidy @Rs.25/- per kg. are given to beneficiaries.</p> <p>Under this component, grants-in-aid are released to State/UT Departments of Agriculture, National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India, State Seed Corporations, etc.</p>
(ix)	Assistance for Boosting Seed Export	<p>Under this component, assistance is provided for obtaining the membership of international organisations like International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) and to participate in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) schemes for the development of Indian seed industry and promotion of export of seeds.</p>

**Annexure-IV**

**ALL INDIA REQUIREMENT (DEMAND) & PRODUCTION (AVAILABILITY) OF  
CERTIFIED / QUALITY SEED.**

**QTY. IN LAKH QUINTAL**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Requirement/ Demand</b>	<b>Production/ Availability</b>
2007-2008	180.74	194.31
2008-2009	207.28	250.35
2009-2010	249.12	279.72
2010-2011	290.76	321.36
2011-2012	330.41	353.62
2012-2013	315.19	328.58
Kharif -2013	139.88	153.94

**Annexure-V****Commodity-wise/State-wise/Year-wise procurement of Oilseeds, Pulses  
& Cotton under Price Support Scheme from 2006-2007 to 2011-2012.**

S. No	Year	Commodity / Crop Season	State	Quantity procured (in MTs)	MSP (Rs. Per Qtl)
1.	2006-2007	Groundnut Rabi 2006	Orissa	116	1520
2.	2006-2007	Sunflower seed Rabi 2006	Chhattisgarh	1094	1500
			Andhra Pradesh	14	
			Punjab	1947	
			Bihar	1000	
			West Bengal	1187	
3.	2006-2007	Safflower seed Rabi 2006	Maharashtra	32855	1565
			Andhra Pradesh	6362	
			Karnataka	11532	
4.	2006-2007	Mustard seed Rabi 2006	Rajasthan	14,18,000	1715
			Haryana	4,58,000	
			Gujarat	1,04,000	
			Madhya Pradesh	2,00,000	
			Uttar Pradesh	17,000	
			Delhi	3,000	
			Punjab	4,000	
			Chhattisgarh	1,000	

5.	2006-2007	Soyabean Kharif 2006	Andhra Pradesh	7	1020
6.	2006-2007	Seasam seed Kharif 2006	West Bengal	377	1550
7.	2007-2008	Ball Copra 2007 season	Karnataka	19,000	3870
			Kerala	156	
8.	2007-2008	Milling copra 2007 season	Kerala	3502	3620
			Tamil Nadu	5707	
			A&N Island	2800	
9.	2007-2008	Milling copra (below FAQ grade) 2007 season	Andhra Pradesh	15649	3350
10.	2007-2008	Mustard seed Rabi 2007	Rajasthan	21,274	1715
			Gujarat	225	
			Madhya Pradesh	162	
			Punjab	218	
			Chhattisgarh	26	
11.	2007-2008	Safflower seed Rabi 2007	Maharashtra	27	1565
			Andhra Pradesh	94	

12.	2007-2008	Sesamum seed Rabi 2007	West Bengal	91	1560
13.	2008-2009	Ball copra Season 2008	Karnataka	174	3910
14.	2008-2009	Milling copra Season 2008	Kerala	489	3660

15.	2008-2009	Cotton Kharif 2008	Maharashtra (Bales)	16,79,161 (35,20,671)	2500 & 3000
			Andhra Pradesh (Bales)	70,718 (1,34,018)	
			Gujarat (Bales)	58,582 (1,17,618)	
16.	2008-2009	Groundnut Kharif 2008	Uttar Pradesh	40	2100
17.	2008-2009	Urad Kharif 2008	West Bengal	481	2520
18.	2009-2010	Sunflower seed Kharif 2008/ Rabi 2009	Maharashtra	2,801	2215
			Karnataka	4,599	
			Andhra Pradesh	4,670	
			Haryana	1,648	
19.	2009-2010	Milling copra Season 2009	Kerala	12,926	4450
			Tamil Nadu	10,018	
			A&N Islands	2,333	
			Lakshdweep	1,537	

20.	2009-2010	Ball copra Season 2009	Karnataka	1250	4700
21.	2009-2010	AP Copra	Andhra Pradesh	510	3900
22.	2010-11	Milling Copra Season	Kerala Tamil Nadu A&N Islands Lakshadweep	14770 7434 5015 3381	4450
23.	2010-11	Ball Copra Season	Karnataka	895	4700
24.	2010-11	Milling Copra (Spl. Grade) Season 2010	Andhra Pradesh	2,156	3900
25.	2010-11	De-Husked Coconut Season 2010	Kerala	22,144 Converted into Copra	1200
26.	2010-11	Sunflower Seed	Haryana Orissa	861	2350
27.	2010-11	Sessum Seed	West Bengal	1,914	2850
28.	2010-11	Tur		459	3000 + Rs.500/-per Qtl. as bonus
29.	2010-11	Urad	Madhya Pradesh	131	2000+500 bonus
31.	2010-11	Gram	Rajasthan	63440	2100
32.	2011-12	Milling copra		4525	5100



33.	2011-12	Urad		1.66	3300 + Rs.500/-per Qtl. as bonus
34.	2011-12	Gram		6,344	2100
35	2012	Milling Copra	Tamil Nadu Lakshdweep Kerala Andhra Pradesh A&N	30,000 2900 18101 6628 9207	5100
36	2012	Ball copra	Kerala Karnataka	2 9228	5350
37	2012	Spl.Grade copra	Andhra Pradesh	49	4335

Commodity-wise/State-wise/Year-wise procurement under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) from 2001-02 to 2011-12							
Commodity	State	Procurement period	Procurement price (MIP) (Rs. per Qtl.)	Procurement target (in MT)	Actual procurement (in MT)	Value of Qty. procured (Rs. in lakh)	Loss incurred (Rs. in lakh)
Chilli	Andhra Pradesh	2001-2002 20.03.2001 to 30.06.2001	2400.00	15000.00	601.99	144.48	13.81
Oil Palm	Andhra Pradesh	2001-2002 01.03.2001 to 31.10.2001	275.00	105000.00	2750.00	75.63	99.76
Oil Palm	Karnataka	2001-2002 01.04.2001 to 31.10.2001	275.00	8000.00	2489.71	68.47	18.66
Arcanut	Goa	2001-2002 01.05.2001 to 31.07.2001	7300.00	208.53	208.53	152.23	53.07
<b>(A) Total of 2001-02</b>			<b>10250.00</b>	<b>128208.53</b>	<b>6050.23</b>	<b>440.80</b>	<b>185.30</b>
Arcanut	Karnataka	2002-2003 25.06.2002 to 31.10.2002	6000.00	10000.00	3097.00	1858.20	77.05
Arcanut	A & N Islands	2002-2003 01.06.2002 to 31.10.2002	5500.00	3250.00	204.85	112.67	13.96
<b>(B) Total of 2002-03</b>			<b>11500.00</b>	<b>13250.00</b>	<b>3301.85</b>	<b>1970.87</b>	<b>91.01</b>
Potato	Uttar Pradesh	2003-04 22.02.2003 to 25.04.2003	190.00	100000.00	885.00	16.82	16.32
Ginger	Mizoram	2003-04 01.04.2003 to 30.06.2003	400.00	15000.00	15000.00	600.00	167.25
Potato	West Bengal	2003-04 07.04.2003 to 06.05.2003	200.00	20000.00	8275.00	165.50	133.06
Chilli	Andhra Pradesh	2003-04 03.03.2004 to 29.06.2004	2650.00	30000.00	27677.00	7334.41	4754.37

Potato	Uttar Pradesh	2003-04 15.02.2004 to 30.04.2004	195.00	100000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Orange	Rajasthan	2003-04 15.02.2004 to 30.03.2004	244.00	5000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Coriander Seeds	Rajasthan	2003-04 29.03.2004 to 28.05.2004	1450.00	2000.00	591.00	85.70	3.73
Cumin Seeds	Rajasthan	2003-04 29.03.2004 to 28.05.2004	5200.00	2000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>(C) Total of 2003-04</b>			<b>10529.00</b>	<b>274000.00</b>	<b>52428.00</b>	<b>8202.42</b>	<b>5074.73</b>
Ginger	Mizoram	2004-05 15.04.2004 to 15.06.2004	500.00	5900.00	5900.00	295.00	279.70
Onion	Rajasthan	2004-05 11.06.2004 to 25.07.2004	280.00	5000.00	26.60	0.74	0.22
Hatkora	Mizoram	2004-05 17.08.2004 to 16.09.2004	450.00	1410.00	1410.00	63.45	44.45
Apple 'C' Grade	Himachal Pradesh	2004-05 01.08.2004 to 31.10.2004	400.00	32500.00	32500.00	1300.00	1591.75
Apple 'C' Grade	Jammu & Kashmir	2004-05 15.10.2004 to 31.12.2004	300.00	45000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ginger	Mizoram	2004-05 01.02.2005 to 15.03.2005	500.00	6400.00	6400.00	320.00	301.51
Black Pepper	Kerala	2004-05 15.02.2005 to 15.04.2005	7000.00	5050.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chilli	Andhra Pradesh	2004-05 23.03.2005 to 20.06.2005	2700.00	30000.00	9581.00	2586.87	2010.50
<b>(D) Total of 2004-05</b>			<b>12130.00</b>	<b>131260.00</b>	<b>55817.60</b>	<b>4566.06</b>	<b>4228.13</b>
Garlic	Rajasthan	2005-06 10.05.2005 to 10.06.2005	700.00	2000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Onion	Rajasthan	2005-06 01.06.2005 to 31.07.2005	250.00	5000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Apple 'C' Grade	Uttara- khand	2005-06 01.08.2005 to 31.10.2005	350.00	10000.00	31.44	1.10	0.00	
Apple 'C' Grade	Himachal Pradesh	2005-06 01.08.2005 to 31.10.2005	425.00	50000.00	50000.00	2125.00	296.29	
Malta	Uttara- khand	2005-06 15.12.2005 to 15.02.2006	400.00	8000.00	39.20	1.57	0.00	Report Awaited
Hatkora	Mizoram	2005-06 01.10.2005 to 10.11.2005	450.00	1700.00	1700.00	76.50	55.99	
Chilli	Mizoram	2005-06 15.02.2006 to 15.03.2006	2800.00	1250.00	1250.00	350.00	161.45	
<b>(E) Total of 2005-06</b>			<b>5375.00</b>	<b>77950.00</b>	<b>53020.64</b>	<b>2554.17</b>	<b>513.73</b>	
Onion	Rajasthan	2006-07 29.05.2006 to 28.06.2006	280.00	5000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Apples 'C' grade	Uttara- khand	2006-07 01.09.2006 to 30.11.2006	425.00	1000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Malta	Uttara- khand	2006-07 07.12.2006 to 15.02.2007	425.00	2000.00	14.52	0.62	0.00	
<b>(F) Total of 2006-07</b>			<b>1130.00</b>	<b>8000.00</b>	<b>14.52</b>	<b>0.62</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
Ginger	Mizoram	2007-08 05.05.2007 to 04.06.2007	500.00	10000.00	10000.00	500.00	156.00	
Chilli	Mizoram	2007-08 10.06.2007 to 10.07.2007	2800.00	4250.00	4250.00	1190.00	606.00	
Passion Fruit	Mizoram	2007-08 10.06.2007 to 10.07.2007	700.00	8000.00	8000.00	560.00	251.15	
Apples 'C' grade	Himachal Pradesh	2007-08 01.08.2007 to 31.08.2007	450.00	27000.00	29300.00	1318.50	1059.26	

Apples 'C' grade	Uttarakhand	2007-08 20.08.2007 to 20.09.2007	450.00	1500.00	114.94	5.17	3.58	
Malta 'C' grade	Uttarakhand	2007-08 04.12.2007 to 31.01.2008	500.00	2000.00	108.65	5.43	4.57	
Onion	Karnataka	2007-08 01.01.2008 to 31.01.2008	450.00	30000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
<b>(G) Total of 2007-08</b>			<b>5850.00</b>	<b>82750.00</b>	<b>51773.59</b>	<b>3579.10</b>	<b>2080.56</b>	
Potato	Uttar Pradesh	2008-09 08.04.2008 to 07.05.2008	250.00	100000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Chilli	Mizoram	2008-09 21.04.2008 to 21.05.2008	2800.00	1810.00	1810.00	506.80	295.92	
Potato	West Bengal	2008-09 12.05.2008 to 11.06.2008	230.00	100000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Passion Fruit	Mizoram	2008-09 10.07.2008 to 10.08.2008	700.00	9000.00	9000.00	630.00	306.00	
Apples 'C' grade	Uttarakhand	2008-09 01.08.2008 to 31.08.2008	450.00	1500.00	84.46	3.80	0.00	Report Awaited
Apples 'C' grade	Himachal Pradesh	2008-09 01.08.2008 to 30.09.2008	450.00	38000.00	28452.00	1280.34	2533.00	
Malta 'C' grade	Uttarakhand	2008-09 01.11.2008 to 31.12.2008	525.00	1600.00	66.13	3.47	0.00	Report Awaited
Chow-chow	Mizoram	2008-09 15.10.2008 to 15.12.2008	450.00	6450.00	6450.00	290.25	218.98	
Ginger	Nagaland	2008-09 03.02.2009 to 02.03.2009	500.00	15000.00	15000.00	750.00	498.30	
Oil-palm	Andhra Pradesh	2008-09 01.03.2009 to 30.04.2009	500.00	30000.00	30000.00	1500.00	346.12	

Arecanut	Karnataka	2008-09 01.03.2009 to 30.06.2009	White	6000.00	6900.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
			Red	4000.00	8900.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Potato	Uttar Pradesh	2008-09 25.03.2009 to 24.04.2009	285.00		100000.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
<b>(H) Total of 2008-09</b>			<b>17140.00</b>		<b>419160.00</b>	<b>90862.59</b>	<b>4964.66</b>		<b>4198.32</b>
Orrange	Nagaland	2009-10 25.03.2009 to 24.04.2009	510.00		16000.00	16000.00	816.00		506.55
Oil-palm	Karnataka	2009-10 25.03.2009 to 24.04.2009	500.00		800.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Arecanut (White)	Karnataka	2009-10 19.01.2010 to 25.03.2010	6900.00		6000.00	0.00	0.00		0.00

<b>I) Total of 2009-10</b>			<b>7910.00</b>		<b>22800.00</b>	<b>16000.00</b>	<b>816.00</b>		<b>506.55</b>	
Potato	Uttar Pradesh	2010-11 22.03.2010 to 30.04.2010	300.00		100000.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	
Potato	West Bengal	2010-11 17.03.2010 to 15.04.2010	300.00		900000.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	
Oil-palm	Andhra Pradesh	2010-11 01.09.2010 to 31.10.2010	500.00		47500.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	
Apples 'C' grade	Himachal Pradesh	2010-11 01.09.2010 to 31.10.2010	515.00		61000.00	61000.00	3141.50		0.00	Report Awaited
Potato	Uttar Pradesh	2010-11 12.03.2011 to 11.04.2011	305.00		100000.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	
<b>(J) Total of 2010-11</b>			<b>1920.00</b>		<b>1208500.00</b>	<b>61000.00</b>	<b>3141.50</b>		<b>0.00</b>	

Arecanut	Karnataka	2011-12 06.04.2011 to 31.05.2011	White	7590.00	8000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
			Red	9790.00	4000.00	0.00	0.00		
Apples 'C' grade	Himachal Pradesh	2011-12 15.08.2011 to 15.10.2011	525.00		50600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Report Awaited
Onion	Karnataka	2011-12 14.12.2011 to 14.01.2012	600.00		54000.00	40747.00	3009.00	0.00	Report Awaited
Turmeric	Karnataka	2011-12 10.02.2012 to 31.05.2012	4092.00		12400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Report Awaited
Potato	Uttar Pradesh	2011-12 10.02.2012 to 10.03.2012	328.00		100000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Turmeric	Andhra Pradesh	2011-12 20.03.2012 to 31.05.2012	4000.00		54000.00	4000.00	1600.00	0.00	Report Awaited
Garlic	Rajasthan	2012-13 06.06.2012 to 06.07.2012	1700.00		60000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Report Awaited
Chilli	Andhra Pradesh	2012-13 25.05.2012 to 25.06.2012	Hybrid Variety	4100.00	31200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Report Awaited
			Straight Variety	3700.00	20800.00	0.00	0.00		
Turmeric	Tamil Nadu	2012-13 01.06.2012 to 30.06.2012	4000.00		35000.00	5.09	2.04	0.00	Report Awaited
Iskut	Mizoram	2012-13 1.12.2012 to 31.12.2012	400.00		4000.00				
<b>(K) Total of 2011-12</b>			<b>40425.00</b>		<b>430000.00</b>	<b>44752.09</b>	<b>4611.04</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Grand Total of (A) to (K)</b>			<b>124159.00</b>		<b>2795878.53</b>	<b>2795878.53</b>	<b>34847.23</b>	<b>16878.33</b>	
						<b>265</b>			

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

**(2013-14)**

**MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE**

\*\*\*\*\*

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 29 October, 2013 from 1100 hours to 1325 hours in Committee Room 'C' (G/F), Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

**Shri Basudeb Acharia - Chairman**

**MEMBERS**

**LOKSABHA**

2. Shri Sanjay Singh Chauhan
3. Shri H.D. Devegowda
4. Smt. Paramjit Kaur Gulshan
5. Shri Premdas Katheria
6. Shri P. Kumar
7. Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi
8. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Libra
9. Dr. Jyoti Mirdha
10. Shri Kachhadia Naranbhai
11. Dr. Vinay Kumar Pandey 'Vinnu'
12. Shri Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav

**RAJYA SABHA**

13. Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi
14. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan
15. Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao
16. Shri Parshottam Khodabhai Rupala
17. Shri Rajpal Singh Saini
18. Shri S. Thangavelu
19. Shri Darshan Singh Yadav



**SECRETARIAT**

- |    |                             |   |                     |
|----|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri A. Louis Martin        | - | Joint Secretary     |
| 2. | Smt. Abha Singh Yadhuvanshi | - | Director            |
| 3. | Shri T.H. Rao               | - | Additional Director |
| 4. | Shri C. Vanlalruata         | - | Deputy Secretary    |

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members to the Sitting of the Committee. Then, the Committee took up for consideration the following;

\* (i)   xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx  
         xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx.

(ii) Memorandum No. 03 pertaining to the draft Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Forty-Sixth Report of the Committee on Agriculture (2012-13) on Demands for Grants (2013-14) of Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation);

\* (iii) xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx  
         xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx.

3. After some deliberations, the Committee approved the categorization of action taken replies as shown in the Memoranda and adopted the draft Reports without any modification. They authorized the Chairman to present these Reports to Parliament after getting them factually verified from the concerned Departments.

\*4.   xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx  
         xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx.

         xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx  
         xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx.

\*5.   xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx  
         xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx           xxx   xxx   xxx.

**The Committee then adjourned.**

---

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

(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

**ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON  
THE FORTY SIXTH REPORT (15<sup>th</sup> LOK SABHA) OF  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (2012-13)**

(i)	Total number of Recommendations	26
(ii)	Observations/ Recommendations which have been Accepted by the Government	
	Para Nos. 1.4, 2.8, 2.9, 2.10, 2.11, 2.12, 3.23, 3.24, 3.25, 3.27, 4.51, 4.53, 4.54, 4.55, 4.58, 4.59, 4.61 and 4.64	
	Total	18
	Percentage	69.23%
(iii)	Observations/ Recommendations which the Committee Do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	
	Total	NIL
	Percentage	0%
(iv)	Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	
	Para Nos. 3.26, 3.28, 4.52, 4.60, 4.62 and 4.63	
	Total	06
	Percentage	23.07%
(v)	Observations/ Recommendations in respect of which Final replies of the Government are still awaited	
	Para Nos. 4.56 and 4.57	
	Total	02
	Percentage	7.70%