

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2016-2017)**

SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES)**

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2016-2017)

**{Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/
Recommendations contained in the Twenty Fourth Report
of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2015-2016)}**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
DECEMBER 2016/Agrahayana, 1938 (Saka)**

THIRTY SECOND REPORT

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2016-2017)**

(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES)**

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2016-2017)

**{Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/
Recommendations contained in the Twenty Fourth Report
of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2015-2016)}**

Presented to Lok Sabha on	14.12.2016
Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on	14.12.2016



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
DECEMBER 2016/Agrahayana, 1938 (Saka)**

COA No.352

Price : Rs.

© 2016 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>

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE.....	(iii)
INTRODUCTION.....	(v)
CHAPTER I Report	1
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	46
CHAPTER IV Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	47
CHAPTER V Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited	50

ANNEXURE

I. Minutes of the 7th Sitting of the Committee held on 09.12.2016. **52**

APPENDIX

I. Analysis of Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Twenty Fourth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2015-2016). **54**

(i)

**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2016-17)**

Shri Hukm Deo Narayan Yadav - Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Prof. Ravindra Vishwanath Gaikwad
3. Shri Sanganna Karadi
4. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
5. Smt. Raksha Khadse
6. Md. Badaruddoza Khan
7. Shri C. Mahendran
8. Dr. Tapas Mandal
9. Shri Janardan Mishra
10. Shri Devji Patel
11. Shri Nityanand Rai
12. Shri Mukesh Rajput
13. Shri Neiphiu Rio
14. Shri Konakalla Narayana Rao
15. Shri C.L. Ruala
16. Shri Arjun Charan Sethi
17. Shri Satyapal Singh (Sambhal)
18. Shri Virendra Singh
19. Shri Dharmendra Yadav
20. Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav
21. Shri B. S. Yeddyurappa

RAJYA SABHA

22. Shri Sambhaji Shahu Chhatrapati
23. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa
24. Shri Janardan Dwivedi
25. Shri Meghraj Jain
26. Shri Vinay Katiyar
27. Shri Mohd. Ali Khan
28. Shri Ram Nath Thakur
29. Shri R. Vaithilingam
30. Shri Shankarbai N. Vegad
31. Shri Darshan Singh Yadav

(ii)

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri U.B.S. Negi	- Joint Secretary
2. Shri Arun K. Kaushik	- Director
3. Shri C. Vanlalruata	- Deputy Secretary
4. Miss Divya Rai	- Executive Assistant

(iii)

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture (2016-17), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Thirty Second Report on action taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Twenty Fourth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2015-16) on 'Demands for Grants (2016-17)' pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries).

2. The Twenty Fourth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2015-16) on 'Demands for Grants (2016-17)' of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) was presented to the Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 02 May, 2016. The Action Taken Notes on the Report were received on 08 August, 2016.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 09.12.2016.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Twenty Fourth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in **Appendix**.

NEW DELHI;
09 December, 2016
18 Agrahayana, 1938 (Saka)

HUKM DEO NARAYAN YADAV
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture

CHAPTER - I

REPORT

1.1 This Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture deals with the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2015-16) on 'Demands for Grants (2016-17)' of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) which was presented to the Lok Sabha and laid on the table of the Rajya Sabha on 2nd May 2016.

1.2 The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) have furnished Action Taken Replies in respect of all 17 Observations / Recommendations contained in the Report. The replies have been categorized as under :-

- (i) Observations / Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government:
Recommendation Para Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16 and 17
(Chapter II - Total 15)
- (ii) Observations / Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply :
Recommendation Para No. 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 Para No. 15 (Chapter IV - Total 01)

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

Recommendation Para No. 11

(Chapter V - Total 01)

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

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

**A. SHARE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES IN CENTRAL PLAN
(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 2)**

1.5 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

"Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries activities along with agriculture continue to be an integral part of human life since the process of civilization started. These activities have contributed to the food basket, draught animal power and also helped in maintaining ecological balance. These activities also play a significant role in generating gainful employment in the rural sector,

particularly among the landless, small and marginal farmers and women besides providing cheap and nutrition food to millions of peoples. According to estimates of the Central Statistics Office (CSO), the Value of output from the livestock sector at current prices was about Rs. 7,33,054 crore during 2014-15 which is about 28.7% of the Value of output from agricultural and allied sector. At constant prices the value of output from livestock is about 27.8% of the output from total agriculture and allied sector. Fisheries is a sunrise sector with varied resources and potential, engaging over 14.50 million people at the primary level and many more along the value chain transformation of the fisheries sector from tradition to commercial scale has led to an increase in fish production from 7.5 lakh tonne in 1950-51 to 101.64 lakh tonne (Provisional) during 2014-15, while the export earnings from the sector registered at Rs.33,441.61 crore in 2014-15 (US \$ 5.51 billion). The sector contributed about 0.9% to the National Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 5.17% to the agricultural GDP (2014-15).However, the Committee note with concern that when the issue of distribution of financial resources crops up, the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries sector gets neglected. This is evident from the fact that the percentage share of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries stands at just 0.33% in the Twelfth Plan vis-a-vis 0.38% in the Eleventh Plan, although in monetary terms, the allocation stands at Rs 8174.00 crore in the Eleventh Plan, which increased to Rs.14,179.00 crore in the Twelfth Plan. However, the Committee are of the firm opinion that this too is grossly inadequate as a result the various schemes undertaken by the Department have been adversely affected as

accepted by the Department . Keeping in view the importance of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sector in supplementing the income of our farmers and its role in national economy and in the socio-economic development of the Country, the Committee , therefore strongly advocate that the share of the Department in the Central Plan should be increased at par with its contribution in the national economy in terms of GDP and the Department should accordingly impress upon the Ministry of Finance to provide the requisite allocation to them at the RE stage for effective implementation of its various schemes. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard."

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

"The observations of the Committee are noted. Department had requested Ministry of Finance for enhancing the share of Department in the Plan allocation for supplementing the efforts of States for providing the additional means of sustenance in terms of wealth/security and employment to the farming community mostly comprising of small and marginal farmers residing in the rural areas. The allocation for the financial year 2016-17 has been increased by 7.3% over the allocation for financial year 2015-16."

1.7 Though the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sector (AHDF) plays a pivotal role in supplementing the income of our farmers and also contributes well to our GDP, the Committee had observed that allocation of funds was grossly inadequate. Accordingly, the Committee had therefore advocated that the

Share of the Department in the Central Plan should be increased at par with its contribution in the national economy in terms of GDP and recommended that the Department should impress upon the Ministry of Finance to provide the requisite allocation to them at the RE stage for effective implementation of its various schemes. From the Action Taken Reply of the Department, the Committee note that the Department has received an increased allocation for the financial year 2016-17 as compared to 2015-16. However, the Committee are unhappy to note that the increase in allocation is only 7.3% which does not seem to be adequate for effective implementation of various schemes of the Department. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Department should pursue vigorously with the Ministry of Finance for allocation of adequate funds so that the various schemes of the Department do not suffer for the want of funds.

B. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 3)

1.8 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

"During the course of the examination of Demands for Grants (2016-17) of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, the Committee have observed that during the first five year of the Twelfth Plan i.e. 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, a huge variation exists between amount proposed by the Department and the amount allocated by erstwhile Ministry of Finance. For the year 2012-13, against the proposal of Rs.3497.50 crore, the allocation was Rs.1910.00 crore (54.61%). During the year 2013-14, the

Department was allocated Rs.2025.00 crore against the proposal of Rs 3025.00 crore (66.94%). Again for the 2014-15, the proposal was for Rs 3535.00 crore but the allocation made was Rs. 2174.00 crore (61.49%). During the year 2015-16, against a proposal of Rs. 4527.79 crore, the allocation was a meagre Rs 1491.14 crore (32.93%). During the current fiscal year 2016-17, against a proposal of Rs 3231.43 crore, the allocation was again a meagre Rs 1600.00 crore (49.51%). This mismatch between the proposed allocation and the actual allocation is a cause of concern to the Committee. During the course of evidence, it was informed to the Committee that Foot and Mouth Disease is very dangerous for the cattle which can affect the production of milk and the productivity of the cattle but they have received Rs.200 crore less for the National Disease Control Programme. Further, the next Livestock Census is scheduled to be held in the year 2017 and the Department have already undertaken a few activities in this direction. For this, the Department demanded a total of Rs. 387 crore against which they have been received a very meagre sum of Rs.22 crore. Preliminary activities for the impending Livestock Census will have to be undertaken this year and for this the Department requires an additional amount of Rs. 54 crore. As a result of lesser allocation of funds, the Committee are apprehensive that the implementation of the various schemes undertaken by the Department may be adversely affected which in turn may hinder the growth and development of the animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries sector of the economy. In view of the foregoing, the Committee therefore, strongly advocate that the Department should be allocated requisite funds as demanded by them and recommend that

the Department should vigorously urge the Ministry of Finance to allocate the funds as proposed by them as otherwise the performance of the Department may be adversely affected for want of funds. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by them in this regard."

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

"The Department had proposed an allocation of Rs.3231.43 crore as BE for 2016-17; however Ministry of Finance keeping in view the overall resource position and the inter-se priorities for allocation among competing demands from different sectors had allocated a BE of Rs.1600.00 crore for 2016-17. The Ministry of Finance would be requested for a higher allocation at RE stage during 2016-17."

1.10 While noting with concern that there is a mismatch between the amount proposed by the Department and the amount actually allocated to them by the Ministry of Finance, the Committee recommended that the Department should vigorously urge the Ministry of Finance to allocate funds as proposed by them as otherwise the performance of the Department may be adversely affected for want of funds. In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated that the Ministry of Finance would be requested for a higher allocation at the RE stage during 2016-17. The Committee are unhappy to note that the Department has time and again failed to fully utilize the funds allocated to it. The Committee hope that the Department might have taken up the issue with the Ministry of Finance with all the seriousness it deserves and advocated their demands for allocation of

adequate funds to run their schemes effectively and efficiently. The Committee would like to be apprised of the latest position in this regard.

**C. ALLOCATION AND UTILIZATION OF FUNDS
(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 4)**

1.11 The Committee has observed / recommended as under :-

"The Committee note with concern that consequent to the award of the 14th Finance Commission, higher devolution of funds have been made to the States with corresponding reduction in the Central Budget, which has resulted in reduction of BE for 2016-17 of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries. The BE for 2016-17 for the Department is to the tune of Rs. 1600.00 crore as compared to Rs.1910.00 crore, Rs. 2025.00 crore, Rs. 2174.00 crore and Rs. 1491.14 crore for the fiscals 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively. Furthermore the allocated amount is as less as 49.51% of the funds sought by the Department after making considered assessment of their projects and priorities. According to the Department, the present allocation is grossly inadequate to achieve the targets set under its various schemes. However, the Committee are constrained to note that even the funds allocated to the Department has not been fully utilised. Out of the RE figures of Rs. 6891.14 crore for the first four fiscals, the actual expenditure as on 18.02.2016 amounts to Rs.6428.70 crore only, which in percentage terms is 93.28% of the RE. This highlights the unsatisfactory financial performance of the Department. The Committee, therefore, feel that the Department needs to revisit their plan of action drafted for optimum utilization of funds allocated to them and take corrective measures to achieve the laid down financial and physical targets. The

Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard."

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

"Department has utilized 96.26% fund out of the allocated fund during last four Financial Years of the 12th Five Year Plan. The Department is trying to utilize the funds allocated to it fully. States/Implementing agencies are continuously reminded through monthly meetings and video conferences to liquidate the pending Utilization certificates and submit proposal for fund release for the current financial year."

1.13 While noting unsatisfactory financial performance of the Department, the Committee recommended that the Department needs to revisit their plan of action for optimum utilization of funds allocated to them and take corrective measures to achieve the laid down financial and physical targets. However, the Committee are not satisfied with the generic reply of the Department that it is trying to utilize the funds allocated to it fully and State Governments and Implementing Agencies are reminded continuously for timely submission and liquidation of pending utilization certificates and submit proposal for fund release. The Department has not elaborated on the corrective measures / initiatives undertaken by them to address the issue comprehensively and effectively. The Committee are of the considered opinion that the Department needs to adopt a proactive approach ensuring optimum utilization of funds and timely submission of Utilization Certificates by the State Governments / Implementing Agencies. The Department

also needs to find out various constraints which are affecting the timely and optimum utilization of funds by the State Governments / Implementing Agencies. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard.

**D. RESULTS FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT (RFD)
(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 5)**

1.14 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

"The Committee note with concern that the Department drops in composite score from a high of 95.48 % in 2012-13 to 91.97 % in 2013-14. The provisional composite score of 67.41 % for the year 2014-15 is also highly unsatisfactory although the composite score for the same has not been uploaded/communicated by the Cabinet Secretariat. The Committee are well aware that Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries being a State subject, the role of Department gets restricted to a broad policy formulation and the implementation of Schemes lies with the implementing agencies i.e. the States and Union Territories, who are independent constitutional entities. In their explanation, the Department has attributed reduction in budgetary allocation at RE stage to achieve targets over and above the set targets to excellent score of 100% in RFD. However, the Committee are not satisfied with this explanation of the Department and are of the strong view that the Department simply cannot just ignore their responsibility being the nodal authority, for drop in composite score from a high of 95.48% in 2012-13 to 91.97% in 2013-14. If the funds get reduced at RE stage then none but themselves need to be blamed for their failure to impress upon the Planning Commission/Ministry of Finance for

allocation of funds as per their demand. Being the nodal authority, it is but imperative for them to make sound plan of action for effective and speedy implementation of the schemes undertaken by them for timely and optimum utilization of funds. The Committee, therefore, recommend that corrective measures may be undertaken by the Department to improve their performance to get excellent score in RFD. The Committee also urge the Department to impress upon the Cabinet Secretariat to forward the composite score for the Fiscal 2014-15, so that requisite remedial action could be undertaken by them for effective implementation of its schemes and thereby improving their performance to score high in RFD."

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

"As per performance evaluation report for the year 2014-15, obtained from the website of RFMS Cabinet Secretariat, the total composite score of this department is 67.41 %. The reason for shortfall in achievement to get excellent score of 100% in RFD is reduction in budgetary allocation at RF stage from Rs. 2174 Crore to Rs.1800 crore during 2014-15.

This Department is regularly monitoring the progress of implementing the Schemes with State Governments/Implementing Agencies to improve the performance through monthly meetings with Principal Secretaries (Animal Husbandry) of State Governments, Video Conference, field visits of Senior Officers etc."

1.16 While noting with concern the drop in composite RFD scores of the Department from 2012-13 to 2013-14, the Committee recommended for taking corrective measures to improve the performance of the Department and get excellent score in RFD. The Committee had also urged the Department to impress upon the Cabinet Secretariat to forward the composite score for the Fiscal 2014-

15. In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has informed that the composite Result Framework Document (RFD) score of the Department is 67.41% for the year 2014-15. However, the Committee are not convinced with the reply of the Department that the reason for shortfall in achievement of the excellent score of 100% in RFD, is reduction in budgetary allocation at RE stage for the year 2014-15 as the Committee are constrained to note that even the funds allocated at RE stage are not being fully utilized by the Department. The poor financial performance leads to lower allocation in subsequent years. The Committee, therefore reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Department should tackle this issue in its entirety and strive for excellent RFD scores in future financial years. The Committee would like to be apprised of the actions taken by the Department in this regard.

**E. MID TERM APPRAISAL
(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 6)**

1.17 The Committee had observed / recommended a under :-

"The Committee note with concern that the mid-term appraisal of the performance of the 12th Plan in respect of the Department has not been undertaken as a result , the Committee feel that the Department has lost the opportunity to evaluate the performance of it various schemes and to undertake

the corrective measures to address the shortcomings noticed in the implementation of its schemes. However, the Committee were informed that the exercise has now been undertaken by NITI Aayog. The Committee hope that the mid-term appraisal of the Department would be conducted by NITI Aayog without further delay and the requisite inputs of the appraisal would be available to the Department to undertake corrective interventions as and where necessary to reorient its policies and programmes for the remaining period of the 12th Plan."

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

" The recommendation of the Committee has been noted."

1.19 The concept of Mid Term Appraisal is to assess the performance of the Five Year Plan period in respect of schemes of the Departments, performed by the NITI Aayog in order to enable the Ministries / Departments to take stock of the situation and address shortcomings noticed in the implementation of their schemes. However, the Committee had noted with concern that the mid-term appraisal of the Department for the 12th Plan has not been undertaken. In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has given a casual reply stating that the recommendation has been noted. The Department has not elaborated about the initiatives undertaken by them in this regard and the progress made therein. Presuming that NITI Aayog has completed its mid-term appraisal of the Department then what corrective measures have been undertaken by the

Department to reorient its policies and programmes accordingly. The Committee would like to be apprised of the actions taken by the Department in this regard.

**F. OUTSTANDING UTILIZATION CERTIFICATES
(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 7)**

1.20 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

"The Committee are anguished to note that 190 outstanding Utilization Certificates (UCs) amounting to Rs. 207.54 crore as on 31.12.2015 are pending and not even a single UC has been liquidated during the period from 01.04.2015 to 31.12.2015. The Committee express their strong displeasure on the issue which clearly reflects that the follow-up mechanism currently in place is ineffective and unsatisfactory to address the issue. Needless to say, under utilization of funds leads to vicious cycle of lower allocations in subsequent years and concomitantly leads to downsizing of targets. The Committee, therefore, feel that the extant mechanism in place need to be re-looked in to and necessary corrective measures need to be undertaken for liquidation of outstanding UCs in a time bound manner ensuring release of Central funds unhindered for effective implementation of its schemes. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the corrective measures may be undertaken to address the issue and apprise them of the action initiated in this regard."

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

"As per General Financial Rules, UCs become due only after completion of one year for the grants released during the year. The addition of UCs for a particular

year and liquidation of the old UCs are regular process of UCs monitoring and status of UCs are reported as on net accounting basis. The Department has taken various steps to liquidate the outstanding Utilization Certificates. This includes repeated follow-up with the state governments and implementing agencies for sending the pending UCs, including holding monthly review meetings with the senior officers of the states where the issue of pending UCs is one of the priority agenda items. The Principal Accounts Office is also in the process of creating a web-based portal for monitoring and settlement of UCs. Payments are not being made without submission of the UCs. As on 28.07.2016, UCs are pending for only for an amount of Rs.158.72 crores in respect of Grants released up to 31.03.2015."

1.22 The issue of non-submission of Utilization Certificates by Implementing Agencies has been a cause of continuous and serious concern to the Committee. This lack of financial discipline on the part of the Implementing Agencies adversely affects the rapid growth and development of the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sector, as a result of which the benefits of the various schemes, implemented by the Department do not percolate down to the intended beneficiaries. The data provided by the Department in its Action Taken Reply is for the pending UCs as on 28.07.2016 for an amount of Rs. 158.72 crores in respect of Grants released up to 31st March 2015. The Committee feel that the outstanding amount for pending Utilization Certificates clearly indicates the lackadaisical approach and inaction on the part of the Implementing Agencies as well as absence of any institutional mechanism at the apex level to rigorously

monitor timely utilization of funds. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Department needs to take corrective measures at the earliest so that outstanding UCs are liquidated without further delay. The Committee would like to be apprised of the concrete action taken by the Department in this regard and also about the latest update about pending UCs.

**G. DEVELOPMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE
(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 15)**

1.23 The Committee had observed / recommended as under :-

"The Committee note that the Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture scheme being implemented under different components through the State Governments/UTs covers all the inland fishery resources available in the country in the form of fresh water, brackish water, cold water, water logged areas, saline/alkaline soils for aquaculture and capture fisheries including reservoirs. Since the inception of the scheme, 8,90,403 hectares of freshwater bodies and 45,952 hectares of brackish water bodies have been developed benefitting 15,60,863 and 39,896 fishers, respectively, till 31.12.2015. During 2015-16, 5,414 hectares of freshwater bodies and 218 hectares of brackish water bodies have been developed benefitting 8,000 fishers and 400 fishers respectively. However, the full potential of inland fishery resources in the country largely remains untapped. In order to boost the fish production in the country, it is but imperative that the area of aquaculture in the country be expanded. The Committee strongly feel that Fisheries in India is a very important economic activity. A large section of the people in the country are dependent on fisheries

activities for their livelihood. It not only meet the domestic needs of the people but also earn precious foreign exchange for the country from fish and fisheries products. The Committee, therefore, recommend that all inland derelict water bodies, reservoirs, canals, drains , ponds, tanks etc may be brought within the ambit of fisheries activities for sustained growth and development of the fisheries sector in the country without affecting the biodiversity of the area. The Committee also note that the Government recognizes the need of availability of quality seed and feed for the development of inland fisheries and aquaculture. However, presently there is a gap of about 4610 million fry. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Department may set up brood banks and hatcheries on priority basis. During the course of evidence, the Secretary of the Department informed the Committee that various fisheries schemes are being restructured under Blue Revolution and norms and guidelines are being formulated. The Committee expect the Department to formulate these norms and guidelines without further loss of time. The Committee hope that norms and guidelines being formulated under restructured schemes of Blue Revolution will address the issues which hinders the rapid growth and development of inland fisheries sector.

The Committee express concern over the fact that there are humongous losses of indigenous breeds of fishes due to reasons such as drying up of local or inland water bodies, percolation of harmful chemicals in the water bodies by ways of using chemical fertilizers and pesticides in farming etc. The Committee therefore desire that corrective measures may be undertaken in coordination with

all concerned to check such losses on priority basis. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard."

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

"During the year 2015-16, under the scheme 'Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture', 12.107 ha of freshwater bodies and 1325 ha of Brackish water bodies have been developed, benefiting 25,781 farmers and 520 farmers respectively. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has considered and approved the restructured Scheme on "Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries" during December, 2015. In order to implement the scheme the Department has issued an administrative approval of the scheme on 20-05-2016. The revised guidelines and Unit cost/norms of the restructured Central Sector Scheme have also been issued in consultation with State Governments/UTs on 30.06.2016.

All inland derelict water bodies, reservoirs, canals, drains, ponds, tanks etc. are covered under the new scheme within the ambit of fisheries for sustained growth and development of the fisheries sector in the country with bio-security measures. In order to fulfill the gap of 4610 million fry assistance for setting up of brood banks, hatcheries have been provisioned under the new restructured scheme. Additionally, feed mills both small and large sized have also been provisioned.

The Department sensitizes the State Governments and Union Territories through notification of Schemes, State Minister's /Secretary level conferences, Zonal level meetings besides regular monitoring, field visits and bio-security

checks on priority basis. The Guidelines for Developing Fish Seed Certification & Accreditation System in India and Guidelines for the States for framing a bill on Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture have been issued to all the State Governments/UTs in order to have uniformity in the measures taken by States/UTs for development of fisheries in a sustainable manner. Besides, the Department has also issued Guidelines for fisheries Management in small, medium and large reservoirs including the associated tanks and ponds in the command areas in the country for conservation and optimum utilization of the productivity of reservoirs for sustained production of valuable fish protein."

1.25 While taking note of the efforts of the Department for attaining sustained growth and development of the fisheries sector, the Committee are concerned to note that the Department in its Action taken Reply, is silent over the issue concerning the humongous loss of indigenous breeds of fishes due to reasons such as drying up of local or inland water bodies and percolation of harmful chemicals in water bodies etc. The Committee therefore reiterate earlier recommendation that corrective measures may be undertaken by the Department to prevent the losses of indigenous breeds of fishes. The Committee would like to be apprised of the actions initiated by the Department in this direction.

CHAPTER II

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDTIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS **(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 1)**

1. The Committee note that the Action Taken Replies regarding the action taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Eleventh 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 note that the Minister concerned did not make the Statement under Direction 73-A in the context of Eleventh Report of the Committee within the stipulated time. The Committee take strong exception to the failure of the Ministry to adhere to stipulations laid down under Direction 73-A. The Committee expect the Ministry to strictly follow the stipulations under Direction 73-A and hope that such lapses will not be repeated in future. The analysis of the action taken by the Government reveals that 65.40% Recommendations of the Committee have been implemented. 11.53% Recommendations have not been implemented and 23.07% of Recommendations are in various stages of implementation. The Committee desire the Government to take conclusive action in respect of the nine Recommendations commented upon in their Twenty-first Action Taken Report and furnish further action taken notes to the Committee expeditiously.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

Recommendations of the Hon'ble Committee have been noted for strict compliance in future. Complying to the recommendations of the Hon'ble Committee, the Department has made all efforts to submit the Action Taken Report within stipulated time.

The Minister's Statement under the Direction 73-A of Directions by Speaker, Lok Sabha in the context of Eleventh Report had been made in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 03.05.2016 and 06.05.2016 respectively.

Department had already furnished further action taken note in respect of recommendations on which committee has commented in Twenty-first Report on 24.02.2016.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

SHARE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING AND FISHERIES IN CENTRAL PLAN (RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 2)

2. Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries activities along with agriculture continue to be an integral part of human life since the process of civilization started. These activities have contributed to the food basket, draught animal power and also helped in maintaining ecological balance. These activities also play a significant role in generating gainful employment in the rural sector, particularly among the landless, small and marginal farmers and women besides providing cheap and nutrition food to millions of peoples. According to estimates of the Central Statistics Office (CSO), the Value of output from the livestock sector at current prices was about Rs. 7,33,054 crore during 2014-15 which is about 28.7% of the Value of output from agricultural and allied sector. At constant prices the value of output from livestock is about 27.8% of the output from total agriculture and allied sector. Fisheries is a sunrise sector with varied resources and potential, engaging over 14.50 million people at the primary level and many more along the value chain transformation of the fisheries sector from tradition to commercial scale has led to an increase in fish production from 7.5 lakh tonne in 1950-51 to 101.64 lakh tonne (Provisional) during 2014-15, while the export earnings from the sector registered at Rs.33,441.61 crore in 2014-15 (US \$ 5.51 billion). The sector contributed about 0.9% to the National Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 5.17% to the

agricultural GDP (2014-15).However, the Committee note with concern that when the issue of distribution of financial resources crops up, the Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries sector gets neglected. This is evident from the fact that the percentage share of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries stands at just 0.33% in the Twelfth Plan vis-a-vis 0.38% in the Eleventh Plan, although in monetary terms, the allocation stands at Rs 8174.00 crore in the Eleventh Plan, which increased to Rs.14,179.00 crore in the Twelfth Plan. However, the Committee are of the firm opinion that this too is grossly inadequate as a result the various schemes undertaken by the Department have been adversely affected as accepted by the Department. Keeping in view the importance of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sector in supplementing the income of our farmers and its role in national economy and in the socio-economic development of the Country, the Committee , therefore strongly advocate that the share of the Department in the Central Plan should be increased at par with its contribution in the national economy in terms of GDP and the Department should accordingly impress upon the Ministry of Finance to provide the requisite allocation to them at the RE stage for effective implementation of its various schemes. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

The observations of the committee are noted. Department had requested Ministry of Finance for enhancing the share of Department in the Plan allocation for supplementing the efforts of States for providing the additional means of sustenance in terms of wealth/security and employment to the farming community mostly comprising of small and marginal farmers residing in the rural areas. The allocation for the financial year 2016-17 has been increased by 7.3% over the allocation for financial year 2015-16.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE:

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

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS **(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 3)**

3. During the course of the examination of Demands for Grants (2016-17) of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, the Committee have observed that during the first five year of the Twelfth Plan i.e. 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, a huge variation exists between amount proposed by the Department and the amount allocated by erstwhile Ministry of Finance. For the year 2012-13, against the proposal of Rs.3497.50 crore, the allocation was Rs.1910.00 crore (54.61%). During the year 2013-14, the Department was allocated Rs.2025.00 crore against the proposal of Rs 3025.00 crore (66.94%). Again for the 2014-15, the proposal was for Rs 3535.00 crore but the allocation made was Rs. 2174.00 crore (61.49%). During the year 2015-16, against a proposal of Rs. 4527.79 crore, the allocation was a meagre Rs 1491.14 crore (32.93%). During the current fiscal year 2016-17, against a proposal of Rs 3231.43 crore, the allocation was again a meagre Rs 1600.00 crore (49.51%). This mismatch between the proposed allocation and the actual allocation is a cause of concern to the Committee. During the course of evidence, it was informed to the Committee that Foot and Mouth Disease is very dangerous for the cattle which can affect the production of milk and the productivity of the cattle but they have received Rs.200 crore less for the National Disease Control Programme. Further, the next Livestock Census is scheduled to be held in the year 2017 and the Department have already undertaken a few activities in this direction. For this, the Department demanded a total of Rs. 387 crore against which they have been received a very meagre sum of Rs.22 crore. Preliminary activities for the impending Livestock Census will have to be undertaken this year and for this the Department requires an additional amount of Rs. 54 crore. As a result of lesser allocation of funds, the Committee are apprehensive that the implementation of the various schemes undertaken by the Department may be adversely affected which in turn may hinder the growth and development of the animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries sector of the economy. In view of the foregoing, the Committee therefore, strongly advocate that the Department should be

allocated requisite funds as demanded by them and recommend that the Department should vigorously urge the Ministry of Finance to allocate the funds as proposed by them as otherwise the performance of the Department may be adversely affected for want of funds. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by them in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

The Department had proposed on allocation of Rs.3231.43 crore as BE for 2016-17; however Ministry of Finance keeping in view the overall resource position and the inter-se priorities for allocation among competing demands from different sectors had allocated a BE of Rs.1600.00 crore for 2016-17. The Ministry of Finance would be requested for a higher allocation at RE stage during 2016-17.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE:

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

ALLOCATION AND UTILIZATION OF FUNDS (RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 4)

4. The Committee note with concern that consequent to the award of the 14th Finance Commission, higher devolution of funds have been made to the States with corresponding reduction in the Central Budget, which has resulted in reduction of BE for 2016-17 of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries. The BE for 2016-17 for the Department is to the tune of Rs. 1600.00 crore as compared to Rs.1910.00 crore, Rs. 2025.00 crore, Rs. 2174.00 crore and Rs. 1491.14 crore for the fiscals 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively. Furthermore the allocated amount is as less as 49.51% of the funds sought by the Department after making considered assessment of their projects and priorities. According to the Department, the present allocation is grossly inadequate to achieve the targets set under its various

schemes. However, the Committee are constrained to note that even the funds allocated to the Department has not been fully utilised. Out of the RE figures of Rs. 6891.14 crore for the first four fiscals, the actual expenditure as on 18.02.2016 amounts to Rs.6428.70 crore only, which in percentage terms is 93.28% of the RE. This highlights the unsatisfactory financial performance of the Department. The Committee, therefore, feel that the Department needs to revisit their plan of action drafted for optimum utilization of funds allocated to them and take corrective measures to achieve the laid down financial and physical targets. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

Department has utilized 96.26% fund out of the allocated fund during last four Financial Years of the 12th Five Year Plan. The Department is trying to utilize the funds allocated to it fully. States/Implementing agencies are continuously reminded through monthly meetings and video conferences to liquidate the pending Utilization certificates and submit proposal for fund release for the current financial year.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE:

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

RESULTS FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT (RFD) **(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 5)**

5. The Committee note with concern that the Department drops in composite score from a high of 95.48 % in 2012-13 to 91.97 % in 2013-14. The provisional composite score of 67.41 % for the year 2014-15 is also highly unsatisfactory although the composite score for the same has not been uploaded/communicated by the Cabinet Secretariat. The Committee are well aware that Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries being a State subject, the role of Department gets restricted to a broad policy formulation and the implementation of Schemes lies with the implementing agencies i.e.

the States and Union Territories, who are independent constitutional entities. In their explanation, the Department has attributed reduction in budgetary allocation at RE stage to achieve targets over and above the set targets to excellent score of 100% in RFD. However, the Committee are not satisfied with this explanation of the Department and are of the strong view that the Department simply cannot just ignore their responsibility being the nodal authority, for drop in composite score from a high of 95.48% in 2012-13 to 91.97% in 2013-14. If the funds get reduced at RE stage then none but themselves need to be blamed for their failure to impress upon the Planning Commission/Ministry of Finance for allocation of funds as per their demand. Being the nodal authority, it is but imperative for them to make sound plan of action for effective and speedy implementation of the schemes undertaken by them for timely and optimum utilization of funds. The Committee, therefore, recommend that corrective measures may be undertaken by the Department to improve their performance to get excellent score in RFD. The Committee also urge the Department to impress upon the Cabinet Secretariat to forward the composite score for the Fiscal 2014-15, so that requisite remedial action could be undertaken by them for effective implementation of its schemes and thereby improving their performance to score high in RFD.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

As per performance evaluation report for the year 2014-15, obtained from the website of RFMS Cabinet Secretariat, the total composite score of this department is 67.41 %. The reason for shortfall in achievement to get excellent score of 100% in RFD is reduction in budgetary allocation at RF stage from Rs. 2174 Crore to Rs.1800 crore during 2014-15.

This Department is regularly monitoring the progress of implementing the Schemes with State Governments/Implementing Agencies to improve the performance through monthly meetings with Principal Secretaries (Animal Husbandry) of State Governments, Video Conference, field visits of Senior Officers etc.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE:

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

MID-TERM APPRAISAL

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 6)

6. The Committee note with concern that the mid-term appraisal of the performance of the 12th Plan in respect of the Department has not been undertaken as a result, the Committee feel that the Department has lost the opportunity to evaluate the performance of its various schemes and to undertake the corrective measures to address the shortcomings noticed in the implementation of its schemes. However, the Committee were informed that the exercise has now been undertaken by NITI Aayog. The Committee hope that the mid-term appraisal of the Department would be conducted by NITI Aayog without further delay and the requisite inputs of the appraisal would be available to the Department to undertake corrective interventions as and where necessary to reorient its policies and programmes for the remaining period of the 12th Plan.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

The recommendation of the Committee has been noted.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE:

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

OUTSTANDING UTILIZATION CERTIFICATES

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 7)

7. The Committee are anguished to note that 190 outstanding Utilization Certificates (UCs) amounting to Rs. 207.54 crore as on 31.12.2015 are pending and not even a single UC has been liquidated during the period from 01.04.2015 to 31.12.2015. The Committee express their strong displeasure on the issue which clearly

reflects that the follow-up mechanism currently in place is ineffective and unsatisfactory to address the issue. Needless to say, under utilization of funds leads to vicious cycle of lower allocations in subsequent years and concomitantly leads to downsizing of targets. The Committee, therefore, feel that the extant mechanism in place need to be re-looked in to and necessary corrective measures need to be undertaken for liquidation of outstanding UCs in a time bound manner ensuring release of Central funds unhindered for effective implementation of its schemes. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the corrective measures may be undertaken to address the issue and apprise them of the action initiated in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

As per General Financial Rules, UCs become due only after completion of one year for the grants released during the year. The addition of UCs for a particular year and liquidation of the old UCs are regular process of UCs monitoring and status of UCs are reported as on net accounting basis. The Department has taken various steps to liquidate the outstanding Utilization Certificates. This includes repeated follow-up with the state governments and implementing agencies for sending the pending UCs, including holding monthly review meetings with the senior officers of the states where the issue of pending UCs is one of the priority agenda items. The Principal Accounts Office is also in the process of creating a web-based portal for monitoring and settlement of UCs. Payments are not being made without submission of the UCs.

As on 28.07.2016, UCs are pending for only for an amount of Rs.158.72 crores in respect of Grants released upto 31.03.2015.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE:

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

ESTABLISHMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF EXISTING VETERINARY HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES
(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 8)

8. The Committee note with deep concern that there is acute shortage of infrastructure and professionally qualified veterinary doctors in the country to take care of the vast resource of livestock and poultry in the country. Presently, the number of registered veterinary doctors in the country is only 67800 as against the requirement of around 1.15 lakh veterinary doctors in the country. Huge scarcity of veterinary doctors has arisen but for the failure of the Government to take corrective measures over the years. Further, in spite of 11,367 veterinary hospitals/polyclinics, 26,034 veterinary dispensaries and 23,722 veterinary aid centers, the Committee feel that the present animal healthcare infrastructure is not grossly adequate to take care of the sheer size of the animal population of the country. Healthcare facilities available in the veterinary hospitals/poly clinics/dispensaries are also too inadequate with no option for hospitalization of the sick animal, in case of any emergent need. Necessary equipment /machines and medicines are also not adequately available in the veterinary hospitals/polyclinics/colleges to treat the sick animal. Farmers are compelled to travel long distances along with their animals in order to gain access to primary animals health centres. This situation has arisen as the issue concerning animal healthcare services failed to get the kind of attention from the Government that it deserves and no corrective measures taken by the Government to address the issue over the years.

During the course of evidence, it was brought to the notice of the Committee that the Government has taken a slew of steps to overcome the shortfall of veterinary doctors by increasing the number of veterinary colleges by 10 from 36 to 46 and the admission intake in 17 colleges. 10 colleges have also been granted permission to recognize degree students. In addition, 5 new colleges will also receive recognition. As a result of this exercise, the number of doctors in hospital will increase and the problem of shortage of veterinary doctors will be resolved. However, it may take 10 to 15 years before these shortages of veterinary doctors are filled up. However, these steps are not adequate enough to meet the demand of animal healthcare sector.

Owing to acute shortage of veterinary doctors and infrastructure in the country, the delivery of animal health services has always remained a great concern specially in

rural and remote areas. The livelihood of the farmers is adversely affected by the deficiency in the delivery of the animal healthcare service which in turn affect the overall performance of the sector. Given that livelihood of small and marginal farmers often depends on livestock, the issue concerning animal healthcare needs to be addressed objectively and comprehensively. The rearing of livestock helps in time of economic distress and reduces the vulnerability of rural households. It supports agriculture in the form of critical inputs, contributes to the health and nutrition of the household and supplement its income and offers employment opportunities. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the entire issue concerning animal healthcare may be revisited and considered in a holistic manner. Further, immediate steps may be undertaken to augment expansion of animals health care paraphernalia covering the entire country. Guidelines may also be formulated for recognition of more number of colleges providing education in animal healthcare sector. Veterinary practices may be incentivized and upgraded in coordination with the Veterinary Council of India (VCI) and the State Veterinary Councils across the country. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Department on the issues stated above.

The Committee were also informed that the Government has trained about 10500 persons as MAITRI (Multi-Purpose AI Technician in Rural India) and they also propose to train about thirty thousand persons in the next two years. They will also train fishermen taken from villages, for high seas. The Committee desire that the short duration course of MAITRI should be popularised amongst the youth particularly rural youth and they should be attracted and enrolled for training and appointment as MAITRI to augment the veterinary staff at the primary level.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

Veterinary hospitals, dispensaries, polyclinics etc. are set up by the States/ Union Territory (UT) Governments depending upon the livestock population in a particular area and availability of resources. However, in order to address the need to set up new veterinary hospitals/ dispensaries by the States/UTs and to strengthen/ equip the existing ones, so as to improve veterinary infrastructure in the States/UTs the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is providing financial

assistance to States/UTs under 'Establishment and Strengthening of existing Veterinary Hospitals & Dispensaries (ESVHD)', a component of Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Livestock Health & Disease Control (LH&DC)' since August, 2010. The scheme is continued during 12th Plan Period with inclusion of new activity for setting up of Mobile Veterinary Clinics by the States/UTs for improving the quality of veterinary healthcare by providing the doorstep delivery of veterinary services.

A sum of Rs. 13.00 crore and Rs.9.88 crore was provided as BE & RE, respectively for the year 2015-16 against which a sum of Rs. 11.40 crore was released to States/UTs under the scheme.

During the year 2016-17 an amount of Rs. 4.00 Crore has been earmarked under the scheme. The Department has requested all States/UTs to explore the possibility to undertake strengthening of Veterinary infrastructure by availing more funds under other Scheme such as RKVY, RIDF including dovetailing with MPLAD funds etc. so as to cater adequate veterinary health in States/UTs.

Veterinary Council of India has already enhanced the annual admissions in 17 existing Colleges and ten new Veterinary Colleges have been included in the First Schedule and has also allowed admission to six new colleges under establishment. Further, the Council has framed Minimum Standards of Veterinary Education (MSVE) Regulations, 2016 which provides for 80 annual admissions instead of 60 annual admissions as against previous MSVE 2008. All these measures have increased the total annual admission to approximately 4100 graduates from the earlier 2311 (about 1800).

As regards, steps taken to augment expansion of animal health care, the Veterinary Council of India has framed VCI Practice Regulation and has sought comments from all State Animal Husbandry departments in the context of current status of veterinary practice and technologies involved in such practice. The Council has already received comments from 20 States which have been conveyed after a meeting conducted by the respective State Veterinary Councils. The comments thus, received are being processed towards finalizing the draft regulations.

The Council is now envisaging framing rules under the provisions of Section 64 read with Section 15(2) of the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984. As regarding

upgrading of veterinary practice, once the VCI practice regulation is implemented, the same shall help in upgrading the veterinary practice delivery system in the country. The above mentioned actions will encourage and streamline the establishment of many more new veterinary colleges.

The recommendation of the Committee has been noted.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

DEVELOPMENT OF POULTRY **(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 9)**

9. The Committee express their satisfaction on noting that the poultry production in the country has taken a quantum leap in the last four decades, emerging from an unscientific farming practice to commercial production system with state-of-the-art technological interventions. The Poultry sector is growing nearly at 5%. It has become economically viable sector. The Committee also express satisfaction over the efforts of the Department in spreading awareness on the nutritive value of eggs and highlight its importance in human nutrition, by organising events. Considering the nutritional benefits of the eggs, the Department is also advising the State/UT Governments to include eggs in Mid-Day Meal/ Integrated Child Development Scheme. However, the Committee would like to urge the Department to take this initiative a step forward and hold vigorous awareness programmes amongst the people about the nutritional value of egg specially in the rural, backward and tribal areas of the country suffering from malnutrition and diseases. Since poultry play a vital role in improving the socio-economic conditions of the rural people, it is but imperative that they are given extensive training to upgrade their skills in the field of poultry farming which would in turn help them to augment their productivity and may earn them a sustainable income.

The Committee note presently Central Poultry Development Organisations (CPDOs) are located at four regions viz. Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar, Mumbai and Hessarghatta and one Central Poultry Performance Testing Centre located at Gurgaon have been playing a pivotal role in the implementation of the policies of the Government

with respect to poultry. However, the Committee would like the Department to find out the feasibility for establishment of one CPDO in North Eastern region specially to focus the indigenous people of the region to help them to improve their socio-economic condition through poultry farming.

The Committee note that Government is implementing a scheme which would insulate the poultry population of the region against the deadly Avian Influenza (AI), which is a highly devastating disease of the birds. However, in spite of the various measures undertaken by the Government to control and containment of Avian Influenza outbreak as well as prevent its ingress into the country, a number of States in the country are being affected as a result of outbreak of the disease now and then every year and as a result, a large number of birds are culled in the affected zone of 0-1 Km in order to check its spread and transmission to human beings. The Committee, therefore, would like that strict surveillance and vigilance be kept about the outbreak of the disease and State Governments as well as general public be sensitized through extensive and intensive campaigns/alerts in this regard. The Committee also desire that check points be established at the border areas at the earliest to screen birds affecting from Avian Flu before they are allowed to cross the border to enter into the country. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Department in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

The Department would continue to spread the awareness about nutritive quality of eggs amongst the masses. The Central Poultry Development Organisations (CPDOs) are conducting training for the backyards poultry farmers and entrepreneurs. Besides, a skill Development Centre for poultry activities has been established at Central Poultry Development Organisation & Training Institute, Hessarghatta. In addition to this 4 Qualification Packs for skill development for identified trades of poultry are framed so far.

Currently CPDO (Eastern Region), Bhubaneswar is coordinating and catering for Eastern & North Eastern Region States. However, as directed, feasibility for establishment of one CPDO in NER will be assessed.

Avian Influenza is caused by a deadly virus. The ducks and migratory birds usually harbor the virus without showing any signs of the disease. The disease is reported time and again across the world, including the most industrious countries due to movement of migratory birds. However, in order to prevent the ingress of the disease in the country and for its control and containment, all necessary precautions are being taken. The Department has issued a robust surveillance plan for the effective control & containment of Avian Influenza in the country. The Department has evolved an Action Plan for Prevention, Control & Containment of Avian Influenza (AI). The advisories are issued to states from time to time to strengthen the preparedness, upgrade the laboratories, train the manpower, stockpile the materials and sensitize the general public on Avian Influenza through Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns.

All the state governments are alerted from time to time to be vigilant about the outbreak of the disease, if any. Imports of poultry and poultry products have been banned completely from AI positive countries. All poultry or poultry products are allowed in the country only through the six quarantine stations. Border check posts with neighbouring countries have been alerted to be vigilant on illegal movement of poultry and poultry products. From time to time on various aspects of disease control, surveillance and importance of bio-security, advisories are issued to the states for further guidance of poultry farmers. The states sharing international boundaries are alerted when outbreak is reported in the neighbouring countries.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

DEVELOPMENT OF DAIRY SECTOR **(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 10)**

10. The Committee note with satisfaction that Dairy Sector has experienced a substantial growth over the years owing to prudent policy intervention by the Government. India ranks first among the world's milk producing nations achieving an annual output of 146.31 million tonnes during the year 2014-15 as compared to 137.68

million tonnes during 2013-14 recording a growth of 6.26 %. Dairying has become an important secondary source of income for women and marginal farmers. The per capita availability of milk has reached a level of 332 grams per day during the year 2014-15 which is more than the world average of 294 grams per day in 2013. Appreciating the efforts of the Government over the years, the Committee urge the Government to augment its efforts for sustained growth and development of the dairy sector to increase the availability of milk and milk products to meet the demand of the growing population in the country. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

As regards the issue of per capita availability of milk, it may be noted that the correct figure of per capita availability of milk may be read as 322gm per day instead of 332 gm per day. In order to meet the growing demand of milk &milk products this department is implementing following three dairy development schemes as central sector schemes during 12th Plan:

1. National Programme for Bovine Breeding & Dairy Development (NPBBDD)
2. Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS)
3. National Dairy Plan – Phase I

In addition to above, a new scheme “**Supporting State Cooperative Dairy Federations**” during severely adverse market conditions, natural calamities or unforeseen exigencies has been approved by the Standing Finance Committee during 2015-16. The scheme will be implemented by National Dairy Development Board. The budget provision of Rs.40.0 crore has been allocated for the year 2016-17.

Further, The Department is in process of envisaging dairy development under JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) fund. NDB has submitted a proposal in this regard. This department has given in principle approval on the proposal. Department of Economic Affairs has also informed that NDB has been given sovereign guarantee to implement JICA project in the country. DADF is presently examining the Detailed Project Report (DPR) submitted by NDB and also guarantee on allocation for 2016-17 from Department of Economic Affairs.

This department is also considering a proposal of dairy development in Eastern India comprising of 100 districts in 7 States of Eastern India.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

DAIRY ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (DEDS)
(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 12)

12. The Committee note that Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) is a Central Sector Scheme being implemented through NABARD since September, 2010 with an objective to promote setting up of modern dairy farms for production of clean milk, encourage heifer calf rearing, bring structural changes in the unorganized sector and generate self-employment. The Scheme provides back- ended subsidy @ 25% of the project cost to the General Category and @33.33% of the project cost to SC/ST category farmers and beneficiaries for bankable projects through NABARD. Since inception, NABARD has disbursed Rs.889.35 crore as back ended capital subsidy to the beneficiaries for setting up of 238822 dairy units upto 30th November, 2015. Considering the avowed objectives of the Scheme, the Committee recommend that the Government should continue with the Scheme to boost the dairy sector in the country. However, the Committee would like that the Government should create awareness amongst the prospective individuals/entrepreneurs/farmers etc. about the objectives of the Scheme through sustained campaign in print and media. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Department in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

The scheme has received overwhelming response from dairy entrepreneurs across the country. The number of beneficiary unit has increased from 1,978 in the year 2010-11 to 1,22,330 in the year 2013-14. NABARD has disbursed Rs. 936.72 crore as back ended capital subsidy to the beneficiaries for setting up of 247597 dairy units upto 31th May, 2016.

The availability of funds under the Scheme has been inadequate to meet the demand from the year 2014-15. Department, has temporarily suspended receipt of fresh applications across the country under General Category from 01.01.2015, due to overall budgetary cut during 2014-15. During 2015-16, against a demand of Rs.400 Crore, there was a budgetary provision of Rs.117 Crore (at RE Stage). Of this, Rs.99 Crore was allocated for General Category. The entire fund allocated for General category during 2015-16 was utilized to meet out the committed pending claims, which rolled over from 2014-15. At that time, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, vide DO letter dated 01.01.2016, had requested the Hon'ble Finance Minister for additional fund allocation of Rs 200 crore for 2015-16. However, no additional fund was received by the Department. Then, it was also requested that a budgetary support of Rs.450 Crore may be made for DEDS for financial year 2016-17.

During the current financial year 2016-17, an amount of Rs 140 crore has been allocated at BE stage against request of Rs 450 Crore. Based on the availability of fund after clearance of pending claims, Department has withdrawn suspension of receipt of fresh application under General Category for a period of three months i.e. 01.05.2016 to 31.07.2016. Further extension of the same may be provided subject to availability of fund under the General component and request received from NABARD.

In order to ensure adequate publicity of the scheme, 1% of subsidy disbursed in year is allowed to be spent by NABARD for publicity of scheme across the country with special attention to North Eastern States to sensitize potential beneficiaries.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS FOR FISHERIES SECTOR **(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 13)**

13. The Committee note that presently India is the second largest fish producing and second aquaculture nation in the world. India is also a major producer of fish through aquaculture and ranks second in the world after China. The total fish production in 2014-15 (provisional) is at 10.16 million tonnes (MT) with contribution of 6.51 MT from inland sector and 3.65 MT from marine sector. The fish production during the first two

quarters of 2014-15 is estimated at 7.54 MT (provisional). However, the Committee feel that much remains to be done for sustained growth and development of fishery sector to meet the ever growing demands of the country. According to the Department, presently, fishery today is dominated mainly by the freshwater fishery and in order to enhance production, there is a need for diversification of fish production in other areas like integrated fish farming, cold water fisheries, riverine fisheries, capture fisheries, brackish water fisheries etc. For this, the Government needs to increase the allocation to the fisheries sector. Bringing derelict water bodies into the ambit of fisheries will boost fish production tremendously and therefore, expansion of the fisheries in these water bodies is one of focus areas of the Department for increasing fish production. However, the Committee feel that in the absence of requisite allocation of funds, it would be difficult for the Department to implement the various schemes restructured and merged under an umbrella of Blue Revolution. The Committee note that out of the 12th Plan Outlay of Rs. 2483.00 crore, the BE allocation for the first four fiscals amounts to Rs. 1670.11 crore, which was reduced at RE stage to Rs. 996.05 crore for the first three fiscals. The variation between the Plan Outlay and actual allocation in the first three fiscals is Rs. 1486.95 crore. In spite of the fact that the sector contributed about 0.9% to the National Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 5.17% to the agricultural GDP (2014-15) and earned Rs. 33,441.61 crore in 2014-15, the same is not getting its due encouragement from the Government, in terms of funding. The Committee, therefore, recommend that keeping in view the contribution of fisheries sector to the exchequer and GDP, the Government should go for a quantum enhancement of allocation funds at RE level for this year and higher allocation in future as per the demand of the Department for the fisheries sector to enable them to boost fish production in the country. The Committee expect that the Department should make concerted efforts to impress upon the Ministry of Finance for allocation of funds as per their demand. Simultaneously, the Committee desire that State Government and Implementing Agencies be asked to come forward with their proposals under various schemes being implemented by the Department and for timely submission of utilization certificates of past allocations for unhindered release of funds. . The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

As suggested by the Committee, a higher allocation of Rs. 548.30 crore was proposed at the RE stage during the year 2015-16. However, the Ministry received reduced allocation of Rs. 455.86 crore at RE stage. Also, the Department has proposed Rs.539.39 crore for 2016-17 but the BE 2016-17 allocation of the Department is only Rs. 450.00 crore.

The allocation in future will be proposed as per the requirement of the Department for the fisheries sector to boost fish production in the country.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 22nd December, 2015, considered and approved the Central Sector Scheme on “Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries” at a total central outlay of Rs.3000 crore. In order to implement the scheme the Department has issued the Administrative Approval of the Scheme on 20-05-2016. The revised guidelines and cost norms of the restructured Scheme have also been issued on 30.06.2016.

For development of fisheries sector, the Department sensitizes the State Governments and Union Territories through notification of Schemes, State Minister's /Secretary level conferences, Zonal level meetings besides regular monitoring and field visits etc. for speedy implementation of the schemes, projects and utilization of funds by the State/UT Governments. The Department also supports the proposals of State Governments under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) implemented by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

NATIONAL SCHEME OF WELFARE OF FISHERMEN **(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 14)**

14. The Committee note that basic amenities such as housing, drinking water facilities, community halls are provided for fishermen in their fishing village under “National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen”. Insurance coverage is also provided for

fishermen engaged actively in fishing and financial assistance to fishers during lean fishing season. During 2015-16 (up to 31/12/2015), 48,19,423 fishers provided insurance cover under Group Accident Insurance component and 3,13,005 fishers provided relief under Saving-cum-Relief component. An expenditure of Rs.33.47 crore was incurred under the scheme during 2015-16 as against RE of Rs.43.49 crore (up to 31.12.2015). However, the Committee are highly displeased to note that as against the target of 6500 houses during 2015-16, only 789 fishermen houses have been approved for construction till 31.12.2015. A paltry sum of Rs. 70,000 is given by the Government to support housing for the fishermen. This clearly reflects the lackadaisical approach of the Government on the issue. Needless to say, fishermen come across as miserable and neglected lot and fishing is the only vocation of their livelihood for which they undertake traditional fishing practices without being equipped with any modern technology/equipment. However, the Committee are happy to note that the Government propose to enhance the subsidy being granted to them for housing from Rs. 70000 to Rs.120000 in plain areas and Rs.130000 for housing in hilly areas. Further, the Department is also formulating a new scheme to train them in deep/high sea fishing for which they will also be provided with vessel along with training for the purpose. Under the proposed scheme, they will also be given subsidy for the purpose. However, the Committee are of the strong view that these poor fishermen should be granted subsidy to the extent of 50% and out of 50% they may invest 25% of their money and the rest they may take loan from the Banks as otherwise it would be difficult for them to survive. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the proposed schemes/provisions may accordingly be formulated in the interest of fishermen community without further loss of time. The Committee would like to be apprised of the progress made in this regard. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the status of the number of houses already constructed and those approved and under construction for the fishermen along with measures undertaken to train and equip them with modern fishing practices/equipment for deep/high sea fishing.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

During 2015-16 (upto 31.03.2016), 50,56,924 fishers were provided with insurance cover, 4,43,493 fishers were provided relief assistance under the Saving – cum- Relief component and construction of 4809 fishermen houses were approved under the Central Sector Scheme on 'National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen'. An amount of Rs. 59.51 crore was incurred under the scheme during 2015-16 as against the RE of Rs. 60.00 crore.

The Expenditure Finance Committee in its meeting held on 3rd August, 2015 had recommended for transfer of the housing component to Indira Awas Yojna (IAY). In view of this, the Department could not process the new housing proposals for few months. However, subsequently after obtaining the approval of CCEA on 22nd December, 2015 for implementation of the Central Sector Scheme 'Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries' including continuation of the housing component, the Department had expedited approval of proposals and approved 4020 houses in the last quarter of the financial year totaling to 4809 houses during 2015-16. It may be further submitted that the unit cost of fishermen houses under the restructured scheme has been enhanced to Rs. 1.20 lakh/house in General States and Rs. 1.30 lakh/house in North Eastern & Himalayan States as specified under PMAY. The Department during the last four years of the 12th Plan had approved a total of 21,809 fishermen houses in various States/UTs.

The draft of the scheme for promotion of traditional fishers for Deep-sea Fishing has been prepared. The basic concept of the scheme was shared with the Committee and has been maintained while drafting the scheme. The recommendations of the Committee regarding training and pattern of financial assistance to fishers has been noted for consideration in the proposed scheme.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

**STRENGTHENING OF DATABASE & GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM
OF THE FISHERIES SECTOR**
(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 16)

16. The Committee are deeply concerned about the under utilization of allocated funds under the scheme of Strengthening of Database and Geographical Information System (GIS) of the fisheries sector. Out of the total of Rs. 27.51 crores allocated at RE stage, only Rs. 22.53 crore (as on 18.02.2016) could be utilised by the Department under the scheme. Under-utilisation of funds clearly reflects that the Department did not have plan of action for their activities for optimum utilisation of funds allocated to them. Under utilisation of funds may lead to lower allocations of funds in subsequent years and thus adversely affecting the activities taken under the scheme. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department should take all necessary steps for optimum utilisation of funds allocated to them under the scheme and to achieve the targets fixed there under. Though the Department have presented a range of information on the components of the scheme, the Committee note with apprehension that there are rampant instances of indiscriminate dredging from trawlers used in deep sea fishing. It would be significant to observe that such harmful practices not only ruin the biodiversity but also become the reason for huge losses to the traditional fishermen in terms of catch. The Committee, therefore recommend the Department to furnish detailed reports of catch assessment survey of inland and marine fisheries, census of marine fisheries and mapping of water bodies across the country. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the steps taken to check practices of indiscriminate fishing and illegal fish trade across the borders and the details regarding development of GIS based fishery management system.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

Total fund allocation during FY 2015-16 under the scheme Strengthening of Database and GIS of fisheries sector was Rs. 4.95 Crore (BE) which was increased to Rs. 8.25 Crore at RE stage and Rs. 7.59 Crore was released to the beneficiary States, UTs and subordinate Institutes during FY 2015-16. The utilization of funds was 92.03% of RE and 167% of BE.

Catch Assessment Survey of Inland and Marine fisheries was successfully conducted in all the States and UTs during FY 2015-16 by following the methodology of the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI). As per data supplied by the States and UTs, the total Fish Production during 2015-16 was estimated at 107,95,485 MT (Provisional). CIFRI has been developing the Geographical Information System (GIS) mapping including digitization of water bodies having area more than 0.5 hectare and preparation of an e-Atlas. So far CIFRI has prepared e-Atlas of 19 States. The GIS Mapping of smaller water bodies of size 0.2 – 0.5 hectare is going on in West Bengal on a pilot basis and about 70% work has been completed as reported by the State Government. The work of mapping of smaller water bodies was also taken up in Chhattisgarh.

The Field work of Marine Fisheries Census, 2016 was successfully completed by CMFRI and FSI in all the Maritime States and UTs during FY 2015-16. The data collected during the Census is being compiled and analysed by CMFRI and the Reports of Marine Fisheries Census, 2016 are expected soon.

The Catch Assessment Survey in Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) is carried out periodically by the Fishery Survey of India (FSI). Fishing within 12 Nautical mile is regulated by the Marine Fisheries Regulation Acts (MFRA) of Coastal States/UTs.

The import of livestock products including fish & fishery products in to the country is regulated through the Livestock Importation Act 1898 as amended in 2001. There are specific “guidelines” for import of ornamental fishes, tilapia, seed of sea-bass, etc, separately besides the “Quarantine Guidelines” for import of *SPF L.vannamei* broodstock. Also, the international trade in fish & fishery products is governed by the EXIM Policy of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

DEVELOPMENT OF MARINE FISHERIES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND POST HARVEST OPERATIONS
(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 17)

17. The Committee note with distress that some of targets set under the scheme could not be achieved during 2013, 2014-15 and 2015-16. As for illustration, during 2014-15, no achievements were made against the targets set for construction of Minor Fishing Harbours, Construction of Fishing Land Centres, Repair and renovation of existing Fishing Harbours and FLCs and Infrastructure and marketing facilities. During 2013-14 as against the target of 1000 units of safety kits for fishermen at sea, only 500 kits were distributed. It was explained by the Department that restricting the central funding to 40% of the capital cost of infrastructure projects in general areas and 55% in hilly and scheduled areas, has prevented many States and UTs from submitting new proposals for financial assistance under the scheme. Besides, the delay in the acquisition of land and environmental clearances were also other factors that were attributed to the slack in achieving the set targets under the scheme. However, the Committee were informed that user friendly guidelines are being formulated under the restructured schemes of Blue Revolution along with the allocation of adequate budget for its implementation. The Committee, therefore, hope that the Department would be able to address the issue under new guidelines and desire that the Department should take up the issue with the State Governments to get fresh proposals for financial assistance under the scheme ensuring achievements of the targets set there under. The Committee would like to be apprised of the progress made in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

The Government has on 22nd December, 2015 approved the Scheme on “Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries” as a Central Sector Scheme with funding patterns of (a) 50% of the project/unit cost for general States, leaving the rest to State agencies/organisations, corporations, federations, boards, Fishers cooperatives, private entrepreneurs, individual beneficiaries, (b) 80% of the project/unit cost for North-Eastern/Hilly States leaving the rest to State agencies/Organizations, Cooperatives, individual beneficiaries etc. and (c) 100% for

projects directly implemented by the Government of India through its institutes/organisations and Union Territories

According to the provisions in the restructured scheme, a committee was constituted to revamp and revise the unit cost and cost norms for the entire gamut of activities in the fisheries sector for increasing the fund flow to States/UTs and beneficiaries. The cost norms in respect of each component and sub-component of the scheme have been reworked and reoriented, keeping in view the requirements for realizing the goals set under the scheme. The revised guidelines alongwith the revised cost norms have been issued on 30.06.2016. It is expected that with greater flexibility provided and the broad scope now available in the scheme, achieving the set targets of the scheme would be facilitated.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

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

DEVELOPMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE **(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 15)**

15. The Committee note that the Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture scheme being implemented under different components through the State Governments/UTs covers all the inland fishery resources available in the country in the form of fresh water, brackish water, cold water, water logged areas, saline/alkaline soils for aquaculture and capture fisheries including reservoirs. Since the inception of the scheme, 8,90,403 hectares of freshwater bodies and 45,952 hectares of brackish water bodies have been developed benefitting 15,60,863 and 39,896 fishers, respectively, till 31.12.2015. During 2015-16, 5,414 hectares of freshwater bodies and 218 hectares of brackish water bodies have been developed benefitting 8,000 fishers and 400 fishers respectively. However, the full potential of inland fishery resources in the country largely remains untapped. In order to boost the fish production in the country, it is but imperative that the area of aquaculture in the country be expanded. The Committee strongly feel that Fisheries in India is a very important economic activity. A large section of the people in the country are dependent on fisheries activities for their livelihood. It not only meet the domestic needs of the people but also earn precious foreign exchange for the country from fish and fisheries products. The Committee, therefore, recommend that all inland derelict water bodies, reservoirs, canals, drains, ponds, tanks etc may be brought within the ambit of fisheries activities for sustained growth and development of the fisheries sector in the country without affecting the biodiversity of the area. The Committee also note that the Government recognizes the need of availability of quality seed and feed for the development of inland fisheries and aquaculture. However, presently there is a gap of about 4610 million fry. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Department may set up brood banks and hatcheries on priority basis. During the course of evidence, the Secretary of the Department informed the Committee that various fisheries schemes are being restructured under Blue Revolution and norms and guidelines are being formulated. The

Committee expect the Department to formulate these norms and guidelines without further loss of time. The Committee hope that norms and guidelines being formulated under restructured schemes of Blue Revolution will address the issues which hinders the rapid growth and development of inland fisheries sector.

The Committee express concern over the fact that there are humongous losses of indigenous breeds of fishes due to reasons such as drying up of local or inland water bodies, percolation of harmful chemicals in the water bodies by ways of using chemical fertilizers and pesticides in farming etc. The Committee therefore desire that corrective measures may be undertaken in coordination with all concerned to check such losses on priority basis. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives undertaken by the Department in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

During the year 2015-16, under the scheme 'Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture', 12.107 ha of freshwater bodies and 1325 ha of Brackishwater bodies have been developed, benefiting 25,781 farmers and 520 farmers respectively. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has considered and approved the restructured Scheme on "Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries" during December, 2015. In order to implement the scheme the Department has issued an administrative approval of the scheme on 20-05-2016. The revised guidelines and Unit cost/norms of the restructured Central Sector Scheme have also been issued in consultation with State Governments/UTs on 30.06.2016.

All inland derelict water bodies, reservoirs, canals, drains, ponds, tanks etc. are covered under the new scheme within the ambit of fisheries for sustained growth and development of the fisheries sector in the country with biosecurity measures. In order to fulfill the gap of 4610 million fry assistance for setting up of broodbanks, hatcheries have been provisioned under the new restructured scheme. Additionally, feed mills both small and large sized have also been provisioned.

The Department sensitizes the State Governments and Union Territories through notification of Schemes, State Minister's /Secretary level conferences, Zonal level meetings besides regular monitoring, field visits and bio-security checks on priority

basis. The Guidelines for Developing Fish Seed Certification & Accreditation System in India and Guidelines for the States for framing a bill on Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture have been issued to all the State Governments/UTs in order to have uniformity in the measures taken by States/ UTs for development of fisheries in a sustainable manner. Besides, the Department has also issued Guidelines for fisheries Management in small, medium and large reservoirs including the associated tanks and ponds in the command areas in the country for conservation and optimum utilization of the productivity of reservoirs for sustained production of valuable fish protein.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE:

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

CHAPTER V

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

DELHI MILK SCHEME

(RECOMMENDATION PARA NO. 11)

11. The Committee note that Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) was set up with the primary objective of supplying wholesome milk to the citizens of Delhi at reasonable prices as well as for providing remunerative prices to milk producers. However, the Committee are extremely dissatisfied with the current state of affairs of DMS. The milk procurement by DMS has declined sharply over the years from 1077.60 lakh kgs in 2012-13 to 887.95 lakh kgs in 2014-15. Its capacity utilization has also declined with reference to its installed capacity of 5 lakh litres per day. DMS has also failed to utilize fully the funds allocated to them at RE stage. During the last four years, DMS was allocated Rs 33.43 crore at BE stage which was reduced to merely Rs.7.75 crore at RE stage, out of which only Rs.6.13 crore could be utilized by them till 18.02.2016. All this reflects the current state of affairs of the functioning of DMS. While explaining the reasons for declining capacity utilization, the Department has stated that DMS does not have autonomy to fix incentive/discount to retailer/concessionaire and as a result thereof, DMS is not in a position to compete with other milk suppliers and therefore, the sale of milk is low as well as its capacity utilization is also less in proportional to the sale of milk. Unlike the Mother Diary which is a private company, DMS is controlled by the Central Government and by its rules and regulations. Mother Diary have not to approach the Central Government for its day to day functioning. The Committee are of the view that the activities of DMS are commercial in nature and therefore, it has to run as a commercial entity to make it financially viable. DMS, therefore, needs to be given functional autonomy on the lines of Mother Diary to undertake strategic decisions on commercial lines. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Government may consider to grant functional autonomy to DMS by taking a holistic view over the issue. Meanwhile, immediate remedial measures may be taken to bring out all round efficiency to check its losses and operational cost and to make it commercially viable. The network of outlets of DMS may also be expanded on professional lines for distribution of milk and milk

products to the consumers. The efficiency of DMS plant may also be augmented by its renovation/upgradation/modernisation. Efforts may also be made to utilize its optimum capacity by increasing the sale of milk and milk products which may in turn lead to reduction in losses. The Committee hope that as a result of slew of remedial measures feel it would not be difficult to turn around the fortune of DMS in the near future. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action plan of the Department on the issue.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT:

It is stated that CCEA in its meeting held on 22.04.2015 has decided to lease out operation and management of DMS to an outside O&M agency. The Department has appointed M/s Darashaw and Company Pvt. Ltd as consultant on 14.09.2015 and is in process of finalization of e-procurement compliant of RFP and Concession Agreement in consultation with NIC, IFD and Department of legal Affairs. This Department is also in the process of adoption of Integrity Pact and empanelment of Independent External Monitors as per CVC guidelines. The entire bidding, selection of a suitable O & M Agency and handing over of operations of DMS is expected to complete by December, 2016.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries)
F.No. 25-5(2)/2016-AHD (Coord) dated 01.08.2016

NEW DELHI
09 December, 2016
18 Agrahayana, 1938 (Saka)

HUKM DEO NARAYAN YADAV
Chairperson
Standing Committee on Agriculture

ANNEXURE

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

(2016-17)

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee sat on Friday, the 09th December, 2016 from 1000 hrs. to 1050 hrs. in the Chamber of the Hon'ble Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Room No. 138 (Third Floor), Parliament House, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Hukm Deo Narayan Yadav – Chairperson

MEMBERS LOK SABHA

2. Prof. Ravindra Vishwanath Gaikward
3. Shri Sanganna Karadi
4. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
5. Md. Badaruddoza Khan
6. Shri Janardan Mishra
7. Shri Devji Patel
8. Shri C.L. Ruala
9. Shri Satyapal Singh (Sambhal)

RAJYA SABHA

10. Shri Sambhaji Shahu Chhatrapati
11. Shri Meghraj Jain
12. Shri Mohd. Ali Khan
13. Shri Ram Nath Thakur

SECRETARIAT

1.	Shri U.B.S. Negi	—	Joint Secretary
2.	Shri Arun K. Kaushik	—	Director
3.	Smt. Juby Amar	—	Additional Director
4.	Shri C. Vanlalruata	—	Deputy Secretary
5.	Shri Sumesh Kumar	—	Under Secretary

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

*(i) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

(ii) Draft Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the 24th Report (16th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2015-16) on 'Demands for Grants (2016-17)' of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries).

*(iii) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

*(iv) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

3. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the draft Reports without any modifications and authorized the Chairperson to finalize and present these Reports to Parliament after getting them factually verified from the concerned Departments/Ministries.

The Committee then adjourned.

*** Matter not related to this Report**

APPENDIX

(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE ELEVENTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (2014-15) ON 'DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2015-16)' OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DAIRYING AND FISHERIES)

(i)	Total number of Recommendations	17
(ii)	Recommendations/Observations which have been Accepted by the Government Para Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16 and 17	
	Total	15
	Percentage	88.23%
(iii)	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee Do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies Para No. Nil	
	Total	NIL
	Percentage	0 %
(iv)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee Para No. 15	
	Total	01
	Percentage	05.88%
(v)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Final replies of the Government are still awaited Para No. 11	
	Total	01
	Percentage	05.88%