



STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2007-2008)

FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING & FISHERIES)

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2007-08)

**{Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/
Observations contained in the Twenty Ninth Report of the
Standing Committee on Agriculture (2006-2007)}**

THIRTY FIFTH REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

November, 2007/Agrahayana, 1929 (Saka)

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Presented to Lok Sabha on 30.11.2007

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 30.11.2007



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

November, 2007/Agrahayana, 1929 (Saka)

COA No.200

Price: Rs.

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

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2007-2008)

Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav – Chairman

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5.	Ms. Amita Walia	-	Under Secretary
6.	Shri Sreekanth S.	-	Senior Executive Assistant

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Standing Committee on Agriculture, [2007-2008] having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Thirty Fifth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Twenty Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2006-2007) (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries) for the year 2007-2008.

2. The Twenty Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2006-2007) on Demands for Grants (2007-2008) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries) was presented to Lok Sabha on 27.04.2007 and laid in Rajya Sabha on the same day. The Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries) was requested to furnish action taken replies of the Government to the recommendations contained in the Twenty Ninth Report. The replies of the Government to all the recommendations contained in the Report were received.

3. The Committee considered the action taken replies furnished by the Government at their sitting held on 27.11.2007, approved the draft comments and adopted the Thirty Fifth Report. Minutes of the sitting are placed at Appendix I.

4. An analysis of the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Twenty Ninth Report (14th Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in Appendix-II.

NEW DELHI;
27 November, 2007
6 Agrahayana, 1929(Saka)

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Agriculture.

CHAPTER I

Report

This Report of the Committee on Agriculture deals with the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty Ninth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2006-2007) on Demands for Grants (2007-2008) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries) which was presented to the Lok Sabha and laid in the Rajya Sabha on 27.04.2007.

1.2 The Action taken replies have been received from the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries) in respect of all the 15 recommendations contained in the Report. These have been categorised as under:

- (i) Recommendations/Observations that have been accepted by the Government (Chapter II of the Report)

Recommendation Sl. Nos. 2, 4, 5, 7, 11, 12 and 15 (Total-7)

- (ii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's action taken reply (Chapter III of the Report) (Total – NIL)

- (iii) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which action taken replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee (Chapter IV of the Report)

Recommendation Sl. Nos. 1, 3, 8 and 9 (Total-4)

- (iv) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited. (Chapter V)

Recommendation Sl. Nos. 6, 10, 13 and 14 (Total-4)

1.3 The Committee desire that the final replies in respect of recommendations for which only interim replies have been given by the Government, should be furnished to the Committee expeditiously.

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

Tenth Plan Allocation and Utilisation of funds

(Recommendation No. 1)

1.5 Regarding Tenth Plan Allocation and Utilisation of funds, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Committee note that though the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries was allocated Rs.2500 crore for the Tenth Plan, the actual allocation for the five Annual Plans during the Tenth Plan has been Rs.2439.00 crore. Assuming an expenditure of Rs.113 crore (15% of RE of Rs.750 crore) during March 2007, the Department claims a total expenditure of Rs. 2431 crore, which is 96% of the actual outlay of Rs.2439 crore.

In this scenario, the Department has utilised 51% of the actual allocation of Rs.2439 crore for the Tenth Plan during the last two years of the Plan period. The Committee observe with apprehension that such skewed expenditure pattern may dilute the intended results of the schemes/programmes implemented by the Department. From the information provided by the Department, the Committee further observe that timely commencement of Schemes would have enabled a more equitable expenditure of funds over the five year term of the Tenth Plan. If a scheme, envisaged for implementation through a period of five years, takes two years of the Plan period just to begin its functioning, the lag created would definitely impinge upon the output.

The Committee would, therefore, like to be informed of the specific measures adopted by the Department to prevent delayed implementation of Schemes from being repeated during the Eleventh Plan period. The Department may also apprise the Committee on the causes of delay in implementation in each scheme during the Tenth Plan period along with the effect, the delay has caused in the performance of the Schemes.

Another reason brought before the Committee for under-utilisation of funds is non-production of utilisation certificates by the States. The Committee may be apprised of the details of outstanding utilisation certificates, the monitoring mechanism for the funds released to States and action taken, if any, in case of non-production of utilisation certificates. It is felt that failure to get

utilisation certificates and the accumulation of unspent balance could become a vicious cycle of underutilisation of funds, if not addressed emergently.

Going through the figures of allocation of resources to the Department in proportion to the total Central Plan Outlay and Budgetary Resources over five years of the Tenth Plan and the Annual Plan for 2007-08, the Committee found that the allocation has either decreased or remained stagnant. The Committee wonders how the proposed overall growth of 6-7% per annum for sector as a whole (5% per annum in milk, 10% per annum in meat and poultry sectors) during the Eleventh Plan can be achieved, if Plan allocation to the Department remains stagnant. The Department is right in its argument that diminished budgetary allocation over the years has been the stumbling block that prevented them from performing to the full. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the allocation to the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries may be increased to sufficient levels so that the targets under different schemes are not downsized due to resource crunch”.

1.6 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“The delay in implementation of some of the schemes during the Tenth Plan was mainly caused by the elaborate exercise involved in getting the scheme(s) approved by various appraisal agencies and the Cabinet. All possible steps are being taken to avoid the delay in implementation of the schemes during the Eleventh Plan. Appropriate steps have also been initiated for seeking necessary approvals for the new schemes, though the Eleventh Plan outlay is yet to be communicated by the Planning Commission.

A statement showing the status of scheme wise/state wise unspent balance as on 1st April, 2007 is given in the Table below. In case of non-receipt of utilisation certificates, further releases are not made to the concerned State Governments/State Implementing Agencies. This has been suggested by the Hon’ble Supreme Court in one of the cases. Review meetings at the level of Minister/Secretary are frequently held to monitor the implementation of the schemes. The concerned Divisional Heads and the scheme officers review the physical and financial progress of the schemes regularly during their field visits and also through video conferencing.

The Department appreciates the concern of the Hon’ble Committee regarding diminished budgetary allocation and has taken up the matter with the

Planning Commission seeking an enhancement in the Annual Plan outlay for 2007-08”.

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Unspent Balance as on 01.04.2007 (Rs. In lakh)
1	National Project for Cattle & Buffalo Breeding	10301.12
2	Assistance to States for Feed & Fodder Development	3556.74
3	Assistance to State Poultry/Duck Farms	2783.35
4	Livestock Census	3059.61
5	Integrated Sample Survey	908.88
6	Livestock Insurance	6031.21
7	Conservation of Threatened Livestock Breeds	684.68
8	Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases	2695.84
9	National Project on Rinderpest Eradication	309.04
10	Professional Efficiency Development	237.87
11	Foot & Mouth Disease Control Programme	172.58
12	Modernisation of Slaughter Houses	1686.48
13	Assistance to States for Integrated Piggery Development	405.18
14	Intensive Dairy Development Programme	4421.15
15	Strengthening of Infrastructure for Quality & Clean Milk Production	4218.27
16	Assistance to Cooperatives	1042.74
17	Strengthening of Database & Information Networking for Fisheries	500.41
18	Development of Inland Fisheries & Aquaculture	2519.43
19	Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure & Post Harvest Operations	5268.26
20	Welfare Programme for Fishermen	2097.32
21	Training & Extension including HRD	206.66
	Total	53106.82

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

1.7 The Committee have been informed that getting approval of the scheme is an elaborate exercise. The Committee are unhappy to note that delay in implementation of schemes is still continuing during the 11th Plan as well. The Committee's reiteration of their recommendations to adopt measures to avoid delays has become almost ritualistic. If it is assumed same reasons cause delays year after year, it is disappointing that they are allowed to continue. The Committee desire that the Government should take appropriate corrective steps for simplification of scheme approval procedure and also to remove hurdles that cause delay in implementation of the schemes.

Livestock Insurance

(Recommendation No. 3)

1.8 Regarding Livestock Insurance, the Committee have recommended as under:-

"Livestock Insurance, a centrally sponsored scheme, has been formulated with the twin objective of providing protection mechanism to the farmers and cattle rearers against any eventual loss of their animals due to death and demonstrating the benefit of the insurance of livestock to the people in order to popularise rearing of improved animals leading to the ultimate goal of attaining qualitative improvement in livestock and their products.

The Scheme is being implemented on a pilot basis as a part of the Common Minimum Programme of the Government during the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 of the 10th Five Year Plan in 100 selected districts across the country with an approved outlay of Rs. 120.00 crore. Under the Scheme, crossbred and high yielding cattle and buffaloes are being insured at maximum of their current market value. Only 50 percent of premium of the insurance is to be paid by the beneficiary, while the rest of entire cost of subsidy is being borne by the Central Government. The Government is providing subsidy for a maximum of two animals per beneficiary for a policy of a maximum of three years.

The Committee have been informed that the launch of the scheme, already delayed due to belated approval from the CCEA, was further delayed by preparatory procedures and could be launched only from the beginning of the financial year 2006-07. It is beyond the comprehension of the Committee why such delays cannot be avoided. Though the Committee has commented upon

such delays several times in the past, the Committee reiterate their displeasure at the delays that occur in the launch and completion of schemes.

It has also been informed that the initial feed back on the scheme suggests that though the response of the farmers has been encouraging, paying 50% of the premium is too high for the poor farmers and is proving to be an impediment in the acceptability of the scheme. In view of this, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation that the premium to be paid by the beneficiaries under the scheme may be reduced from 50% to 25% and that the scheme should be implemented in all parts of the country. The Committee also recommend that 100% subsidy may be provided to people who belong to Below Poverty Line and SC/ST communities. The Department should also consider including cattle of domestic breed under the livestock insurance scheme along with cross breed cattle/buffalo. The Committee would like to be apprised of the feedback once the pilot project of the scheme is completed”.

1.9 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“The Livestock Insurance Scheme was approved by EFC for implementation during the period 2005-06 to 2008-09 on pilot basis in 100 districts so that sufficient experience and knowledge is gained for its implementation in the entire country in its extended form. The CCEA approved the scheme in February, 2006 for implementing it on pilot basis during 2005-06 and 2006-07 of the 10th Plan. Thus, the scheme was implemented only for about 13 months only. This short period of implementation of the scheme was not enough to give sufficient experience and knowledge to take up the scheme on extended form in entire country. Also the implementation of the scheme in entire country in extended form will require fresh approval of the EFC and the CCEA, which may take lot of time. Discontinuation of the scheme for long period would hamper the momentum generated and also might affect the credibility of the scheme before the public. In view of these, a proposal of extending the scheme in the existing form during the first two years of the 11th Five year Plan is under consideration.

Based on the experiences gained and assessment of the impact of the Livestock Insurance Scheme, Government will consider implementing the scheme in the entire country during 2009-10 and beyond. While preparing the scheme for its implementation during 2009-10 and beyond, various suggestions

of the Parliamentary Standing Committee will be incorporated in the note for EFC and the CCEA for approval.

Till date, about 4.6 lakh animals have been insured under the pilot project with an estimated expenditure of Rs.20.77 crore. About 1750 claim cases have been settled with an estimated expenditure of Rs.2.38 crore during the pilot period”.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

1.10 The Committee wonder at the reply of the Government that it had not taken any initiative to extend the scheme in the present form during the 11th Plan starting from 2007-08 and it has also not been clarified whether the scheme is still continuing during the current year, i.e., 2007-08 as in its reply the Government has stated that a proposal of extending the scheme in the existing form during the first two years of the 11th Five Year Plan is under consideration. The Committee, therefore, again strongly recommend that the scheme should be cleared without any further delay and should be implemented in the whole country. They also reiterate their earlier recommendation that the premium to be paid by the beneficiaries under the scheme should be reduced to 25% and for persons below poverty line and to those belonging to SCs and STs, 100% subsidy should be extended.

Special Package for Suicide-prone Districts

(Recommendation No. 6)

1.11 Regarding Special Package for Suicide-prone Districts, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Committee have been informed that a number of districts in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala have seen higher incidence of suicide by farmers due to economic distress. There are 31 such identified districts (16 in Andhra Pradesh, 6 in Maharashtra, 6 in Karnataka and 3 in Kerala). In order to provide economic relief to the farming population in these districts, the Department is implementing a special livestock and fisheries sector package since August, 2006.

During the year 2007-08, an allocation of Rs.170 crore has been made for the Special Package. The Committee have been informed that the package involves an investment of Rs.698 crore over a period of three years, commencing from 2006-07. While an amount of Rs.510.79 crore will be provided as

budgetary support, the balance of Rs.187.21 crore is to be made available by way of bank credit.

However, the Committee are perturbed to note that while the requirement for 2007-08 is pegged at Rs.169.70 crore the Department could get only Rs.30 crore in the first batch of supplementary grants of 2006-07 for implementing the package. As a result, funds had to be diverted from other schemes. In the opinion of the Committee, diversion of funds from schemes that are already resource starved could adversely affect their performance. Though the Special Package for Suicide-Prone Districts is very much welcomed, it is felt that sourcing of funds should not have been by compromising funds from other schemes. The Committee would like to be apprised of the details of schemes from which funds have been diverted for the Special Package and the adverse impact it had on the performance of such schemes.

The Committee have been informed that the funds under this package are released on receipt of specific proposals from the concerned States and that the States have informed that they would be able to utilize only 50% of the earmarked funds in the current year due to the time involved in identification of the beneficiaries and inadequate availability of milch animals. The Department could release only Rs.71 crore till December, 2006.

The Committee are dismayed to note that even after such grave situation of farmers getting driven to the extreme step of committing suicide, a basic activity like identification of beneficiaries of the scheme is taking time and causing 50% under-utilisation of the allocated funds. It is felt that such apathy is shocking and, therefore, the committee strongly recommend that the Department should take immediate steps to hasten up the process of identifying the beneficiaries under the schemes. The Department should also ensure that good quality milch animals and calves, along with adequate feed and fodder, are provided to the affected farmers at the earliest. Milk chilling plants should also be established urgently. It is also highly desirable that, if not already set up, a stringent monitoring and assessment mechanism headed by the Secretary to the Department may be put in place to evaluate the performance of the scheme.

The Committee shall be apprised of the action taken in this regard within three months of the presentation of this report".

1.12 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“CCEA had sanctioned Rs.169.70 crore for the year 2006-07 for implementing the special package for which the Department was to get an additional allocation of Rs.133.62 crore during 2006-07. Subsequently an amount of Rs.30 crore was provided as first supplementary for the purpose of special package with an advise to forward the proposals to the Ministry of Finance for re-appropriation from existing provision to meet the balance amount. It was further stated by Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) vide their OM 4(14)-B(CDN)-2006 dated 29th August, 2006 that the requirement for additional funds will be provided at RE stage. However, at the RE stage the Plan allocation which was Rs.777.00 crore, excluding the additional Rs.30.00 crore, was fixed at Rs.750.00 crore without giving any additional allocation for special package. Reason being, there was huge saving of Rs.121.00 crores in the allocation of National Fisheries Development Board and also State governments had expressed their inability to utilize not more than 50% of the amount earmarked for the special package. Since 5 out of 8 components of the special package were ongoing schemes, funds were accordingly released to existing schemes without adversely affecting the resources meant for regular programmes.

The Department finally released around Rs.90.00 crore for livestock special package till 31 March, 2007. However, except for the State of Maharashtra, which was implementing a parallel programme before, other States are still lagging behind in the process of identifying beneficiaries and milch animals. All the four States have been asked to speed up implementation and meetings were taken even at the level of Minister for Agriculture. As 2006-07 was the first year of the plan, there were operational difficulties at the level of State Government and States have not utilized even the released amount on time”.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

1.13 The Committee may be informed of the progress made towards identifying beneficiaries which needs to be covered under the Special Package Scheme for suicide prone areas of the four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala, so that the good quality milch cattle and calves along with adequate feed and fodder could be provided to the affected farmers, etc.

Dairy Sector & Assistance to Cooperatives

(Recommendation Nos. 8 & 9)

1.14 Regarding Dairy Sector, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Committee have been informed that India’s milk output during 2005-06 reached the level of 97.1 million tonnes (provisional) and is estimated to reach 100 million tonnes in 2006-07. Dairying has become an important secondary source of income for million of rural families and has assumed the crucial role of employment and income generation. The per capita availability of milk is expected to reach 245 grams per day in 2006-07 compared to the world average of 265 grams per day. While it is noted that India has 15% of world’s cattle population and 57% of buffalo population of the world and is the world’s leading milk producer of the world, the productivity of animals which is much lower than the world average is a matter of unnerving concern. While the world average is about 2050 litres per lactation, India’s average hovers around a thousand litres. The Committee observe that nothing else can vouch for the scope of improvement in the Dairy Sector. Genetic improvement, disease control and fodder development have been noted as the major initiatives of the Department in this direction.

During the examination of the DFG, the Committee noted that the Department have been able to utilise only Rs.264.21 crore which is 73.40% of the total Tenth Plan outlay of Rs.360 crore for Dairy Sector. The Department have informed that the under performance of the schemes IDDP and Assistance to Cooperatives caused the under spending of funds. Later on, the under-utilisation was ascribed to the Assistance to Cooperatives only. The Department have assured that effective steps would be taken to fully utilise the budget provisions for the year 2007-08 under the four dairy development schemes.

The Committee also note that while the Department sought an allocation of Rs.136 crore, only Rs.88.50 crore has been allocated for the year 2007-08. The Department expressed that the schemes Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital fund, Dairy Development Programme and Strengthening of Infrastructure for Quality and Clean milk production may be affected by the depleted allocation of funds by the Planning Commission. The Committee desire that along with financial prudence, the output of schemes and the benefit to the targeted sectors may also be taken into account while determining the outlays. They, therefore,

recommend that the allocation to schemes that have met the fixed targets in the past year may be enhanced, so that their better performance continue in future also”.

1.15 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“The Scheme Assistance to Cooperatives was started during the year 1999-2000 during the 9th Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs.150 crore. The Scheme is being implemented on 50:50 sharing basis between Government of India and State Government. Due to limited time period left during 9th Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs.35.00 crore was spent against the year wise total budget allocation of Rs.56 crore with 62.5% utilization as indicated below:

(Rs. In Lakh)		
Year	Budget Estimate	Actual expenditure
1999-2000	1600.00	380.00
2000-2001	2500.00	1700.00
2001-2002	1500.00	1420.00
Total	5600.00	3500.00

The Scheme was continued during 10th Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs.130.00 crore. Out of Rs.130 crore, an expenditure of Rs.39.14 crore was made during the 10th Five Year Plan. The year-wise details of budget provisions provided and expenditure incurred under the Scheme are as under:

(Rs. In Lakh)		
Year	Budget Estimate	Actual expenditure
2002-03	1500.00	1665.24
2003-04	900.00	271.00
2004-05	1500.00	981.50
2005-06	1000.00	546.50
2006-07	500.00	450.00
Total	5400.00	3914.24

From the above table, it may be noted that a total sum of Rs.39.14 crore was utilized against the total year-wise allocation of Rs.54.00 crore, which works out to 72.48%.

The scheme is likely to be continued during the 11th Five Year Plan. A sum of Rs.50.00 crore has been proposed in the 11th Five Year Plan, which is yet to be finalized by the Planning Commission.

Assistance to Cooperatives

1.16 Regarding the Scheme 'Assistance to Cooperatives', the Committee have recommended as under:-

"The Committee note that the Central Sector scheme "Assistance to Cooperatives", started during 1999-2000, aims at revitalizing the sick dairy cooperative unions at the district level and cooperative federations at the State level. The rehabilitation Plan is prepared by NDDB in consultation with the concerned State Dairy Federation/District Milk Union. The maximum assistance of grant is limited to the minimum amount required so that the net flow becomes positive within 7 years. The Department has approved 31 rehabilitation proposals of milk unions from various States.

The Committee also note that out of the total approved Tenth Plan outlay of Rs. 130 crore for the scheme, the Department has released only Rs.38.69 crore till March 18, 2007, which is about 30% of the total outlay. The reasons put forward for the huge under-utilization of funds are (i) the scheme is purely demand driven, (ii) viable proposals were not available and (iii) inability/delay on part of the State Government to release 50% of their matching share.

As the Committee recommended in their 20th report (2006-07), the Government need to review the sharing mechanism between the Central and State Governments from 50:50 basis to 90:10 or at least 75:25 basis for more pro-active participation for the State Governments as recommended in a study made by National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE). Considering the fact that the Scheme 'Assistance to Cooperatives' has been under-performing since its inception, the Committee recommend immediate action to restructure the scheme and produce a turn-around in performance. The progress made in this regard may be apprised in due course to the Committee".

1.17 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

"The outlay for the Tenth Plan for the Central Sector Scheme 'Assistance to Cooperatives' was Rs.130.00 crore. The Department has made an expenditure of Rs.39.14 crore, against year-wise total allocation of Rs.54.00 crore, which works out to 72.48%.

The reasons for under utilization of funds during 10th Five Year Plan are as under:

- i) The scheme is purely demand driven.
- ii) It has not been possible to assist as many cooperatives as envisaged earlier because of non-availability of viable proposals.
- iii) Delay in release of matching share by the concerned State Government to the milk union.

The Department had entrusted the evaluation study of the scheme 'Assistance to Cooperatives' to National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, an autonomous organization under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. MANAGE has recently submitted its final report. The recommendations made by the evaluation agency are being examined in consultation with Planning Commission for revision of the scheme and efforts will be made to seek higher allocation during the 11th Five Year Plan under the scheme.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

1.18 The Committee do not agree with the contention of the Government that under-utilisation of funds was due to non-availability of viable proposals and delay in release of matching share by the State Government concerned to the milk unions. The Committee do not see any reason in Government's demands for funds for this scheme during 11th Plan only to the extent of Rs.50 crore, whereas the allocations during 9th and 10th Plans were Rs.150 crore and Rs.130 crore respectively; though due to non-popularisation of this scheme the actual expenditure was very less. The reply of the Government is evasive and they have not replied to the recommendation of the Committee on the sharing mechanism between Central and State Governments. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation that the share between Central and State Governments should be restructured from 50:50 basis to 90:10 or at least 75:25 as recommended by the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB)

(Recommendation No. 2)

2.1 Regarding National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB), the Committee have recommended as under:-

“Cattle and Buffalo development is a very important component in Animal Husbandry Sector because of the contribution of these two species in terms of value output, employment-generation, supplementing household nutrition and alleviation of rural poverty. Aiming at the genetic upgradation of cattle and buffalo, the NPCBB was launched in October 2000 for a period of ten years in two phases, with allocations of Rs.402 crore and Rs.775.87 crore for phase I & II respectively. The Department has informed that to consolidate the gains made during phase-I, cabinet and administrative approvals for phase-II have been obtained by January 2007.

The Committee note that most of the physical targets fixed under the scheme for the year 2006-07 have been achieved. But the Department have stated that targets under the Scheme are set as per the funds allotted for the project. Due to curtailment of funds during 2007-08, the targets for the year have been reduced accordingly. The Committee view this as a perturbing trend and feel that the Department should have impressed upon the Planning Commission in a better way about the benefits of the scheme to raise the income of rural poor to have more funds allotted for NPCBB, one of their flagship projects. The Committee note that the downsizing of targets for 2007-08 has happened in spite of an increased allocation for Phase-II of NPCBB. The Committee would like the Department to make sure that the Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance are better convinced at the RE stage to allot more funds to the project on priority basis, by showcasing the output of the Department during Phase – I of the Project and by advocating the need to ensure continuity to consolidate and enhance the gains achieved during Phase – I.

The Committee feel that the National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding as a whole has to be revisited. Hybrid/Cross-bred cattle being given preference currently under the Project may face danger in view of global warming. The Department should review the NPCBB and concentrate more on breeding buffalos and indigenous cows, as they may prove more tolerant to the rise in temperature due to global warming”.

2.2 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“In order to utilise entire allocation made under the scheme during 2007-08, all the States have been requested to submit comprehensive proposal under Phase-II of NPCBB. At the RE stage, Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance will be requested to enhance allocation under the project.

Keeping in view the importance of indigenous cattle and buffalo breeds, more funds have been proposed under Phase-II for taking up systematic bull production programme, procurement of bulls of indigenous breeds for natural service, establishment of Open Nucleus Breeding (ONBS) farms and Embryo Transfer Technology (ETT) Laboratories, so as to improve genetic make up and availability of indigenous breeds during the project period.

Clubbing of Schemes

(Recommendation No. 4)

2.3 Regarding Clubbing of Schemes, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Committee have been informed that during Annual Plan 2007-08, the Planning Commission has recommended clubbing of the following schemes:-

- (i) National Programme for Cattle & Buffalo Breeding may be clubbed with the National Project for Improvement of Poultry and Small Animals and jointly renamed as ‘R&D for Livestock Breeds’.
- (ii) Livestock Insurance, Livestock Disease Control Programme and Dairy Development may be merged and jointly renamed as ‘Livestock Disease Control and Integrated Dairy Development’.
- (iii) Both Inland and Marine Fisheries may be merged and jointly renamed as ‘Integrated Fisheries Development Programme’.

The Department have also informed that they feel that combining the schemes will work only when there is synergy among the schemes getting combined, otherwise, clubbing will only hinder achievement of objectives. The Committee are given to understand that the Department is making efforts to convince the Planning Commission that the clubbing of schemes as suggested by the Planning Commission should not to be insisted upon.

The Committee feel that apart from the above, clubbing/renaming of schemes cause a lot of confusion among the grass-root level beneficiaries, especially, in rural areas where creating awareness about schemes itself is a time/effort/money consuming process. Therefore, the Committee recommend that the renaming/clubbing of schemes should be avoided to the extent possible and, if not avoidable, extra efforts should be put in to create awareness among the beneficiaries”.

2.4 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“The comments of the Committee have been noted for compliance”.

Professional Efficiency Development – Veterinary Councils

(Recommendation No. 5)

2.5 Regarding Professional Efficiency Development – Veterinary Councils, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Professional Efficiency Development Scheme envisages establishing Veterinary Council of India (VCI) at the Centre and State Veterinary Councils in those States, which adopted the Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984. The Veterinary Council of India regulates veterinary practice in the country and maintains register of veterinary practitioners.

The Committee has been informed that in order to ensure that the State Governments establish State Veterinary Councils, the VCI is regularly impressing upon the authorities of States/UTs to constitute their veterinary councils. As a result of VCI efforts, 23 States/U.Ts have so far established their State/U.T Veterinary Councils as per the Act and the State of Jharkhand decided to adopt the Act.

The Committee have also been informed that there are 45,000 veterinarians registered with the Veterinary Council of India. There are around 8720 veterinary hospitals and about 17,820 dispensaries in the country.

Besides, about 25,437 Veterinary Aid Centres are also functioning. However, it is informed that in spite of the Veterinary Colleges producing qualified manpower, there exists a problem of their employment. The veterinarians are employed by the States and resource constraint affects the veterinary service provided.

Taking this into account, the Department has proposed slow privatisation of Veterinary Services in places where the Government is unable to provide Veterinary Services.

The Committee observe that trained manpower is pivotal to disease control and high quality productivity from the livestock sector. The Committee agree to the proposal of the Department to privatise veterinary services. However, the Veterinary Council of India should be empowered to monitor and regulate the functioning of the private veterinary service providers. The Committee desire that the Department should provide a detailed note on veterinary services infrastructure in rural areas containing the information on the services provided, the number of practitioners actually employed, the shortfall in employment, various animals covered, and the number of hospitals aid centres per district, State-wise”.

2.6 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“There are 8,720 veterinary hospitals, 17820 veterinary dispensaries and 25,433 veterinary aid centres/stockman centre/mobile dispensaries in the country. Of the 47,500 veterinaries registered in the Indian Veterinary Practitioners Register (IVPR), about 30,000 veterinary graduates/doctors are with the public sector to provide veterinary services in the country. Apart from this, about 70,000 para-veterinarians are also engaged in running the veterinary centres. The State wise break up of the veterinary institutions is given in the Table”.

State-wise details of Veterinary Institutions

S.No.	State/Union Territories	Veterinary Hospitals/Polyclinics	Veterinary Dispensaries	Veterinary Aid Centre/Stockmen Centre/Mobile Dispensaries
1.	Andhra Pradesh	304	1793	2879
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	93	189
3.	Assam	26	434	1213
4.	Bihar	29	428	1213

S.No.	State/Union Territories	Veterinary Hospitals/Polyclinics	Veterinary Dispensaries	Veterinary Aid Centre/Stockmen Centre/Mobile Dispensaries
5.	Chhattisgarh	208	703	34
6.	Goa	5	21	52
7.	Gujarat	14	478	589
8.	Haryana	620	864	776
9.	Himachal Pradesh	334	1520	14
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	303	1585	14
11.	Jharkhand	405	3	-
12.	Karnataka	294	1451	2029
13.	Kerala	260	833	26
14.	Madhya Pradesh	565	1742	72
15.	Maharashtra	43	1390	2113
16.	Manipur	55	101	29
17.	Meghalaya	4	65	153
18.	Mizoram	5	35	103
19.	Nagaland	4	27	127
20.	Orissa	13	527	2939
21.	Punjab	1375	1478	45
22.	Rajasthan	1437	285	1727
23.	Sikkim	12	25	58
24.	Tamil Nadu	167	922	2407
25.	Tripura	15	56	375
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1758	268	2289
27.	Uttarakhand	284	11	599
28.	West Bengal	110	612	3325
29.	A&N Islands	10	11	7
30.	Chandigarh	5	9	1
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	0	10
32.	Daman & Diu	0	2	3
33.	Delhi	49	27	1
34.	Lakshadweep	3	6	14
35.	Puducherry	2	15	8
	TOTAL	8270	17820	25433

Export of Livestock Product

(Recommendation No. 7)

2.7 Regarding Export of Livestock Products, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Committee have been informed that India ranks first in respect of cattle and buffaloes, second in goats, third in sheep and seventh in poultry population in the world. India is not a major player in the international trade of livestock products and India's share in the world trade of dairy products is 0.25 % and in case of meat and poultry it is 0.5 %. However, India's export of livestock products has increased over the last five years (in terms of value) from Rs.1500 crore in 2000-01 to around Rs.2253 crore in 2004-05. Buffalo meat constitutes the major export item with a value of Rs 1615 crore in 2004-05. Export value of milk products have increased from Rs.95 crore in 2000-01 to Rs 390 crore in 2004-05. Export value for sheep/ goat meat was Rs 79.36 crore and was Rs 154 crore in case of poultry products during 2004-05.

The Committee have also been informed that the control of diseases, especially the Foot and Mouth Disease, and adherence to the minimum residue limits of toxic elements and anti-biotics in meat are major factors to be tackled to boost export of livestock products. Along with this, the Department feels that allocation of enough financial resources can hugely increase the country's export potential.

The Committee note that the Department had no scheme to promote export of livestock products. However, it has been informed that the Department has formulated a new scheme, viz. Salvaging and Rearing of Male Buffalo calves which will be launched in the catchment areas of export oriented slaughter houses where individual farmers will be encouraged to rear male buffalo calves under assured buy-back arrangement and not allow them to die. At present eight million male buffalo calves are intentionally killed by starvation and neglect by farmers/dairies in the very first year of birth every year to save milk for feeding them.

The Committee lauds the initiative of the Department to provide backward linkages to produce raw material for export and thereby helping farmers to tap the huge potential of export in livestock products. It is expected that more such

schemes would be launched that can propel India to the top of world livestock exporters.

It is recommended that stringent adherence to quality norms in livestock products both national and international, may be ensured which is cardinal in finding market for our products”.

2.8 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“The Comments of the Committee have been noted for compliance”.

Tsunami Rehabilitation Package (TRP)

(Recommendation No. 11)

2.9 Regarding the *Tsunami Rehabilitation Package (TRP)*, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Committee note that the Tsunami Rehabilitation Package, covering all sectors for a period upto March 2009, originally amounted to Rs.9870.25 crore with an amount of Rs.1046.57 crore earmarked for the fisheries sector. The package was revised by the Planning Commission to Rs.9822.09 crore with Rs.797.20 crore for the fisheries sector. It has been informed that the revision has been effected taking into account the physical and financial absorption capacity and level of activity picked up by the NGOs and other private partners. An amount of Rs.262.64 crore has been spent till December 2006 under the TRP.

The Committee are surprised at the Government’s insensitivity in deriving new avenues for reducing allocations even to the most emergent of relief activities. The Committee fail to comprehend the reasons put forward for the reduction in funds to TRP. The Committee strongly feel that efforts put in by NGOs and other private partners should supplement the efforts of the Government and should not count as a reason to cut down the relief amount for TRP by the Government. Instead, more diverse relief activities should have been funded by the Government in the Tsunami affected areas.

The Committee further note that while one and a half years out of the four year period of the package have elapsed, out of Rs.162.82 crore allocated to Kerala, only Rs.22.30 crore was spent till December 2006. This amounts to only

13% of the total allocation. In case of Puducherry, of the total outlay of Rs.207.30 crore, only Rs.36.36 crore (17% of the total) was utilised till December 2006.

The Committee observe, in terms of pace of expenditure, that a lot of relief work needs to be done and many of the affected people are still waiting to get their share of the relief fund, which should be made available without any further delay. The Department should expeditiously ascertain and apprise the Committee of the specific reasons for slow pace of Tsunami Relief Package activities in Kerala, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Puducherry within three months of the presentation of this Report”.

2.10 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“The Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme (TRP) mainly consists of Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Programme (TRP) wherein assistance was provided for immediate relief, repair and replacement of craft & gear to bring the affected fishers into the main stream and a long term rehabilitation programme in terms of creating better infrastructure, training for value addition etc. So far as repair and replacement of craft and gear and immediate relief is concerned, it is almost completed except in Andaman & Nicobar where around 140 boats are yet to be supplied in some islands and this is expected to be completed by August, 2007. In case of long term rehabilitation programme so far as fisheries is concerned, emphasis is on construction of fish landing centres and livelihood support. The work is in progress in all the States and expected to be completed before the time schedule that is by March, 2009”.

National Fisheries Development Board

(Recommendation No. 12)

2.11 Regarding the National Fisheries Development Board, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Committee are happy to note that National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) has been set up recently with its Headquarters in Hyderabad to realise the untapped potential of fisheries sector in inland and marine fish capture, culture, processing and marketing fish, and over all growth of fisheries

sector with application of modern tools of research and development including biotechnology for optimising production and productivity from fisheries. It is noted that an allocation of Rs.151 crore for the year 2006-07 for National Fisheries Development Board was reduced to Rs. 30 crore due to late inauguration of the Board in the middle of the financial year, i.e., in September 2006.

It has been informed that the Board had to formulate detailed guidelines and release funds on receipt of proposals from the State Governments and other stakeholders on need basis which was a time consuming exercise. This resulted in funds to the tune of Rs.121 crore being diverted to the special package for suicide-prone districts and other schemes in the fisheries sector.

The Committee observe that the NFDB is designed to act as the nodal agency in fisheries development in the country and may have over arching influence in the implementation of the major schemes in the fisheries sector.

The Committee hope that during the next year the Department will present a much more encouraging report on the performance of the NFDB and more funds will be provided to make over the last year's deficiencies".

2.12 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

"The National Fisheries Development Board has formulated draft guidelines for major activities. The viable proposals are being sought from the implementing agencies including the State Governments. The Executive Committee in its meeting held on 05.06.2007 at Cochin has suggested some modification in the guidelines and directed the Board to take effective steps to attain this intended objective in a time bound manner. The interactive meeting with the states and other stakeholder is scheduled to be held at Bhopal in July 2007 to propagate reservoir fisheries. In the Executive Committee Meeting, it has been decided to hold meeting with NABARD and other Financial Institutions shortly to ensure adequate flow of institutional finance for the activities of the Board. It is expected that performance of the Board would pick up this year. In 2007-08, approval of Rs.100.00 crore has been made for the Board and would be enhanced after finalization of activity for the fisheries sector for the 11th Plan by the Planning Commission".

Subsidy to Poultry Industry

(Recommendation No. 15)

2.13 Regarding the Subsidy to Poultry Industry, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The outbreak of Avian Influenza in parts of Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh caused some panic in the country. The Committee have been informed that in view of the severe economic distress faced by the poultry industry due to the loss created by the outbreak, the Government of India announced a financial relief package of Rs.107 crore in 2006-07 including grant of one time interest subvention of 4 % for a period of one year on the outstanding principal amounts of loans availed by the poultry units as on March 31, 2006.

However, the Committee note that though the RBI has been provided initial requirement of Rs.80 crore for the package, for onward distribution to affected people through banking system, the remaining amount of Rs.27 crore demanded in the RE of 2006-07 has not been made available for release to RBI. The Committee may be intimated about the present status in this regard”.

2.14 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“In view of the severe economic distress faced by the poultry industry due to losses created by the outbreak of avian influenza in the country, Government of India announced a financial relief package of Rs.107.00 crore during the year 2006-07 for grant of one-time interest subvention of 4 per cent for a period of one year.

The Reserve Bank of India has been provided the initial requirement of Rs.80.00 crore for the package for onward distribution to affected people through banking systems. The remaining amount of Rs.27.00 crore demanded in RE of 2006-07 was released in the last week of March, 2007 and payment was made to Reserve Bank of India during 2006-07 itself”.

CHAPTER III

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

NIL

CHAPTER IV

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

Tenth Plan Allocation and Utilisation of funds

(Recommendation No. 1)

4.1 Regarding Tenth Plan Allocation and Utilisation of funds, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Committee note that though the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries was allocated Rs.2500 crore for the Tenth Plan, the actual allocation for the five Annual Plans during the Tenth Plan has been Rs.2439.00 crore. Assuming an expenditure of Rs.113 crore (15% of RE of Rs.750 crore) during March 2007, the Department claims a total expenditure of Rs. 2431 crore, which is 96% of the actual outlay of Rs.2439 crore.

In this scenario, the Department has utilised 51% of the actual allocation of Rs.2439 crore for the Tenth Plan during the last two years of the Plan period. The Committee observe with apprehension that such skewed expenditure pattern may dilute the intended results of the schemes/programmes implemented by the Department. From the information provided by the Department, the Committee further observe that timely commencement of Schemes would have enabled a more equitable expenditure of funds over the five year term of the Tenth Plan. If a scheme, envisaged for implementation through a period of five years, takes two years of the Plan period just to begin its functioning, the lag created would definitely impinge upon the output.

The Committee would, therefore, like to be informed of the specific measures adopted by the Department to prevent delayed implementation of Schemes from being repeated during the Eleventh Plan period. The Department may also apprise the Committee on the causes of delay in implementation in each scheme during the Tenth Plan period along with the effect, the delay has caused in the performance of the Schemes.

Another reason brought before the Committee for under-utilisation of funds is non-production of utilisation certificates by the States. The Committee may be apprised of the details of outstanding utilisation certificates, the monitoring mechanism for the funds released to States and action taken, if any,

in case of non-production of utilisation certificates. It is felt that failure to get utilisation certificates and the accumulation of unspent balance could become a vicious cycle of underutilisation of funds, if not addressed emergently.

Going through the figures of allocation of resources to the Department in proportion to the total Central Plan Outlay and Budgetary Resources over five years of the Tenth Plan and the Annual Plan for 2007-08, the Committee found that the allocation has either decreased or remained stagnant. The Committee wonders how the proposed overall growth of 6-7% per annum for sector as a whole (5% per annum in milk, 10% per annum in meat and poultry sectors) during the Eleventh Plan can be achieved, if Plan allocation to the Department remains stagnant. The Department is right in its argument that diminished budgetary allocation over the years has been the stumbling block that prevented them from performing to the full. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the allocation to the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries may be increased to sufficient levels so that the targets under different schemes are not downsized due to resource crunch”.

4.2 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“The delay in implementation of some of the schemes during the Tenth Plan was mainly caused by the elaborate exercise involved in getting the scheme(s) approved by various appraisal agencies and the Cabinet. All possible steps are being taken to avoid the delay in implementation of the schemes during the Eleventh Plan. Appropriate steps have also been initiated for seeking necessary approvals for the new schemes, though the Eleventh Plan outlay is yet to be communicated by the Planning Commission.

A statement showing the status of scheme wise/state wise unspent balance as on 1st April, 2007 is given in the Table below. In case of non-receipt of utilisation certificates, further releases are not made to the concerned State Governments/State Implementing Agencies. This has been suggested by the Hon’ble Supreme Court in one of the cases. Review meetings at the level of Minister/Secretary are frequently held to monitor the implementation of the schemes. The concerned Divisional Heads and the scheme officers review the physical and financial progress of the schemes regularly during their field visits and also through video conferencing.

The Department appreciates the concern of the Hon'ble Committee regarding diminished budgetary allocation and has taken up the matter with the Planning Commission seeking an enhancement in the Annual Plan outlay for 2007-08".

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Unspent Balance as on 01.04.2007 (Rs. In lakh)
1	National Project for Cattle & Buffalo Breeding	10301.12
2	Assistance to States for Feed & Fodder Development	3556.74
3	Assistance to State Poultry/Duck Farms	2783.35
4	Livestock Census	3059.61
5	Integrated Sample Survey	908.88
6	Livestock Insurance	6031.21
7	Conservation of Threatened Livestock Breeds	684.68
8	Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases	2695.84
9	National Project on Rinderpest Eradication	309.04
10	Professional Efficiency Development	237.87
11	Foot & Mouth Disease Control Programme	172.58
12	Modernisation of Slaughter Houses	1686.48
13	Assistance to States for Integrated Piggery Development	405.18
14	Intensive Dairy Development Programme	4421.15
15	Strengthening of Infrastructure for Quality & Clean Milk Production	4218.27
16	Assistance to Cooperatives	1042.74
17	Strengthening of Database & Information Networking for Fisheries	500.41
18	Development of Inland Fisheries & Aquaculture	2519.43
19	Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure & Post Harvest Operations	5268.26
20	Welfare Programme for Fishermen	2097.32
21	Training & Extension including HRD	206.66
	Total	53106.82

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

4.3 For comments of the Committee please refer to Paragraph No.1.7 of Chapter-I of the Report.

Livestock Insurance

(Recommendation No. 3)

4.4 Regarding Livestock Insurance, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“Livestock Insurance, a centrally sponsored scheme, has been formulated with the twin objective of providing protection mechanism to the farmers and cattle rearers against any eventual loss of their animals due to death and demonstrating the benefit of the insurance of livestock to the people in order to popularise rearing of improved animals leading to the ultimate goal of attaining qualitative improvement in livestock and their products.

The Scheme is being implemented on a pilot basis as a part of the Common Minimum Programme of the Government during the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 of the 10th Five Year Plan in 100 selected districts across the country with an approved outlay of Rs. 120.00 crore. Under the Scheme, crossbred and high yielding cattle and buffaloes are being insured at maximum of their current market value. Only 50 percent of premium of the insurance is to be paid by the beneficiary, while the rest of entire cost of subsidy is being borne by the Central Government. The Government is providing subsidy for a maximum of two animals per beneficiary for a policy of a maximum of three years.

The Committee have been informed that the launch of the scheme, already delayed due to belated approval from the CCEA, was further delayed by preparatory procedures and could be launched only from the beginning of the financial year 2006-07. It is beyond the comprehension of the Committee why such delays cannot be avoided. Though the Committee has commented upon such delays several times in the past, the Committee reiterate their displeasure at the delays that occur in the launch and completion of schemes.

It has also been informed that the initial feed back on the scheme suggests that though the response of the farmers has been encouraging, paying 50% of the premium is too high for the poor farmers and is proving to be an impediment in the acceptability of the scheme. In view of this, the Committee

reiterate their earlier recommendation that the premium to be paid by the beneficiaries under the scheme may be reduced from 50% to 25% and that the scheme should be implemented in all parts of the country. The Committee also recommend that 100% subsidy may be provided to people who belong to Below Poverty Line and SC/ST communities. The Department should also consider including cattle of domestic breed under the livestock insurance scheme along with cross breed cattle/buffalo. The Committee would like to be apprised of the feedback once the pilot project of the scheme is completed”.

4.5 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“The Livestock Insurance Scheme was approved by EFC for implementation during the period 2005-06 to 2008-09 on pilot basis in 100 districts so that sufficient experience and knowledge is gained for its implementation in the entire country in its extended form. The CCEA approved the scheme in February, 2006 for implementing it on pilot basis during 2005-06 and 2006-07 of the 10th Plan. Thus, the scheme was implemented only for about 13 months only. This short period of implementation of the scheme was not enough to give sufficient experience and knowledge to take up the scheme on extended form in entire country. Also the implementation of the scheme in entire country in extended form will require fresh approval of the EFC and the CCEA, which may take lot of time. Discontinuation of the scheme for long period would hamper the momentum generated and also might affect the credibility of the scheme before the public. In view of these, a proposal of extending the scheme in the existing form during the first two years of the 11th Five year Plan is under consideration.

Based on the experiences gained and assessment of the impact of the Livestock Insurance Scheme, Government will consider implementing the scheme in the entire country during 2009-10 and beyond. While preparing the scheme for its implementation during 2009-10 and beyond, various suggestions of the Parliamentary Standing Committee will be incorporated in the note for EFC and the CCEA for approval.

Till date, about 4.6 lakh animals have been insured under the pilot project with an estimated expenditure of Rs.20.77 crore. About 1750 claim cases have been settled with an estimated expenditure of Rs.2.38 crore during the pilot period”.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

4.6 For comments of the Committee please refer to Paragraph No.1.10 of Chapter-I of the Report.

Dairy Sector

(Recommendation No. 8)

4.7 Regarding Dairy Sector, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Committee have been informed that India’s milk output during 2005-06 reached the level of 97.1 million tonnes (provisional) and is estimated to reach 100 million tonnes in 2006-07. Dairying has become an important secondary source of income for million of rural families and has assumed the crucial role of employment and income generation. The per capita availability of milk is expected to reach 245 grams per day in 2006-07 compared to the world average of 265 grams per day. While it is noted that India has 15% of world’s cattle population and 57% of buffalo population of the world and is the world’s leading milk producer of the world, the productivity of animals which is much lower than the world average is a matter of unnerving concern. While the world average is about 2050 litres per lactation, India’s average hovers around a thousand litres. The Committee observe that nothing else can vouch for the scope of improvement in the Dairy Sector. Genetic improvement, disease control and fodder development have been noted as the major initiatives of the Department in this direction.

During the examination of the DFG, the Committee noted that the Department have been able to utilise only Rs.264.21 crore which is 73.40% of the total Tenth Plan outlay of Rs.360 crore for Dairy Sector. The Department have informed that the under performance of the schemes IDDP and Assistance to Cooperatives caused the under spending of funds. Later on, the under-utilisation was ascribed to the Assistance to Cooperatives only. The Department have assured that effective steps would be taken to fully utilise the budget provisions for the year 2007-08 under the four dairy development schemes.

The Committee also note that while the Department sought an allocation of Rs.136 crore, only Rs.88.50 crore has been allocated for the year 2007-08. The Department expressed that the schemes Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital fund, Dairy Development Programme and Strengthening of Infrastructure for Quality and Clean milk production may be affected by the depleted allocation of funds by

the Planning Commission. The Committee desire that along with financial prudence, the output of schemes and the benefit to the targeted sectors may also be taken into account while determining the outlays. They, therefore, recommend that the allocation to schemes that have met the fixed targets in the past year may be enhanced, so that their better performance continue in future also”.

4.8 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“The Scheme Assistance to Cooperatives was started during the year 1999-2000 during the 9th Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs.150 crore. The Scheme is being implemented on 50:50 sharing basis between Government of India and State Government. Due to limited time period left during 9th Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs.35.00 crore was spent against the year wise total budget allocation of Rs.56 crore with 62.5% utilization as indicated below:

(Rs. In Lakh)

Year	Budget Estimate	Actual expenditure
1999-2000	1600.00	380.00
2000-2001	2500.00	1700.00
2001-2002	1500.00	1420.00
Total	5600.00	3500.00

The Scheme was continued during 10th Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs.130.00 crore. Out of Rs.130 crore, an expenditure of Rs.39.14 crore was made during the 10th Five Year Plan. The year-wise details of budget provisions provided and expenditure incurred under the Scheme are as under:

(Rs. In Lakh)

Year	Budget Estimate	Actual expenditure
2002-03	1500.00	1665.24
2003-04	900.00	271.00
2004-05	1500.00	981.50
2005-06	1000.00	546.50
2006-07	500.00	450.00
Total	5400.00	3914.24

From the above table, it may be noted that a total sum of Rs.39.14 crore was utilized against the total year-wise allocation of Rs.54.00 crore, which works out to 72.48%.

The scheme is likely to be continued during the 11th Five Year Plan. A sum of Rs.50.00 crore has been proposed in the 11th Five Year Plan, which is yet to be finalized by the Planning Commission”.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

4.9 For comments of the Committee please refer to Paragraph No.1.18 of Chapter-I of the Report.

Assistance to Cooperatives

(Recommendation No. 9)

4.10 Regarding the Scheme ‘Assistance to Cooperatives’, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Committee note that the Central Sector scheme “Assistance to Cooperatives”, started during 1999-2000, aims at revitalizing the sick dairy cooperative unions at the district level and cooperative federations at the State level. The rehabilitation Plan is prepared by NDDB in consultation with the concerned State Dairy Federation/District Milk Union. The maximum assistance of grant is limited to the minimum amount required so that the net flow becomes positive within 7 years. The Department has approved 31 rehabilitation proposals of milk unions from various States.

The Committee also note that out of the total approved Tenth Plan outlay of Rs. 130 crore for the scheme, the Department has released only Rs.38.69 crore till March 18, 2007, which is about 30% of the total outlay. The reasons put forward for the huge under-utilization of funds are (i) the scheme is purely demand driven, (ii) viable proposals were not available and (iii) inability/delay on part of the State Government to release 50% of their matching share.

As the Committee recommended in their 20th report (2006-07), the Government need to review the sharing mechanism between the Central and State Governments from 50:50 basis to 90:10 or at least 75:25 basis for more pro-active participation for the State Governments as recommended in a study made by National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE). Considering the fact that the Scheme ‘Assistance to Cooperatives’ has been under-performing since its inception, the Committee recommend immediate action to restructure the scheme and produce a turn-around in performance. The progress made in this regard may be apprised in due course to the Committee”.

4.11 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“The outlay for the Tenth Plan for the Central Sector Scheme ‘Assistance to Cooperatives’ was Rs.130.00 crore. The Department has made an expenditure of Rs.39.14 crore, against year-wise total allocation of Rs.54.00 crore, which works out to 72.48%.

The reasons for under utilization of funds during 10th Five Year Plan are as under:

- i) The scheme is purely demand driven.
- ii) It has not been possible to assist as many cooperatives as envisaged earlier because of non-availability of viable proposals.
- iii) Delay in release of matching share by the concerned State Government to the milk union.

The Department had entrusted the evaluation study of the scheme ‘Assistance to Cooperatives’ to National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, an autonomous organization under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. MANAGE has recently submitted its final report. The recommendations made by the evaluation agency are being examined in consultation with Planning Commission for revision of the scheme and efforts will be made to seek higher allocation during the 11th Five Year Plan under the scheme.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

4.12 For comments of the Committee please refer to Paragraph No.1.18 of Chapter-I of the Report.

CHAPTER V

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

Special Package for Suicide-prone Districts

(Recommendation No. 6)

5.1 Regarding Special Package for Suicide-prone Districts, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Committee have been informed that a number of districts in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala have seen higher incidence of suicide by farmers due to economic distress. There are 31 such identified districts (16 in Andhra Pradesh, 6 in Maharashtra, 6 in Karnataka and 3 in Kerala). In order to provide economic relief to the farming population in these districts, the Department is implementing a special livestock and fisheries sector package since August, 2006.

During the year 2007-08, an allocation of Rs.170 crore has been made for the Special Package. The Committee have been informed that the package involves an investment of Rs.698 crore over a period of three years, commencing from 2006-07. While an amount of Rs.510.79 crore will be provided as budgetary support, the balance of Rs.187.21 crore is to be made available by way of bank credit.

However, the Committee are perturbed to note that while the requirement for 2007-08 is pegged at Rs.169.70 crore the Department could get only Rs.30 crore in the first batch of supplementary grants of 2006-07 for implementing the package. As a result, funds had to be diverted from other schemes. In the opinion of the Committee, diversion of funds from schemes that are already resource starved could adversely affect their performance. Though the Special Package for Suicide-Prone Districts is very much welcomed, it is felt that sourcing of funds should not have been by compromising funds from other schemes. The Committee would like to be apprised of the details of schemes from which funds have been diverted for the Special Package and the adverse impact it had on the performance of such schemes.

The Committee have been informed that the funds under this package are released on receipt of specific proposals from the concerned States and that the States have informed that they would be able to utilize only 50% of the

earmarked funds in the current year due to the time involved in identification of the beneficiaries and inadequate availability of milch animals. The Department could release only Rs.71 crore till December, 2006.

The Committee are dismayed to note that even after such grave situation of farmers getting driven to the extreme step of committing suicide, a basic activity like identification of beneficiaries of the scheme is taking time and causing 50% under-utilisation of the allocated funds. It is felt that such apathy is shocking and, therefore, the committee strongly recommend that the Department should take immediate steps to hasten up the process of identifying the beneficiaries under the schemes. The Department should also ensure that good quality milch animals and calves, along with adequate feed and fodder, are provided to the affected farmers at the earliest. Milk chilling plants should also be established urgently. It is also highly desirable that, if not already set up, a stringent monitoring and assessment mechanism headed by the Secretary to the Department may be put in place to evaluate the performance of the scheme.

The Committee shall be apprised of the action taken in this regard within three months of the presentation of this report”.

5.2 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“CCEA had sanctioned Rs.169.70 crore for the year 2006-07 for implementing the special package for which the Department was to get an additional allocation of Rs.133.62 crore during 2006-07. Subsequently an amount of Rs.30 crore was provided as first supplementary for the purpose of special package with an advise to forward the proposals to the Ministry of Finance for re-appropriation from existing provision to meet the balance amount. It was further stated by Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) vide their OM 4(14)-B(CDN)-2006 dated 29th August, 2006 that the requirement for additional funds will be provided at RE stage. However, at the RE stage the Plan allocation which was Rs.777.00 crore, excluding the additional Rs.30.00 crore, was fixed at Rs.750.00 crore without giving any additional allocation for special package. Reason being, there was huge saving of Rs.121.00 crores in the allocation of National Fisheries Development Board and also State governments had expressed their inability to utilize not more than 50% of the amount earmarked for the special package. Since 5 out of 8 components of the special package

were ongoing schemes, funds were accordingly released to existing schemes without adversely affecting the resources meant for regular programmes.

The Department finally released around Rs.90.00 crore for livestock special package till 31 March, 2007. However, except for the State of Maharashtra, which was implementing a parallel programme before, other States are still lagging behind in the process of identifying beneficiaries and milch animals. All the four States have been asked to speed up implementation and meetings were taken even at the level of Minister for Agriculture. As 2006-07 was the first year of the plan, there were operational difficulties at the level of State Government and States have not utilized even the released amount on time”.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

5.3 For comments of the Committee please refer to Paragraph No.1.13 of Chapter-I of the Report.

Delhi Milk Scheme

(Recommendation No. 10)

5.4 Regarding the Delhi Milk Scheme, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Committee have been informed that the Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) was established to provide reasonably priced milk and milk products to the Delhi consumer. From the initial installed capacity of 2.55 lakh litres per day, the capacity of DMS now stands at 5 lakh litres per day. The Committee is happy to note that DMS has been awarded ISO and HACCP (Hazard Analysis & Critical Control Point) certifications of quality and food safety. The current market share of DMS is 7 to 8 per cent.

However, it is pathetic to note that out of the 45 lakh litres of milk sold in Delhi everyday, DMS manages only a meagre 2.5 lakh litres. Further, during the year 2006-07, the production & sales targets for milk, ghee and butter have not been achieved and considerable gaps separate targets from achievements. The reason assigned has been drought/flood in the States of Rajasthan and Gujarat during 2006-07 resulting in fall in milk production and the consequent under-procurement by DMS.

The Committee have further been informed that the Cabinet has accorded ‘in principle’ approval for corporatisation of DMS and the process of

appointing an agency to chalk out a comprehensive plan of corporatisation within a year, has been set rolling.

The Committee recommend that the process of appointment of the agency to chalk out the plan for corporatisation of DMS be expedited and a time frame should be fixed for preparing a plan for corporatisation of DMS which should be strictly adhered to and the interests of the employees as well as the consumers of Delhi be kept in mind while finally corporatising the DMS”.

5.5 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“The surveillance audits pertaining to continuity of ISO and HACCP (Hazard Analysis & Critical Control Point) Certifications are being regularly carried out at DMS by the accredited international certifying agency as a result of which DMS is able to supply safe, hygienically produced and certified milk and milk products to the consumers of NCT of Delhi.

For procurement of Raw Milk, Skimmed Milk Power & White Butter for the year 2007-08 as per requirement, the following action has been taken:

- i) DMS has finalised the milk procurement agreements for a quantity of 69,000 Kg raw milk per day with State Dairy Federations of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh up to December, 2007.
- ii) DMS has also finalized agreements with two numbers of Cooperative Societies/Milk Producers Companies on terms & conditions at par with State Dairy Federations upto 31.03.2008.
- iii) Apart from the above, M/s Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation has assured DMS that they will continue to supply 36,000 Kgs of milk per day on adhoc basis as was done by them during the year 2006.
- iv) M/s Rajasthan Krishi Avam Dugdha Utpadak Sahkari Samiti Ltd., Bikaner, Rajasthan (RKDJUSS) is also supplying around 10,000 kgs., of milk per day.
- v) DMS has purchased 1,000 MT of SMP in the month of April, 2007 and 1000 MT in May, 2007 to meet the requirement of milk.

By making above arrangements DMS will be able to meet its production and sales targets for milk, ghee and butter for the year 2007-08.

With regard to action taken on the issue of corporatisation of DMS, it is stated that action for appointment of an agency to chalk out the plan for corporatisation of DMS is under process.

Global Warming

(Recommendation No. 13)

5.6 Regarding the Global Warming, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The Committee observe that the effects of the phenomenon of global warming have begun to manifest as unexpected oscillations in temperature, vagaries in rainfall pattern and other climatic changes. The recently published report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) constituted by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the United Nations Programme on Environment (UNEP) has also painted a cautioning picture regarding the possible effects of global warming.

The Committee recommend that the Department initiate studies to determine the possible effects of global warming on different breeds of livestock and fisheries sector of the country and take effective measures to counter them”.

5.7 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“The Global Warming is a universal phenomenon and Government is aware of various reports. The Fishery Survey of India conducts resource assessment survey periodically and no visible impact as such on marine resources has been observed so far. However, the necessary studies to know the impact of global warming would be taken up in the near future.

The effect of global warming on different livestock and poultry sectors might be assessed from the distribution of different livestock breeds in the country and also the impact of it on different inputs like availability of feed & fodder etc. and outputs like milk and egg production through analysis of time series data. In the 18th Livestock Census to be conducted in October, 2007, a provision for input output surveys as a part of the Livestock Census has been kept. The purpose of these surveys is to bridge the data gaps in animal husbandry sector. A special study to determine the possible effects of global warming on different breeds of livestock and fisheries sector could be taken up as a part of Input-Output Surveys after completion of the 18th Livestock Census”.

New Schemes of the Department during Eleventh Plan

(Recommendation No. 14)

5.8 Regarding the New Schemes of the Department during Eleventh Plan, the Committee have recommended as under:-

“The committee have been informed that the Department proposes to implement ten new Schemes during the Eleventh Plan period. However the Committee observe that in the budget estimates for 2007-08, only a token allocation of Rs.1 lakh each has been provided for these schemes. The Committee feel that providing such minuscule allocation during the year of inception predisposes delay in the implementation of the schemes. It is a lacuna in the planning process that the finalisation of schemes and their allocations is not done at the beginning of the first financial year of the Plan. Rather the schemes should be finalised in advance of the next Five Year Plan. Some of the new schemes are given below:-

- (a) Establishment/Modernisation of Rural Slaughter Houses, including Mobile Slaughter Plants.

The Committee are informed that the implementation of this scheme aims at catering to the 10% targeted increase in meat availability during the Eleventh Plan. Slaughterhouses in rural areas will be established/modernised in Public-Private-Partnership. It is a scheme to serve the domestic markets and hence Bureau of Indian Standards norms for hygienic meat production will be adhered to.

The Committee would like be apprised of detailed project report prepared if any, and the time by which the scheme will become operational.

- (b) Rural Backyard Poultry Development Scheme

The scheme, originally proposed under the 'National Project for Improvement of Poultry and Small Animals' during 2005-06, is aimed at improvement of employment and income generation of the poor rural families, particularly women who are outside the commercial poultry sector. Under the scheme, Mother Units run by NGOs will rear the chicks for the first six weeks and provide them to the beneficiary families

for backyard rearing. The families will be further assisted with feed, medicines and vaccines for a few batches.

The Committee may be apprised of the progress made towards implementation of the scheme and the date of commencement. The Committee fail to understand the logic of making a token provision of Rs. One lakh for a scheme, which was proposed for clearance in 2005-06. The Committee desire to know the reasons for the inordinate delay in implementation of the scheme. The Department may also inform if any particular region/States have been identified for launching the scheme depending on the demand of poultry products. The Committee recommend that necessary measures may be adopted to take care of the marketing needs for effective implementation of the Scheme.

(c) Establishment of Poultry Estates

The Committee have been informed that the scheme will follow Cluster Approach to facilitate backward and forward linkages in States that do not have adequate egg or broiler production to meet their demands. It has also been informed that the Department estimates an outlay of Rs.1,000 crore during the Eleventh Plan period to establish 20 Poultry Estates under the Scheme.

The Committee would like to be apprised of the measures taken to ensure that the individual poultry farmers getting associated with Poultry Estates get fair returns for their contributions and do not get exploited by the wholesale dealers or integrators.

(d) Utilisation of Fallen Animals

The Committee are informed that the objective of the scheme is to gainfully utilise the huge number of animals dying their natural death by recovering hides, skin and leather production of meat-cum-bone meal, production of gelatine and tallow, use of horns, etc.

The Committee feel that the scheme should not be restricted to the currently identified States of Bihar, Haryana, Punjab, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal only, and should be implemented throughout the country. The Committee may be informed of the progress made towards the implementation of the scheme as the approach paper was to be submitted by 30 March, 2007".

5.9 The Government, in their Action Taken Reply, have stated as follows:

“(a) Establishment/Modernisation of Rural Slaughter Houses, including Mobile Slaughter Plants.

On the basis of a detailed study of the requirement of slaughter houses in the country, actual working of those already in existence in various parts of the country, both being run by the Government and in the private sector, and visit to some of these slaughter houses, a comprehensive approach paper on the establishment of rural slaughter houses in the country has been prepared. This approach paper makes out a case of establishment of at least 200 slaughter houses capable of handling 100 large animals/200 small animals per day. A justification has also been made out for utilization 200 structures already created but which remain unutilised for being run as slaughter houses by private entrepreneurs. The approach paper also envisages creation of facilities for utilization of by products and solid waste, which presently is not utilized resulting in loss of economic value. It has been estimated that each newly established slaughter house will employ around 50 persons. Apart from the newly created slaughter houses, the employment creation will also extend to the existing units substantial increase in employment by way of opportunities emerging in trade and input supplies. While contours of the proposed scheme are ready, it cannot be further progressed unless Central Plan allocation for the 11th Plan to the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is known. This is yet to be finalized by the Planning Commission. The department will need to balance the competing demands of various schemes and take a total view as to the extent of funds that can be set apart for this new scheme.

(b) Rural Backyard Poultry Development Scheme

This component originally proposed under the new macro scheme 'National Project for Improvement of Poultry & Small Animals' is aimed at improving employment and income generation of poor rural families, particularly women who are outside the commercial poultry sector. In this macro scheme, five other component schemes have been included. Comments from various appraisal agencies have been received for all components and is under progress for necessary approval.

As this proposed programme was only one of the six components under the macro management scheme, approval in totality was sought for the entire project, which is still awaited. Anticipating approval of the scheme, a token provision of Rs.1.00 lakh was made during 2005-06 with a view to create an account for the scheme.

The scheme is proposed to be implemented in all the States/Uts. Necessary measures have been incorporated in the scheme to take care of the marketing needs for effective implementation of the scheme.

(c) Establishment of Poultry Estates

A scheme 'Establishment of Poultry Estates' for cluster approach to facilitate backward and forward linkages in estates that do not have adequate egg or broiler production to meet their demands is under conceptual stage.

Appropriate measures have been taken care of in the proposal of the scheme. The farmers/entrepreneurs will have a democratic way in the organizational set up in the form of a society at local level to monitor the progress and welfare. In turn, a Central Monitoring Committee headed by Joint Secretary will monitor the progress of the scheme as well as the welfare of the individual farmers ensuring that the individual farmers are well associated with the poultry estates and get fair returns for their contributions.

(d) Utilisation of Fallen Animals

The approach paper in regard to the proposed scheme 'Utilisation of Fallen Animals' has already been finalized. It envisages establishment of carcass utilisation centres, involving hide flaying, gainful utilisation of bones, solid waste, horns and hooves, training of flayers and processors as also provision of life insurance coverage to persons engaged in these activities. It has been assessed that implementation of the scheme will result in recovery of additional 4.8 lakhs raw hides and skins which translates into 18.96 lakh square meters of hides and skins by 2011-12. Further, it will generate additional employment of nearly 10,000 people, mainly poorest of the poor in the SC/ST category, in rural areas of the country. It will be possible to submit the proposed scheme for consideration of the appraisal agencies after the Planning Commission intimates the 11th Plan allocation to the Department. The suggestion of the Committee that the scheme should be implemented throughout the country has been noted".

**NEW DELHI;
27 November, 2007
6 Agrahayana, 1929 (Saka)**

**PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Agriculture**

APPENDIX- I

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE HELD ON TUESDAY, THE 27TH NOVEMBER, 2007 AT 1500 HRS. IN COMMITTEE ROOM, 'B', GROUND FLOOR, PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI

The Committee sat from 1500 hrs. to 1620 hrs.

PRESENT

Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav – Chairman

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Anil Basu
3. Shri Manoranjan Bhakta
4. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava
5. Shri Deepender Singh Hooda
6. Shri Hari Rama Jogaiah
7. Shri Prabodh Panda
8. Shri K.J.S.P. Reddy
9. Shri M.P.Veerendra Kumar

RAJYA SABHA

10. Shri Harish Rawat
11. Shri Sharad Anantrao Joshi
12. Prof. M.S.Swaminathan

SECRETARIAT

1.	Shri A.K.Singh	-	Joint Secretary
2.	Shri Raj Kumar	-	Deputy Secretary
3.	Shri N.S.Hooda	-	Deputy Secretary
4.	Ms. Amita Walia	-	Under Secretary

At the outset, the Hon'ble Chairman, welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and requested them to take up the following Memoranda on draft Action Taken Reports on Demands for Grants(2006-07) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Food Processing Industries for consideration and adoption:-

- (1) Memorandum No. 2 regarding draft Action Taken Report on the recommendations contained in the 27th Report on Demands for Grants (2007-08) in respect of Ministry of Agriculture (Deptt. of Agriculture and Co-operation)
 - (2) Memorandum No. 3 regarding draft Action Taken Report on the recommendations contained in the 28th Report on Demands for Grants (2007-08) in respect of Ministry of Agriculture (Deptt. of Agricultural Research and Education)
 - (3) Memorandum No. 4 regarding draft Action Taken Report on the recommendations contained in the 29th Report on Demands for Grants (2007-08) in respect of Ministry of Agriculture (Deptt. of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries); and
 - (4) Memorandum No. 5 regarding draft Action Taken Report on the recommendations contained in the 30th Report on Demands for Grants (2007-08) in respect of Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
2. The Committee considered and adopted the draft action Taken Reports with minor modifications.
 3. The Committee then authorized the Chairman to finalise and present the above-mentioned Reports to both Houses of Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX II

(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE TWENTY NINTH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (14TH LOK SABHA)

(i)	Total number of Recommendations	15
(ii)	Recommendations/Observations which have been Accepted by the Government	
	Serial Nos. 2, 4, 5, 7, 11, 12 and 15	
	Total	7
	Percentage	46.66%
(iii)	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee Do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	
	Total	NIL
	Percentage	0%
(iv)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	
	Serial Nos. 1, 3, 8 and 9	
	Total	4
	Percentage	26.67%
(v)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Final replies of the Government are still awaited	
	Serial Nos. 6, 10, 13 and 14	
	Total	4
	Percentage	26.67%