



**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2020-2021)**

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

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

'DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2019-20)'

**Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained
in the Fifth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on
Agriculture (2019-20)**

SIXTEENTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
FEBRUARY 2021/MAGHA, 1942 (SAKA)**

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Agriculture (2019-20)**

Presented to Lok Sabha on	11.02.2021
Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on	11.02.2021



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
FEBRUARY 2021/MAGHA, 1942 (SAKA)

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (2019-20)

Shri Parvatagouda Chandanagouda Gaddigoudar- Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Afzal Ansari
3. Shri Horen Sing Bey
4. Shri Devendra Singh 'Bhole'
5. Shri A. Ganeshamurthi
6. Shri Kanakmal Katara
7. Shri Abu Taher Khan
8. Shri Bhagwanth Khuba
9. Dr. Amol Ramsing Kolhe
10. Shri Mohan Mandavi
11. Shri Devji Mansingram Patel
12. Smt. Shardaben Anilbhai Patel
13. Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao Patil
14. Smt. Navneet Ravi Rana
15. Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut
16. Shri Pocha Brahmananda Reddy
17. Shri Mohammad Sadique
18. Shri Virendra Singh
19. Shri V.K. Sreekandan
20. Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav
21. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

22. Shri Partap Singh Bajwa
23. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa
- #24. Shri Harivansh
25. Shri Narayan Rane
26. Shri Kailash Soni
27. Shri Vaiko
28. Shri R. Vaithilingam
29. Smt. Chhaya Verma
30. Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav
31. Shri Harnath Singh Yadav

Nominated to this Committee w.e.f. 22.07.2020 vide CB-1 Note dated 24.07.2020.

COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (2020-21)

Shri Parvatagouda Chandanagouda Gaddigoudar- Chairperson

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12. Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao Patil
13. Shri Shriniwaas Dadasaheb Patil
14. Shri Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu
15. Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut
16. Shri Pocha Brahmananda Reddy
17. Shri Mohammad Sadique
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26. Shri Vaiko
27. Shri R. Vaithilingam
28. Smt. Chhaya Verma
- @29. Shri B.L. Verma
30. Shri Harnath Singh Yadav
- *31. VACANT

* vice Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav ceased to be a Member of the Committee on his retirement from Rajya Sabha w.e.f 25.11.2020 vide CB-I Note dated 06.10.2020.

@vice Shri B.L. Verma, MP Rajya Sabha has been nominated to the Committee as Member w.e.f 23.12.2020 vide Bulletin Part-II No. 1835 dated 24.12.2020

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1. | Shri Shiv Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Dr. Vatsala J. Pande | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Nagender Singh | - | Executive Officer |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture (2020-21), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Sixteenth Report on action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fifth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2019-20) on 'Demands for Grants (2019-20)' pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry And Dairying (Department of Fisheries).

2. The Fifth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2019-20) on 'Demands for Grants (2019-20)' pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry And Dairying (Department of Fisheries) was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 12 December, 2019. The Action Taken Notes on the Report were received on 22.04.2020

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 09.02.2021.

4. An Analysis of the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fifth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in **Appendix**.

NEW DELHI;
09 February, 2021
20 Magha, 1942(Saka)

P.C. GADDIGOUDAR
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture

CHAPTER-I

DRAFT REPORT

This Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture deals with the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fifth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2019-2020) on “Demands for Grants (2019-20) pertaining to Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) which was presented to Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 12.12.2019.

1.2 The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) has furnished Action Taken Replies in respect of all the 10 Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report. These replies have been categorized as under:

- | | | |
|-------|--|---|
| (i) | Observations/Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government: | |
| | Recommendation Nos. 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 | Chapter- II
Total- 07 |
| (ii) | Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government’s reply: | |
| | Recommendation No. NIL | Chapter- III
Total- 00 |
| (iii) | Observations/Recommendations in respect of which Action Taken Replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee: | |
| | Recommendation No. 1, 4, 9 | Chapter- IV
Total- 03 |
| (iv) | Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited: | |
| | Recommendation No. NIL | Chapter- V
Total- 00 |

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 reasons for non-implementation. The Committee desire that further Action Taken Notes on the Observations / Recommendations contained in Chapter-I 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. CREATION OF A NEW DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

RECOMMENDATION (PARA NO.1)

1.5 The Committee had observed/ recommended:-

The Committee note that the Government of India has created a separate Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying in year 2019 and Department of Fisheries under Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying came into existence on 17.06.2019. The Committee appreciate this initiative of the Central Government. The Committee are of view that fisheries is an under-exploited Sector having huge potential for job creation in fishing as well as Food Processing Industries based on Fisheries. The Committee hope that newly created Department of Fisheries to shift their focus for drafting a policy for fully exploiting the potential of Marine, Inland and Aquaculture Fisheries. The Committee also recommend the Government to identify the gap in legislation which hinders optimum utilization of potential of Fisheries Sector in the Country and to introduce the requisite Bills to Parliament for this purpose.

1.6 In its Action Taken Reply, the Department has stated:-

The Department of Fisheries has formulated 'The National Fisheries Policy, 2020 by integrating the following policies viz., (i) National Policy on Marine Fisheries, 2017 (ii) Draft National Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy (iii) Draft National Mariculture Policy and (iv) Elements of policy on post-harvest processing and marketing of fish and fisheries products. The draft National Fisheries Policy document along with Draft Note for Cabinet has been circulated for comments and the Draft National Fisheries Policy has also been uploaded in the website of the Department, for wider consultation. The Draft Note for Cabinet will be finalized subsequent to consultation process.

The Blue Revolution targets to harness the full productivity potential and focuses on supply of quality fish seeds through setting up of brood banks and hatcheries, quality feed at affordable rates to fish farmers, species diversifications, induced breeding, adoption of technologies, management of aquatic diseases, marketing support, accreditation of fish seed hatcheries, skill up-gradation of fish farmers and fisheries entrepreneurs. Cage culture in reservoirs, reservoir-stocking and adopting conservation measures, promotion of capture fisheries, skill up-gradation etc. are also some of the focused activities being taken up under the Blue Revolution Scheme. The Blue Revolution Scheme further focuses on effective utilization of other resources such as inland water bodies, floodplain lakes and wetlands, irrigation canals, saline and waterlogged areas to mainstream their contribution in fish production.

1.7 The Committee acknowledge that keeping in mind the huge growth potential of Fisheries Sector and its role in improving lives of millions of poor and vulnerable fishermen of the country, the Government have decided to create to new dedicated Department to harness full potential of this Sector. The Committee had desired that this newly created Department of Fisheries to shift their focus for drafting a policy for fully exploiting the potential of Marine, Inland and Aquaculture Fisheries. The Department, in its Reply, has, however,

informed that it has formulated 'The National Fisheries Policy, 2020 by integrating the following policies viz., (i) National Policy on Marine Fisheries, 2017 (ii) Draft National Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy (iii) Draft National Mariculture Policy and (iv) Elements of policy on post-harvest processing and marketing of fish and fisheries Products. Further, the draft National Fisheries Policy document along with Draft Note for Cabinet has been circulated for comments and the Draft National Fisheries Policy has also been uploaded on the website of the Department, for wider consultation. The Committee desire the Department to expedite the process of formulation of National Fisheries Policy, 2020 and introduce the proposed "National Marine Fisheries (Regulation and Management) Bill, 2019" for holistic resource utilization in EEZ (Exclusive Economic Zone) in the upcoming Session of the Parliament. The Committee would like to be apprised of steps taken in this regard.

B. GENDER BUDGETING

RECOMMENDATION (PARA NO. 4)

1.8 The Committee had observed/ recommended:-

The Committee note that Gender Budgeting is a powerful tool for achieving gender mainstreaming so as to ensure that benefits of development reach women as much as men. Women constitute 48% of India's population, but they lag behind men on many social indicators like health, education, economic opportunities, etc. Hence they warrant special attention due to their vulnerability and lack of access to resources. The Committee note that the Department of Fisheries has constituted a Gender Budget Cell headed by Joint Secretary with six Members for correcting gender imbalances, promoting gender equality and development of women under the Schemes implemented by the Department. The Committee were informed that the Department has not received any specific funds for women component, however, it has been advising States/Implementing Agencies for earmarking around 30% of allocated funds towards women beneficiaries under the existing Centrally Sponsored Scheme- Blue Revolution, being implemented by the Department. The

Committee express their displeasure that the Department has failed to furnish State-wise details of women beneficiaries under each Scheme of Fisheries Sector since 2017-18. The Committee feel that the benefits of Gender Budgeting cannot be fully delivered to the concerned quarters if records of Women beneficiaries under various schemes being implemented by them are not maintained. The Committee desire the Department to make Gender Budgeting Cell functional and more rigorous. The Committee further desire the Department to take up the issue of Gender Budgeting in letter and spirit and ear mark specific allocation for the same. The Committee also recommend the Department to set up specific physical targets State-wise and try to achieve those targets as women are an equal partner in overall development and upliftment of the society.

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

After thorough examination and considering the women engaged, the Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries was identified as one of the scheme for expending 30% provision of allocated funds towards women beneficiaries. The Department has been issuing advisories to the State and UT Governments for allocating and utilising 30% provision of allocated funds towards women beneficiaries.

The recommendation by the Committee has been noted by the Department and the issue will be taken care of, for the development of women beneficiaries.

1.10 Acknowledging the role of Gender Budgeting in upliftment of women and subsequently achieving Women Empowerment, the Committee had recommended the Department to take up the issue of Gender Budgeting in letter and spirit and earmark specific allocation for the same. The Committee had recommended the Department to set up specific physical targets State-wise and try to achieve those targets as women are equal partners in the overall development and upliftment of the society. The Committee also felt that the benefits of Gender Budgeting cannot be fully delivered to the concerned quarters if records of Women beneficiaries under various Schemes

being implemented by them are not maintained. In its reply, the Department has submitted that 30 percent fund is earmarked for women beneficiaries under Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries. Further, the Department has been issuing advisories to the State and UT Governments for allocating and utilising 30% provision of allocated funds towards women beneficiaries. The Committee are dissatisfied with the response of the Department to their recommendation. The Committee feel that mere issuing of advisories and letters to the State and UT Governments will not serve the purpose of Women Empowerment through Gender Budgeting. Therefore, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation and desire the Department to make earnest efforts for Gender Budgeting and in addition to issuing advisories, monitor the utilization of funds through the Gender Budgeting Cell in the Department so that Women fisher folk who are often the most vulnerable and deprived section can reap the benefits of this Component of Budgetary outlay.

C. BLUE REVOLUTION : INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES

RECOMMENDATION (PARA NO. 9)

1.11 The Committee had observed/ recommended:-

The Committee note that Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries has been started as a Central Plan Schemes for development of fisheries during a period of five years 2015-16 to 2019-20 with a central outlay of Rs. 3000 crore. This Scheme provides focused development and management of fisheries, covering inland fisheries, aquaculture, marine fisheries including deep sea fishing, mariculture and all activities undertaken by the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB). The Committee note that an allocation of Rs. 2767.49 Crore has been made for implementation of scheme out of which the Department was able to utilize Rs2158.13 crore. The Committee observe that Department failed to achieve target under some componenets of scheme such as Development of Brackishwater Aquaculture, Motorization of Traditional Vessels,

Establishment of New Fishing Harbours/ Fish Landing Centre etc. The Committee have been informed that lower target achievement is due to less proposals received from States/UTs. The Committee also observe that the Department has fixed low target under various Schemes such as development of Freshwater Aquaculture, Installation of Cages/Pens in reservoir and other open water bodies, safety of fishermen etc. despite significantly higher achievements in each financial year since 2016-17. The Committee are of view that lower awareness among potential beneficiaries may be reason for lower demand for some components of the scheme. The Committee are of view that Department should make efforts to enhance awareness among potential beneficiaries so that they can get benefits and target of enhancing production of fish may be achieved in future. The Committee expect the Department to identify shortcomings of Blue Revolution Scheme and make corrective measures in next ambitious scheme Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada scheme.

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

The Department of Fisheries has been implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries with a total Central outlay of Rs.3000 crore for five years (2015-16 onwards). The Department has utilized Rs. 2541.76 crore against the central allocation of Rs. 2667.49 crore for different developmental activities in the country. The less than below achievements of some of the components of the scheme, viz., development of brackish water aquaculture, as observed by the Committee was primarily, due to lesser number of proposals received from the States/UTs. However, development of freshwater aquaculture and installations of cages/pens in reservoirs, and other open water bodies, the sector had witnessed very high demand from the States/UTs, for these components leading to apparent over achievements. The Department, would also like to inform that in addition to the periodical review by the Department of Fisheries, the NITI Aayog, has taken up the evaluation of the CSS on Blue Revolution- Integrated Management and Development of Fisheries. The recommendations of the Committee have been noted by the Department, and the Department of Fisheries would address the issues and shortcomings of the Blue

Revolution Scheme, while formulating the detailed operational guidelines of the PMMSY.

1.13 Considering that Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries is the flagship Scheme of the Department which provides focused development and management of fisheries, covering inland fisheries, aquaculture, marine fisheries including deep sea fishing, mariculture and all activities undertaken by the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), the Committee had recommended the Department to make efforts to enhance awareness of this Scheme among potential beneficiaries so that they can get benefits as some of the Components of the Scheme such as Development of Brackishwater Aquaculture, Motorization of Traditional Vessels, Establishment of New Fishing Harbours/ Fish Landing Centre, etc. have under performed. The Committee had further recommended the Department to identify shortcomings of Blue Revolution Scheme and make corrective measures in next ambitious Scheme i.e., the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana. The Department, in its reply has submitted that less than below achievements of some of the Components of the Scheme, viz., development of brackish water aquaculture, as observed by the Committee was primarily, due to lesser number of proposals received from the States/UTs. However, development of freshwater aquaculture and installations of cages/pens in reservoirs, and other open water bodies, the Sector had witnessed very high demand from the States/UTs, for these Components leading to apparent over achievements. Further, Department maintained that it has taken note of the recommendation of the Committee and will try to rectify the shortcomings in the upcoming Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana. The Committee believe that the performance of Blue Revolution or any other Centrally Sponsored Scheme depends upon the participation of States and the number of proposals received from them. So the Committee feel that it of the utmost importance that States are rigorously pursued to initiate new proposals under the Scheme so that intended benefits of the Scheme reach the maximum persons. The Committee, hope that the issue of less proposals

from States and UT Governments, less awareness about the Scheme and other such issues affecting the proper implementation of the Scheme on Blue Revolution will be adequately addressed in the recently approved Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana as assured by the Department.

CHAPTER - II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

ANALYSIS OF DEMAND

The Committee note that the Fisheries Sector is a sunrise sector in Indian Economy in terms of potential and providing livelihood to millions of poor and vulnerable fishermen. Presently India is the second largest fish producing and second largest aquaculture nation in the World after China. The Committee are informed that transformation of the Fisheries Sector from traditional to commercial scale has led to an increase in fish production from 0.75 Million Metric tonnes (MT) in 1950-51 to 12.61 Million Metric tonnes (Provisional) during 2017-18. It has further been targeted to enhance fish production to 20 million metric tonnes (MMT) by 2023-24 (up from 13.34 million metric tonnes [provisional] in 2018-19) at an Average Annual Growth of about 9% (up from 7%) in fish production. The Committee also note that export earnings from the Sector registered at Rs. 45,106.89 crore (US \$ 7.08 billion) in 2017-18 with the Quantity of 1377244 tonnes. The sector contributed about 0.96% to the National Gross Value Added (GVA) and 5.37% to the Agricultural GVA (2016-17). Fisheries Sector engages over 14.50 million people at the primary level and many more along the value chain. Against this background, the Committee note that in Budget Estimates 2019-20, the Department has been allocated total Budgetary Support of Rs. 804.75 crore including allocations for Scheme and Non- Schemes Components. The overall allocation for the financial year 2019-20 has increased by 7.67 % in comparison to the allocation of Rs. 747.45 crore made during the last year 2018-19. The Committee also observe that allocations to Department of Fisheries are only 0.3 percentage of total Central Budgetary Outlay of Government of India. The Committee note that keeping in mind the potential of Fisheries Sector in employment generation and foreign earnings, this Budgetary Allocation is

meagre. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying to take up the matter with the Ministry of Finance to increase the share of the Department in Central Plan so that full potential of the Fisheries Sector can be realized and its Schemes do not suffer for want of funds.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

In Budget Estimates 2020-21, the Department has been allocated total budgetary support of Rs. 825.00 crore including allocations for scheme and non-scheme components. The overall allocation for the financial year 2020-21 has increased by 2.51 % in comparison to the allocation of Rs. 804.75 crore made during the last year 2019-20 (BE). However, the allocation in respect of Blue Revolution Scheme during the year 2020-21 (BE) has been increased by only 1.81 % in comparison to the allocation during the year 2019-20 (BE).

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3

STATUS OF UTILIZATION CERTIFICATE

The Committee note that the Department is grappling with huge pendency of Utilization Certificates of funds that are yet to be received from various State Governments. The Committee have been informed that there is pendency of Utilization Certificate to the tune of Rs. 599.40 crore as on date 29 October, 2019. The Committee also observe that there is huge pendency of UCs from States like Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra and Bihar. In this regard, the Committee have been informed that change in funding pattern between Centre: State from 75:25 to 60:40 for implementation of Scheme is the main reason for huge pendency of Unutilized Funds as many States are not able to contribute their share. Many States have not released their share of funds as a result of which the implementing agency could not utilize even the Centre's share of funds leading to jump in unutilized Fund. The Committee are of view that Fishery is one of Sectors which can help in increasing the income of farmers of the Country and any hindrance such as failure of State to

contribute their share will lead to failure of schemes of Central Government. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to look into this issue and explore possibility of changing funding pattern of various Schemes in the ratio of 75:25 or 80:20 between Centre and State respectively. The Committee believe that it will lead to proper and effective implementation of Schemes being implemented by the Department thereby helping the poor and vulnerable fishermen across Country.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The recommendation by the Committee has been noted by the Department and the issue will be taken up with the Ministry of Finance, to explore the possibility of changing the funding pattern, so as to lessen the burden of avoid contribution of state share for the implementation of the CSS in the country, for the focused development of the sector.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5

TRIBAL SUB PLAN (TSP)

The Committee note that Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) *is a strategy for the rapid Socio-economic development of tribal people. It forms a part of Annual Plan of a State/UT.* The Committee are informed that the erstwhile Department of Animal Husbandry, dairying and Fisheries had been exempted for earmarking of funds under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) upto 2017-18. The Department is making allocations to the tune of 8.6 percentage for TSP since 2018-19. The Committee note that the Department has earmarked Rs. 261.60 crore at RE stage in 2018-19 for TSP component under different schemes/ programmes, out of which Rs. 250.98 crore has been incurred during 2018-19. Whereas, the Department has made Actual Expenditure of Rs. 8.18 Crore during current year as against allocations of Rs. 53.83 crore for implementation of Schemes under Tribal Sub plan during current year. The Committee are dismayed to note that the Department is not keeping with the idea of balanced expenditure spread out evenly throughout the quarters. The Committee are clueless about

the ways the Department will spend remaining amount i.e. Rs 4564.29 lakh in remaining five months of the current financial year. The Committee further note that there is nil allocation under TSP during current financial year in many States such as Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, etc. which have significant Tribal Population. The Committee are of view that Fisheries Sector is one of important sector which has potential to enhance the income of significant tribal population in our Country. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to take corrective steps and make earnest efforts for optimum utilization of funds in order to ameliorate the economic condition of tribal in the Country. The Committee would like to be apprised of corrective action taken in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The CSS Blue Revolution is a demand driven scheme and implemented in the country based on the proposals received from all the State and Union Territories Governments. The Department of Fisheries has already released the central assistance of Rs. 46.28 crores out of the allocated amount of Rs. 53.83 crore under the CSS Blue Revolution during the current financial year (2019-2020). The recommendation made by the Committee has been noted by the Department and the issue will be taken care of to carry out the existing and upcoming activities for the development of the sector through TSP.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6

GROWTH RATE OF FISHERIES SECTOR

The Committee note that India is second largest fish producing and second largest aquaculture nation after China and Government intend to attain the first place in the world in fish production. The Committee further note that current fish production of country from capture as well as aquaculture during 2018-19 (provisional) is 133 Lakh Tonnes, whereas, China has produced 668 lakh tonnes fish during 2016. The Committee were informed that Department has targeted to enhance fish production to 20 million metric tonnes (MMT) by

2023-24 at an Average Annual Growth of about 9% (up from 7%) in fish production. The Committee further note that our Country has harnessed 57 per cent of our potential in the inland Fishery 70 percent in the Marine Sector. The Committee were further informed that the Department intend to various steps such as Re-circulatory aquaculture system (RAS), Cage culture, Brackish Water (including land locked Saline states), Cold chain development, mariculture, development of Ornamental Fisheries, focus on enhancement of fingerling production, development of Cold water Fisheries and creation of Fisheries Infrastructure Facilities both in Marine and Inland Fisheries Sectors for enhancing the production in fishery sector. The Committee have also been informed that there is plan to enhance investment to the level of Rs. 25000 Crore to ramp up existing infrastructure and other inputs for Fisheries Sector. The Committee also observe that Department is planning to implement Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana with allocation of Rs.10,000 crore in next five years. However, the Committee are dismayed to note that current projection of Fish production and initiatives being taken by the Department to enhance fish production are not sufficient enough to make India number one in fish production in the Country. The Committee are of view that there is need of fresh survey to assess the fish production potential in Country and identify the areas which can help to enhance fish production in minimum possible time and investment. There is also need to optimally utilize Deep Sea Fishing in Exclusive Economic Zone and Open Sea. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to prepare a blueprint to enhance fish production in Country. The Committee further desire the Government to allocate sufficient funds to the Department for implementation of the aforesaid Schemes so that the untapped potential of the Fisheries Sector in providing livelihood opportunities and employment generation can be fully harnessed and exploited.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is giving priority to increase fish production in the country. For increasing

production and productivity of fisheries sector, the Department is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) on Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries with focused approach on effective utilization of fisheries resources in a sustainable and responsible manner, technology infusion, creation of infrastructure, diversification of fish species and fishing practices, supply of quality inputs, expansion and intensification of fish culture, disease management, adoption of best aquaculture practices. To supplement the efforts of the State Governments and Union Territories, the Department has provided an assistance of Rs. 2541 crore during the last five years, under the CSS for development of fisheries sector with view to enhance of fish productivity and production in the country. The harvestable potential of marine fishery resources in the EEZ has been estimated at about 5.31 million metric tonnes (MMT) and there is an untapped potential of about 1.59 MMT of marine resources, especially the high valued resources like Tuna and allied species in the deep-sea. Considering the scope in deep-sea sector, the Blue Revolution scheme provides assistance and empowers the traditional fishers in Deep Sea Fishing.

The sector has been recognized as a powerful income and employment generator as it stimulates growth of a number of subsidiary industries. The sector provides livelihood support to about 160 lakh people at the primary level and almost twice the number along the value chain.

The sector has immense potential to double the fishers and fish farmers' incomes as envisioned by the government. To utilise the dormant and untapped potential, there is need for enhanced investment in the sector and there is need for increased allocation for the sector which would provided the much needed thrust in the areas of enhancing Production and Productivity, Aquaculture Development, Post-Harvest and marketing infrastructure and other priority Interventions.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7

KISAN CREDIT CARD FACILITIES TO FISHERIES SECTOR

The Committee note that Government of India has extended Kisan Credit Card (KCC) facilities to fisheries and animal husbandry farmers with a purpose to help them meet their working capital requirements since 2018-19. The KCC facility will help fisheries and animal husbandry farmers to meet their Short-Term Credit requirements. Fishers, Fish Farmers (Individual & groups/partners/share croppers/tenant farmers), Self Help Groups, Joint Liability Groups and Women groups are eligible for availing the KCC facilities. The Committee further note that Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued detailed guidelines for extension of KCC facility to Fisheries and Animal Husbandry farmers also extended Interest Subvention for Kisan Credit Card(KCC) to Fishery sector during the years 2018-19 and 2019-20. The Committee have been informed that Department has not fixed any physical target under this Scheme during 2019-20. The Committee are also surprised to note that Department is not maintaining details of loan facility extended to Fishermen. The Committee are of view that Kisan Credit Card can emerge as cheapest and easily available loan to meet urgent need of Economically Weaker Fisherman. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to take steps to enhance awareness about the facility among fisherman. The Committee also desire the Department to fix target for disbursement of loan under Kisan credit Card scheme. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps taken in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) are being issued by the banks and this is being monitored by the State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) in their respective States. The Department of Fisheries has taken up the matter with State Level/UT Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) and the SLBCs have been requested to include an agenda on issuance of KCC to fishers and fish farmers in their regular review meetings and fix annual target for issuance of KCC in consultation with their

respective State Fisheries Departments. The SLBCs have been also requested to nominate a nodal officer who will coordinate with the State and Central agencies/Departments and furnish the progress reports regularly on monthly basis to this Department. Further all the States/UTs have been requested to sensitize the extension of KCC facility to fishers and fish farmers and also furnish the progress made in this regard to this Department. States/UTs have been requested to consult their SLBCs to organize special camps in different locations in the States to cover maximum number of fishers and fish farmers. As per the progress reported by the States/UTs a total of 8260 cards have been issued to fishers and fish farmers and another 1,18,455 cards is under process.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8

NATIONAL FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT BOARD (NFDB)

The Committee note that National Fisheries Board (NFDB) was established with aim to enhance fish production and productivity in the country and to coordinate fishery development in an integrated and holistic manner. NFDB aims for holistic development of the fisheries sector through enhancement of fish production and productivity; to supplement nutritious protein for the growing population; to accelerate the overall economy of the country, besides improving health, economy, exports, employment and tourism in the country. The Committee, however, are distressed to note that allocations to NFDB are not being made according to their actual need. The Committee observe that NFDB received Rs. 9 crore and Rs. 100 crore as against proposed allocations of Rs 172.96 crore and Rs. 561.58 crore during financial year 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively. The Committee further note that NFDB got allocations of Rs 80.75 crore as against proposed allocations of Rs 200.00 crore for year 2019-20. The Committee are of view that allocations to any organization should be according to their needs and proposed plan and deviation to this maxim can bring financial mis-management. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to allocate sufficient funds for implementation of schemes by NFDB and effort should be made to bring

uniformity in allocations to NFDB at BE and RE stage. The Committee desire the Department take up the issue of financial allocation with the Ministry of Finance so that various Schemes/Programmes of NFDB do not suffer for want of funds.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Department agrees with the recommendation mentioned by the Committee as contained in the report. While submitting the RE proposal for the year 2019-20, the Department had proposed Rs. 193.83 crore towards NFDB, but was allocated only Rs. 80.75 crore and similarly for the year 2020-21(BE) an amount of Rs. 77.50 crore was allocated as against the proposed amount of Rs. 232.30 crore. The recommendation by the Committee has been noted by the Department and the issue will be taken up with the Ministry of Finance.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 10

PRADHAN MANTRI MATSAYA SAMPADA YOJANA (PMMSY)

The Committee note that a New focused Scheme - the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) has been announced in the Budget 2019-20. Through this Scheme the Department of Fisheries will establish a robust Fisheries Management Framework. The Committee have been informed that Fisheries Management & Regulatory Framework including Welfare of Fishermen, Enhancement of Production and Productivity, Infrastructure & Post Harvest Management and Technology Infusion are some of the component scheme. The Scheme intends to address critical gaps in the value chain, including infrastructure, modernization, traceability, production, productivity, post-harvest management and quality control. The Committee hope that the proposed scheme will be able to enhance the target of production of fish to 20 Million Metric Tonnes and establish necessary infrastructure for providing momentum to modernization of fisheries in the country. The Committee note that this Scheme has Central Outlay of Rs 10,000

crore and the Scheme is to be implemented in 5 years (FY 2019-20 to 2023-24). However, the Committee note that the operationalization guidelines for implementation of the Scheme are yet to be finalized. They desire that these guidelines should be finalised at the earliest. The Committee would like to be apprised about steps taken in this regard within two months of presentation of this Report.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Department of Fisheries (DoF), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India (GoI) has formulated the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) - a scheme to bring about Blue Revolution through sustainable and responsible development of fisheries sector in India. The Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) chaired by Secretary (Expenditure), Ministry of Finance in its meeting held on 21st January, 2020 approved the scheme. The PMMSY is to be implemented as an umbrella scheme having components of both Central Sector(CS) and Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) with total outlay of Rs. 20,050 crore with central liability of Rs.9407 crore for a period of next five years for the development of fisheries sector in the country.

In the mean time, a Central Standing Committee (CSC) headed by Joint Secretary (Fisheries) has been constituted for formulation of unit cost norms, unit costs and guidelines in respect of all components and sub-components of PMMSY with representation from Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), ICAR fisheries institutes, States/UTs, National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) and other fisheries institutes under this Department. Two meetings of the CSC were held and the formulation of operational guidelines is under process.

CHAPTER III

**OBSERVATION/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT
DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ACTION TAKEN
REPLY**

NIL

CHAPTER IV

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

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

CREATION OF A NEW DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

The Committee note that the Government of India have created a separate Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying in year 2019 and Department of Fisheries under Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying came into existence on 17.06.2019. The Committee appreciate this initiative of the Central Government. The Committee are of view that fisheries is an under-exploited Sector having huge potential for job creation in fishing as well as Food Processing Industries based on Fisheries. However, there is need to concerted efforts to fully utilize the potential of this Sector. The Committee note that despite contributing 10% of the total Exports and nearly 20% of the Agricultural Exports, 0.91% of the GDP and 5.23% to the Agricultural GVA (2016-17), there is lack of Comprehensive Policy for Fisheries Sector in the Country. The Committee hope that newly created Department of Fisheries to shift their focus for drafting a policy for fully exploiting the potential of Marine, Inland and Aquaculture Fisheries. The Committee also recommend the Government to identify the gap in legislation which hinders optimum utilization of potential of Fisheries Sector in the Country and to introduce the requisite Bills to Parliament for this purpose.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Department of Fisheries has formulated 'The National Fisheries Policy, 2020 by integrating the following policies viz., (i) National Policy on Marine Fisheries, 2017 (ii) Draft National Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy (iii) Draft National Mariculture Policy and (iv) Elements of policy on post-harvest processing and marketing of fish and fisheries products. The draft National Fisheries Policy

document along with Draft Note for Cabinet has been circulated for comments and the Draft National Fisheries Policy has also been uploaded in the website of the Department, for wider consultation. The Draft Note for Cabinet will be finalized subsequent to consultation process.

The Blue Revolution targets to harness the full productivity potential and focuses on supply of quality fish seeds through setting up of brood banks and hatcheries, quality feed at affordable rates to fish farmers, species diversifications, induced breeding, adoption of technologies, management of aquatic diseases, marketing support, accreditation of fish seed hatcheries, skill up-gradation of fish farmers and fisheries entrepreneurs. Cage culture in reservoirs, reservoir-stocking and adopting conservation measures, promotion of capture fisheries, skill up-gradation etc. are also some of the focused activities being taken up under the Blue Revolution Scheme. The Blue Revolution Scheme further focuses on effective utilization of other resources such as inland water bodies, floodplain lakes and wetlands, irrigation canals, saline and waterlogged areas to mainstream their contribution in fish production.

Comments of the Committee

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

RECOMMENDATION NO. 4

GENDER BUDGETING

The Committee note that Gender Budgeting is a powerful tool for achieving gender mainstreaming so as to ensure that benefits of development reach women as much as men. Women constitute 48% of India's population, but they lag behind men on many social indicators like health, education, economic opportunities, etc. Hence they warrant special attention due to their vulnerability and lack of access to resources. The Committee note that the Department of Fisheries has constituted a Gender Budget Cell headed by Joint Secretary with six Members for correcting gender imbalances, promoting

gender equality and development of women under the Schemes implemented by the Department. The Committee were informed that the Department has not received any specific funds for women component, however, it has been advising States/Implementing Agencies for earmarking around 30% of allocated funds towards women beneficiaries under the existing Centrally Sponsored Scheme- Blue Revolution, being implemented by the Department. The Committee express their displeasure that the Department has failed to furnish State-wise details of women beneficiaries under each Scheme of Fisheries Sector since 2017-18. The Committee feel that the benefits of Gender Budgeting cannot be fully delivered to the concerned quarters if records of Women beneficiaries under various schemes being implemented by them are not maintained. The Committee desire the Department to make Gender Budgeting Cell functional and more rigorous. The Committee further desire the Department to take up the issue of Gender Budgeting in letter and spirit and ear mark specific allocation for the same. The Committee also recommend the Department to set up specific physical targets State-wise and try to achieve those targets as women are an equal partner in overall development and upliftment of the society.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

After thorough examination and considering the women engaged, the Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries was identified as one of the scheme for expending 30% provision of allocated funds towards women beneficiaries. The Department has been issuing advisories to the State and UT Governments for allocating and utilising 30% provision of allocated funds towards women beneficiaries.

The recommendation by the Committee has been noted by the Department and the issue will be taken care of, for the development of women beneficiaries.

Comments of the Committee

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

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9

BLUE REVOLUTION: INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES

The Committee note that Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries has been started as a Central Plan Schemes for development of fisheries during a period of five years 2015-16 to 2019-20 with a central outlay of Rs. 3000 crore. This Scheme provides focused development and management of fisheries, covering inland fisheries, aquaculture, marine fisheries including deep sea fishing, mariculture and all activities undertaken by the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB). The Committee note that an allocation of Rs. 2767.49 Crore has been made for implementation of scheme out of which the Department was able to utilize Rs 2158.13 crore. The Committee observe that Department failed to achieve target under some componenets of scheme such as Development of Brackishwater Aquaculture, Motorization of Traditional Vessels, Establishment of New Fishing Harbours/ Fish Landing Centre etc. The Committee have been informed that lower taget achievement is due to less proposals received from States/UTs. The Committee also observe that the Department has fixed low target under various Schemes such as development of Freshwater Aquaculture, Installation of Cages/Pens in reservoir and other open water bodies, safety of fishermen etc. despite significantly higher achievements in each financial year since 2016-17. The Committee are of view that lower awareness among potential beneficiaries may be reason for lower demand for some components of the scheme. The Committee are of view that Department should make efforts to enhance awareness among potential beneficiaries so that they can get benefits and target of enhancing production of fish may be achieved in future. The Committee expect the Department to identify shortcomings of Blue Revolution Scheme and make corrective measures in next ambitious scheme Pradhan Mantri Matsaya Sampada scheme.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Department of Fisheries has been implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries with a total Central outlay of Rs.3000 crore for five years (2015-16 onwards). The Department has utilized Rs. 2541.76 crore against the central allocation of Rs. 2667.49 crore for different developmental activities in the country. The less than below achievements of some of the components of the scheme, viz., development of brackish water aquaculture, as observed by the Committee was primarily, due to lesser number of proposals received from the States/UTs. However, development of freshwater aquaculture and installations of cages/pens in reservoirs, and other open water bodies, the sector had witnessed very high demand from the States/UTs, for these components leading to apparent over achievements. The Department, would also like to inform that in addition to the periodical review by the Department of Fisheries, the NITI Aayog, has taken up the evaluation of the CSS on Blue Revolution- Integrated Management and Development of Fisheries. The recommendations of the Committee have been noted by the Department, and the Department of Fisheries would address the issues and shortcomings of the Blue Revolution Scheme, while formulating the detailed operational guidelines of the PMMSY.

Comments of the Committee

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

CHAPTER V

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

NIL

**NEW DELHI;
10 FEBRUARY, 2021
21 MAGHA, 1942 (Saka)**

**SHRI P. C. GADDIGOUDAR
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture**

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
(2020-21)

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 09th February, 2021 from 1430 hrs. to 1510 hrs. in the Committee Room '3', Block-A, Extn to PHA Building New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Parvatagouda Chandanagouda Gaddigoudar– Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Afzal Ansari
3. Shri Horen Sing Bey
4. Shri Devendra Singh 'Bhole'
5. Shri A. Ganeshamurthi
6. Shri Kanakmal Katara
7. Shri Bhagwanth Khuba
8. Shri Mohan Mandavi
9. Shri Devji Mansingram Patel
10. Smt. Shardaben Anilbhai Patel
11. Shri Shrinivas Dadasaheb Patil
12. Shri Pocha Brahmananda Reddy
13. Shri Virendra Singh
14. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

15. Shri Partap Singh Bajwa
16. Shri Narayan Rane
17. Shri Kailash Soni
18. Shri B.L. Verma
19. Smt. Chhaya Verma

SECRETARIAT

1.	Shri Shiv Kumar	–	Joint Secretary
2.	Dr. Vatsala J. Pande	–	Director
3.	Smt. Juby Amar	–	Director
4.	Shri Prem Ranjan	–	Deputy Secretary

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

*(i) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

*(ii) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

(iii) Draft Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations on Fifth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2019-20) on 'Demands for Grants (2019-20)' of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries);

*(iv) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

*(v) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

*(vi) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

*(vii) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

*(viii) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

*(ix) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

*(x) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

3. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the Draft Reports without any modifications and the Committee then authorized the Chairperson to finalize and present these Reports to Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

*Matter not related to this Report

(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

**ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE FIFTH REPORT OF
STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (17th LOK SABHA)**

i.	Total number of Recommendations:	10
	Recommendations/Observations which have been Accepted by the Government:	
	Recommendation Nos. 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10	
	Total	07
	Percentage	70.00%
ii.	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee Do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	
	Recommendation No. NIL	
	Total	00
	Percentage	00.00%
iii.	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	
	Recommendation No. 1, 4, 9	
	Total	03
	Percentage	30.00%
iv.	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Final replies of the Government are still awaited	
	Recommendation No. NIL	
	Total	00
	Percentage	00.00%