



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

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE)**

'DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2019-20)'

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

SEVENTEENTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

FEBRUARY 2021 / MAGHA, 1942 (Saka)

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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
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18. Shri Virendra Singh
19. Shri V.K. Sreekandan
20. Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav
21. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav

RAJYA SABHA

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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)

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15. Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut
16. Shri Pocha Brahmananda Reddy
17. Shri Mohammad Sadique
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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. Ms. Juby Amar - Director
3. Shri Prem Ranjan - Deputy Secretary

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 Seventeenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2019-20) on 'Demands for Grants (2019-20)' pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare).

2. The Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2019-20) on 'Demands for Grants (2019-20)' pertaining to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare) 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 09.03.2020

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 Sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in **Appendix**.

NEW DELHI;
10 February, 2021
21 Magha, 1942(Saka)

P.C. GADDIGUDAR
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture

CHAPTER - I

R E P O R T

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

1.2 The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare) has furnished Action Taken Replies in respect of all the 08 Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report. These Replies given by the Ministry after scrutiny have been categorized as under:

- (i) Observations/Recommendations that have been accepted by the Government:

Recommendation Nos.	1 and 2	Total- 02
		Chapter- II

- (ii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's reply:

Recommendation No.	NIL	Total- NIL
		Chapter- III

- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which Action Taken Replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee:

Recommendation Nos.	3 and 7	Total- 02
		Chapter- IV

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

Recommendation Nos. 4, 5, 6 and 8

Total- 04

Chapter- V

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 and final Action Taken Replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter-V of this Report be furnished to them at an early date.

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

**A. STATUS OF UTILIZATION CERTIFICATES
RECOMMENDATION (SERIAL NO.3)**

1.5 The Committee had observed/ recommended:-

"The issue of liquidation of Outstanding Utilization Certificates has been raised time and again by the Committee in their earlier Reports during the Sixteenth Lok Sabha. However, the Committee note that the Department is grappling with huge pendency of Utilization Certificate about the funds that are yet to be received from various State Governments. While noting the efforts put in by Department in regard to liquidation of Outstanding Utilization Certificates, they feel that the time has finally come to look at this vexed issue afresh, so as to initiate corrective measures that would comprehensively deal with the issue at hand. They, therefore, desire

Department to pursue the matter proactively with all Implementing Agencies so as to be able to seek a lasting solution to this perennial problem. They should clearly indicate to the Implementing Agencies about availability of funds based on the Utilization Certificates in future to make sure that the defaulting States/UTs fall in line on this vital issue."

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

"Department is making concerted efforts for liquidating outstanding Utilization Certificates(UCs) due from State Governments/Implementing Agencies. No release is made to State Governments/Implementing Agencies, who have not furnished UCs. The unspent balance, if any, reported in the previous year has been revalidated and adjusted against the current financial year fund release. State Governments and Implementing Agencies are reminded on regular intervals through D.O. letters and video conferencing and due to these efforts the pending UCs have come down.

	UCs Pending as on 1.4.2017	UCs Pending as on 1.4.2018	UCs pending as on 30.12.2019
No. of UCs	291	394	482
Amount (Rs/Crore)	5173.24	6259.99	4156.77

1.7 Considering the huge pendency of Utilization Certificate about the funds, the Committee have desired the Department to pursue the matter of liquidation of Outstanding Utilization Certificates proactively with all Implementing Agencies so as to be able to find a lasting solution to this perennial problem. The Department in its Action Taken Replies has submitted that due to their concerted efforts - reminder on regular intervals through D.O. Letters and video conferencing with State Governments and Implementing

Agencies, the pending UCs have come down. Further, no release is made to State Government/Implementing Agencies who have not furnished UCs. The unspent balance, if any, reported in the previous year has been revalidated and adjusted against the current financial year fund release. However Committee note that the amount of UCs pending declined from Rs 5173.24 crore as on 01.04.2017 to Rs 4156.77 crore as on 30.12.2019, however, number of UCs pending increased from 291 as on 01.04.2017 to 482 as on 30.12.2019.

The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation and desire the Department to pursue the issue of liquidation of outstanding Utilization Certificates with State Governments and Implementing Agencies vigorously to achieve the desired results.

**B. PRADHAN MANTRI KISAN SAMMAN NIDHI (PM-KISAN)
RECOMMENDATION (SERIAL NO.6)**

1.8 The Committee had observed/ recommended:-

"The Committee note that PM-Kisan Scheme was initiated by the Central Government with effect from 01 December, 2018 with a view to provide income support to all farmer families across the country, to enable them to take care of expenses related to Agriculture and Allied Activities as well as domestic needs. The Committee note that the Scheme intend to protect farmers from falling in the clutches of money lenders for meeting such expenses and ensure their continuance in the farming activities. Farmers are provided a payment of Rs. 6000 per year in three installments of Rs. 2000. The Committee note that the Department has transferred Rs. 32579 crore to the farmers as on 21 October, 2019. The Committee further note that the Department were able to register only 7,17,42,959 farmers till 06 November, 2019 as against target of Registering 14 crore farmers. The Committee has been informed that Department is facing various issues such as Non availability of proper land records in many States, Demographic authentication of Aadhar data, incorrect bank accounts, poor internet connectivity in the rural areas

hampering uploading of data on PM-KISAN portal, slow pace of identification of beneficiaries and uploading data by State Governments etc. during implementation of the Scheme. The Committee are of the view that PM -Kisan is a game changer Scheme which is providing funds directly in to the accounts of farmers avoiding middleman and leakage. The amount being provided under the Scheme may solve crunch of funds faced by farmers during agriculture operations. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to take steps to sort out the issues as mentioned earlier in order to enhance the enrolment of farmers under the Scheme. The Committee desire the Department to enhance coordination with the State Governments where enrolment is slow and take corrective steps."

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

"The Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme was approved by the Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 1.2.2019. The Scheme was initially approved only for Small & Marginal Farmers. The Cabinet thereafter considered and approved modifications in the modalities relating to application of Aadhaar in its implementation, in its meeting held on 27.2.2019. Later, by a decision of the Union Cabinet dated 31.5.2019, the scheme was extended to all farmers in the country. By another decision of the Union Cabinet dated 8.10.2019, the mandatory requirement of Aadhaar seeded data of beneficiaries was relaxed for instalments falling upto 30th November, 2019 and enforced for all instalments falling due on or after 1st December, 2019 instead of *from 1st August, 2019*.

The PM-KISAN Scheme is, therefore, being implemented with continuous improvements / changes in the shape, modalities and mechanism of the Scheme during the progress of its implementation and its performance over time. As on 11.02.2020, on the basis of the data of beneficiaries uploaded on the PM-Kisan web portal by the State/UT Governments, 8,45,24,847 beneficiaries have been given the financial benefit under the scheme.

The Committee has, in its observations in para 2.41 of the Report, in response to the query of the Committee regarding the problems being faced by the State Governments in implementation of the PM-KISAN Scheme, referred to the following comments of the Department:

“The Division organizes weekly video conference with Senior Officials of State / UT Governments and State Nodal Officers of PM-KISAN. Some of the difficulties faced by them, as voiced in various VCs are detailed below:

(a) Non-availability of proper land records: In some of the States like Bihar, Jharkhand, U.P. etc the lack of proper land records pose a difficulty in identifying the actual beneficiaries. In some cases, death of land holder took place way back but transfer of rights to his / her legal heirs has not been recorded / updated in the land records. In some States like Punjab many lands have been mutated but proper records are not available.

In most of the North Eastern States where ownership of land depends on various custom, as the land is mostly community-owned. Issues regarding Forest Rights Act has also been addressed.

(b) Demographic authentication of Aadhaar data is slowing down the release process as there are a lot of cases where the names entered in the data base of PM-KISAN does not match with the names as available in their Aadhaar.

(c) Also details of incorrect bank account does not allow the benefit to be credited unless it is identical with data as available in their Aadhaar and land records.

(d) In some rural belts, poor internet connectivity hampers uploading of data in PM-KISAN portal.

(e) The progress of the scheme depends on the promptness of the State Government in identifying the beneficiaries and uploading their correct data. As of now, West Bengal is the only State which is not implementing PM-KISAN.

In the above regard, with respect to the recommendations of the Committee, it is stated that the entire responsibility of identification of eligible beneficiary farmer families and uploading their correct details on the web-portal www.pmkisan.gov.in for getting them the benefits of the Kisan Samman Nidhi rests with the concerned State/UT Government. The State/UT Governments are required to identify eligible beneficiaries based on the available land records and as per the Operational Guidelines of the Scheme, which also entails applying all exclusion criteria for the purpose. All the States have been identifying the beneficiaries and helping implementation of the Scheme, except West Bengal.

The data of beneficiaries uploaded by the State / UT Governments undergoes a multi-level verification and validation by various concerned agencies, including the banks, which includes rejection of data for errors at various levels and re-uploading of error-free data by the State / UT Governments. Thereafter only the amount is successfully transferred into the bank accounts of the beneficiaries. This entire process is replicated for transfer of every installment.

For enrollment, the farmer is required to approach the local patwari / revenue officer / Nodal Officer (PM-Kisan) nominated by the State Government.

Keeping in view the land holding patterns, special provisions for North East States, forest dweller tribal population and Jharkhand have been made as detailed below:

(i) **For NE States:** In some of the North Eastern States, the land ownership rights are community based. In such States an alternate implementation mechanism of eligibility has been developed for the farmers and is implemented with the approval of the Committee comprising of Ministers of Ministry of Development of North East Region (DoNER), Ministry of Land Resources, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and concerned State Chief Ministers or State nominated Minister.

- **Manipur:** In case of Manipur, the certificate issued by the Village authority, namely, the Chairman/Chief, authorizing any tribal family to cultivate a piece of land, may be accepted. Such certification of village Chairman/Chief shall be

authenticated by the concerned sub-divisional officers, subject to the exclusion criteria enshrined in the Scheme.

- **Nagaland:** (a) In case of community owned cultivable land in the state of Nagaland which is under permanent cultivation, for identification of beneficiaries under PM- KISAN, the certificate issued by the village council/authority/village chieftain regarding land holding, duly verified by the administrative head of the circle/ sub division and countersigned by the Deputy Commissioner of the District shall suffice subject to the exclusions under the operational guidelines.

(b) In case of cultivable land in the State of Nagaland which is categorised as Jhum land as per definition under Section – 2 (7) of the Nagaland Jhum Land Act, 1970 and which is owned by the community / clan / village council / village chieftan, the identification of beneficiaries under PM-Kisan scheme, shall be on the basis of certification of land holding by the village council / chief / head of the village, duly verified by the administrative head of the circle/sub division and countersigned by the Deputy Commissioner of the District. Provided that the name of the beneficiary is included in the state of Nagaland's Agriculture Census of 2015-16. This proviso shall not be applicable in cases of succession and family partition. The list of such beneficiaries shall be subject to the exclusions under the operational guidelines.

(ii) For Forest dweller tribes: The Government has decided to include forest dwelling tribals for benefits under the PM-Kisan Scheme who have been given 'Pattas' under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, subject to other eligibility conditions.

(iii) Jharkhand: Jharkhand does not have updated land records, as for many decades the mutation of land records on the basis of succession have not been recorded. Further, transfer of land is also restricted in these areas. This

posed a difficulty in the implementation of the Scheme in Jharkhand. Therefore, the following procedure has been adopted for identification of beneficiaries under PM-KISAN Scheme in Jharkhand –

“The farmer shall be asked to submit ‘Vanshawali’ (Lineage) linked to the entry of land record comprising his/her ancestor’s name giving a chart of succession. This lineage chart shall be submitted before the Gram Sabha for calling objections. After approval of the Gram Sabha, the village level/Circle level revenue officials will verify and authenticate the Vanshawali and possession of holding. This authenticated list of farmers after due verification of succession chart shall be countersigned by the District level Revenue authority. Farmers’ names, subject to the exclusion criterion after following the aforementioned process, shall be uploaded on the PM-KISAN portal along with other required details for disbursement of benefit under the Scheme.”

Release of financial benefits under PM-Kisan Scheme for the 4-monthly period *w.e.f.* 1st August, 2019 onwards was to be made only on the basis of Aadhaar seeded database, except in respect of the States of Assam, Meghalaya and J&K, which will remain exempted from this requirement till 31.3.2020. In view of delay in completing the work of Aadhaar seeding of data of beneficiaries by the State Governments and consequent delay in release of financial benefit to the farmers, by a decision of the Union Cabinet dated 9.10.2019, this mandatory requirement was relaxed upto 30.11.2019. The mandatory requirement of Aadhaar seeding of beneficiaries was accordingly applicable for release of all instalments falling due *w.e.f.* 1st December, 2019 onwards. Therefore, no releases are being made under the scheme for instalments falling due on or after 1st December, 2019 except on the basis of Aadhaar seeded data of beneficiaries, with the exception of the beneficiaries in the States of Assam, Meghalaya and Jammu & Kashmir who were exempted till 31.3.2020.

The State Governments have been continuously requested and vigorously pursued for completing the exercise at the earliest, in mission mode and by organizing camps. Every Tuesday, a meeting is being held with State Governments

and other concerned stakeholders through Video Conferencing to review the preparedness of the States and remove any handicaps coming in the way of smooth and seamless implementation of the scheme, including Aadhaar seeding of data of beneficiaries thereof.

The Department of Financial Services and the system of banks and the National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) have been kept in close loop to iron out any bottlenecks.

On the advice of the Union Government, the States have also been organizing publicity/awareness camps to ensure expeditious Aadhaar authentication of the data of the beneficiaries along with new registrations and correction of already registered data.

Weekly Video Conferences are conducted with all States to encourage States/UTs for faster implementation, review the status of implementation of the Scheme and to address any and all the issues therein. The target of the Department is to achieve 100% saturation by enrolling every eligible farmer family of the country under the PM-KISAN Scheme. To achieve this the States/UTs have been directed to conduct various saturation drives based on the analysis of enrolments from all over the country done by the Department and physical verification of the beneficiaries have also been undertaken.

To achieve 100% Saturation, a special facility has been provided to the farmers in the PM-Kisan portal, namely, Farmers Corner. Through this facility, the farmers can also do their self-registration through the Farmers Corner in the portal. Farmers can also edit their names in PM-Kisan database as per their Aadhaar database / card through the Farmers Corner in the portal. Farmers can also know the status of their payment through the Farmers Corner in the portal. Village-wise details of beneficiaries are also available on the Farmers Corner. The Common Service Centres (CSCs) have also been authorized to do registration of the farmers for the Scheme upon payment of fees. The above facilities on Farmers Corner are also available through CSCs.

A special Mobile APP has also been launched on 24th February, 2020 on the 1st anniversary of completion of one year of successful implementation of scheme. The APP provides the facilities available through Farmers Corner.

The Government of West Bengal has also been repeatedly requested to join the scheme and enable the Union Government to extend its benefits to the farmers of the State.

As per para 10.5 of the Operational Guidelines of the PM-KISAN Scheme, the States/UTs are required to undertake physical verification of about 5% of the beneficiaries for ascertaining their eligibility. Accordingly, the Department has initiated an exercise through the State/UT Governments to conduct a random survey to establish the correctness of data. The States/UTs were asked that an appropriate mechanism at the District level may be structured for ensuring the process of verification. The State Nodal Officers are expected to supervise the overall process of verification. If felt necessary, external monitors / agency can also be engaged in this exercise. The District-wise list of villages was finalized by the Department on random selection basis to cover approximately 2.5% of the beneficiaries and this list was provided to State Nodal Officers. The States/UTs were asked to decide on the process for verification in respect of the remaining 2.5% of the beneficiaries.

The Department has also selected 5000 Aadhaar-authenticated beneficiaries throughout the country on random selection basis and has asked the concerned State/UT Governments to verify their status / eligibility.

States which have achieved saturation status vis-a-vis the estimated number of beneficiaries as per the Agriculture Census, 2015-16, which is basis for the scheme, have been asked to conduct verification drives in 5 villages which have reported lowest saturation status. Similarly, these States have been asked to conduct verification drives in villages with highest saturation status.

So far, as on 24.02.2020, 9.84 crore beneficiary farmer families have been registered under the Scheme, out of which the benefits of the scheme have been provided to 8.46 crore beneficiary farmers families after the receipt of 100% verified data from State/UT Government and their validation through Aadhar/PFMS.

1.10 While recognizing the fact that the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is a game changer Scheme under which the funds provided directly into the accounts of farmers avoiding middleman and leakage, the Committee had recommended the Department to take steps to sort out the issues such as-non-availability of proper land records in many States, Demographic authentication of Aadhaar data, incorrect bank accounts, poor internet connectivity in the rural areas – hampering uploading of data on PM-KISAN portal, slow pace of identification of beneficiaries and uploading data by State Governments etc to enhance the enrolment of farmers under the Scheme. The Department in its Action Taken Reply has submitted in detail the salient features of PM-KISAN Scheme and efforts made by it to achieve 100% saturation. The Department has stated that the State Governments have been continuously requested and vigorously pursued for completing the enrolment/registration exercise at the earliest, in mission mode and by way of organizing camps. The Department of Financial services and the system of banks and the National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) have been kept in close loop to iron out bottlenecks. Weekly Video Conferences are conducted with all states to encourage States/UTs for faster implementation, review the status of Implementation of the Scheme and to address any and all the issues therein. A special facility, namely, Farmers Corner in the PM-Kisan portal has been provided to the farmers and special Mobile App has also been launched. As a result of these, as on 24.02.2020, 9.84 crore beneficiary farmer families have been registered under the Scheme, out of which the benefits of the Scheme have been provided to 8.46 crore beneficiary farmers families after the receipt of 100% verified data from States/UT Governments and their validation through Aadhaar/PFMS.

The Committee appreciate the Department for taking proactive steps to enhance the enrolment of farmers under the Scheme and expect the Department to achieve its target of 100% coverage of farmers by further enhancing the enrolment of every eligible farmer family of the country under the PM-Kisan Scheme.

**C. PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURAL MECHANIZATION FOR IN-SITU
MANAGEMENT OF CROP RESIDUE
RECOMMENDATION (SERIAL NO. 7)**

1.11 The Committee had observed/ recommended:-

"The Committee note that the Government has launched promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for in-situ Management of Crop Residue as a special Scheme to support the efforts of the government of Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and the NCT of Delhi to address air pollution and to subsidize machinery required for in-situ management of crop residue for the period from 2018-19 to 2019-20. The Committee have been informed that an allocations of Rs. 1131. 49 crore have been made for implementation of scheme since its inception. The Committee further note that farmers are being provided 50% of the cost for procurement of 8 identified machines for in-situ crop residue management by the farmers. The Department is also providing support of 80% of the project cost for establishment of Custom Hiring Centres of in-situ crop residue management machinery. The Committee have been informed that 39871 farmers in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh have benefitted from the Scheme. Whereas, 7488 Custom Hiring Centre have been established under the Scheme in three States. The Committee also note that State Governments are also exploring the ex-situ options of straw management such as use in thermal power plants, used in packing industry, Bio- CNG, Bio Ethanol etc. to stop the practice of crop stubble (Parali) burning other than those available under the Scheme. The Committee observe that the practice of crop stubble (Parali) burning is outcome of increasing mechanization in agriculture and shortage of cheap labour for agriculture operation. Further, the farmers in Punjab, Haryana, Western

Uttar Pradesh and other parts of Country has little window for sowing of wheat after harvesting the Paddy Crop. Considering these factors coupled with dearth of funds force the farmers to take most easily available recourse i.e. to burn the crop stubble in field. However, this practice is least desirable and cause irreparable damage to the soil ecology which in long term will lead to loss of soil fertility and beneficial bio-organism. It is also a major source of air pollution in these areas and especially Delhi Region when weather conditions become adverse for dispersal of pollutant in outer atmosphere. The Committee further observe that this practice is going to spread to other parts of the Country due to same factors as explained earlier. The Committee are of considered view that there is need to take a long term view of this problem and take steps to solve problems being faced by the farmers. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to form an Expert Committee consisting of Scientists, Extension Officials, Farmers' Organizations and Public Representatives to study this problem in depth and identify steps to tackle the issue in entire country. The Committee also desire the Department to continue this Scheme in next financial year and to extend support to more number of farmers. The Committee also desire the Department to take an extensive awareness campaign to educate farmers about ill effects of Crop Stubble burning. The Committee would like to be apprized about steps taken in this direction within one month of presentation of this Report."

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

"To reduce the means of burning of crop stubble in the country, this Department has introduced Central Sector Scheme named "Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi" for the period from 2018-19 to 2019-20 is being implemented with a total outgo from the Central funds of Rs. 1151.80 crores and also implements Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization across the country since April,2014. Under SMAM, it provides the assistance for both in –situ as well as Ex-situ equipment used for crop residue upto 40% of the cost

of the equipment. For speeding up the awareness campaign, Division is providing 100 % assistance for the procurement of agricultural machinery including Crop Residue Machinery and also Rs.4000/-per hectare for conducting the demonstrations at farmers' fields through Government Identified Institutes.

To make the cost of machinery affordable and to make them available to all farmers, Govt. of India under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) is promoting establishment of 'Custom Hiring Centres' and Hi-tech High Productive Equipment Hub for custom hiring with the objective of offsetting the adverse economies of scale arising due to small landholding and high cost of individual ownership of machines. Under SMAM, 40% of the project cost is being provided for establishment of CHC.

The Government is promoting establishment of Custom Hiring Centres to provide machines and equipment to the small and marginal farmers on reasonable rent basis. A mobile app-based aggregator platform 'CHC Farm Machinery' which facilitates hiring and renting of farm machinery from and by the Custom Hiring Centres/owners of the farm machinery has also been launched in public domain which encompasses a fair and transparent rental process while focusing on quality, dependability and timely delivery of the services."

1.13 While taking note of the practice of crop stubble (Parali) burning in parts of Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, etc. resulting in irreparable damage to the soil ecology, loss of soil fertility and beneficial bio-organism and a major source of air pollution in Delhi NCR Region, the Committee had recommended the Department to form an Expert Committee consisting of Scientists, Extension officials, Farmers Organizations and Public Representatives to study this problem in depth and identify steps to tackle the issue in entire country. The Committee had also desired the Department to take an extensive awareness campaign to educate farmers about the ill-effects of crop stubble burning. Further, taking note of Scheme named 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for IN-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of

Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi' to address air pollution and to subsidize machinery required for In-Situ Management of Crop residue for the Period from 2018-19 to 2019-20, the Committee had recommended to continue this Scheme in the next financial year also and to extend support to more number of farmers. The Department has, however, chose to remain silent on these aspects and has instead elaborated on the features of the Schemes on 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi' and 'Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)', which the Committee are already aware of.

The need for finding a long term solution to the problem of stubble burning cannot be ignored. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their earlier recommendation and desire the Department to take necessary action as recommended by the Committee.

CHAPTER - II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

The Committee note that there has been a continuous decline in the share of Agriculture and Allied Sectors in the Gross Value Added (GVA) from 18.2 percent in 2014-15 to 16.0 percent in 2018-19. The Committee further observe that there is decline in growth (over the previous year) in GVA of Agriculture and Allied Sectors from 6.3 Percent during 2016-17 to 2.7 Percent in 2018-19. The Committee has been informed that falling share of Agriculture and Allied Sectors in GVA is an expected outcome in a fast growing and structurally changing economy. The Committee have further been informed that the Government has taken various steps like dairy processing infrastructure development fund, micro irrigation fund, blue revolution scheme, market reforms like e-NAM, Rashtriya Gokul Mission, PM-Kisan Yojna, PM-Kisan Pension scheme, Farmer Producer Organization promotion, Fisheries and Aquacultures Infrastructure Development Fund etc. to enhance the growth in Agriculture and Allied Sector and increase the income of farmers. The Committee are of view that there is need to promote cultivation of High Value Horticulture Products like Almonds, Pistachio, Exotic fruits, oil seed products, Medicinal Plants, etc. which has potential to significantly enhance the income of farmers and reduce the import of such agriculture produce in Country thereby saving precious foreign currency. Focus on the cultivation of this agriculture produce will significantly enhance the contribution of Agriculture and Allied Sector to Gross Value added in Indian Economy. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to identify such Sectors and prepare a focused and time bound programme to support and encourage farmers for taking up cultivation of these High Value Crops. The Committee would like to be apprized of action taken in this regard within three months of presentation of Report.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Department is in total agreement with the suggestion of the Hon'ble Committee to promote cultivation of High Value Horticulture Products like Almonds, Pistachio, Exotic fruits, oil seed products, Medicinal Plants, etc. and that focus should be on those areas which has potential to significantly enhance the income of farmers and reduce the import of such agriculture produce in country and help in enhancing the contribution of Agriculture and Allied Sector to Gross Value added in Indian Economy. The Committee on Doubling of Farmers Income by 2022 has also identified diversification towards high value crops as one of the seven major sources of growth. Through various schemes, Department is promoting cultivation of high value horticulture products:

1. **National Bamboo Mission (NBM):**

Bamboo and its products have a very high demand in international market with high end return to the farmers, growers, artisans, entrepreneurs including women. Country has a vast resource of bamboo especially in the North Eastern region, which can be tapped to achieve better economic returns. Restructured National Bamboo Mission (NBM) was launched during 2018-19. The scheme is being implemented in 23 states including 8 NE states. NBM focuses on the development of complete value chain of bamboo sector to link growers with consumers starting from planting material, plantation, creation of facilities for collection, aggregation, processing marketing, micro, small & medium enterprises, skill development and brand building initiative in a cluster approach mode. The objectives of the NBM include increasing the area under bamboo plantation in non-forest Government and private lands to supplement farm income as well as availability of quality raw material as on 18th Feb 2020 (2018-19 & 2019-20) 576 nos., of nurseries, 40728 ha of plantation, 197 nos. of bamboo treatment & preservation units, 910 nos. of product development & processing units etc have been approved. Under the scheme, establishment of treatment plants & Common Facility Centres (CFCs) in close vicinity of the plantations have been envisaged so that primary processing of bamboo can take place locally and feed to bigger industry. This would also help bamboo utilisation with zero wastage for better pricing and returns.

2. **Support to State Extension Programs for Extension Reforms:**

A Centrally Sponsored Scheme ‘**Support to State Extension Programs for Extension Reforms**’ popularly known as **ATMA Scheme** is under implementation since 2005. Presently, Scheme is being implemented in 684 districts of 28 States & 5 UTs of the country. The scheme promotes decentralized and farmer-friendly extension system in the country with an objective to support State Government’s efforts to revitalize the extension system and making available the latest agricultural technologies and good agricultural practices **in different thematic areas of agriculture and allied areas including cultivation of High Value Horticulture to farmers through different extension activities**. These extension activities include Farmers’ Trainings, Demonstrations, Exposure Visits, Kisan Melas, Mobilization of Farmer Groups and organizing Farm Schools on the fields of progressive farmers etc.

3. **Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH):**

In order to increase the income of farmers and reduce import of fruits like Walnuts, Almonds, Apples, Dates, Kiwi and Oranges, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has shared a strategy document with the State Governments with a request to give priority to these fruits while preparing Action Plans under MIDH.

4. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY):

Under RKVY, States are empowered to take up any agriculture activity/intervention as per their needs and priorities.

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ANALYSIS OF DEMANDS **RECOMMENDATION NO. 2**

The Committee note that allocations of Rs. 130485.21(BE) have been made for Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare during 2019-20 which is 4.68 percent of total allocations of Central Government for 2019-20. The Committee also note that there is an increase of 179.41 percent in allocations to the Department as compared to 2018-19 (BE). However, the Committee note that major enhancement is due to allocations of Rs. 75000 crore for implementation of PM Kisan Yojna. The Committee also note that the Government made an allocations of Rs. 4025 crore for implementation of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojna, National Beekeeping & Honey Mission, Promotion of Agriculture Mechanization for in-situ management of Crop Residue, Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), and Distribution of Pulses to State/Union Territories for welfare Schemes these are new Schemes being implemented by the Department from the current financial year onwards. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna, Rashtriya Krishi Vikash Yojna, Interest Subsidy for Short Term Credit to Farmers and Implementation of Market Intervention Scheme Price Support are other Major Schemes for which Department have made provision of Rs, 14000 crore, 3745 Crore, 18000 crore and 3000 crore respectively. The Committee also observe that majority of expenditure made by the Department are of nature of Revenue Expenditure and Capital expenditure forms miniscule portion. The Committee appreciate the Government for significantly enhancing the allocations for Agriculture Sector; which forms the basis of Indian economy and will certainly provide good results in enhancing the income of farmers. However, the Committee are of view that there is need to enhance allocations for other Schemes viz. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna, National Food Security Mission, National Project on Organic Farming and other Schemes which will further increase the rate of investment in Agriculture Sector. There is also need of enhancing investment for creation of capital assets in Agriculture Sector. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to take steps for enhancing allocations for the aforesaid Schemes and also creation of capital assets which can benefit farmers for many generation to come. The Committee would like to be apprized about the steps taken in this direction within three months of presentation of this Report.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

In line with the recommendations of the Committee, Department has sought more allocation for Agriculture sector during the FY 2020-21 and an increase of 3 % may be seen in allocation in BE 2020-21 over that in BE(2019-20). Some new schemes are also being introduced for betterment of farmers and farm sector.

Name of Schemes with increased Allocation

(Rs. in Crore)

S. No.	Sector	BE (2019-20)	BE(Proposed) (2020-21)	BE(Accepted) (2020-21)	% increase w.r.t. BE 2019-20
	Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare	130485.21	155985.10	134399.77	3.00
1.	Interest Subsidy	18000.00	28000.00	21175.00	17.34
2.	Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna (PMFBY)	14000.00	19690.19	15695.00	12.11
3.	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna (PMKSY)	3500.00	4500.00	4000.00	14.29
4.	Integrated Development of Horticulture including National Beekeeping Honey Mission (NBHM)	2234.57	2605.73	2310.25	3.39
5.	National Project on Organic Farming	19.23	24.75	28.63	48.88
6.	Organic Value Chain for North-East	160.00	320.00	175.00	9.38
7.	Soil & Land Use of Survey India	28.70	30.45	30.34	5.71
8.	Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojna	325.00	344.96	500.00	53.85
9.	Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension	970.98	1323.50	1221.93	25.85
10.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Cooperation	135.00	885.20	405.50	200.37
11.	Formation & Promotion of Farmer Producer Organizations	0.00	200.00	500.00	New Scheme
12.	National Food Security Mission- Oil Seeds & Oil Palm	402.99	0.00	503.17	24.86
13.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Census & Statistics	268.26	448.80	361.84	34.88
14.	National Rainfed Area Authority	3.85	6.97	4.41	14.55

Investment for creation of capital assets in Agriculture Sector:

The Hon'ble Committee has recommended for enhancing allocations for the creation of capital assets. In this regard, it may be submitted that, though allocations under Capital and Revenue heads shows large gap, there is a provision for creation of capital assets within the allocation of Revenue heads also. Since 2010, Grants-in-aid has been clearly bifurcated in two parts Grants-in-aid (General) & Grants-in-aid (for creation of Capital Assets). Further, under various schemes, like Organic Value Chain Development in NE Region, Submission on Seed and Planting Material

(SMSPM), Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) have provisions for creation of assets envisaged in the guidelines of the schemes.

Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY):

As per the existing guideline of the scheme. State is required to utilize 50 % of Normal RKVY allocation (i.e. **50% of 70% of RKVY allocation**) to the States, for infrastructure & value chain development and assets creation, in pre-and post harvest management.

National Food Security Mission:

Under National Food Security Mission (Oilseeds & Oilpalm), 35 Seed hubs have been sanctioned under which permanent infrastructure for seed processing, storage are created for new variety seed production. This will help the farmers for getting quality seeds in the long run.

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CHAPTER III

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

- NIL -

CHAPTER IV

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

STATUS OF UTILIZATION CERTIFICATES RECOMMENDATION NO. 3

The issue of liquidation of Outstanding Utilization Certificates has been raised time and again by the Committee in their earlier Reports during the Sixteenth Lok Sabha. However, the Committee note that the Department is grappling with huge pendency of Utilization Certificate about the funds that are yet to be received from various State Governments. While noting the efforts put in by Department in regard to liquidation of Outstanding Utilization Certificates, they feel that the time has finally come to look at this vexed issue afresh, so as to initiate corrective measures that would comprehensively deal with the issue at hand. They, therefore, desire Department to pursue the matter proactively with all Implementing Agencies so as to be able to seek a lasting solution to this perennial problem. They should clearly indicate to the Implementing Agencies about availability of funds based on the Utilization Certificates in future to make sure that the defaulting States/UTs fall in line on this vital issue.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Department is making concerted efforts for liquidating outstanding Utilization Certificates(UCs) due from State Governments/Implementing Agencies. No release is made to State Governments/Implementing Agencies, who have not furnished UCs. The unspent balance, if any, reported in the previous year has been revalidated and adjusted against the current financial year fund release. State Governments and Implementing Agencies are reminded on regular intervals through D.O. letters and video conferencing and due to these efforts the pending UCs have come down.

	UCs Pending as on 1.4.2017	UCs Pending as on 1.4.2018	UCs pending as on 30.12.2019
No. of UCs	291	394	482
Amount (Rs/Crore)	5173.24	6259.99	4156.77

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Comments of the Committee

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

**PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURAL MECHANIZATION FOR IN-SITU
MANAGEMENT OF CROP RESIDUE
RECOMMENDATION NO. 7**

The Committee note that the Government has launched promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for in-situ Management of Crop Residue as a special Scheme to support the efforts of the government of Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and the NCT of Delhi to address air pollution and to subsidize machinery required for in-situ management of crop residue for the period from 2018-19 to 2019-20. The Committee have been informed that an allocations of Rs. 1131. 49 crore have been made for implementation of scheme since its inception. The Committee further note that farmers are being provided 50% of the cost for procurement of 8 identified machines for in-situ crop residue management by the farmers. The Department is also providing support of 80% of the project cost for establishment of Custom Hiring Centres of in-situ crop residue management machinery. The Committee have been informed that 39871 farmers in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh have benefitted from the Scheme. Whereas, 7488 Custom Hiring Centre have been established under the Scheme in three States. The Committee also note that State Governments are also exploring the ex-situ options of straw management such as use in thermal power plants, used in packing industry, Bio- CNG, Bio Ethanol etc. to stop the practice of crop stubble (Parali) burning other than those available under the Scheme. The Committee observe that the practice of crop stubble (Parali) burning is outcome of increasing mechanization in agriculture and shortage of cheap labour for agriculture operation. Further, the farmers in Punjab, Haryana, Western Uttar Pradesh and other parts of Country has little window for sowing of wheat after harvesting the Paddy Crop. Considering these factors coupled with dearth of funds force the farmers to take most easily available recourse i.e. to burn the crop stubble in field. However, this practice is least desirable and cause irreparable damage to the soil ecology which in long term will lead to loss of soil fertility and beneficial bio-organism. It is also a major source of air pollution in these areas and especially Delhi Region when weather conditions become adverse for dispersal of pollutant in outer atmosphere. The Committee further observe that this practice is going to spread to other parts of the Country due to same factors as explained earlier. The Committee are of considered view that there is need to take a long term view of this problem and take steps to solve problems being faced by the farmers. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to form an Expert Committee consisting of Scientists, Extension Officials, Farmers' Organizations and Public Representatives to study this problem in depth and identify steps to tackle the issue in entire country. The Committee also desire the Department to continue this Scheme in next financial year and to extend support to more number of farmers. The Committee also desire the Department to take an extensive awareness campaign to educate farmers about ill effects of Crop Stubble burning. The Committee would like to be apprized about steps taken in this direction within one month of presentation of this Report

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

To reduce the means of burning of crop stubble in the country, This Department has introduced Central Setor Scheme named “Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi” for the period from 2018-19 to 2019-20 is being implemented with a total outgo from the Central funds of Rs. 1151.80 crores and also implements Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization across the country since April,2014. Under SMAM, it provides the assistance for both in –situ as well as Ex-situ equipments used for crop residue upto 40% of the cost of the equipments. For speeding up the awareness campaign, Division is providing 100 % assistance for the procurement of agricultural machinery including Crop Residue Machinery and also Rs.4000/-per heactre for conducting the demonstrations at farmers’ fields through Government Identified Institutes.

To make the cost of machinery affordable and to make them available to all farmers, Govt. of India under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) is promoting establishment of ‘Custom Hiring Centres’ and Hi-tech High Productive Equipment Hub for custom hiring with the objective of offsetting the adverse economies of scale arising due to small landholding and high cost of individual ownership of machines. Under SMAM, 40% of the project cost is being provided for establishment of CHC.

The Government is promoting establishment of Custom Hiring Centres to provide machines and equipment to the small and marginal farmers on reasonable rent basis. A mobile app-based aggregator platform ‘CHC Farm Machinery’ which facilitates hiring and renting of farm machinery from and by the Custom Hiring Centres/owners of the farm machinery has also been launched in public domain which encompasses a fair and transparent rental process while focusing on quality, dependability and timely delivery of the services.

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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

IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHEMES IN NORTH EASTERN AREA RECOMMENDATION NO. 4

The Committee note that 10 percent of Plan Budget of Central Ministries are earmarked for implementation of Schemes in North Eastern Regions of Country. The Committee has been informed that the Department has made allocations of Rs. 12986.06 Crore for North Eastern regions for current financial Year. However, the Committee are surprised to note that the Department were not able to utilize funds under same Head during previous years. The Committee note that the Department has utilized only Rs. 1236.21 crore and Rs. 2202.53 crore as against allocations of Rs. 2838.27 crore and Rs. 6726.34 during 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively. The Committee have been informed by the representative of the Department that they are facing challenges in utilizing available funds in North eastern region of the Country due to less availability of agricultural land and less number of people engaged in farming in North Eastern Region of the Country. The Committee are of view that North Eastern Region of our country has unique geographical and climatic conditions which are suitable for specific crops and Horticulture and there is need of Specific Schemes for various States depending upon their local requirement and culture. The Department is not expected to implement same Schemes in North Eastern Region which are being implemented in other States. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to take steps to formulate Specific Schemes for each State or a Group of States depending upon their geo-climatic conditions, agriculture practices and scope for improvement. The Committee also recommend the Government to consult Ministry of Finance to make suitable changes in policy for allocations for Schemes specifically for North eastern region rather than carving out 10 percent fund for NE Region under each scheme. The Committee would like to be apprized about steps taken in this direction within three months of presentation of this Report.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

As per the guidelines of Ministry of Finance all schemes have to be made coterminous with the Finance commission cycle and continuation of the scheme would be based on an outcome review. The period of 14th Finance Commission is ending on 31st March, 2020, however, period of the 14th Finance commission has now been extended and an interim extension beyond 31st March, 2020 is given for period till 31st March, 2021 or till the date the recommendations of 15th FC come into effect, whichever is earlier. Schemes of the Department are under appraisal/approval for 15th Finance Commission period and formulation of specific schemes for each State or a group of States depending upon their geo-climatic

conditions, agriculture practices and scope for improvement are under active consideration.

Many existing schemes, like Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana of this Department, has inbuilt provision of flexibility to States to devise and implement the programme/projects under the scheme as per the needs of the States and their priorities. Like-wise, National Food Security Mission (NFSM) has also a component namely, Oil Palm, and its cultivation has been found suitable in North Eastern States. As on December, 2019 an area of 39400 ha has been covered in four States, namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland and Assam. In Mizoram, three Oil Palm mills have been approved out of which, one mill has been established and it has also started processing of Fresh Fruits Bunches (FFBs) of oil palm at Kolasib District. Works are in progress for other two mills also. Government of India has approved two new seed gardens for the State of Mizoram. In Arunachal Pradesh, district-wise private entrepreneurs are involved in the State for oil palm development.

National Bamboo Mission (NBM) is currently being implemented in 23 States including 8 North Eastern States. These NE States have vast resources of bamboo due to its favourable climatic and edaphic conditions.

Various components of other Schemes are also under implementation in the North Eastern Area.

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PRADHAN MANTRI FASAL BIMA YOJNA **RECOMMENDATION NO. 5**

The Committee note that Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna (PMFBY) is an ambitious scheme of Government of India PMFBY aims to provide a Comprehensive Insurance Cover against failure of the crop thus helping in stabilizing the income of the farmers. The Committee have been informed that it is a demand driven Scheme, therefore no targets are fixed. However, it is decided to increase the coverage up to 50 percent of total cropped area. The Government were also able to cover 36.4- 40.1 percent farmers under the Scheme during the period of 2016-19. The Committee note that the Government has made allocations of Rs.50924 crore since inception of Scheme in 2016-17. The Committee also note that the Insurance companies have been paid Gross Premium of Rs. 76169 crore from 2016-17 to 2018-19. The Committee have further been informed that there is very low pendency against the claims and there is 0.4 %, 0.7 % and 7.6 % pendency against lodged claim under the scheme during the year 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively. However, the Committee are astonished to note that during the same period Insurance Companies have paid only Rs. 55090 crore to the farmers against their claim. The Committee also note that farmers are facing problems in lodging complaints with the Insurance Companies due to absence of local offices of Insurance Companies at District and Block level. The

farmers also face problem in lodging complaint of loss of their crops to Insurance Companies within the stipulated time period in cases natural calamities such as flood and limited knowledge of computers, web app and mobile connectivity in remote locations. The Committee also feel that present rules for fixing unit of loss at Gram sabha level for majority of crops, limited crop cutting experiments, process of claim settlement, absence of offices of Insurance Companies at local level, etc, tilting the major benefit of Scheme in forum of the Insurance Companies rather than the farmers. The Committee are of view that there is need for comprehensive changes in rules for implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna in order to make it more farmer friendly. The Committee will deliberate on these issues during examination of subject Pradhan Mantri fasal Bima Yojna. In the meantime, the Committee recommend the Department to take necessary steps to bring changes in the Rules on the aforesaid issues so that farmers can be compensated for loss of their produce. The Committee also desire the Department to ensure a Common Helpline Number for lodging of complaints under the Scheme. The Committee also feel that inclusion of Members of Panchayati raj Institutions in crop-cutting experiment and team will make process more transparent and true to ground reality. The Committee would like to be apprized about the steps taken in this direction within one month of presentation of this Report.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Regarding the observation of the Committee on payment of claims by insurance companies, details of premium received and claims paid by the insurance companies during the year 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 are given below :

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Premium Paid				Claims Reported	Claims Approved	Claims Paid
	Farmers	State Govt.	Central Govt.	Gross Premium			
2016-17	4225	8928	8740	21894	16773	16773	16767
2017-18	4396	10515	10445	25356	21937	21868	21825
2018-19*	4879	12043	11925	28848	24352*	21883	20682
Total	13500	31486	31110	76098	63062	60524	59274

* Claims of some crops/areas for Rabi 2018-19 are not finalized.

The Committee has noted that the farmers are facing problems in lodging complaints with insurance companies due to absence of local offices of insurance companies at District level. Committee has also noted that the farmers also face problems in lodging complaint of loss of their crops to the insurance companies within stipulated time period in cases natural calamities such as flood and limited knowledge of computers, web app and mobile connectivity.

As per provisions of the scheme insurance companies have to open a functional office at Tehsil level in each district, deployment of at least one agent at block level in the allocated districts and have to deploy one agriculture graduate in each district.

This is one of the key performance indicators and specific points have been allocated for non-performance of this provision at the time of monitoring/evaluation of empanelled insurance companies and further imposition of monetary penalty.

The concerned State Governments have been asked to take action including imposing of penalty against defaulting insurance companies as per the Revised Operational Guidelines of the scheme.

Further, to redress the complaints at district/State level stratified grievance redressal mechanism viz. District Level Grievance Redressal Committee (DGRC), State Level Grievance Redressal Committee (SGRC) has been made in the Revised Operational Guidelines of the PMFBY. 13 States have already constituted DGRC and SGRC in their States. Constitution of these committees is in process in other States/UTs. The details of the information received regarding constitution of the said committee may be seen as under:-

Constitution Status of District Level Grievance Redressal Committee (DGRC) and State Level Grievance Redressal Committee (SGRC) under PMFBY/RWBCIS			
S.No.	State	Constitution of Grievance Committees	
		DGRC	SGRC
1	Andhra Pradesh	Constituted	Constituted
2	Assam	Constituted	Constituted
3	Karnataka	Constituted	Constituted
4	Kerala	Constituted	Constituted
5	Maharashtra	Constituted	Constituted
6	Rajasthan	Constituted	Constituted
7	Tamil Nadu	Constituted	Constituted
8	Uttar Pradesh	Constituted	Constituted
9	Gujarat	Under process	Constituted
10	Telangana	Under process	Constituted
11	Uttarakhand	Notification Issued	Constituted
12	Jammu and Kashmir	Proposed	Constituted
13	Jharkhand	Proposed	Notification Issued
14	Andaman & Nicobar	Yet not constituted	Proposed
15	Madhya Pradesh	Yet not constituted	Under process
16	Manipur	Yet not constituted	Yet not constituted
17	Puduchery	Yet not constituted	Yet not constituted
18	Tripura	Yet not constituted	Yet not constituted
19	Chhattisgarh	No information received	Yet not constituted
20	Himachal Pradesh	No information received	Yet not constituted
21	Haryana	No information received	No information received

As regards intimation of loss by farmers to insurance companies, it is stated that the farmers need not to intimate losses in cases of widespread calamities like flood, drought etc. Claims are automatically calculated and settled by the insurance companies on the basis of the yield data received from the insurance companies. However, in case of localised losses due to landslide, hailstorm, inundation, cloud burst & natural fire and post harvest losses, due to cyclonic/seasonal rains and hailstorm, farmers are required to intimate the farm level loss to insurance companies directly or on their toll free number, financial institutions/banks, Agriculture/ Horticulture/Cooperation Department of State Government within 72 hours of loss. Further, 48 hours have been provided to financial institutions and State Government to intimate the loss to Insurance Companies.

With regard to Committee's observation that the scheme is tilting in favour of insurance companies rather than farmers it is stated that the Crop insurance is a major risk mitigation tool for the benefit of farmers. Insurance is all about spreading the risk over the period and over the area. As per provisions of the PMFBY/RWBCIS, premium from farmers alongwith Central and State Government share in premium subsidy is paid to the concerned insurance company for acceptance of risk and payment of claims as per provision of the scheme. Insurers save premium in good seasons/years and pay high claims, if any in bad years from the savings made in the good years.

In spite of overall good monsoon during first three years of implementation of PMFBY, the claim ratio during 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 was about 77%, 87% and 87% (provisional) respectively. Overall claim ratio for the three years combined (2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19) comes to about 83.66%. But the farmers in most affected areas/States received higher claims and the claim ratio was high in these States viz. Kerala 209% and Karnataka-136%, during Kharif 2016, Tamil Nadu – 298% and Andhra Pradesh 179% during Rabi 2016-17. Similarly during Kharif 2017, the higher claim ratio was in the States of Chhattisgarh – 452%, Haryana – 270%, Madhya Pradesh – 161% and Odisha – 217%. During Rabi 2017-18 high claim ratio States were Odisha (226%), Tamil Nadu (148%) and Chhattisgarh (109%). Though complete data for Kharif 2018 season is not available, high Claims ratio has been reported in States of Haryana (140%), Uttarakhand (115%) and Chhattisgarh (124%). Further, the cost of reinsurance and administrative cost totaling 10% to 12% of gross premium also has to be borne by the Insurance Companies.

With respect to common Helpline number it is informed that every insurance company has its own toll-free helpline numbers. Keeping in view the number of insurance companies in different States, it may not be feasible to have a common helpline number. However, all the empanelled insurance companies have been asked to find the feasibility of 3-4 digit helpline numbers.

Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) are being conducted by the concerned State Government as per set scientific procedure. The State Governments can involve the Panchayati Raj institutions in CCEs.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
(Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare)
F.No. 6-7/2019-B&A dated 09/03/2020]

PRADHAN MANTRI KISAN SAMMAN NIDHI (PM-KISAN)
RECOMMENDATION NO. 6

The Committee note that PM-Kisan Scheme was initiated by the Central Government with effect from 01 December, 2018 with a view to provide income support to all farmer families across the country, to enable them to take care of expenses related to Agriculture and Allied Activities as well as domestic needs. The Committee note that the Scheme intend to protect farmers from falling in the clutches of money lenders for meeting such expenses and ensure their continuance in the farming activities. Farmers are provided a payment of Rs. 6000 per year in three installments of Rs. 2000. The Committee note that the Department has transferred Rs. 32579 crore to the farmers as on 21 October, 2019. The Committee further note that the Department were able to register only 7,17,42,959 farmers till 06 November, 2019 as against target of Registering 14 crore farmers. The Committee has been informed that Department is facing various issues such as Non availability of proper land records in many States, Demographic authentication of Aadhar data, incorrect bank accounts, poor internet connectivity in the rural areas hampering uploading of data on PM-KISAN portal, slow pace of identification of beneficiaries and uploading data by State Governments etc. during implementation of the Scheme. The Committee are of the view that PM -Kisan is a game changer Scheme which is providing funds directly in to the accounts of farmers avoiding middleman and leakage. The amount being provided under the Scheme may solve crunch of funds faced by farmers during agriculture operations. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Government to take steps to sort out the issues as mentioned earlier in order to enhance the enrolment of farmers under the Scheme. The Committee desire the Department to enhance coordination with the State Governments where enrolment is slow and take corrective steps.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

1. The Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme was approved by the Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 1.2.2019. The Scheme was initially approved only for Small & Marginal Farmers. The Cabinet thereafter considered and approved modifications in the modalities relating to application of Aadhaar in its implementation, in its meeting held on 27.2.2019. Later, by a decision of the Union Cabinet dated 31.5.2019, the scheme was extended to all farmers in the country. By another decision of the Union Cabinet dated 8.10.2019, the mandatory requirement of

Aadhaar seeded data of beneficiaries was relaxed for instalments falling upto 30th November, 2019 and enforced for all instalments falling due on or after 1st December, 2019 instead of *from 1st August, 2019*.

2. The PM-KISAN Scheme is, therefore, being implemented with continuous improvements / changes in the shape, modalities and mechanism of the Scheme during the progress of its implementation and its performance over time. As on 11.02.2020, on the basis of the data of beneficiaries uploaded on the PM-Kisan web portal by the State/UT Governments, 8,45,24,847 beneficiaries have been given the financial benefit under the scheme.

3. The Committee has, in its observations in para 2.41 of the Report, in response to the query of the Committee regarding the problems being faced by the State Governments in implementation of the PM-KISAN Scheme, referred to the following comments of the Department:

“The Division organizes weekly video conference with Senior Officials of State / UT Governments and State Nodal Officers of PM-KISAN. Some of the difficulties faced by them, as voiced in various VCs are detailed below:

(a) Non-availability of proper land records: In some of the States like Bihar, Jharkhand, U.P. etc the lack of proper land records pose a difficulty in identifying the actual beneficiaries. In some cases, death of land holder took place way back but transfer of rights to his / her legal heirs has not been recorded / updated in the land records. In some States like Punjab many lands have been mutated but proper records are not available.

In most of the North Eastern States where ownership of land depends on various custom, as the land is mostly community-owned. Issues regarding Forest Rights Act has also been addressed.

(b) Demographic authentication of Aadhaar data is slowing down the release process as there are a lot of cases where the names entered in the data base of PM-KISAN does not match with the names as available in their Aadhaar.

(c) Also details of incorrect bank account does not allow the benefit to be credited unless it is identical with data as available in their Aadhaar and land records.

(d) In some rural belts, poor internet connectivity hampers uploading of data in PM-KISAN portal.

(e) The progress of the scheme depends on the promptness of the State Government in identifying the beneficiaries and uploading their correct data. As of now, West Bengal is the only State which is not implementing PM-KISAN.

4. In the above regard, with respect to the recommendations of the Committee, it is stated that the entire responsibility of identification of eligible beneficiary farmer families and uploading their correct details on the web-portal www.pmkisan.gov.in

for getting them the benefits of the Kisan Samman Nidhi rests with the concerned State/UT Government. The State/UT Governments are required to identify eligible beneficiaries based on the available land records and as per the Operational Guidelines of the Scheme, which also entails applying all exclusion criteria for the purpose. All the States have been identifying the beneficiaries and helping implementation of the Scheme, except West Bengal.

5. The data of beneficiaries uploaded by the State / UT Governments undergoes a multi-level verification and validation by various concerned agencies, including the banks, which includes rejection of data for errors at various levels and re-uploading of error-free data by the State / UT Governments. Thereafter only the amount is successfully transferred into the bank accounts of the beneficiaries. This entire process is replicated for transfer of every installment.

6. For enrollment, the farmer is required to approach the local patwari / revenue officer / Nodal Officer (PM-Kisan) nominated by the State Government.

7. Keeping in view the land holding patterns, special provisions for North East States, forest dweller tribal population and Jharkhand have been made as detailed below:

(i) **For NE States:** In some of the North Eastern States, the land ownership rights are community based. In such States an alternate implementation mechanism of eligibility has been developed for the farmers and is implemented with the approval of the Committee comprising of Ministers of Ministry of Development of North East Region (DoNER), Ministry of Land Resources, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and concerned State Chief Ministers or State nominated Minister.

➤ Manipur: In case of Manipur, the certificate issued by the Village authority, namely, the Chairman/Chief, authorizing any tribal family to cultivate a piece of land, may be accepted. Such certification of village Chairman/Chief shall be authenticated by the concerned sub-divisional officers, subject to the exclusion criteria enshrined in the Scheme.

➤ Nagaland:

➤ (a) In case of community owned cultivable land in the state of Nagaland which is under permanent cultivation, for identification of beneficiaries under PM-KISAN, the certificate issued by the village council/authority/village chieftain regarding land holding, duly verified by the administrative head of the circle/sub division and countersigned by the Deputy Commissioner of the District shall suffice subject to the exclusions under the operational guidelines.

(b) In case of cultivable land in the State of Nagaland which is categorised as Jhum land as per definition under Section – 2 (7) of the Nagaland Jhum Land Act, 1970 and which is owned by the community / clan / village council / village chieftan, the identification of beneficiaries under PM-Kisan scheme, shall be on the basis of certification of land holding by the village council /

chief / head of the village, duly verified by the administrative head of the circle/sub division and countersigned by the Deputy Commissioner of the District. Provided that the name of the beneficiary is included in the state of Nagaland's Agriculture Census of 2015-16. This proviso shall not be applicable in cases of succession and family partition. The list of such beneficiaries shall be subject to the exclusions under the operational guidelines.

(ii) For Forest dweller tribes: The Government has decided to include forest dwelling tribals for benefits under the PM-Kisan Scheme who have been given 'Pattas' under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, subject to other eligibility conditions.

(iii) Jharkhand: Jharkhand does not have updated land records, as for many decades the mutation of land records on the basis of succession have not been recorded. Further, transfer of land is also restricted in these areas. This posed a difficulty in the implementation of the Scheme in Jharkhand. Therefore, the following procedure has been adopted for identification of beneficiaries under PM-KISAN Scheme in Jharkhand –

"The farmer shall be asked to submit 'Vanshavali' (Lineage) linked to the entry of land record comprising his/her ancestor's name giving a chart of succession. This lineage chart shall be submitted before the Gram Sabha for calling objections. After approval of the Gram Sabha, the village level/Circle level revenue officials will verify and authenticate the Vanshawali and possession of holding. This authenticated list of farmers after due verification of succession chart shall be countersigned by the District level Revenue authority. Farmers' names, subject to the exclusion criterion after following the aforementioned process, shall be uploaded on the PM-KISAN portal along with other required details for disbursement of benefit under the Scheme."

8. Release of financial benefits under PM-Kisan Scheme for the 4-monthly period w.e.f. 1st August, 2019 onwards was to be made only on the basis of Aadhaar seeded database, except in respect of the States of Assam, Meghalaya and J&K, which will remain exempted from this requirement till 31.3.2020. In view of delay in completing the work of Aadhaar seeding of data of beneficiaries by the State Governments and consequent delay in release of financial benefit to the farmers, by a decision of the Union Cabinet dated 9.10.2019, this mandatory requirement was relaxed upto 30.11.2019. The mandatory requirement of Aadhaar seeding of beneficiaries was accordingly applicable for release of all instalments falling due w.e.f. 1st December, 2019 onwards. Therefore, no releases are being made under the scheme for instalments falling due on or after 1st December, 2019 except on the basis of Aadhaar seeded data of beneficiaries, with the exception of the beneficiaries in the States of Assam, Meghalaya and Jammu & Kashmir who were exempted till 31.3.2020.

9. The State Governments have been continuously requested and vigorously pursued for completing the exercise at the earliest, in mission mode and by organizing camps. Every Tuesday, a meeting is being held with State Governments and other concerned stakeholders through Video Conferencing to review the preparedness of the States and remove any handicaps coming in the way of smooth and seamless implementation of the scheme, including Aadhaar seeding of data of beneficiaries thereof.

10. The Department of Financial Services and the system of banks and the National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) have been kept in close loop to iron out any bottlenecks.

11. On the advice of the Union Government, the States have also been organizing publicity/awareness camps to ensure expeditious Aadhaar authentication of the data of the beneficiaries along with new registrations and correction of already registered data.

12. Weekly Video Conferences are conducted with all States to encourage States/UTs for faster implementation, review the status of implementation of the Scheme and to address any and all the issues therein. The target of the Department is to achieve 100% saturation by enrolling every eligible farmer family of the country under the PM-KISAN Scheme. To achieve this the States/UTs have been directed to conduct various saturation drives based on the analysis of enrolments from all over the country done by the Department and physical verification of the beneficiaries have also been undertaken.

13. To achieve 100% Saturation, a special facility has been provided to the farmers in the PM-Kisan portal, namely, Farmers Corner. Through this facility, the farmers can also do their self-registration through the Farmers Corner in the portal. Farmers can also edit their names in PM-Kisan database as per their Aadhaar database / card through the Farmers Corner in the portal. Farmers can also know the status of their payment through the Farmers Corner in the portal. Village-wise details of beneficiaries are also available on the Farmers Corner. The Common Service Centres (CSCs) have also been authorized to do registration of the farmers for the Scheme upon payment of fees. The above facilities on Farmers Corner are also available through CSCs.

14. A special Mobile APP has also been launched on 24th February, 2020 on the 1st anniversary of completion of one year of successful implementation of scheme. The APP provides the facilities available through Farmers Corner.

15. The Government of West Bengal has also been repeatedly requested to join the scheme and enable the Union Government to extend its benefits to the farmers of the State.

16. As per para 10.5 of the Operational Guidelines of the PM-KISAN Scheme, the States/UTs are required to undertake physical verification of about 5% of the beneficiaries for ascertaining their eligibility. Accordingly, the Department has

initiated an exercise through the State/UT Governments to conduct a random survey to establish the correctness of data. The States/UTs were asked that an appropriate mechanism at the District level may be structured for ensuring the process of verification. The State Nodal Officers are expected to supervise the overall process of verification. If felt necessary, external monitors / agency can also be engaged in this exercise. The District-wise list of villages was finalized by the Department on random selection basis to cover approximately 2.5% of the beneficiaries and this list was provided to State Nodal Officers. The States/UTs were asked to decide on the process for verification in respect of the remaining 2.5% of the beneficiaries.

17. The Department has also selected 5000 Aadhaar-authenticated beneficiaries throughout the country on random selection basis and has asked the concerned State/UT Governments to verify their status / eligibility.

18. States which have achieved saturation status vis-a-vis the estimated number of beneficiaries as per the Agriculture Census, 2015-16, which is basis for the scheme, have been asked to conduct verification drives in 5 villages which have reported lowest saturation status. Similarly, these States have been asked to conduct verification drives in villages with highest saturation status.

19. So far, as on 24.02.2020, 9.84 crore beneficiary farmer families have been registered under the Scheme, out of which the benefits of the scheme have been provided to 8.46 crore beneficiary farmers families after the receipt of 100% verified data from State/UT Government and their validation through Aadhar/PFMS.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
(Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare)
F.No. 6-7/2019-B&A dated 09/03/2020]

Comments of the Committee

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

GRAMIN AGRICULTURAL MARKETS (GRAMS) **RECOMMENDATION NO. 8**

The Committee note that Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMS) Scheme was conceptualized to develop and upgrade existing 22,000 rural haats into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs) during 2018-19. These GrAMS were expected to be electronically linked to e-NAM and exempted from regulations of APMCs, which would facilitate farmers to make direct sale to consumers and bulk purchasers. Physical infrastructures in these Grams are aimed to be strengthened using MGNREGA and other Government Schemes. The Committee have been informed that the Department has completed 376 village haats taken up under MGNREGA with an expenditure of Rs. 10.45 crore, whereas, work in 633 Village haats are under process. The Committee

have been informed that Department is facing issues such as involvement of multiple departments and organizations in States, issue of title of ownership of land of existing Village Haats and apprehension by some States to avail AMIF loan due to their increasing loan portfolio during implementation of the Scheme. The Committee recall that in their 62 Report (16 Lok Sabha), they have recommended to make 'GrAM Scheme' fully funded Central Scheme. However, the Committee note with regret that the Department has not taken any initiative to convert 'GrAM Scheme' into fully funded Central Scheme which is deterring many States to implement this Scheme. The Committee also note that progress of construction of GrAM Haat is also progressing very slowly and none of the modernized Haats has been inaugurated so far. The Committee are of view that farmers of country need multiple platform with modern facilities to sell their produce in order to get remunerative price for their produce and modernized Gramin Haat will be a boon for them. The Committee, therefore, recommend the Department to make this Scheme fully Centrally Funded. The Committee also desire the Department to fix deadline under the Scheme for completion of Modernized Haats in current financial year and take steps to enhance the pace of work under the Scheme.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

As per announcement in the Union Budget, 2018-19, physical infrastructure was to be strengthened through MGNREGS and other Government Schemes. In order to properly coordinate and expedite the progress of work, an Inter-Ministerial Committee has been constituted. It was observed that work under MGNREGS is wages centric and it is on sharing of 60% (wages cost) and 40% (material cost) while construction of Haats is material centric. Therefore, Department is examining to put in place some fully Centrally Funded Scheme to top up material cost. Further, Department will consider to further incentivize development of marketing and value addition infrastructure in GrAMs through Central Sector Scheme in addition to Agri-Marketing Infrastructure Fund (AMIF).

As regards strengthening of physical infrastructure of village haats through MGNREGS of Ministry of Rural Development, it is stated that as per provisions of the Mahatama Gandhi NREG Act 2005, Mahatama Gandhi NREGA is a demand driven programme with bottom up approach; no target is fixed by Ministry of Rural Development for completion of any specific work. The Gram Panchayat is responsible for identification of GrAMs projects in the Gram Panchayat Area to be taken under the scheme as per recommendations of the Gram Sabha/Ward Sabha, and for executing and supervising such works. Further, the mandate of MGNREGS is limited to constructing physical infrastructure of village haats. State/UTs are persuaded to complete haat projects at the earliest. Ministry of Rural Development, based on demand in the field, releases requisite funds as per approved Labour Budget, based on shelf of projects including construction of haats.

MoRD has provided a list of 1154 Rural *haats* wherein work under MGNREGA has either been completed or in progress of development. So far, no State has availed any assistance under AMIF to develop the marketing infrastructure in GrAMs.

[Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
(Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare)
F.No. 6-7/2019-B&A dated 09/03/2020]

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 Shriniwas 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) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX

(iv) Draft Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations on Sixth Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2019-20) on 'Demands for Grants (2019-20)' of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare);

*(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

Appendix

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON
THE SIXTH REPORT (17th LOK SABHA) OF
STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (2019-20)
(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

(i)	Total number of Recommendations	08
(ii)	Recommendations/Observations which have been Accepted by the Government Para Nos. 1 & 2	
	Total	02
	Percentage	25.00%
(iii)	Recommendations/Observations which the Committee Do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies Para No. Nil	
	Total	00
	Percentage	00.00%
(iv)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee Para Nos. 3 & 7	
	Total	02
	Percentage	25.00%
(v)	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Final replies of the Government are still awaited Para Nos. 4, 5, 6 and 8	
	Total	04
	Percentage	50.00%