

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY
AND FOOD PROCESSING**

(2021-2022)

SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA

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

'DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2021-22)'

**{Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/
Recommendations contained in the Twenty Seventh Report (Seventeenth Lok
Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2020-21)}**

THIRTY FOURTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

DECEMBER 2021/AGRAHAYANA, 1943 (Saka)

THIRTY FOURTH REPORT

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY
AND FOOD PROCESSING**

(2021-2022)

(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)

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

'DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (2021-22)'

**{Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/
Recommendations contained in the Twenty Seventh Report (Seventeenth Lok
Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2020-21)}**

Presented to Lok Sabha on

14.12.2021

Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on

14.12.2021



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

DECEMBER 2021/AGRAHAYANA, 1943 (Saka)

COA No. 433

Price: Rs.

© 2021 By Lok Sabha Secretariat

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

<CONTENTS>

	PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE (2021-22).....	(iii)
INTRODUCTION.....	(v)
CHAPTER I Report	1
CHAPTER II Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government	8
CHAPTER III Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies	20
CHAPTER IV Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee	21
CHAPTER V Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited	25

ANNEXURE

Minutes of the 5th Sitting of the Committee held on 07.12.2021	26
--	----

APPENDIX

Analysis of Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Twenty Seventh Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2020-21).	28
---	----

**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL
HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING* (2021-22)**
Shri P.C. 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 Mohan Mandavi
9. Shri Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu
10. Shri Devji Mansingram Patel
11. Smt. Shardaben Anilbhai Patel
12. Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao Patil
13. Shri Shriniwaas Dadasaheb Patil
14. Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut
15. Shri Pocha Brahmananda Reddy
16. Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy
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. Smt. Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara
24. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa
25. Shri Surendra Singh Nagar
26. Shri Kailash Soni
27. Shri Ram Nath Thakur
28. Shri Vaiko
29. Shri Harnath Singh Yadav
30. VACANT
31. VACANT

* Standing Committee on Agriculture renamed as Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing vide Para No. 3293, Bulletin Part-II, dated 23.11.2021.

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Shiv Kumar - Joint Secretary
2. Ms. Juby Amar - Director
3. Shri Nagender Singh - Executive Officer

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing (2021-22), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Thirty Fourth Report on action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Twenty Seventh Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2020-21) on 'Demands for Grants (2021-22)' pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries).

2. The Twenty Seventh Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2020-21) on 'Demands for Grants (2021-22)' 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 17 March, 2021. The Action Taken Notes on the Report were received on 26.07.2021

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their Sitting held on 07.12.2021.

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

NEW DELHI;
07 December, 2021
16 Agrahayana, 1943(Saka)

P.C. GADDIGOUDAR,
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture,
Animal Husbandry and Food Processing

CHAPTER-I

REPORT

This Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture deals with the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Twenty Seventh Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture (2020-2021) on Demands for Grants (2021-22) 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 17.03.2021.

1.2 The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries) has furnished Action Taken Replies in respect of all the 09 Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report. These replies given by the Ministry after scrutiny have been categorized as follows:

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

Recommendation Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9

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 Nos. 4, 5

Chapter- IV
Total- 02

- (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. SCHEDULED CASTE SUB PLAN (SCSP)

RECOMMENDATION (PARA NO. 4)

1.5 The Committee had observed/ recommended:-

The Committee note that the Department is implementing various Schemes, mainly aimed at strengthening the infrastructure of the State Governments for the development of Fisheries Sector. Most of the Schemes of the Department are not directly beneficiary-oriented. A large population of the Country belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other weaker sections of the society and women are also engaged to a large extent in the activities in the Fisheries Sector. As a corollary, the various Schemes implemented by the Department benefit these Sections of the Society. However the Committee are perturbed to note that the Department has not been able to fully utilize the funds allocated under SCSP. The Committee note that the Department was able to utilize Rs 80.95 Crore, Rs 71.62 Crore and Rs 54.82 Crore as against allocations of Rs 100.16 Crore, Rs 88.25 Crore and Rs 118.10 Crore during years 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 (till 31.01.2021) respectively. The year- wise Percentage Utilization stands at 80.52%, 81.15% and 46.41% for year 2018- 19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 respectively. The Committee believe that less utilization of funds under SCSP will not help the Scheduled Caste Communities which are often

the most poor and vulnerable sections of our society. Therefore the Committee desire the Department to make earnest efforts to raise awareness about its Schemes among SC population through wider publicity campaign in Regional Languages. The Committee also recommend the Department to take up this issue with the respective State/UT Governments - where fund utilization under SCSP is low in order to convince them to make full use of the Schemes intended for SC Population by the Centre.

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

To raise awareness about Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) through outdoor media campaigns among fishers/fish farmers including SC population, NFDB had assisted for erecting 160 No. of Hoardings on PMMSY scheme in regional languages in Phase-I in 6 states namely Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Orissa, Telangana and Goa, and 263 No. of Hoardings in Phase-II in 6 states namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. NFDB had also publicized PMMSY scheme on digital platforms through Way2News Pvt. Ltd. by posting the Ad in their App platform in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

A total of 8.14 lakh fishers/fish farmers and other stakeholders including SC population were covered so far through outreach activities undertaken on World Fisheries Day 2020 celebrations, post World Fisheries Day celebrations in various States/UTs, fish festivals, webinars/virtual training programmes conducted in collaboration with various State Governments, ICAR-Fisheries Institutes, Extension functionaries such as KVKs, Aqua one centres. Pamphlets and brochures on PMMSY were also distributed to fishers and fish farmers, which covers SC population also.

Department of Fisheries has been pursuing with States/UTs to submit proposals under PMMSY covering beneficiaries from various categories including Scheduled Castes. Under PMMSY during the year 2020-21,

Department was able to utilize Rs 118.08 crore against the allocations of Rs 118.10 Crore (RE) which is 99.98%.

- 1.7 While noting less utilization of funds under SCSP which stands at 80.52%, 81.15% and 46.41% (till 31.01.2021) for the year 2018- 19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 respectively, the Committee had desired the Department to make earnest efforts to raise awareness about its Schemes among SC population through wider publicity campaign in Regional Languages. The Committee had also recommended the Department to take up the issue with the respective State/UT Governments - where fund utilization under SCSP is low in order to convince them to make full use of the Schemes intended for SC Population by the Centre. The Department, in its reply, has submitted that for raising awareness about PMMSY through outdoor media campaigns among Fishers/Fish Farmers including SC Population, National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) had assisted for erecting 160 No. of Hoardings on PMMSY Scheme in Regional Languages in Phase-I in 6 States namely Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Orissa, Telangana and Goa, and 263 No. of Hoardings in Phase-II in 6 states namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. NFDB had also publicized PMMSY on digital platforms through Way2News Pvt. Ltd. by posting the Ad on their App platform in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The Department has further stated that it has been pursuing the States/UTs to submit proposals under PMMSY covering beneficiaries from various categories including Scheduled Castes. The Committee note that under PMMSY during the year 2020-21, Department was able to utilize Rs 118.08 crore against the allocations of Rs 118.10 Crore (RE), which is 99.98%. The Committee appreciate the Department for almost complete utilization of funds under SCSP during the year 2020-21. However, the Committee are dissatisfied to note that some States with significant SC population such as Punjab, West**

Bengal, Maharashtra etc. have not been covered under outdoor media campaigns among Fishers/Fish Farmers including SC Population for PMMSY. The Committee also note the digital campaigning for PMMSY has been taken up in only two States – Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The Committee, therefore, again recommend the Department to undertake aggressive campaigning of its Schemes for SC population on a large scale in maximum States/UTs so that intended benefits of Department’s Scheme reach a large portion of SC population. The Committee would like to be apprised of Steps taken in this regard.

B. DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERY INFRASTRUCUTRE

RECOMMENDATION (PARA NO. 5)

1.8 The Committee had observed/ recommended:-

The Committee note that under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), a sum of Rs 3490 crore has been earmarked for Construction/Expansion of Fishing Harbour and Fish Landing Centre including modernization of existing Fishing harbor. Out of this Rs 3490 crore, Rs 2400 crore has been earmarked for Construction/Expansion of Fishing Harbours (12 No); Rs 400 crore for Modernization/Upgradation of existing Fishing Harbour (8 No); Rs 625 crore for Modern Integrated landing centres; and Rs 65 crore for Maintenance Dredging (13 No). The Committee also observe that Fish Harbours and Fish landing Centres are proposed to be developed at feasible locations along the rivers Brahmaputra and Ganga for boosting the Inland Fisheries. The Committee note that the Fisheries Sector suffers from huge Post-harvest Losses which was around 25% in year 2018-19 and PMMSY intends to bring it down to 10% by 2024-25. The Committee believe that modernization of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres will help in bringing down the Post-harvest losses in the Fisheries Sector; which will ultimately augment the income of Fishermen. The Committee appreciate this Venture of the Government. However, the Committee desire the Department to make earnest efforts to realize and achieve the physical

Targets Set for Modernization of Harbours and Fish Landing Centres. The time bound completion of Projects under this will surely benefit the Fishing Community and help in developing Ecologically healthy, Viable and Socially Inclusive Fishing Sector.

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

The observations of the Committee have been noted by the Department. The Department of Fisheries is reviewing the Construction/Expansion of Fishing Harbour, Fish Landing Centre including modernization of existing Fishing harbor and other post harvest activities with the concerned State Governments and Union Territories for timely execution of the projects. The flagship scheme PMMSY envisaged proper cold storage facilities along the value chain, smart processing and packaging, value addition, technology interventions in transportation to avert spoilage which can bring down post-harvest losses in the fisheries sector.

Government of India in its budget 2021-22 has announced development of 5 Major Fishing Harbours namely Kochi, Chennai, Visakhapatnam, Paradip, and Petuaghat as hubs of economic activities and also to develop inland fishing harbours and fish-landing centres along the banks of rivers and waterways. Accordingly 4 Fishing Harbours of Kochi, Chennai, Visakhapatnam & Paradip under aegis of Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways and Fishing Harbour at Petuaghat in West Bengal is a State Government Harbour.

The feasibility study for Construction/Expansion of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centre is being commissioned by the Department. Based on the recommendations of the report, the Department will decide on the future course of action on the proposal of development of large infrastructure like fishing harbours in PPP mode through various models such as Viability Gap Funding (VGF), revenue sharing etc. Suitable Models for self-sustaining

Operations & Management including creation of SPV. The feasibility of implementing large infra projects of PMMSY under PPP being explored.

- 1.10 Emphasizing on the necessity of modern Infrastructure in Fishery Sector for bringing down Post Harvest Losses in this Sector from 25% in year 2018-19 to 10% by 2024-25 under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), the Committee had desired the Department to make earnest efforts to realize and achieve the Physical Target set for Modernization of Harbours and Fish Landing Centres. The Department, in its reply, has stated that it is reviewing the Construction/Expansion of Fishing Harbour, Fish Landing Centre including modernization of existing Fishing harbor and other post harvest activities with the concerned State Governments and Union Territories for timely execution of the projects. Also, Government of India in its Budget 2021-22 has announced development of 5 Major Fishing Harbours namely Kochi, Chennai, Visakhapatnam, Paradip, and Petuaghat as Hubs of economic activities and also to develop Inland Fishing Harbours and Fish-landing Centres along the banks of rivers and waterways. The Department has further submitted that the feasibility study for Construction/Expansion of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres is being commissioned by the Department. However the Committee are not fully satisfied with the Reply of the Department. The Department has not clearly stated the progress made under Construction/Expansion of Fishing Harbour and Fish Landing Centres including Modernization of Existing Fishing Harbour. Also the feasibility study for Construction/Expansion of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres is still being commissioned despite an announcement to this effect made in the Budget 2021-22. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their recommendation that earnest efforts be made by the Department to realize and achieve the Physical Targets set and also ensure completion of Projects in time-bound manner.**

CHAPTER - II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

ANALYSIS OF DEMANDS

The Committee note that the Department of Fisheries has been allocated Rs 1220.84 crore at BE stage in year 2021-22 which is 2.51% more than the RE Stage allocation in year 2020-21. The Allocation of the Department is 0.03% in the Central Plan Outlay of Government of India. The Committee also observe that in year 2019-20, the Department proposed funds worth Rs 1543.18 crore, Fund allocated by Finance Ministry at RE Stage is Rs. 700.00 crore out of which Actual Expenditure made is Rs 655.74 crore. In year 2020-21, the proposed fund was Rs 3586.11, the allocation made at RE Stage was Rs 910.42 crore and from this Rs 564.61 crore (as on 31.12.2020) were spent. The Committee are dismayed to note that despite proposing huge funds, the Department has not been able to fully utilize the funds allocated to it in previous years. The Committee believes that less utilization of allocated funds will not help in achieving the targets and mandate of the Department of alleviating poverty amongst Fishermen at large. Therefore, the Committee recommend the Department to identify the lacunae and reasons for less utilization of funds. The Department should formulate concrete action plan in this regard and strive for optimal utilization of allocated funds.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Revised estimate during the FY 2020-21 was 910.42 crore against the Budget Estimate of Rs. 825.00 crore. Department of Fisheries has been utilized Rs. 883.84 crore out of the RE received during the FY 2020-21. The flagship scheme PMMSY received overwhelming responses from the States/Union Territories (UTs) and other agencies. During 2020-21, the first year of the scheme, proposals with a total outlay of Rs.2881.41 crore with central share of Rs.1089.86 crore were

approved and Rs. 699.72 crore as Central funds released to State/UT governments against the allocation of Rs. 700 crore. The surrender of savings from Department of Fisheries was mainly from non-scheme component of fisheries institutes and Secretariat Economic Services. The Saving was due to less receipt of the Medical bills, TA bills, Office Expenses, Rent Rates & Taxes, Other Administrative Expenses and Profession services under the Secretariat owing to Covid 19. Both domestic and foreign tours were not undertaken and no expenditure was incurred on these heads due to the nationwide lock-down imposed by the Govt. in the wake of Covid-19. Land leasing issues could not be settled with Visakhapatnam port trust and Ministry of Shipping, hence the funds allocated was unutilized. No expenditure was incurred on organizing Workshops/ Symposium/ Street Plan/Open House on board the vessel for disseminating the scientific inputs to the end-users.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

FUND SURRENDERED

The Committee observe that the Department was able to utilize Rs 655.74 Crore out of Rs 700.00 crore (RE Stage) in the year 2019-20. The percentage utilization w.r.t RE in the same year stands at 93.68%. The Department has submitted before the Committee that there was saving of Rs. 44.26 crores during financial year 2019-20 mainly on account of technical failure of PFMS portal for release of funds to the States/UTs and savings under the Salary Head due to vacant posts at Head Quarters and Institutes. The Committee deplore this lackadaisical attitude of the Department as the saving of Rs 44.26 crore on both account of technical failure of PFMS Portal and Salary due to vacant posts at Head Quarters and various Institutes under the purview of the Department, cannot be taken as 'saving' per se. The Committee believe that non-release of funds to States would have hampered the implementation of Schemes run by the Department. The Committee also believe that due to lack of sufficient man-power at Head Quarter and Institutes under the purview of the Department, their effective functioning is bound to suffer. Therefore, the Committee recommend the Department to ensure timely release of funds to States/UTs and rectify any technical error in PFMS Portal in

future as early as possible. Further, the Committee also desire the Department to make earnest efforts to fill vacant posts at Head Quarters as well as at other Institutes under the Department so that they can function effectively. The Committee would like to be apprised of steps taken in the matter.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The recommendation by the Committee has been noted by the Department and the issue regarding fill the vacant posts at Head Quarters as well as at other Institutes under the Department are in progress at various stages.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 3

STATUS OF UTILIZATION OF CERTIFICATES

The Committee note that the Department has huge pendency of Utilization Certificates from the State Governments. The Committee observe that Amount of UCs from various States is increasing year after year e.g. it was Rs 747.22 crore in year 2019, Rs 824.54 crore in year 2020 and Rs. 888.35 crore in Year 2021 (till 31st Jan 2021). The Committee were informed that huge pendency of UCs is mainly due to unavailability of State Share in Centrally Sponsored Schemes. As a consequence of this, the Implementing agency could not even utilize the Central's Share of funds leading to jump in unutilized funds. This surely leads to failure of the Schemes run by the Department as they cannot be implemented effectively. The Committee in their earlier Report (5th Report 17th Lok Sabha) have also looked into this issue and had recommended the Department to explore the possibility of changing funding pattern between Centre and States in the ratio of 75:25 or 80:20 between centre and State respectively so that its Schemes do not suffer due to unavailability of States' Share. The Committee believe that mere issuing of advisories and review meetings will not yield the desired results. Therefore, the Committee recommend the Department to seriously look into this issue and take concrete steps, such as earlier recommended by the Committee, to solve this problem of increasing Unutilized Funds. The Committee further

recommend the Government to suitably enhance allocation of funds to the Department so that it may change the funding pattern of Schemes run by it. The Committee would like to be apprised of steps taken in this regard.

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. However, in the newly implemented flagship scheme approved by the Government envisaged financial assistance of both Centre and State/UTs governments together will be limited to 40% of the project/unit cost for General category and 60% of the project/unit cost for SC/ST/Women. The Government financial assistance will in turn be shared between Centre and State/UTs in the following ratio:

- (a) The North Eastern & the Himalayan States: 90% Central share and 10% State share.
- (b) Other States: 60% Central share and 40% State share.
- (c) Union Territories (with legislature and without legislature): 100% Central share (No UT Share).

The pending utilization of each year includes the fund released of last FY. During the year 2020-21, an amount of Rs. 699.72 crore released to various States/UTs and other implementing agencies which is also included in the total UCs pending. Department of Fisheries is in continuation touch with all the implementing agencies and reviewing the issues in every review meetings with a request to expedite submission of financial and physical progress.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 6

PROMOTING SEAWEED CULTIVATION

The Committee note that India has 844 species of Seaweeds out of which about 60 Species are commercially important ones. However, at present only 2 to 3 Seaweed Species are being cultivated on commercial scale in India mainly concentrated in the states of Tamil Nadu and Gujarat and to a small extent in the States of Odisha and Maharashtra. The Committee also note that the Aquaculture Production of Seaweeds from India is estimated around 5300 tones in 2018 (FAO, 2020) and the Wild Collections were to the tune of 18400 tones in 2019 (CMFRI-2019). The Committee were informed that the Government of India has identified development and promotion of Seaweed Cultivation and Value Chain as one of the priority areas. The newly launched Fisheries Flagship Scheme Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) provides for focused development and promotion of Seaweed Cultivation and Value Chain in the country with requisite financial allocations. Under PMMSY, Seaweed production target of 11.20 lakh tons over a period of five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 has been set. The Committee were also informed that the Department has identified 25000 Ha. Area where Seaweed can be cultivated. Also the Seaweed cultivation has employment potential of over 1 crore 50 Lakh. The Committee believe that the farming of Seaweeds would assure higher and more stable income to marginal fishermen. Therefore, the Committee recommend the Department to devise concrete action plan to fully exploit the potential of Seaweed cultivation in the country. The Committee also desire the Department to formulate Annual Action Plan for promotion of Seaweed Cultivation in those Coastal States of the country-where Seaweed Cultivation is either absent or minimal. This Action Plan in the opinion of the Committee should include Organizing training Programms for Specific trainers in Seaweed Cultivation and Skill Development in Seaweed Sector as Seaweed Products have good market value in both Domestic and also at International Level. The Committee would like to be apprised of steps taken in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

An action plan on Seaweed cultivation and value chain for 5 years under PMMSY have already been prepared by this Department, including the state wise

physical targets and financial outlays for 2020-25. Further, Under PMMSY scheme, it has been proposed to organize training programmes on Seaweed Cultivation during the year 2021-22. In view of this NFDB, Hyderabad will provide funding support to CSMCRI, CMFRI and CIFT to organize the following 50 no. of programmes (webinar and physical trainings) through their regional centers in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh states.

The programmes will include all the aspects of Seaweed sector from Seed production and supply, Seaweed cultivation, harvesting, post-harvest and value addition and marketing linkages. The trainees shall be from all the Maritime States/UTs as well as other interested candidates. It is proposed to train 7500 trainees in the current year.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 7

FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND (FIDF)

The Committee note that the Government created FIDF during year 2018-19 with a fund size of Rs 7522.48 crore for improving Fishery Infrastructure in the country Under the FIDF, concessional finance is provided for development of Fisheries Infrastructure in the country through Interest Subvention upto 3%per annum. Funding under FIDF is expected to fill large infrastructural gaps in the Fisheries sector. The FIDF provides concessional finance/loan to the Eligible Entities (EEs), including State Governments/UTs and State Entities for development of identified fisheries infrastructure facilities. The Committee also note that the Central Approval and Monitoring Committee (CAMC) constituted under FIDF has approved Projects to the tune of Rs. 3644.78 crore with Project Cost restricted to Rs. 2171.32 crore for Interest Subvention as per the FIDF Guidelines. The Committee observe that no expenditure could be made under FIDF in year 2019-20 as no State availed loan from NABARD or other Entities. Furthermore, the Committee also observe that even after three years since inception of FIDF, only Projects worth Rs 2171.32 crore have been approved. This clearly reflects that this Scheme has not progressed in the desired manner. Therefore, the Committee

recommend the Department to pursue this matter with the State Government and encourage them to avail loan under FIDF for improvement of Fishery Infrastructure. The Committee desire the Department to take wider publicity campaign about FIDF so that intended beneficiaries (both Individuals and State Government) may reap the full benefits of the Programme.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

NABARD has sanctioned a loan amount of Rs. 348.09 crore to the Government of Tamil Nadu for Fishing Harbour projects approved under FIDF. Besides one private beneficiary from Uttar Pradesh has got the sanction of loan from the commercial bank.

During the year 2020-21 an amount of Rs. 10.00 crore has been allocated for FIDF. An amount of Rs. 9.00 crore has been released to NABARD to meet the interest subvention and an amount of Rs. 50.00 lakhs has been released to NFDB for administrative expenses.

The Department is constantly in touch with the States/UTs for submission of proposal under FIDF and requesting States/UTs to encourage private beneficiaries to submit the proposals under FIDF.

NFDB being the Nodal Implementing Agency for FIDF, has been in the forefront for creating awareness of FIDF scheme. NFDB interacts through different media to communicate the benefits of FIDF scheme with the stakeholders like entrepreneurs, investors, fish farmers, State department officials, NABARD, NCDC, SLBC Conveners & representatives of Scheduled banks.

For giving wider publicity to the scheme the following efforts have been made to create awareness among the Fish Farmers, Entrepreneurs etc:

1. Conducted webinars, workshops with the entrepreneurs, fish farmers, State Departmental officials, Bankers, NABARD, and NCDC officials to create an awareness on FIDF Scheme. The webinars are conducted with North Eastern states (8 states) on 17.03.2021 and with Northern States (7 states & 4UTs) on 16.07.2021.
2. Wide publicity has been given through social media platforms viz, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. Posters/Advertisements explaining the FIDF scheme activities; interest subvention etc are made and extensively used in the social media platforms.
3. Advertisements through print media platforms throughout the Nation in English, Hindi & other vernacular languages like Tamil, Marathi, Kannada, Telugu, .
4. For each project, the bankability and the economic viability is being scrutinized at NFDB and State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) convenors are being requested to coordinate with the concerned beneficiaries and scheduled banks.
5. Conducted VCs with DoF, CGM- NABARD, SLBC convenors, State DoF and Private Entrepreneurs to understand and sort out the issues regarding the sanction of loan t CAMC approved projects
6. Two-page brochure and FAQs on FIDF prepared and uploaded on NFDB website and circulated to all states requesting to upload in their respective State Department of Fisheries website and DoF website.
7. Sent requests to all States / UTs Fisheries departments to arrange for webinars / workshops for dissemination of FIDF scheme to the interested fishers / fish farmers / private investors etc.
8. A query cell is setup to address the queries regarding FIDF scheme and the procedure to apply under FIDF from Entrepreneurs and small fishermen to avail the benefit under FIDF.
9. Extensive IEC activities were undertaken through print and social media to create awareness and advantages of the FIDF scheme.
10. NFDB participated in a webinar on 26.02.2021. organised by Department of Financial Services on banking, insurance and key credit linked schemes and the FIDF scheme also was discussed.
11. NFDB is planning to conduct webinars continuously with the stakeholders in other regions of our country to create awareness about FIDF scheme.

12. Department of Financial Services has communicated letter to all the Heads of Scheduled banks to consider lending for the fisheries project under FIDF.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 8

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF FISHERIES, NAUTICAL AND ENGINEERING TRAINING (CIFNET)

The Committee note that CIFNET is the only National Institute of its kind in the country to meet the training requirements of Technical and Certificated Personnel such as Skippers, Mates, Engineers, and Engine Drivers of the Power Fishing Vessels as stipulated in the M.S. (Amendment) Act. 1987. CIFNET is also responsible for developing the required technical manpower for the supporting shore establishments and for the effective operation of Fishing Vessels. The various short-term courses conducted by the Institute covering an integrated multidisciplinary area of Fishing Technology, Nautical Science and Marine Engineering has benefited personnel working in International Institutions and various Organizations under the Central/State Government Departments, colleges and other Public/Private Sector Establishments. The Institute is currently focusing more on the Skill development training of fishermen in deep sea fishing for oceanic tuna and in responsible fishing practices. The Committee believe that promotion of Deep Sea Fishing for Oceanic Tuna and other fish varieties will surely help the poor fishermen to have a sustained source of living and will also help in augmenting Forex Reserves of the Country. However the Committee are Constrained to note that CIFNET which has been mandated to train fishermen in Deep Sea Fishing and other emerging techniques is working without sufficient manpower. The Committee note that out of total sanctioned posts of 279 in various Groups, there are only 143 posts filled thereby resulting in 136 vacant posts in different Groups viz. Group 'A', Group 'B' (Gazetted), Group 'B' (Non-Gazetted) and Group 'C'. The Institute is functioning at almost half of its Sanctioned Strength. The Committee believe that CIFNET cannot discharge its mandate diligently without sufficient manpower. Therefore, The Committee recommend the Department to make utmost efforts to fill vacant posts in

CIFNET at the earliest so as to ensure smooth functioning of the Institute. The Committee would like to be apprised of steps-taken in this direction.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Department of Fisheries has noted the recommendation of the Standing Committee to make utmost efforts to fill vacant posts of Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical and Engineering Training (CIFNET) for compliance. Action for filling up of various Group `A` posts like Mechanical Marine Engineer, Skipper, Senior Instructor (Electrical), Deputy Director, Chief Instructor(FT), Senior Instructor (Naval Architecture) Senior Instructor(S&N), Senior Instructor(Training), Sr. Administrative Officer, Assistant Director(OL) is under consideration in the Department in consultation with UPSC. Filling up of Group `B` & Group `C` posts under progress with CIFNET in various stages.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 9

PRADHAN MANTRI MATSYA SAMPADA YOJANA

The Committee note that foreseeing the immense potential for development of Fisheries Sector and for providing focused attention to the Sector, the Government in its Union Budget, 2019 has announced a new Scheme, the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana. The Scheme was formally launched in May, 2020 with total estimated investment of Rs 20050 crore for a period of 5 years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 to develop the Fisheries Sector of the Country. The Committee also note that PMMSY aims to enhance fish production to 220 Lakh Metric Tons by 2024-25 from 137.58 Lakh Metric Tons in 2018-19 at an average annual growth rate of about 9% in fish production, increase aquaculture productivity to 5 Tons Per Hectare from the current national average of 3 Tons Per Hectare, create critical fisheries infrastructure, reduce post-harvest losses, modernize and strengthen value chain, double export earnings to Rs.1,00,000 Crore, enhance domestic fish consumption from 5-6 kg Per Capita in 2018-19 to 12 kg Per Capita in 2024-25 with corresponding health benefits, attract Private Investments in Fisheries Sector and generate about 15 lakhs direct gainful employment opportunities

and thrice the number as indirect employment opportunities along the supply and value chain (totalling about 55 lakhs). The Committee believe that long term growth in Fisheries Sector can only be sustained with corresponding increase in domestic fish consumption as well as increase in exports, both of which require aggressive and innovative Marketing strategies for Fish and Fish-based Products. The Committee were informed that under PMMSY Rs 1000 crore has been earmarked for the Development of 'Market and Marketing Infrastructure'. In this regard, the Committee recommend the Department to formulate Action Plan for Developing Markets for sale the of Fishery Products. The Committee further desire the Department to devise Annual Plan for the above investment, set Physical Targets and work in the direction of achieving those targets. The Committee appreciate the Plan of the Department to strive for E-Marketing of fish and Fish products. However, the Committee recommend the Department to undertake capacity building of fisherfolk, who are mostly poor and uneducated, so that they can avail benefits and participate in E-trading of Fishery Products. Necessary Training Module on 'Internet and its usage' may be developed in simple and Vernacular Languages for fishermen to build their capacities. The Committee would like to be apprised of steps taken in this regard.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

Fish is an affordable and rich source of animal protein and is one of the healthiest options to mitigate hunger and nutrient deficiency. Globally 3.1 billion people depend on fish for at least 20% of their total animal protein intake. Fisheries Sector of India is an important economic activity of Agriculture and a flourishing sector with varied resources and potentials. In last few years, along with fish production and export, India has also witnessed growth in the domestic fish consumption. However, domestic consumption of fish stands low with an annual fish consumption of 5 Kg per capita across country.

With one of the objectives to “enhance domestic fish consumption from about 5 kg to about 12 kg per capita”, the Department of Fisheries is implementing Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana Scheme as flagship Programme of GoI since 2020. For promotion of the same, under PMMSY provision is made for financial assistance based on the Detailed Project Reports / self contained proposals under non-beneficiary oriented activities of central sponsored component.

Under the PMMSY, it is targeted to support construction of 275 nos. of fish retail markets including ornamental fish/aquarium markets, 1650 nos. of fish kiosks including kiosks of aquarium/ ornamental fish, 440 nos. of Fish value added Enterprise Units and E-platform for e-trading and e-marketing of fish and fishery products. It is also targeted to support construction of 5 nos. of State of Art Wholesale fish markets, promote organic aquaculture & certification and promote domestic fish consumption, branding, fish mark etc.

National Fisheries Development Board has strategized to use all possible platforms for creating awareness among general public to promote domestic fish consumption. The strategies include outdoor campaigns through installation of hoardings, mass media campaign through broadcasting jingles in Radio, campaigns through posters, digital media, print media. It is also proposed to undertake capacity building of fisherfolk in e-trading of fish & fishery products. A beginning has already been made in developing training modules on “Internet and its usage’ by launching an App “Matsya setu” in Hindi and English languages in collaboration with CIFA and all these modules will be translated into major Indian languages and the work is already in progress.

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. 4

SCHEDULED CASTES SUB PLAN (SCSP)

The Committee note that the Department is implementing various Schemes, mainly aimed at strengthening the infrastructure of the State Governments for the development of Fisheries Sector. Most of the Schemes of the Department are not directly beneficiary-oriented. A large population of the Country belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other weaker sections of the society and women are also engaged to a large extent in the activities in the Fisheries Sector. As a corollary, the various Schemes implemented by the Department benefit these Sections of the Society. However the Committee are perturbed to note that the Department has not been able to fully utilize the funds allocated under SCSP. The Committee note that the Department was able to utilize Rs 80.95 Crore, Rs 71.62 Crore and Rs 54.82 Crore as against allocations of Rs 100.16 Crore, Rs 88.25 Crore and Rs 118.10 Crore during years 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 (till 31.01.2021) respectively. The year-wise Percentage Utilization stands at 80.52%, 81.15% and 46.41% for year 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 respectively. The Committee believe that less utilization of funds under SCSP will not help the Scheduled Caste Communities which are often the most poor and vulnerable sections of our society. Therefore the Committee desire the Department to make earnest efforts to raise awareness about its Schemes among SC population through wider publicity campaign in Regional Languages. The Committee also recommend the Department to take up this issue with the respective State/UT Governments - where fund utilization under SCSP is low in order to convince them to make full use of the Schemes intended for SC Population by the Centre.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

To raise awareness about PMMSY through outdoor media campaigns among fishers/fish farmers including SC population, NFDB had assisted for erecting 160 No. of Hoardings on PMMSY scheme in regional languages in Phase-I in 6 states namely Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Orissa, Telangana and Goa, and 263 No. of Hoardings in Phase-II in 6 states namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. NFDB had also publicized PMMSY scheme on digital platforms through Way2News Pvt. Ltd. by posting the Ad in their App platform in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

A total of 8.14 lakh fishers/fish farmers and other stakeholders including SC population were covered so far through outreach activities undertaken on World Fisheries Day 2020 celebrations, post World Fisheries Day celebrations in various States/UTs, fish festivals, webinars/virtual training programmes conducted in collaboration with various State Governments, ICAR-Fisheries Institutes, Extension functionaries such as KVKs, Aqua one centres. Pamphlets and brochures on PMMSY were also distributed to fishers and fish farmers, which covers SC population also.

Department of Fisheries has been pursuing with States/UTs to submit proposals under PMMSY covering beneficiaries from various categories including Scheduled Castes. Under PMMSY during the year 2020-21, Department was able to utilize Rs 118.08 crore against the allocations of Rs 118.10 Crore (RE) which is 99.98%.

Comments of the Committee

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

RECOMMENDATION NO. 5

DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERY INFRASTRUCUTRE

The Committee note that under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), a sum of Rs 3490 crore has been earmarked for

Construction/Expansion of Fishing Harbour and Fish Landing Centre including modernization of existing Fishing harbor. Out of this Rs 3490 crore, Rs 2400 crore has been earmarked for Construction/Expansion of Fishing Harbours (12 No); Rs 400 crore for Modernization/Upgradation of existing Fishing Harbour (8 No); Rs 625 crore for Modern Integrated landing centres; and Rs 65 crore for Maintenance Dredging (13 No). The Committee also observe that Fish Harbours and Fish landing Centres are proposed to be developed at feasible locations along the rivers Brahmaputra and Ganga for boosting the Inland Fisheries. The Committee note that the Fisheries Sector suffers from huge Post-harvest Losses which was around 25% in year 2018-19 and PMMSY intends to bring it down to 10% by 2024-25. The Committee believe that modernization of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres will help in bringing down the Post-harvest losses in the Fisheries Sector; which will ultimately augment the income of Fishermen. The Committee appreciate this Venture of the Government. However, the Committee desire the Department to make earnest efforts to realize and achieve the physical Targets Set for Modernization of Harbours and Fish Landing Centres. The time bound completion of Projects under this will surely benefit the Fishing Community and help in developing Ecologically healthy, Viable and Socially Inclusive Fishing Sector.

REPLY OF THE GOVERNMENT

The observation of the Committee have been noted by the Department. The Department of Fisheries is reviewing the Construction/Expansion of Fishing Harbour, Fish Landing Centre including modernization of existing Fishing harbor and other post harvest activities with the concerned State Governments and Union Territories for timely execution of the projects. The flagship scheme PMMSY envisaged proper cold storage facilities along the value chain, smart processing and packaging, value addition, technology interventions in transportation to avert spoilage which can bring down post-harvest losses in the fisheries sector.

Government of India in its budget 2021-22 has announced development of 5 Major Fishing Harbours namely Kochi, Chennai, Visakhapatnam, Paradip, and Petuaghat as hubs of economic activities and also to develop inland fishing harbours and fish-landing centres along the banks of rivers and waterways. Accordingly 4 Fishing Harbours of Kochi, Chennai, Visakhapatnam & Paradip under aegis of Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways and Fishing Harbour at Petuaghat in West Bengal is a State Government Harbour.

The feasibility study for Construction/Expansion of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centre is being commissioned by the Department. Based on the recommendations of the report, the Department will decide on the future course of action on the proposal of development of large infrastructure like fishing harbours in PPP mode through various models such as Viability Gap Funding (VGF), revenue sharing etc. Suitable Models for self-sustaining Operations & Management including creation of SPV. The feasibility of implementing large infra projects of PMMSY under PPP being explored.

Comments of the Committee

For comments of the Committee please refer to **Para No.1.10** 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;
07 December, 2021
16 Agrahayana, 1943 (Saka)**

**SHRI P. C. GADDIGOUDAR
Chairperson,
Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal
Husbandry and Food Processing**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD
PROCESSING
(2021-22)**

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee sat on Tuesday, the 7th December, 2021 from 1500 hrs. to 1635 hrs. in Committee Room No.2, Block-A, PHA Extension Block-A, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri P. C. Gaddigoudar – Chairperson

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Horen Singh Bey
3. Shri A. Ganeshamurthi
4. Shri Abu Taher Khan
5. Shri Mohan Mandavi
6. Shri Devji Mansingram Patel
7. Smt. Shardaben Anilbhai Patel
8. Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao Patil
9. Shri Shrinivas Dadasaheb Patil
10. Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut
11. Shri Pocha Brahmananda Reddy
12. Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy
13. Shri V.K. Sreekandan

RAJYA SABHA

14. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa
15. Shri Kailash Soni
16. Shri Vaiko

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri Shiv Kumar | – | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Smt. Juby Amar | – | Director |
| 3. | Shri Prem Ranjan | – | Deputy Secretary |

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

- | | | | | | |
|--------|------|------|------|------|------|
| *(i) | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX |
| *(ii) | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX |
| *(iii) | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX |

(iv) Draft Action Report on Action Taken by the Government on Observations / Recommendations contained in the 27th Report on 'Demands for Grants (2021-22)' pertaining to the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Fisheries).

- | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| *(v) | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX. |
|------|------|------|------|------|-------|

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

- | | | | | | | |
|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| *4. | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX |
| *5. | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX |
| *6. | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX | XXXX |

**The Committee then adjourned.
(A copy of the verbatim proceedings of the Sitting has been kept.)**

*Matter not related to this Report

Appendix

(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of the Report)

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

i.	Total number of Recommendations:	09
	Recommendations/Observations which have been Accepted by the Government:	
	Recommendation Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9	
	Total	07
	Percentage	77.78%
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. 4, 5,	
	Total	02
	Percentage	22.22%
iv.	Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Final replies of the Government are still awaited	
	Recommendation No. NIL	
	Total	00
	Percentage	00.00%