



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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Shri **Hukm Deo Narayan Yadav**, M.P. and Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture (2016-17), presented the Thirty Fourth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Steps taken to bridge the gap between the demand and availability of fodder through Sub-Mission on Fodder and Feed Development' of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries) to Lok Sabha today, the 14th December, 2016.

Some of the important recommendations of the Committee are as under:

Need for increasing availability of feed and fodder.	The Committee noted that availability of adequate quality of feed and fodder for livestock is essential for improving livestock productivity. However, there is substantial shortage of feed and fodder in the Country. This shortage is due to increasing pressure on land for growing food grains, oil seeds and pulses and inadequate attention being given to the production of fodder crops. Further,
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	<p>on account of diversified use of agricultural residues, the grazing lands are gradually diminishing. The Committee have recommended that the Department should take up the issue of increasing the availability of feed and fodder with all seriousness and make concerted and coordinated efforts to ensure that the shortage is addressed effectively and comprehensively.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation Para No. 1)</p>
<p>Utilization of allotted funds by the States.</p>	<p>The Committee noted that one of the reasons for non-utilization of funds may be formulation of Plan or Mission or Sub Mission by the Central Government without consulting the State Governments as a result of which the States are reluctant to cooperate with the Centre for timely utilization of funds for the purpose. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the Department must take earnest measures for ensuring proper and optimum utilization of allotted funds by States and to find out constraints which hamper timely utilization of funds and submission of Utilization Certificates.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation Para No. 5)</p>
<p>Utilization of crop residues.</p>	<p>The Committee noted that wastage of crop residues either by diverting it for industrial use or by burning agricultural refuse in the fields itself causes environmental pollution. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the Department should check the wastage of crop residues / agricultural wastes by way of burning and diverting for industrial use rather focus on its conversion and storage as fodder to be used in</p>

	<p>areas having scarcity.</p> <p>(Recommendation Para No. 7)</p>
<p>Fodder and Pasture Management.</p>	<p>The Committee noted that most of the grazing lands have either been degraded or encroached upon, thus restricting its availability for grazing for livestock, further aggravated by the gradual collapse of traditional agro-forestry practices, sub-par performance of major fodder resources such as grasslands, wastelands, common fallows etc. and invasion of pastures and grazing lands by invasive alien plant species as well encroachment of pastures and their diversification for building purposes. The Committee therefore recommend that the Department should work in coordination with the States for conservation and preservation of grasslands for pastures, invasion of pastures and grazing lands by invasive species and to prevent the collapse of traditional agro-forestry practices.</p> <p>(Recommendation Para No. 13)</p>
<p>Gender Perspective in Animal Husbandry.</p>	<p>The Committee noted that the National Agriculture Policy formulated in 2000 accorded high priority to recognition and mainstreaming of women's role in agriculture and highlighting incorporation of 'Gender Issues' in the agriculture development agenda. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the Government should take cogent measures to incorporate 'gender issues' in the agriculture development agenda and work towards creating more opportunities for women in the Sector and bring about gender balance in the workforce in the agriculture sector, particularly in the sector of</p>

	Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries. (Recommendation Para No. 15)
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