



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

PRESS RELEASE

18 December, 2014

27 Agrahayana, 1936 (Saka)

Shri Hukm Deo Narayan Yadav, M.P. and Chairperson, Committee on Agriculture (2014-15), presented the Second Report on 'Demands for Grants (2014-15) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agricultural Research and Education) to Lok Sabha today, the 18 December, 2014.

Some of the recommendations of the Committee are :

Enhancement of allocation for the Department – recommended	<p>The Committee have urged the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission to enhance allocation to the Department/ICAR matching the original outlay in the remaining years of XII plan to make Indian agriculture so to face challenges associated with increasing population, changing trends in consumption, deteriorating soil health, depleting resources, state of small & marginal farmers and climate change.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation Para No. – 2)</p>
Early implementation of initiatives announced for XII plan– stressed	<p>The Committee have deplored the delay in implementation of new initiatives such as READY, ARYA & CAUs in Bihar, Bundelkhand & Barapani even three years after the commencement of the Plan have desired that requisite formalities for launching these schemes/projects be completed without further loss of time.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation Para No. – 4)</p>

<p>Reflection of revenue generated by the institutes under ICAR in Revenue Receipt presented to the Lok Sabha – emphasized</p>	<p>The Committee have noted that revenue generated by the institutes under ICAR are not reflected in Revenue Receipt presented to the Lok Sabha which is in violation of Article 266 (1) of the Constitution of India wherein that money deposited to the Consolidated Fund of India ought to have the approval of Parliament for incurring expenditure. They would like DARE to clarify the issue and rectify the irregularity, if any, in this regard.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Recommendation Para No. – 7)</p>
<p>Implementation and fine tuning of District Contingency Plan to address drought situation in the country– recommended</p>	<p>The Committee have, therefore, recommended the DARE to further fine-tune District Contingency Plans to develop adaptation measures for the regions affected by climate change and other contingencies keeping the difficulties/suggestions during the implementation of this plan. The Committee also recommended the Department to start awareness campaign to educate farmers about contingency plan through print and electronic media as well as through network of KVKs. Further, they desire that Agritech and Agri Business firms be also involved in the process.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Recommendation Para No. – 9)</p>
<p>Establishment of soil testing labs at Panchayat level – recommended</p>	<p>The Committee have recommended to the DARE to make efforts in consultation with Department of Agriculture and Co-operation and State Governments for establishment of soil testing labs at Panchayat level. The Committee have also advised the Department to involve private sector in establishment of soil testing labs & deploy local educated youths including Agro Business and Agritech firms in order to enhance the penetration of these labs to every nook and corner of the country.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Recommendation Para No. – 11)</p>
<p>Promotion of Technology of Sewage Water Treatment Developed by ICAR – recommended</p>	<p>The Committee have noted that IARI has evolved and successfully operating an innovative and eco-friendly waste water treatment facility where it utilizes emergent wet land plants (s.a. Typha Latifolia) local media and native micro organisms, present in natural waste waters for treating 2.2 million litres/day of sewage waters. This technology</p>

	<p>is associated with just 1% energy requirement of conventional system, zero chemical application, zero sludge generation, 50-60% reduced treatment cost and no skilled requirement and that this eco-friendly and economic initiative/technology needs to be promoted extensively. They, however, found this technology/initiative is in nascent stage. The Committee have, therefore, strongly recommended that the Department/ICAR should interact with State Governments/MCD and educate them on the advantage on this eco-friendly, low cost waste water treatment method of waste water disposal which can be reused in agriculture especially where there is fresh water scarcity and to adopt this system expeditiously for their own all round benefits.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation Para No. – 17)</p>
<p>Creation of System of National Crop Planning – desired.</p>	<p>The Committee have, therefore, desired that the Government should make a serious effort by carrying out a systematic and objective national crop planning alongwith crop planning for small and marginal farmers depending on the region, fertility of soil, congenial crop varieties and prices forecasts (depending on the market forces in the country).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation Para No. – 18)</p>
<p>Formulation of policy for fixation of reasonable prices of seed Varieties and agricultural implements developed by ICAR at the time of transfer of technology - recommended</p>	<p>The Committee have recommended that ICAR should develop a seed bank where all varieties of seeds are available to the farmers, that is traditional seeds, newly researched seeds, hybrid seeds etc. R&D for upgraded traditional seeds with quality improvements and increased productivity should be developed by ICAR proactively. They have also recommended the DARE to devise a policy for fixation of final reasonable prices of seed varieties developed by ICAR at the time of transfer of technology which are fair and within the reach of majority of small and marginal farmers in the country.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Recommendation Para No. – 19)</p> <p>The Committee have emphasized that the Department should focus on research of light weight technology and</p>

	<p>implements/machines/instruments so that small and marginal farmers are able to use them effectively on their small and fragmented land holdings. At the same time, the Committee have strongly recommended the Department to incorporate suitable provisions in the terms and conditions as a prerequisite for transfer of technology of the research relating to implements/machines/instruments developed by ICAR for commercial use so that these are available to the farmers at reasonable prices.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Recommendation Para No. – 23)</p>
<p>Establishment of one KVK in each Block of the country-recommended</p>	<p>The Committee has been informed that there is a provision of opening one KVK in each of the rural district of the country. The Committee have noted that ICAR has been able to establish only 641 KVKs in the country as on date of which 45 districts in 10 states only have additional KVKs which is highly inadequate. The Committee were of view that in order to disseminate information about the research, refinement of technology/products and its demonstration to maximum numbers of small and marginal farmers DARE should aim for establishment of one KVK in each rural Block of the country. Only with this level of spread, the farmers of the country would be able to receive necessary information and agricultural input necessary for making agriculture a productive profession with suitable return on their investment. The Committee have, therefore, recommended the DARE to devise ways and means for establishment of one KVK in each Block of the country.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Recommendation Para No. – 26)</p>