



PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

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LIVESTOCK MARKETING

The Prime Minister today announced that he had telexed the Premiers of all States seeking their cooperation with the Commonwealth in a full and urgent review of ways in which present livestock marketing systems could be improved.

He referred to three special areas where possible improvements should be examined as a matter of urgency:

- . The control of anti-competitive practices such as collusion and lot splitting in livestock auctioning.
- . The introduction of a weight and grade selling system for cattle.
- . The introduction of price stabilisation arrangements, probably of a buffer fund character.

The Prime Minister stressed that with the present difficulties facing beef producers it was imperative that the Commonwealth and States cooperated in giving the highest priority to the examination of these potentially promising avenues of reform in livestock marketing.
