Directorate of Agriculture Development & Farmers Welfare, Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram

Dated: 29 .01.2020

CIRCULAR

Sub: National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture -Implementation of pilot project on 'Development of Model Villages' under Soil Health Card Scheme – 2019-20 – Reg

Ref: 1. Circular even no dated 18-10-2019

Attention is invited to the reference cited. Working instructions were issued for the implementation of the pilot project 'Development of Model villages' under the Soil Health card scheme during 2019-20. Under the programme, soil sample collection will be from individual farmer holding with farmer participation. One village per block is to be adopted for holding based soil testing, to organize demonstrations (1 ha each) for each adopted village and organization of farmer melas for awareness creation. Villages that were found deficient in soil nutrients during cycle-I and II were selected for implementation of "Development of Model Villages.'

The Government of India is conducting the concurrent monitoring of the programme. The monitoring team has informed that the process of soil sample collection is going on at a slow pace in the districts where the team has visited. In the review meeting of Assistant Soil Chemists, it came to notice that the number of soil samples reached laborataroies is very low. This reveals that even the collected samples are not reaching the laborataroies.

As per the guidelines of scheme, The demonstrations under the programme are to be conducted on the basis of soil analysis data. Once the collection and analysis of the soil is delayed, it will be impossible to complete the scheme in stipulated time.

Under these circumstances following instructions are issued for strict complience.

- 1. Strict instructions should be given to all officers involved in the process of soil sample collection to complete the activity with in one weeke positively.
- 2. It should be ensured that the soil sample collection and farmer registration will be done by staff of Krishi Bhavans with the help of contract staff of ATMA, LEADS, VDP, etc If necessary, the service of Agricultural Assistants of other Krtishi Bhavans should be utilized.

- 3. It should be ensured that the collected soil samples reach the laboratories with out any delay
- 4. The progress of analysis of soil samples, generation and printing of Soil Health Card should be strictly monitord at the district level
- 5. Utmost importance should be given for the distribution of the soil health cards. Keeping the SHCs undistributed at STLs or Krishi Bhavans should be dealt with seriously.
- 6. The Demonstration plots shoul be laid out based on the soil analysis data. It should be ensured that all the instructions given in the guidelines issued earlier are strictly adhered to.
- 7. The Principal Agricultural Officer / Project Director, ATMA should give prime importance for the implentation of the programme in the district and the progress of the soil sample collection and soil analysis should be reviewed in detail.
- 8. Any hindrence faced in the implementation of the scheme should be brought to the immediate notice of the undersigned

Sd/-

Additional Director of Agriculture (Planning) i/c

MELVIN JOSE. VIJ

Assistant Director of Agriculture

Directorate of Agricultural Development

& Farmers Welfare, Vikas Bhavan

k Farmers Welfare, Vikas blava Thiruvananthapuram - 695 033

To:

The Director, Department of Soil Survey and Soil Conservation.

All Principal Agricultural Officers

All Project Directors, ATMA Chief Soil Chemist

Giner Joh Chemist

Assistant Soil Chemists of all DSTLs and MSTLs

All Assistant Directors of Agriculture

IT section for publishing in the website

TA to Director of Agriculture

Planning Section