

**CIRCULAR**

Sub: Agriculture Department-Rice Development Programme 2019-20-New components -working instructions issued-reg

- Ref: 1. GO (Rt) No 137/2019/Agri dated 9/2/2019  
2. GO (Rt) No 251/2019/Agri dated 8/3/2019  
3. Order No TP(2) 12920/2019 dated 1/7/2019 of the Director of Agriculture  
4. GO(Rt) No 762/2019/Agri dt 8/8/2019  
5. GO(Rt)No 942/2019/Agri dt14/10/2019

The scheme on "Rice Development Programme 2019-20" under the H/A 2401-00-102-90 plan, comprises the following scheme components

- 1) Sustainable Rice Development
- 2) Support to Paddy Development Agencies
- 3) Promotion of Speciality Rice
- 4) Operational support to Padasekhara Samithies for Group Farming
- 5) Operationalization of Paddy land and Wetland Act 2008
- 6) Promotion of Upland Paddy
- 7) Promotion of Fallow Land Cultivation
- 8) Support for converting single crop to double crop
- 9) Registered Seed Grower's Programme/ Seed Village Programme
- 10) Project based support for infrastructure development in padasekharams for receiving paddy cultivation including Block level convergence
- 11) Mini Rice mills for local processing including special varieties of rice and support for packing
- 12) Trial plots for flood and drought tolerant varieties
- 13) Operational support

As per greenbook administrative sanction was accorded for Sustainable Rice Development, Promotion of Speciality Rice, Operational support to Padasekhara Samithies for Group Farming, Operationalization of Paddy land and Wetland Act 2008, Promotion of Upland Paddy, Promotion of Fallow Land Cultivation and Registered Seed Grower's Programme/ Seed Village Programme for an amount of Rs 7970 lakh, as per reference 2<sup>nd</sup> cited.

Vide reference 3<sup>rd</sup> cited above, continuous sanction was accorded for the implementation of Support for converting single crop to double crop and Operational support for an amount of Rs 120 lakh ; and Working Instructions were issued accordingly.

Vide reference 4<sup>th</sup> cited above, administrative sanction was accorded for the implementation of the components 'establishment of mini rice mills for local processing including special varieties of rice and support for packing' for an amount of Rs 60.00 lakhs, and 're-functioning of Modern Rice mill, Alathur' for an amount of Rs 10.00 lakh.

Vide reference 5<sup>th</sup> cited above, administrative sanction was accorded for the implementation of the components 'Project based support for infrastructure development in padasekharams for reviving paddy cultivation including Block level convergence for an amount of Rs 50.00 lakh and Assistance to Paddy Development Agencies for an amount of Rs 30.00 lakh.

**Objectives:**

1. Infrastructure support to padasekharams affected by the flood of 2018 for effective irrigation, drainage etc. Improvement of such basic facilities will indirectly lead to the increase in area, production, productivity in paddy cultivation. Block level convergence of schemes is also envisaged
2. To provide honorarium to Vice chairman and sitting fee to the non official members of Paddy Development Agencies.

**1. Project based support for infrastructure development in padasekharams for reviving paddy cultivation including Block level convergence**

There are projects for Rice Development in the after flood scenario, which is to be considered beyond the boundaries of a single panchayat. Community nursery, development of irrigation and drainage facilities, purchase of machinery including combine harvester, establishment of seed godowns, organizing plant protection

measures including rodent control campaigns, establishment of processing and marketing units etc. are such components which benefit a wider area covering more than one panchayat within a block.

The Project should be prepared at the grama panchayath level and submitted to the District level for sanction. The projects received will be vetted by the two-level sanctioning committee constituted for the approval of the projects under Rice Development Scheme.

An assistance of 50% will be extended for production oriented activities, and 100% for infrastructure development activities. Existing norms will be followed for major components. However, relaxation of norms may be sanctioned by the Sanctioning Committee, subject to justification. It should be ensured that infrastructure development will benefit paddy cultivation and that the proposal is supported by estimate prepared as per Govt. approved norms. The District level Sanctioning Committee will sanction project proposals up to Rs 5.00 lakh. The projects above Rs 5.00 lakh will be recommended and forwarded to State level Sanctioning Committee for approval.

An amount of **Rs. 50.00 lakh** is set apart for this component under the H/A 2401-00-102-90 plan.

#### **Operation of the programme:**

The projects received under the scheme will be sanctioned by the District Level Sanctioning Committee or the State Level Sanctioning Committee depending upon the total cost of the programme. The constitutions of the District Level Sanctioning Committee and the State Level Sanctioning Committee are furnished below:

#### **1. District Level Sanctioning Committee**

1	Principal Agricultural Officer	Chairman
2	Project Director ATMA	Member
3	Deputy Director of Agriculture(WM)	Convenor
4	Assistant Director of Agriculture (concerned block)	Member
5	Assistant Executive Engineer (Agri)	Member
6	Expert from KAU/ KVK (wherever possible)	Member

## State Level Sanctioning Committee

1	Director of Agriculture	Chairman
2	Additional Director of Agriculture(Extension)	Member
3	Additional Director of Agriculture(CP)	Member
4	Additional Director of Agriculture (Plg.)	Member
5	State Agricultural Engineer	Member
6	Joint Director of Agriculture(WM)	Convenor
7	Expert from KAU	Member

### 2. Assistance to Paddy Development Agencies

Government of Kerala had constituted 11 Paddy Development Agencies for tackling the problems of rice cultivation in special problem areas, out of which two were merged together and at present 10 paddy development agencies are in existence. They are Kuttanad Paddy Development Agency, Purakkad Paddy Development Agency, Onattukara Paddy Development Agency, Thuravoor Kariland Development Agency, Vaikom Kariland Development Agency, Pokkali Paddy Development Agency, Thrissur-Ponnani Koleland Development Agency, Palakkad Paddy Development Agency, Wayanad Paddy Development agency and Kaipad Paddy Development Agency.

There are non official and official members in the committee. Some of the agencies have engaged staff on contract basis for functioning of agency office.

The Chairman/ Vice Chairman and the committee members are entrusted with co-ordination of different padasekhara samithies under each agency and ensure timely availability of inputs for paddy cultivation. These duties are time consuming and the Paddy Development agencies have demanded for honourarium to Chairman/ Vice Chairman and sitting fees for committee members over and above the administrative cost, sanctioned @ 5% of the project cost of the projects implemented by them.

During 2019-20, project based assistance will be provided to Paddy Development Agencies for undertaking infrastructure development activities in padasekharams for promoting paddy cultivation.

Assistance will be provided for need based, location specific infrastructure development activities in padasekharams like construction/ strengthening of field bunds, tractor ramps, deepening of irrigation / drainage channels, replacement of petty & para with vertical axial flow pumps, electrification, construction of drying yards, repair of motor shed, culverts etc. to promote paddy cultivation and increase production and productivity. An amount of Rs 21.10 lakh is earmarked for this component.

Administrative charges @ 5% of the project cost of the projects implemented by the agencies will be provided, for which an amount of Rs 1.10 lakh is earmarked.

Honourarium @ Rs 4000/- per month will be provided to Vice Chairman, for which an amount of Rs 4.8 lakh is set apart under the component 'Assistance to Paddy Development Agencies'.

Sitting fee @ Rs 500/- on bimonthly basis is also approved, for which an amount of Rs 3.00 lakh is earmarked.

Amount allotted under **Assistance to Paddy Development Agencies** is as follows:

Sl No	Item	Amount (Rs in lakh)
1	Project based assistance	21.10
2	Administrative cost (5%)	1.10
3	Honourarium to Vice Chairman (Rs 4000 par monthx12x10)	4.80
4	Sitting fees to members once in two months(Rs 500x10x6) x10 agencies	3.00
		<b>30.00</b>

### Abstract

Sl. No	Item	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
1	Project based support for infrastructure development in padasekharams for reviving paddy cultivation including Block level convergence	50.00
2	Assistance to Paddy Development Agencies	30.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>80.00</b>

The Principal Agricultural Officers should collect and approve projects from the grass root level officers and implement the scheme.

### Financial Outlay

The financial outlay for these two components is Rs 80 lakh. The expenditure in this regard can be debited from the head of account **2401-00-102-90 (P)** – Rice Development, from current year's budget provision .

### Monitoring and evaluation

At district level Deputy Director of Agriculture (WM) will be monitoring the progress of achievement of each component of the scheme. At the state level the programme will be monitored and evaluated by Additional Director of Agriculture (CP).

Sd/-  
Director of Agriculture

To:

All Principal Agricultural Officers

Copy to:

TA to Director

CA to the Additional Director of Agriculture (CP)

CA to the Additional Director of Agriculture (Plg)

IT Cell for publishing in the Web Site

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