

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIRECTOR OF
AGRICULTURE
DIRECTORATE OF AGRICULTURE
DEVELOPEMENT AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
(Present: Dr.K.Vasuki I A S)**

Sub:- Annual Plan 2020-21 – Scheme on Modernization of Department Laboratories – Revised Continuous Administrative sanction accorded – orders issued- reg:

Read:- 1) Order no.ADFW/476/2020-TP2 dated 24/07/2020
2) Note no.TQ(2)12606/20 dated 31/12/2020

ORDER NO. ADFW/476/2020-TP2 Dated.08/01/2021

The Budget provision for the scheme 'Modernization of Departmental Laboratories' for 2020-21 is 370.00 lakhs. Revised Continuous Administrative Sanction was accorded for the scheme, vide reference (1) cited for Rs.237.72531 lakh (Rupees two hundred and thirty seven lakh seventy two thousand five hundred and thirty one only) for the scheme. The components for which sanction was accorded are as follows:

Sl. No.	Component	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1	Strengthening of Biotechnology & Model Floriculture Centre, Kazhakuttom	37.00000
2	Strengthening of Bio-Control Laboratory, Mannuthy Thrissur	29.00000
3	Strengthening of Existing Laboratories	136.72531
4	Quality control enforcement wing	35.00000
	Total	237.72531

Now, as per reference (2) cited, TQ(2) section has reported that as additional

funds are required under the sub-component "Drawal of Statutory Samples of Fertilizers, Pesticides and Seeds for Quality Control" under the component "Quality control Enforcement Wing", revision is required in financial targets for the sub-components under this component with no change in total budget provision. In this circumstance, the financial targets for the sub-components under the component "Quality control Enforcement Wing", sanctioned as per reference (1) cited, is revised as follows:

Quality control Enforcement Wing (Rs.35.00 lakh)

The Agriculture Development and Farmers' Welfare Department is the State agency empowered and authorized to enforce the the regulations on fertilizers, pesticides and seeds. However, at present there is no exclusive mechanism in the department for performing the enforcement activities.

During 2017-18 the department undertook steps for streamlining the enforcement activities in the certification, registration, licensing and quality control of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides by initiating the constitution of a quality control enforcement cell as per G.O.(Rt.) No. 911/2017/AD dated: 23-09-2017.

During 2018-19 the activities for materializing the Quality Control Enforcement Wing and for the effective enforcement of regulations on seeds, fertilizers and pesticides have been started. These programmes were continued during 2019-20 and the same will be continued during 2020-21.

Objectives

1. Ensuring availability of quality agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and pesticides in the State.
2. Strengthening the institutional mechanism of quality control.
3. Enforcement of regulations on seeds, fertilizers and pesticides.
4. Quality control by systematic sampling, analysis and proceeding action against non-standard items.
5. Maintaining strict vigilance on spurious products and also instill awareness among various stake holders on the quality aspects of different agricultural inputs.

Programme

a) Drawal of Statutory Samples of Fertilizers, Pesticides and Seeds for Quality Control

Sample analysis of Seeds, Fertilizers and Pesticides assumes importance as it provides an array of regulatory measures in assuring the quality standards in production, movement, distribution and consumption of these inputs in crop production. The fund will be utilized for meeting the expenditure on drawal of samples of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides for quality analysis. This amount shall be utilized for all related expenses on quality control, which may include cost of sample, cost towards containers, cloth bags, despatch of samples etc. and other miscellaneous expenses.

The annual potential of analysis of samples of fertilizers, pesticides and seeds in the laboratories under the Department are 5000, 2500 and 4000 no.s respectively. An amount of Rs.14.50144 lakh is set apart for drawal of statutory samples of fertilizers, pesticides and seeds during 2020-21.

b) Surveillance on Organic Protectants / Bio-Pesticides in the market

There is growing concern about the integrity of many bio-pesticides (botanical / organic / biological origin) and growth promoters sold throughout Kerala under various proprietary names. At present, our State has no laboratory facilities to undertake such comprehensive analysis to identify the presence of any contaminants or chemical pesticides / hazardous ingredients in these organic products. NIPHM Hyderabad has consented to analyse such products in their laboratory as per our requirement to exclude the chances of contamination by any such ingredients. The fund is proposed to be utilized for meeting the related expenditure such as purchasing and sending of samples to NIPHM. Cost of analysis per sample at NIPHM ranging from Rs. 10000 to Rs. 20000 depending on the ingredient of the sample. It is intended to analyse about 35 such samples for analysis during 2020. An amount of Rs.4.00 lakh is set apart for the purpose during 2020-21.

c) Mass Awareness Programmes and Special Campaign Week

To continue creating increased awareness among farmers, input dealers and public at large on the need for scientific use of fertilizers and pesticides, a Special Campaign / Awareness Week shall be organized throughout the State in the cropping season. During this period, mass awareness programmes shall be conducted in every block aimed at creating awareness on Soil fertility / Soil

Health Card based fertilizer application, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Good Plant Protection Practices (GPP), New generation & Organic / bio-pesticides, health hazards of indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides etc. An amount of **Rs.7.60 lakh** is set apart for the conduct of the above programmes.

d) Training and recognition of Input Agencies

It is proposed that a workshop / seminar shall be conducted for all the input dealers and stakeholders in every block in each crop season, for which a financial support not exceeding Rs.3600.00/- per workshop / seminar shall be provided. There will be one workshop each in every block for input dealers in all 152 blocks ($152 \times 3600 = 5.472$ lakhs) A district level seminar involving the participation of input manufacturers, distributors and dealers is also proposed to be conducted by the Principal Agricultural Officer during the year, for which a financial support not exceeding Rs. 15000.00 shall be provided. A total amount of **Rs.7.572 lakh** is earmarked for this purpose.

e) Empowering Seed / Fertilizer / Insecticide Inspectors, Conduct of Workshops, Publication of Handbooks etc

It is proposed that a Key Resource Group (KRG) / Master Trainers Group (MTG), competent in all aspects of the relevant Acts shall be developed by selecting suitable Officers and deputing them to national level accredited training institutes for special trainings or by organizing such trainings by SAMETI with the participation of expert faculties. Publications incorporating the new amendments on Insecticides Act / Insecticides Rules, Essential Commodities Act / Fertilizer Control Order, Seed Act / Seed Rule, etc. may also be made available to the Enforcement Officers. An amount of **Rs.1.00 lakh** is set apart for this purpose.

f) Expert Committee on Quality Assurance & Enforcement (Rs.0.10 lakh)

Expert Group on Quality Assurance & Enforcement with Director of Agriculture as convenor, shall be responsible for periodically reviewing the effectiveness of the quality assurance and enforcement activities and to recommend new strategies. Meetings / workshops shall be conducted to this effect. . An amount of **Rs.0.10 lakhs** is earmarked for related expenses including Honorarium, Travel expenses and related expenses.

g) Computer infrastructure and other accessories and manpower support for the Enforcement Cell (Rs.0.22656 lakh)

It is proposed to provide support to the Enforcement Cell at the Directorate for providing computer infrastructure of required configuration to facilitate the On-line Management System and FQCS web portal. Accessories may include other facilities such as multi-functional printer, scanner etc. An amount of **Rs.0.22656 lakh** is earmarked for this purpose.

Revised Financial Outlay under "Quality Enforcement Wing"

Sl.No.	Sub-Component	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. In lakhs)	Revision requested (Rs in lakh)
a	Drawal of Statutory Samples of Fertilizers, Pesticides and Seeds for Quality Control	14.00144	14.50144
b	Surveillance on Organic	4.00	4.00

	Protectants / Bio-Pesticides in the market		
c	Mass Awareness Programmes and Special Campaign Week	7.60	7.60
d	Training and recognition of Input Agencies	7.57200	7.57200
e	Empowering Seed / Fertilizer / Insecticide Inspectors, Conduct of Workshops, Publication of Handbooks etc	1.00	1.00
f	Expert Committee on Quality Assurance & Enforcement	0.10	0.10
	Developing web portal for online management of Certification, Registration and licensing of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides	0.50	NIL
g	Computer infrastructure and other accessories and manpower support for the Enforcement Cell	0.22656	0.22656
	TOTAL	35.00	35.00

Continuous sanction for scheme "Modernization of Departmental Laboratories" accorded vide reference (1) stands modified to this extent only.

Sd/-
DR. K. VASUKI IAS
DIRECTOR

To

TQ section of the directorate for issue of detailed working instructions

Ch. dij
Deputy Director of Agriculture
Directorate of Agriculture
Thiruvananthapuram

ob
1.12.21

Copy to

- 1) TA to Director of Agriculture
- 2) CA to All Additional Directors of Agriculture of HQ
- 3) State Agricultural Engineer
- 4) Senior Finance Officer for information
- 5) IT section of the directorate for posting on the website