

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE ,
DIRECTORATE OF AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT AND FARMERS'
WELFARE, VIKAS BHAVAN, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

Sub: Annual Plan 2018-19 – **Scheme on Rice Development** – Continuous
Administrative sanction accorded – orders issued- reg:

Read: 1) G.O.(Rt)No. 378/2017/AD dated.04.04.2017
2) G.O.(Rt)No. 479/2017/AGRI. dated.05.05.2017
3) Annual Plan 2018-19

Order No. TP(2)7450 /2018

Dated:06.04.2018

Government of Kerala, vide order read 1st above accorded Administrative sanction for the implementation of the scheme, Rice Development during the year 2017-18 for an amount of Rs.5500.00 lakhs for components included in the Green Book. Government vide order 2nd above accorded Administrative Sanction for Amber Book components of the scheme for an amount of Rs.1500.00 lakhs.

As per the Annual Plan 2018-19, the scheme is proposed to be continued during the current financial year with a budget allocation of Rs.8765.00 lakhs. Out of this components worth Rs.8145.00 lakhs were included in Green Book 2018-19. An amount of Rs.620.00 lakhs is set apart for Amber Book components. An abstract of the details is furnished below.

Sl. No.	Schemes & Components	Budget Provision	Green book components	Amber Book Components
1	Sustainable Rice Development (Input assistance @Rs.5500/ha)	6000.00	6000.00	0.00
2	Support to Paddy development agencies	150.00		150.00
3	Promotion of specialty rice (Rs.10000/ha)	120.00	120.00	
4	Operational support to padasekharasamithies for group farming	300.00	300.00	
5	Operationalisation of paddy and Wet land Act 2008	50.00	50.00	
6	Promotion of upland paddy	375.00	375.00	
7	Promotion of fallow land cultivation	1200.00	1200.00	

8	Support for converting single crop to double crop	160.00		160.00
9	Award to panchayats for fallow land cultivation	25.00		25.00
10	Project based support for rice development in urban areas including assistance to educational institutions	100.00	100.00	
11	Rice innovation fund for Rice Year programmes	100.00		100.00
12	Registered Seed Growers Programme/Seed village programme	125.00		125.00
13	Operational support	60.00		60.00
	Total	8765.00	8145.00	620.00

All the amber book components will be continued during 2018-19 abiding by the norms and conditions of the Government Order read 1st and 2nd above, except 'Paddy Development Agencies' for which modified proposal seeking Administrative Sanction shall be submitted to Government. Details of continuing Amber Book components of the scheme are furnished below.

1) Conversion of Single Cropped Paddy Land to Double Cropped Land (Rs.160.00 lakhs)

In order to increase the land use efficiency and augment the production and productivity of paddy in the State, it is proposed to raise double crop of paddy in paddy lands where only single crop is taken. During the current financial year, it is proposed to bring **1600 ha** single crop paddy lands into double crop by providing assistance @ **Rs.10000/- per ha**, for filling critical gaps including infrastructure development. An amount of **Rs.160.00 lakhs** is proposed to be utilised for this purpose.

2) Awards for Fallow Land Cultivation (Rs.25.00 lakhs)

This component is proposed with the following objectives;

- To increase the area under crop production by bringing fallow land into cultivation
- Creation of employment opportunities to the landless unemployed section of the society.

- Convergence of various Central and State schemes especially MGNREGS, NFSP, Rashtriya Vikas Yojana etc.
- To motivate the Local Self Government Institutions to achieve the goal of fallow less institutions

The scheme for bringing fallow land under cultivation are being implemented by the Department of Agriculture utilizing the fund under RKVY and State Government Scheme. Local Self Government Institutions are also implementing the Programmes of fallow land cultivation.

The statistics of available fallow land and the fallow land which are brought to cultivation during 2016-17 are to be collected in each Panchayath by the Agricultural Officers in each Krishi Bhavan and reported to the Principal Agricultural Officers of the district. The statistics of fallow land cultivation should be in accordance with the Basic Data Register authenticated by the Agricultural Officer.

In order to create a competitive spirit for bringing more fallow land under cultivation among the Local Self Government Institutions, awards are proposed to be issued in the following categories:

Sl. No.	Category of LSGI/others	Award proposed (Rs. in lakhs)			Total amount required (Rs. in lakhs)
		I prize	II prize	III prize	
1	Gramapanchayat	15.00	10.00	7.00	32.00
2	Municipality	10.00	5.00	Nil	15.00
3	Best project based cultivation in urban areas	0.50	0.30	0.20	1.00
4	Expenses towards organizing award function and field visits				2.00
	Total	25.50	15.3	7.20	50.00

Nominations for the award should be obtained at district level from the Agricultural Officers of the district.

Eventhough the total fund requirement for the component works out to Rs.50.00 lakhs, only a provision of **Rs.25.00 lakhs** is earmarked in the budget.

This will be utilised and Government will be moved for authorisation of additional expenditure to meet the balance fund requirement.

Guidelines for the component ‘awards for fallow land cultivation’

- The component is applicable to all districts of Kerala State.
- Wide Publicity should be given for the implementation of the scheme “Awards for fallow land cultivation” and invitation of nomination through news paper and should be discussed in district level and Panchayath level Karshika Vikasana samithies well in advance.
- The LSGIs and which compete for award should submit nomination in prescribed form within the stipulated time
- Nomination in prescribed format should be discussed in the Karshika Vikasana Samithi before sending it to Principal Agricultural Officer. Crops like Paddy, Vegetable, Banana, tubers and others are considered for deciding the awards. Supporting documents like photograph, CD etc should be attached with nomination.
 - (a) Wide publicity should be given through Krishibhavan, District Panchayath, Block Panchayath and Grama Panchayath office, Village Office, co-operative society, other related institutions and through media.
 - (b) Farm Information Bureau shall give wide publicity through leading dailies, All India Radio.
 - (c) Principal Agricultural Officers should give publicity of the same through leading dailies, All India Radio, Doordarshan etc.
 - (d) Kissan IITMK should give publicity of the award through Kissan Krishi Deepam Programme.
- The nomination at Krishi Bhavan level should be sent with due recommendations to the convenor, District Level Award Committee (PAO) within the prescribed date. The district level selection committee will screen and select the nominees and send to state level award committee for screening for State Level Award.

The district level selection committee should have the following members;

1	Principal Agricultural Officer	Chairman
2	Deputy Director of Agriculture(WM)	Convenor
3	Assistant Executive Engineer (Agri)	Member
4	District Statistical Officer	Member

The date of visit conducted and details of members included in the committee along with recommendations made by the District level committee with

nominations and supporting documents, if any, should be furnished to State Level Award Committee for selection of State Level Awards. The nominations received without the recommendations of District Level Award Committee will not be considered by the State Level Committee.

The District Level Committee shall observe the following points also for the recommendation of the nominations at the district level.

- a. The total area under fallow in the Panchayath during 2016-17
- b. Total area of fallow land brought under cultivation during 2017-18
- c. Percentage of the total fallow land brought under cultivation
- d. Panchayaths that are recipients of the award earlier will not be considered.

After the recommendation of the district level award committee it should reach the Director Agriculture.

At State level the selection of award winner will be decided by the State Level Committee. The committee will be constituted with the following members.

1	Agricultural Production Commissioner	Chairman
2	Director of Agriculture	Member
3	Additional Director of Agriculture (Extension)	Member
4	State Agricultural Engineer	Member
5	Additional Director of Agriculture (CP)	Convenor

The Awards will be distributed for the winners by organising a state level award function. Wide publicity should be ensured for the programme by participating Local Self Government Institutions, peoples representatives, group farming samithies, Farmers, Agricultural Labourers, Scientists, Extension workers, other government agencies, co-operative institutions etc.

3) Rice Innovation Fund for Rice Year Programmes (Rs.100.00 lakhs)

Government of Kerala declared one year period from 2016 Chingam 1 to 2017 Chingam 1 as 'Rice Year' as per G.O. (Ms.) 124/2016/Agri. Dated: 11-08-2016. Government as per G.O. (Ms.) 142/2016/Agri. Dated: 15-10-2016 also identified 100 activities for implementation as part of Rice Year Programmes During the current financial year, an amount of **Rs.100.00 lakhs** is set apart as 'Rice Innovation Fund' for introducing new, eco-friendly and sustainable

technologies aimed at improving paddy production on a project mode from the 100 activities identified for implementation as part of Rice Year Programme.

The activities identified as part of Rice Year Programme comes under the following main titles:

1. Rice production
2. Rice cultivation and educational institutions
3. Rice cultivation and employment
4. Rice cultivation and Youth
5. New trends in rice cultivation
6. Rice cultivation and environment
7. Rice processing and marketing
8. Rice cultivation and tourism
9. Rice cultivation and sports sector
10. Rice cultivation and ayurveda
11. Arts and culture related to rice cultivation

This component will be implemented on a project mode, including appropriate selections from the cafeteria of 100 activities of Rice Year Programme and other innovative activities. However, production oriented activities and activities like establishment of processing units, fallow land and upland cultivation, distribution of soil ameliorants etc which form part of the main scheme will not be considered under this component. The fund can be utilised for supporting innovative activities like attracting youth towards rice farming, linkage with environment conservation, organising rice sports, promoting rice arts, rice and culture and other such novel activities.

The proposal received at district level should be screened by the District Committee and those abiding by the prescribed norms forwarded for approval of the State Committee with recommendations. The innovation content of the proposal will be separately assessed by the State Sanctioning Committee for incentivisation, including awards.

4) Registered Seed Growers Programme (RSGP) (Rs.125.00 lakhs)

Availability of quality seeds, that too suited to and raised in the region, will find more favour with the farmer. Registered Seed Growers' Programme (RSGP) will be introduced to ensure the availability of certified seeds suitable to the locality. Existing rules and norms for the scheme will be followed.

Seed is considered to be the cheapest and most efficient input compared with other costly inputs like fertilizers, pesticides, water etc., to bring out the maximum yield potential. Since seed is the critical input driving crop productivity and production targets, the use of good quality seeds by the farmers have to be ensured. Generally our farmers depend on authorized sources for 30% of their seed requirement.

Many states have formed separate agency for seed regulation for the state. In Kerala, the Department of Agriculture is taking care of the function of certification agency. Kerala State Seed Development Agency (KSSDA) was formed in the year 2000 aiming to co-ordinate the seed production, seed processing, seed procurement and seed distribution in Kerala and will co-ordinate the activities from Foundation seed production in State Seed Farms to certified production by Registered seed growers.

In Kerala, the aim of KSSDA is to raise the Seed Replacement Ratio (SRR) to 50% in the coming seasons and coming years. i.e., 9000 MT quality seeds of rice every year.

Objectives of the programme

- To increase the Seed Replacement Rate (SRR) to 50% by ensuring timely supply of quality paddy seeds to the farmers
- Supply foundation seeds free of cost to Registered Seed Growers
- To produce quality certified paddy seeds.
- To involve more farmers into cultivating paddy crop.
- Ensure lucrative price for the procured seed to Registered Seed Growers
- To cultivate paddy seeds of different varieties needed by the rice farmers of Kerala.

For this objective, Registered Seed Growers Programme is being implemented in the State with the co-operation of Kerala Agricultural University, State Seed Production Centres, Krishibhavans and farmers of registered Padashekhara Samithies at Panchayat level. Seed Production programme is to be implemented in the following districts viz., Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad and Malappuram districts in around 2650 hectares. Foundation seeds are produced in various state seed production centres from the breeder seeds obtained from Kerala Agricultural University. These foundation seeds are used for raising the required quantity of registered seed which is distributed to farmers.

Under this programme, it is proposed to supply Foundation seeds free of cost to the Registered Seed Growers.

Assistance for RSGP seed distribution

The programme will be implemented through KSSDA based on the targets assigned by the Director of Agriculture to each district. It is proposed to supply foundation seeds free of cost to the Registered Farmers for a total area of 2650 Ha. The foundation seeds are taken from the State Seed Farms of the Department.

Mode of implementation

1. Registered Seed Growers Programme will be implemented by the Agricultural officers of the Krishibhavan.
2. Kerala State Seed Development Authority will be the nodal agency for implementing the programme and for procurement and marketing of seeds.
3. Foundation seeds will be distributed free of cost to the farmers for multiplication under Registered Seed Growers Programme.
4. The Padasekhara Samithy will register itself with the State Seed Certification Agency (SSCA), the Addl. Director of Agriculture (CP), Directorate of Agriculture with proper application and registration fee (Rs.25/-) remitted in the treasury.
5. Padasekhara Samithy will take nominal membership with Kerala State Seed Development Authority by remitting the fee Rs.2000/- and Rs.10/- for application form and execute an agreement with the latter.
6. Padasekhara Samithy shall take up seed multiplication under RSGP by adopting all Scientific Cultivation Practices, isolation distance, rouging of off types etc.
7. Training to farmers and officials will be conducted.
8. Additional Director of Agriculture, KSSDA will arrange to conduct necessary trainings to the padasekhara Samithy and officers based on need. The training schedule should be chalked out by the Additional Director of Agriculture, Kerala State Seed Development Authority in consultation with the PAOs well in advance of the programme implementation
9. The Agricultural officer of the concerned Krishi Bhavan shall be personally responsible for giving guidance to the farmers and shall ensure adherence, by the farmer, of recommended processes and practices.
10. Assistant Director of Agriculture at Block level/Agricultural Officer of Krishi Bhavan will conduct three inspections of the fields as per Seeds Act.

11. The Agricultural Officer will ensure that proper drying and pre cleaning has been done and will certify the same before samples are taken by Seed Inspectors.
12. Assistant Director of Agriculture should inspect the Seed lot and draw samples from each lot. Composite sample of the lot will be send to the seed-testing laboratory for analysis.
13. Senior Seed Analyst will conduct the testing of the certification samples within 15 days of receipt of samples and furnish the results of standard samples to the concerned Seed Inspector with a copy to the Additional Director of Agriculture, Kerala State Seed Development Authority within 30 days on receipt of sample. Seed inspectors will furnish all the required details of registration, inspection, test results and certificates to the Additional Director of Agriculture (CP) for getting certification tag.
14. Additional Director of Agriculture, Kerala State Seed Development Authority immediately after getting the Certification Tag Number, will arrange the processing of the procured seed at the processing centre, with necessary labeling and tagging.
15. The stock will be immediately lifted by the Additional Director of Agriculture, Kerala State Seed Development Authority either to the Krishibhavan on demand and make the payments to the Padasekhara Samithy. If there are any complaints with respect to viability of the seeds, the same should be informed to KSSDA within 10 days of receipt of seed.
16. The benefits under RDP will be provided without limitation of area of the individual beneficiary

Financial Outlay

Cost of Foundation Seed (FS)

Season	Area (ha)	Seed rate (kg/ha)	FS requirement (MT)	Rate Rs/kg	Total cost (Rs. in lakhs)
Virippu	1450	80	116	40	46.40
Mundakan	1200	80	96	40	38.40
Total	2650	.	212		84.80

Training expenses

Sl. No.	No. of Trainings	No. of participants	Amount /Training (Rs)	Total Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	10	50	20,000/-	2.00

Cost of Gunny Bags (30 kg bags) required for packing processed paddy seeds is **Rs.38.20 lakhs**. An amount of **Rs.125.00 lakhs** is set apart for this component. The target assigned for virippu and mundakan seasons may be interchanged as per requirement.

Monitoring and Evaluation

At state level, the project will be implemented by Additional Director of Agriculture, Kerala State Seed Development Authority. Additional Director of Agriculture (CP) will be the monitoring authority at state level and will be issuing certification tag for quality seeds. Deputy Director of Agriculture (WM) is the district level nodal officer of the RSGP programme. PAO and DDA (WM) will conduct random inspections in the field of farmers as well as in State Seed Farms where the foundation seeds are produced.

Anticipated benefits to farmers

By implementing the project in 2650 ha, approximately 13250 MT of good quality paddy seeds can be made available to farmers, which can be cultivated in an area of 1.65 lakh ha, with an anticipated production of 5.80 lakhs MT of paddy. The registered seed growers will get an assured source of income without waiting for the mercy of intermediaries.

5) Operational Support (Rs.60.00 lakhs)

An amount of **Rs.60.00 lakhs** is proposed as operational support for facilitating implementation of the scheme which will be used for meeting repair & maintenance and fuel cost of vehicles including hiring of vehicles, expenses towards collection and documentation of success stories, organising harvest festivals in major padasekharams, office expenses including purchase of computers etc.

Out of this an amount of Rs.1.00 lakh per district will be utilised for documentation of success stories on block level convergence of activities, increasing production and productivity, activities related to rice year etc.

The funds will also be utilised for engaging 3 Agricultural Graduates at district level on contract basis for a monthly consolidated pay of Rs.25000/- per head for a period of 10 months in Palakkad, Kuttanad and Kole areas to support the Deputy Director of Agriculture (WM) in Palakkad, Alappuzha and Thrissur districts. An amount of Rs. 7.50 lakhs will be utilised for this purpose.

Monitoring and Evaluation

At the grass root level the programme will be implemented and monitored by the Agricultural Officer and Krishi Bhavan staff with the support of registered Padasekhara Samithies. At the block level Assistant Director of Agriculture will give proper guidance for the successful implementation of the programmes to the farmers and the field level functionaries. 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).

Maximum number of crop cutting experiments is proposed to be taken to highlight the production and productivity of rice achieved through the implementation of various components of the scheme.

Financial Outlay

The amount of **Rs.470.00 lakhs** required for the implementation of the continuing Amber Book components of the scheme Rice Development 2018-19. The component wise breakup is summarized as follows.

Sl. No.	Components	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1	Support for converting single crop to double crop	160.00
2	Award to panchayats for Fallow Land Cultivation	25.00
3	Rice innovation fund for Rice Year programmes	100.00
4	Registered Seed Growers Programme	125.00
5	Operational support	60.00
	Total	470.00

(Rupees Four Crores and Seventy Lakhs Only)

In the circumstances mentioned above, continuous administrative sanction is hereby issued for implementation of the scheme 'Rice Development' during 2018-19, for an amount of **Rs.470.00 lakhs (Rupees Four Crores and Seventy**

Lakhs Only), as per the above statement, debiting expenditure to head of account 2401-00-102-90 (Plan) from current years' budget provision. The scheme shall be implemented abiding by the terms and conditions stipulated in the Government Orders read above.

Since agriculture is a season based activity, timely implementation of the scheme has to be ensured by arranging the required inputs in advance, especially for Green Book components and this should be reflected in the monthly booking of expenditure from April 2018 onwards.

Monthly progress report should invariably contain component wise physical and financial targets and achievements and the stage of implementation of each component. Since the Government is giving emphasis to women participation and gender budgeting, maximum efforts have to be made to include women beneficiaries in the scheme. The number of women beneficiaries and the amount utilised for such beneficiaries (component wise) should also be separately shown in the monthly progress report.

Sd/-
Director of Agriculture.

Deputy Director of Agriculture (Plg.)

Deputy Director of Agriculture (Plg.)
Directorate of Agriculture
Thiruvananthapuram

To

TA section of the directorate for issue of detailed working instructions

Copy to

TA to Director of Agriculture, CA to All Additional Directors of Agriculture of the HQ, State Agricultural Engineer, Senior Finance Officer for information

IT section of the directorate for posting on the website