

CIRCULAR

Sub: Annual Plan 2018-19 – Scheme on Modernization of Departmental Laboratories – Continuous Administrative sanction accorded –Detailed working Instructions for Implementation of the component – Strengthening of State Agmark Grading Laboratories – orders issued – reg:-

- Ref: 1. G.O. (Rt) No 911/17/AD dtd. 23/09/2017.
2. G.O. (Rt) No 951/17/AD dtd. 06/10/2017.
3. TP (2) 7461/2018, dated 04.05.2018 of the Director of Agriculture.

*** **

Government of Kerala, vide order read 1st and 2nd above accorded Administrative Sanction for the implementation of the scheme **“Modernization of Departmental laboratories ”** during the year 2017 -18 for a total amount of Rs.600.00 lakhs.

As per the Annual Plan 2018-19, the scheme is proposed to be implemented during the current financial year in the reference noted as 3rd with a budget allocation of Rs.525.00 lakhs, abiding by the norms and conditions of the Government Orders read above.

Strengthening of State Agmark laboratories is a component of the Scheme **‘Modernization of Departmental laboratories’** during the year 2018-19. Vide reference 3rd cited continuous administrative sanction has been accorded for an amount of Rs.21.00 lakhs for the implementation of the component Strengthening of State Agmark Grading Laboratories of the above scheme under the head of account 2401-00-105-86 Plan during 2018-19. The amount will be utilized for purchase of chemicals/glass wares, repair/ purchase of equipments, creation of additional infrastructure facilities, payment of honorarium to Lab assistants, conduct of trainings for farmers /officers and organizing exhibitions /melas related to quality control and marketing.

Grading of agricultural produce and quality control/assurance of processed and packed food materials is of utmost importance in the present scenario. Grading and standardization of agricultural products will result in getting premium price for the products which will in turn benefit the farmers. Consumers will be assured of the quality of the products they buy.

The main objectives of the scheme are:

1. Assessing the quality of the farm produce marketed.
2. Fixing grades of commodities based on testing in the SAGL.
3. Guarantee movement of quality commodity from producer to consumer.
4. Facilitating export.
5. Creating awareness among public regarding Agmark certification.

The detailed working instructions for each component are issued as follows;

1. Purchase of chemicals, equipments, strengthening of Laboratories and creation of infrastructural facilities in the SAGLs

State Agmark Grading laboratories are established in all the 14 districts of Kerala. These labs require annual purchase of chemicals, glassware, repair/ purchase of equipments etc connected with the analysis of samples. Some laboratories need additional infrastructure and equipments. An amount of Rs. 8.00 lakhs is earmarked for Purchase of chemicals/ glassware's/equipments repair of equipments and strengthening of laboratories in the SAGLs during the current year.

2. Training to Officers and Farmers

Value addition and post harvest management are considered as the sunrise sectors in the changing economy. Agricultural marketing is important plays an important role in maximizing returns from production. The existing marketing system needs to be modernized through use of technology, improving skills, knowledge, attitude etc. The following areas have been identified for undertaking training to create awareness to field functionaries and to farmers.

1. Information technology application in agricultural marketing.
2. Food safety, quality certification and standardization.
3. Pesticide residue.
4. Marketing infrastructure.
5. Modern terminal markets and their operation and management.
6. Market led extension.
7. Importance of Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures in quality control.
8. Grading, standardization and certification.
9. Popularization of APEDA schemes and standards of APEDA.
10. Warehousing and storage.
11. Decentralized grading of vegetables and fruits.
12. Promotion of safe to eat food products.

For imparting training, the officials from DMI, CTCRI, VFPC, KAU, Spices Board, and stake holders at district level and connected with Marketing may be invited. The trainings may be organized through RATTCs, FTC's, KVK etc.

Assistant Directors of Agriculture (M) of the districts will be the officer in charge for organizing trainings at the district level. The Principal Agricultural Officers should give all necessary support for the successful conduct of the trainings. It should be ensured that the training programmes are completed by August 2018. Training can be conducted for farmers/officials

An amount of Rs 2.80 lakhs is set apart for conduct training in the districts. An amount of Rs.10,000/- can be utilized for each training comprising 25 participants.

a. Training to Officers

25 Agricultural officers/ Agricultural Assistants of each district will be given training on the topics mentioned above.

b. Training to Farmers

25 farmers of each district will be given training on any of the topics mentioned above. The packers involved in Agmark certification programme should also be included wherever possible. An amount of Rs.10000/- can be utilized for each training.

The amount allotted for the trainings can be utilized to meet the expenditure for food, honorarium to resource persons and other related expenditure. Trainings should be completed by August 2018.

3. Organizing of exhibition and melas

It is proposed to organize/participate at least in one District level exhibition/mela in each district. An amount of Rs.15,000/- per district is allotted for the purpose. The participation must highlight the objective of Agmark certification and exhibit the Agmark labeled products. The process of grading and analysis should be described through chart, pictures, pamphlets etc in order to purchase only Agmark products and help them to distinguish between adulterated products. The public should also be made aware of the adulterants being used in the agricultural produce being marketed. Exhibition should be organized by the Chemist, SAGL in association with the Assistant Director of Agriculture (M) of the districts and Principal Agriculture Officers should extend necessary support for the conduct of the programme. Assistance from the DMI officials and FSSAI officials should be sought wherever possible for the conduct of mela/exhibition.

An amount of Rs 2.10 lakhs is proposed for this component.

4. Honorarium to Lab Assistants

State Agmark Grading Laboratories in Pathanamthitta, Kannur and Kasargod, Idukki, Malappuram & Wayanad have no sanctioned post for Lab

assistant. Hence sanction was given to post one laboratory assistants each during 2018-19 to assist the Chemist in the SAGL for carrying out the analytical works of these labs. As this is an ongoing scheme sanction has been given to engage one lab assistant on contract basis in the above laboratories. Eligible persons having BSc. Chemistry qualification may be engaged on contract basis as lab assistance by paying an honorarium of Rs. 10000/- per month in the SAGLs of Idukki, Wayanad, Malappuram, Kasargod, Pathanamthitta & Kannur. An amount of Rs 4.40 lakhs is earmarked payment of honorarium for the Lab Assistants during the current year. The Principal Agricultural Officers of the districts should take necessary action to post a Lab Assistant for carrying out the works in the above labs and issue necessary orders in this regard. If a lab assistant has already been posted for continuing the above scheme, payment can be effected from April 2018 or the date from which the Lab assistant is posted.

5. Travelling Expenses

Grading sampling and analysis of agricultural commodities requires a lot of travel. The presence of the chemists is often needed during the packaging of the Agmark products. An amount of Rs.3.70 lakhs is set apart for the Travel expenses of the Chemist at SAGL.

The Physical and financial targets for Strengthening of Agmark Labs/purchase of chemicals/equipments, creation of infrastructure facilities, conduct of trainings, exhibition, payment of honorarium to lab assistants & Travel Allowances are appended in Annexure I. and the Physical target for grading of Agricultural commodities are appended in Annexure II.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The scheme will be monitored at the State level by the Additional Director of Agriculture (Marketing). At the district level, the Assistant Director of Agriculture (M) is the Officer in charge of implementation of the scheme with over all supervision of the Principal Agriculture Officer. The Monthly progress report of the implementation of the schemes should be forwarded to the Additional Director of Agriculture, Directorate of Agriculture by 5th of every month by the Principal Agriculture Officers in the prescribed Performa as shown in the **Annexure III**. (Reporting and correspondence in this scheme may be made in the email id directorofmarketingagri@gmail.com with a copy to adamdirectorate@gmail.com.) In case of Agmark Analysis, details of samples analysed each month has to be forwarded to the Directorate of Agriculture.


The Principal Agriculture Officers of Idukki, Wayanad and Malappuram should bestow personal attention for equipping these new Labs and

getting approval from Government of India during the current year itself so that all the labs in the state can be made functional.

Budget Outlay

1. Purchase of chemicals, equipments, strengthening of SAGLs and creation of infrastructural facilities in the SAGLs	: Rs. 8.00 lakhs
2. Training to Officers and Farmers	: Rs. 2.80 lakhs
3. Organizing exhibitions/mela	: Rs. 2.10 lakhs
4. Honorarium to Lab Assistants	: Rs. 4.40 lakhs
5. Travelling Allowances	: Rs. 3.70 lakhs
TOTAL	: Rs. 21.00 lakhs

The expenditure for the same will be met from the budget provision for the current year from the Head of Account **2401-00-105-86** Plan under the scheme for Modernization of Departmental Laboratories – Strengthening of the State Agmark Grading Laboratories 2018-19.


S. PUSHPAKUMARI
Additional Director of Agriculture (Marketing)
Directorate of Agriculture Development &
Farmers Welfare Department
Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram-33

Sd/-

Director
Agriculture development &
Farmer's Welfare Department

To

All Principal Agriculture Officers
Assistant Director of Agriculture (M) of the districts
All Chemists of the SAGLs

Copy to:

TA to Director of Agriculture
CA to Additional Director of Agriculture (Marketing)
Deputy Director IT cell for publishing in the website
TP (2) section (for allotting the funds as per annexure 1)
Stock file

Annexure - I

**Statement of Physical and Financial Target under the Scheme for Modernization of Departmental Laboratories
-Strengthening of State Agmark Laboratories 2018-19 (Amt in lakhs)**

Sl No	District	Strengthening of Agmark Lab	Honorarium to Lab Assistants		Training to Officers		Training to farmers		Exhibition cum mela		Traveling Allowance for SAGL	Total Amount. (Lakhs)
			No of months	Amount	No	Amount	No	Amount	No	Amount		
1.	TVM	0.40	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.45	1.20
2.	KLM	1.00	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.45	1.80
3.	PTA	0.10	12	1.20	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.45	2.10
4.	ALP	0.10	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.40	0.85
5.	KTM	0.10	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.00	0.45
6	IDK	0.00	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.00	0.35
7.	EKM	0.30	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.00	0.65
8.	TSR	-	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.45	0.80
9.	PLK	3.80	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.45	4.60
10	MLP	-	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.00	0.35
11	KZD	0.10	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.00	0.45
12	WND	0.50	8	0.80	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.00	1.65
13	KNR	1.50	12	1.20	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.60	3.65
14	KSG	0.10	12	1.20	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.45	2.10
TOTAL		8.00	44	4.40	14	1.40	14	1.40	14	2.10	3.70	21.00

Sd/-
Director
Agriculture development &
Farmer's Welfare Department

S. PUSHPAKUMARI
Additional Director of Agriculture (Marketing)
Directorate of Agriculture Development
Farmers Welfare Department
Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram-33

Annexure - II

Physical Target fixed for 2018-19 (Quantity in Qtls)

Sl. No	District	Coconut Oil	Gingelli Oil	Honey	Ground Spices	Ghee	Wheat/ Atta	Tamarind	Asafetida	Whole Spices	Rice
1	Thiruvananthapuram	50		800	800		100	25	10		10
2	Kollam	5000	100	500	200		50	25	70		10
3	Pathanamthitta	2500	50	400	1000					10	50
4	Alappuzha	200	50	200	1000	350	50				50
5	Kottayam	100	800	500	10000		3000			1000	50
6	Idukki	50	20	250	100		10				
7	Ernakulam	50	50	450	1500		50	25			20
8	Thrissur	50	50	650	200		100				50
9	Palakkad	50	200	600	400		100				50
10	Malappuram	50	20	100	100		10				
11	Kozhikode	7000	50	350	250		50				
12	Wayanad	50	20	100	100		10				50
13	Kannur	5000	50	300	1000	250	100				
14	Kasargod	50	20	100	100		10				10
Total		20200	1480	5300	16750	600	3640	75	80	1110	350

Sd/-
Director
Agriculture development &
Farmer's Welfare Department

(Signature)
S. PUSHPAKUMARI
 Additional Director of Agriculture Development &
 Farmers Welfare Department
 Thiruvananthapuram-33
 Vilas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram-33

Annexure III

Modernization of Departmental laboratories 2018-19 'Strengthening of State Agmark laboratories' Head of Account 2401-00-105-86 PLAN

Name of the District -----

Progress Report for the Month of -----

Name of Components	Allotment received	Expenditure		Remarks
		During the month	Progressive Total	
Purchase of chemicals, equipments, strengthening of SAGLs and creation of infrastructural facilities in the SAGLs				
Training to Officers				
Training to Farmers				
Organizing exhibitions/mela				
Travelling Allowances				