

TB(1) 19771/2018

Directorate of Agricultural Development
and Farmers Welfare Department,
Vikas Bhavan ,Thiruvananthapuram
Dated: 16 /05/2018

CIRCULAR

Sub: Agriculture Department – Annual Plan 2018-19 – Special Agricultural Zone (SAZ) for infrastructure and filling critical gaps – Continuous Administrative Sanction accorded – Working Instructions issued – Reg.

Ref. 1. G.O(MS)No: 118/2017/AD Thiruvananthapuram Dtd. 07/10/2017

2. G.O(MS)No: 128/2017/AD Thiruvananthapuram Dtd. 12/10/2017

3. G.O(MS)No: 22/2018/AD Thiruvananthapuram Dtd. 19/02/2018

4. G.O(MS)No: 22/2018/AD Thiruvananthapuram Dtd. 20/02/2018

5. Note No. TP(2) 23955/2017 dated 07-03-2018

6. Order No. TP(2) 17170/2018 dated 07-05-2018

'Special Agricultural Zone' is a flagship programme of the Kerala State Agricultural Development and Farmers Welfare Department to carry out focused interventions in the cultivation of selected crops. A total of 15 zones are designated for the major crops. Special Agricultural Zone is selected for each crop in the locality which is agro – ecologically suited for the maximum growth and production of the specified crop. Special Agricultural Zone refers to contiguous geographical area which have specific agro-climatic conditions and manpower envisaged for the cultivation of a particular crop, so that through a focused approach and convergence of all primary requirements from seeds to harvesting, including post harvesting facilities, maximum production and productivity of the crop can be achieved.

Government of Kerala, vide order read 1st above, accorded sanction for conducting need assessment work shop and preparation of DPRs for implementation of the scheme "Special Agricultural Zone (SAZ)" for an amount of Rs 15.00 lakhs during 2017-18 debiting expenditure under head of account 2401-00-102-79 (P).

Government , vide order read 2nd above, accorded Administrative Sanction for the implementation of the scheme by undertaking infrastructure development activities and filling of critical gap in the zones for an amount of ₹ 985 lakhs subject to the condition that amount will be released after detailed examination and approval of DPR by the Government.

Vide reference 3rd above, the DPR of the various Special Agricultural Zones proposed by the Department was accorded sanction to release an amount of ₹ 970 lakhs for infrastructural development and for filling critical gaps of Special Agricultural Zones specifying the activities to be taken up in the zone during 2017-18. Only critical intervention undergoing infrastructure development and filling critical gaps which cannot be supported under any one of the ongoing schemes shall be supported for the funds earmarked under the Special Agricultural Zone scheme.

Since Government sanction for fund release was received in the last fortnight of February, only preliminary steps for the implementation of the various infrastructure development and critical gap filling activities envisaged under the scheme could be carried out during 2017-18.

In the circumstances mentioned above, continuous Administrative sanction has been accorded vide 5th reference cited above for the programme sanctioned during 2017-18 to be continued and completed during 2018-19 for a total amount of ₹ 985.00 lakhs (Rupees Nine Crores Eighty Five Lakhs only) debiting the expenditure under the head of account 2401-00-102-79 (P) from current years budget provision. The scheme shall be implemented abiding by the terms and conditions stipulated in the Government orders read above.

OBJECTIVES:-

- To follow a cropping system approach for holistic development of crops and enterprises.
- To accelerate investment in the essential infrastructure required for the crop from 'Seed to Plate'
- To promote mechanisation of operation for achieving timeliness and efficiency in cultural operations
- To augment the production and productivity of crops
- To promote generation of employment opportunities for agricultural labourers and other skilled persons
- To provide all facilities to the farming community for profitable crop production
- To ensure eco-friendly Good Agricultural Practices and production of safe to eat products.
- To gain maximum income from agriculture and to attract and sustain youth in this field.

Special Agricultural Zone for Coconut -Kozhikode

In Kerala, Kozhikode district is known for the cultivation of coconut. At present Kunnummal, Tuneri and Perambra Block Panchayat area in this district, comprising of 21 Grama Panchayat with an area of 71441 ha is selected for Special Agricultural Zone programme.

STRATEGY:-

- To follow a cropping system approach for holistic development of coconut farming in SAZ.
- To accelerate investment in the essential infrastructure required for raising the crop from seed to plate.
- To promote mechanization for achieving timeliness and efficiency in cultural operation and to reduce the cost of production.
- To promote generation of employment opportunity for agricultural labourers and other skilled persons in the area of value addition, Neera production etc;
- Popularize Good Agricultural Practices and production of safe to eat products
- To gain maximum income from unit size and sustain farmers in this field.
- To improve production and productivity by adopting integrated, nutrient and plant health management

ACTIVITIES PROPOSED:-

- Land and other infrastructure development
- Soil test based nutrient application
- Ensure timely availability of good quality seeds and planting materials
- Popularizing good agricultural practices including usage of bio -fertilizers, bio-pesticides and bio- control agents
- Crop Health Management Practices
- Mechanization
- Procurement and value addition
- Popularization of inter cropping
- Crop protection methods for disease pest management at campaign basis at Vadakara region, through Agro Service Centres. This programme will help to increase the productivity of coconut palms.

Activities proposed for SAZ Coconut for Kozhikode during 2018-19 utilising SAZ funds (Infrastructure Development and Filling Critical Gaps) (₹ 55.00 lakhs)

Sl. No.	Component	Amount (₹in lakhs)
1	Mechanization for Karshika karmasena	40.00
2	Organising integrated crop protection campaign in coconut seed producing areas including crown cleaning, IPDM etc. through Agroservice Centres	15.00
	TOTAL	55.00

The following general guidelines may be adhered to while utilising SAZ scheme funds :-

- 1) Infrastructure development and critical gap filling activities should be implemented in conformity with the broad objective of the respective Agricultural Zone.
- 2) PAO will be in charge of implementation of the scheme at District Level.
- 3) The provision under SAZ scheme shall be utilised only for group activities.
- 4) No individual centric assistance shall be provided under the scheme
- 5) Technical sanctions from competent authority has to be obtained wherever applicable before implementation
- 6) Government norms and rates have to be strictly adhered to purchase, works etc.
- 7) Detailed action plan and calendar of activities have to be prepared and communicated to Director of Agriculture prior to implementation
- 8) Detailed working instructions already issued from Directorate have to be strictly followed in the case of similar components, if any, included in the SAZ scheme.
- 9) Guidelines in respect of additional components in the proposal such as Establishment of flower marketing society in Wayanad, Conservation and multiplication of traditional and indigenous rice varieties of Wayanad and Special promotion of Chengalikodan banana FPO proposed in Chittur – Nenmara Zone, will be issued separately
- 10) In respect of Thrissur Kole zone, component of installation of solar panels for dewatering pump sets, Energy Management Centre Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram has to be consulted before finalizing the scheme
- 11) Necessary assistance has to be extended to Centre for Management Development for refining the DPR already prepared and to be prepare detailed framework document for the development of each zone.

The detailed working instruction and allotment of funds will be made by the implementing sections. The implementing sections designated are as given below.

1. Mechanization for Karshika karmasena - TG
2. Organising integrated crop protection campaign in coconut seed producing areas including crown cleaning, IPDM etc. through Agroservice Centres - TD

MONITORING, IMPLEMENTATION & REPORTING:-

The implementing sections will take action for the issue of allotment (the amount allotted to each implementing section is appended as annexure -1) and also submit status report of the activities of SAZ to the nodal section concerned (TB Sn for SAZ Coconut) on a fortnightly basis ie., on the 1st and 15th of every succeeding month. The nodal section will consolidate the status reports of the various implementing sections and submit consolidated status report of SAZ to Planning Section of the Directorate on the 3rd and 17th of every month.

The implementing sections will monitor the implementation of activities of SAZ at State level. However, the nodal section concerned will be in charge of overall monitoring of the SAZ at State level.

The Principal Agricultural Officer concerned will be in overall charge of implementation and monitoring of SAZ at district level. The Deputy Directors of Agriculture concerned and the Assistant Executive Engineer (Agri) will be in charge of implementation and monitoring of various activities coming under their jurisdiction. The Principal Agricultural Officer shall submit consolidated fortnightly status report of each SAZ to the Directorate as per working instructions.

A separate **Register for SAZ** has to be maintained by the nodal sections and implementing sections at State level and by the Principal Agricultural Officer at district level which shall be kept updated for providing realtime information regarding SAZ.

Sd/-

Director of Agriculture

Additional Director of Agriculture (CP)

Copy to;

1. All Additional Directors of Agriculture ✓
2. State Agricultural Engineer ✓
3. State Finance Officer ✓
4. Principal Agricultural Officer, Kozhikode ✓
5. DDA(Planning) ✓
6. TG Section
7. TD Section
8. TA to Director of Agriculture
9. Accounts Section
10. Stock file

Annexure- I

Sl. No.	Component	Amount (₹ in lakhs)	Allotted Section
1	Mechanization for Karshika karmasena	40.00	TG
2	Organising integrated crop protection campaign in coconut seed producing areas including crown cleaning, IPDM etc. through Agroservice Centres	15.00	TD
TOTAL		55.00	

(Rupees Fifty five lakhs only)

Sd/-
Director of Agriculture


Additional Director of Agriculture (CP)