

CIRCULAR

Sub: Annual Plan 2017-18- Scheme for 'Coconut development- 2017-18 (KERA GRAMAM)- working instruction issued- reg

Ref: G.O.(Rt) No.597/2017/AGRI dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 06-06-2017

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It is proposed to implement the Scheme for 'Coconut development (KERA GRAMAM) during 2017-18 with a budget provision of Rs.3332.50 Lakhs (Rupees three thousand three hundred thirty two lakhs and fifty thousand only) under the H/A 2401-00-103-87 Plan. Major objectives of the scheme proposed are -Integrated management of coconut gardens with INM, IPM, application of organic manure, distribution of climbing devices, establishment of coconut nurseries, irrigation units, promotion of inter cultivation, inter cropping, value addition ventures etc in selected panchayats and Establishment of 44 new panchayat level Kera Samithies / Societies.

Programme: -

The following activities will be undertaken to increase production and productivity of coconut in the area under this scheme.

- Application of organic manure, fertilizers and adoption of cultural management practices.
- Implementation of pest and disease management programme including release of biocontrol agents.
- Inter-cropping /multi species cropping and mixed cropping.
- Establishment of Irrigation unit including Micro Irrigation. (digging open wells, installation of drip unit, pumpset and accessories).
- Establishment of Organic manure production units.
- Distribution of coconut climbing device for clusters.
- Removing senile and diseased palms.
- Replanting with good quality seedlings.

Components of the Scheme

1. Integrated Management of Coconut Gardens.

The major programme proposed during 2017-18 under Coconut Development Programme is Integrated Management of Coconut Gardens on cluster basis. The programme is intended to be implemented in **44 new Keragramams** with a project area unit size of **250 ha** each during 2017-18. Thus a total area of 11000 Ha. (@175 palms/ha) is proposed to be covered in the state under this programme.

The following activities are envisaged under this programme.

a. Intercultural operations – opening of coconut basins, weeding, mulching etc.

The coconut basins are to be kept weed free by periodical weeding. Mulching is an effective method of conserving soil moisture. Mulching coconut basins with green/dry leaves at the end of north-east monsoons will add organic matter to the soil and reduce soil temperature. Opening of coconut basins will help to conserve moisture and facilitate maximum percolation of rainwater and water conservation. It is estimated that an amount of Rs.70/- is required for opening coconut basins and application of fertilizers and manures. An amount limited to **Rs.35/- per palm** as 50% subsidy can be given as financial assistance.

b. Coconut Husk burial for Moisture Conservation in Coconut garden.

For moisture retention, burying of fresh or dried husk around the palm is a desirable practice. The husks are placed in layers with concave surface facing upwards in trenches of 0.5 m width and depth taken around the palm at a distance of 2 meters away from the trunk. The benefit of moisture conservation will last for 5-7 years. It is estimated that an amount of Rs.100/- per palm is required for taking trench and burying coconut husks. An amount limited to **Rs. 50/- per palm** as 50% subsidy can be given as financial assistance.

c. Application of Soil ameliorants, Manures, Fertilizer and PP chemicals.

Coconut plantations which are not properly managed are to be supplemented with soil ameliorants, organic manures and chemical fertilizers in order to revive their production and productivity.

1. Soil Ameliorants: Kerala soil being acidic in nature, application of liming materials like lime / dolomite improves the soil condition and accelerates uptake of nutrients. Lime/Dolomite can be provided at 75% subsidy limited to **Rs.9/- per palm/Kg.**

2. Fertilizers: The general recommendation for coconut palms under average management is 0.34: 0.17: 0.68 Kg of N P & K per palm per year. 50% subsidy limited to **Rs.20/- per palm** can be given as assistance.

3. Magnesium Sulphate: In areas where yellowing of coconut is predominant, application of Magnesium sulphate is inevitable at the recommended dose of 0.5 Kg / palm/year. For this 50% of the total cost limited to **Rs.3.75/- per palm** can be given as subsidy.

4. Organic Manure: 50 % of the cost of organic manures/Farm yard manure /Compost limited to **Rs.25/- per palm** per year can be given as assistance.

5. PP Chemicals: For under taking PP operations ,including prophylactic spraying ,50 % subsidy limited to **Rs.10/-per palm** will be provided as assistance.

d. Application of Biofertilisers/ Bio-pesticides and Bio-control agents.

To limit the exorbitant use of Chemical fertilizers and Plant Protection chemicals use of bio-fertilizers / bio-pesticides and bio-control agents are given thrust on environment and health aspect of the society. 50% subsidy limited to **Rs.25/- per palm** can be given for the use of Bio fertilizer, Bio Pesticide and Bio control agents.

For the release of Bio-control agents, service of State Biocontrol Laboratory, Mannuthy and Parasite Breeding Stations of the Agricultural Department will be availed. Assistance will be provided for the release of bio control agents and labour charge for climbing palms @50% subsidy of the total cost limited to **Rs.50/-per palm.**

e. Cut and removal of disease affected, old and senile palms.

An amount of **Rs.500/palm** limited to **Rs. 7500/ha** can be given as assistance for cut and removal of disease affected, old and senile palms **@ 15 palms per ha.**

f. Replanting with good quality coconut seedlings.

The cut and removal of diseased , old and senile palms will be followed up immediately by a systematic replanting programme. 50% of the disease affected palms cut will be replanted with disease tolerant seedlings to standardize the density of population to nearly 175 palms/Ha. 50 % subsidy limited to **Rs 60 per seedling** can be given as assistance.

g. Intercropping in Coconut garden.

To ensure better land utilization, harvesting of solar energy, efficient water use, better utilization of soil nutrient resource and for more returns, inter cropping with banana, tuber crops, ginger, turmeric etc can be taken up in coconut gardens. An assistance of 50 % subsidy of the total cost of cultivation limited to **Rs. 6000/- per Ha** will be given.

Subsidy to the components (a) to (g) is limited to **Rs.25000/-per Ha** for covering an area of 11000 ha. @ 250 ha/Keragramam.

An amount of **Rs. 2750.00 lakhs** is set apart for the above 7 sub components (a to g) under Integrated Management of Coconut Gardens, for 44 no.s of Keragramams.

2. Installation of Irrigation components including micro irrigation

Irrigation is a major contributing factor in increasing the production and productivity of coconut gardens. Studies have proved that upto 20% yield increase

can be attained through irrigation. It is proposed to bring a minimum additional area of 21Ha. in each Keragramam under irrigation through this programme. Assistance shall be provided for digging new wells and installing pumpsets and for installation of pumpset alone if there is an existing water source. Assistance will be provided at 50% subsidy limited to a maximum of **Rs10000/- per unit** of well or pumpset with accessories for small and marginal farmers with a minimum area of 0.12 Ha. Drip/Sprinkler irrigation units can be installed availing assistance from this scheme or can be linked with any other microirrigation schemes. The maximum assistance for irrigation component is limited to Rs.25000/- per Ha. An amount of **Rs.231.00 lakhs** is set apart for this component ,for covering an additional area of 924 Ha.in 44 Keragramams.

3. Coconut Climbing Equipments for Clusters.

Popularizing mechanization in coconut harvesting, to overcome the shortage of skilled labourers in the field of coconut harvesting supply of coconut climbing devices at subsidized rate is another objective of the project. 2640 nos. of climbing devices are to be distributed to small and marginal farmers in the selected panchayats through Krishi Bhavans. The equipments are to be purchased from KAICO/RAIDCO. Permissible subsidy is **Rs.2000/-per unit**. An amount of **Rs. 52.80 lakhs** is set apart for this component.

4. Establishing Organic Manure Production units

Organic farming is an emerging area in the country and the export potential of organic products is increasing across the world. In lieu with the demand for organic products, organic manure production also has to be enhanced. To promote the production of organic manure by vermi-composting or coir pith composting, and to make use of the unused organic waste as a part of in situ waste management, financial assistance to the tune of **Rs. 10,000/- per unit** to the beneficiary for establishing compost unit of 7.2 x1.2 x 0.6 Meter size and material cost of inputs aiding in composting. It is proposed to establish 352 nos. of organic manure production units in 44 Keragramam @8 nos.per Keragramam. Assistance can be

proportionately given to units of smaller size also. An amount of **Rs.35.20lakhs** is set apart for this component.

5. Establishment of Coconut Nurseries

The objective of the programme is to enhance the production and supply of good quality planting materials for each locality. Clusters or individual farmer can raise nursery and the quality seedlings raised will be distributed to farmers at Government approved rate. Seed nuts from elite palms identified in the panchayath or adjacent panchayaths by the Agricultural Officers or from the Seed nut procurement programme will be used for raising seedlings. Financial assistance limited to 25% of cost of production or **Rs.50000/-** will be released for producing 6250 Quality selected seedlings from 25 cents. **44 units** of such nurseries in each selected panchayath have to be implemented under the scheme. An amount of **Rs.22 lakhs** is set apart for this.

The components 1 -5 above are inter changeable as per local requirements without exceeding financial limits.

6. Operational cost to Krishi Bhavans.

During the current financial year, the programme will be implemented in an area of 11000 ha. in selected 44 Grama Panchayats @250ha/Keragramam. Expenditure for the conduct of trainings, meetings, cluster formation and other unforeseen related items can be met from the funds under the component operational support to Krishibhavans, for which an amount of **Rs 4.40 lakhs @Rs.10,000/- per Keragramam** is earmarked.

7. Assistance for Panchayat level Kera Samithies (Societies)

An amount of **Rs.220.00 lakhs** is earmarked to provide assistance to 44 no.s of Kera Samithies/Societies formed in each Keragramams at the rate of **Rs 5.0 lakhs per Kera Society** for their establishment and to take up and organise common activities like value addition, agro processing units (coconut virgin oil, coconut milk cream, coconut palm jaggery, shell charcoal, shell powder, vinegar, handy crafts etc), marketing and organise activities on a group approach for

cultural operations ,application of manures and fertilizers, plant protection, and other unforeseen expenses. The support from LSGs and special development fund of MLAs can be pooled and linked with these in extending maximum assistance to the farmers in taking up common activities. Action plan/Projects for the group activities should be prepared by the concerned Agricultural Officers and implemented with the approval of the Block level Assistant Director of Agriculture. The expenditure for registration of new samithies, campaigns,trainings,meetings, survey and other related expenditure can also be met from this component. Support to Panchayat level Kera societies formed during 2015-16, 2016-17 can also be extended from this provisions.

Abstract of the scheme Components

SI No	Name of component	Rate	Units	Amount (Lakhs)
1	Integrated management of coconut gardens	Rs 25000/ Ha	11000 ha	2750.00
2	Installation of irrigation components	Rs 25000/Ha	924 ha	231.00
3	Coconut climbing equipment for clusters	Rs 2000 /Unit	2640 nos.	52.80
4	Establishment of organic manure production units	Rs 10000/unit	352 nos.	35.20
5	Establishment of coconut nurseries	Rs 50000/ unit	44 nos.	22.00
6	Operational support to Krishibhavans /Keragramam.	Rs.10000/ Keragramam	44nos.	4.40
7	Assistance for panchayat level Kerasamithies/Societies	5,00,000	44 no.s	220.00
	TE			13.00
	POL			4.10
	TOTAL			3332.50

Project Area : -

The programme will be implemented in selected **44 Keragramams**, each having not less than **250 Ha** area under coconut. As far as possible, panchayats having more than 250 Ha under coconut may be selected. If 250 ha coconut area is not available in a Panchayat, adjacent one more panchayat may also be considered for Keragramam during 2017-18.

Criteria to be followed for the selection of Grama Panchayats are

- *Panchayat having maximum area under Coconut should be given preference for selection.*
- *Panchayats that undergo all activities for enhancing production and productivity for the crop improvement, value addition and marketing should be ensured for selection.*
- *Local self governments ensuring all support in taking up additional schemes approved in their plan schemes to fill up the gaps for the successful implementation during the year and willing to continue the similar activities in the subsequent years shall be given preference. MLA fund can also be utilised.*
- *Preference should be given for areas with high incidence of pests and diseases/senile palms.*

Mode of implementation:-

The following guidelines should be followed for the implementation of integrated farming in coconut holdings for productivity improvement.

- A compact area approach with an extent of **250 Ha** shall be selected for the implementation of the scheme. All small and marginal farmers coming under the selected project area should be included as beneficiaries of the programme based on the suitability of the coconut gardens irrespective of their land holding size to the maximum possible extent.

- Cluster formed at panchayat level should have a technical resource group for monitoring the implementation of the different components of the programme with Panchayat President as the Chairperson and Agricultural Officer as the Convener. The resource groups should consist of the field level functionaries of the Department of Agriculture, Kerala Agricultural University, CDB officials and scientists from Research Stations and DDA (YP) as members.
- The President , Vice President , Standing committee Chairman (Development) of the LSGD and Agricultural Officer should be included as the ex Officio members of the Panchayat level Kerasamithy/Society.
- A visit schedule of Agricultural Assistants should be prepared to ensure regular field visit to the cluster areas in a month.
- Assistance of Multi Disciplinary Diagnostic Team can be availed, if situation warrants, in consultation with the district officer concerned.
- The Panchayath Resource Group should prepare and finalise a plan of action for taking up the intercultural, manurial application and plant protection activities in a group approach. Accordingly arrangement for required inputs should be made and an operational chart should be prepared so as to ensure the timely availability of MGMNREGS workforce and skilled labourers of Agro Service Centre / Karshika Karma Sena.
- Assistance on a pro rata basis, as per holding size, will be utilized for this group activity through the cluster and remaining eligible assistance will be released to the farmers concerned through e-payment.
- The beneficiaries of the scheme should be enrolled in the state crop insurance scheme.
- Store purchase rules shall be strictly adhered to for all kinds of purchases. Tender/e-tender and other stipulated formalities shall be followed where ever necessary.

The Agricultural Officer of Krishibhavans will be responsible for effective implementation of the scheme at Panchayat level. The Assistant Director of Agriculture will monitor the scheme at block level and Deputy Director of Agriculture(YP) at district level. Principal Agricultural Officer will supervise the scheme implementation at district level. Additional Director of Agriculture(CP) will monitor the scheme at State level. The ADAs should submit a consolidated block wise report to the DDA (YP) who in turn will submit a detailed report in annexure-1 to the **Additional Director of Agriculture (CP)** by 5th of every month. (Reporting and official correspondence in respect of this scheme may be made in the email id **adatbagridir@gmail.com**).

The Principal Agricultural Officers shall furnish a detailed completion report including the no.of beneficiaries (male, female, SC/ST , general) and utilization certificate in proper format (annexure 2) immediately on completion of the project .

The financial split up of one keragramam is appended as annexure 3. The physical and financial target will be communicated shortly as annexure 4.

The expenditure of all components mentioned above will be met from the budget provision of Rs.4500.00 lakhs under the head of account **2401-00-103-87 Plan** of 2017-18 financial year.

Sd/-

Director of Agriculture



To
All Principal Agricultural Officers
Planning Section, Directorate of Agriculture
TA to Director of Agriculture
CAs to Addl.DA(Plg), Addl.DA(CP), Addl.DA(Farms), Addl.DA(Extn),
Addl.DA(Mktg), SAE.
All Joint Directors of Agriculture (in the Directorate)
Principal Information Officer, FIB, Thiruvananthapuram
IT Cell for publishing in the website.

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Farmers Welfare Directorate
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KERAGRAMAM 2017-18 – PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF -----

COCONUT DEVELOPMENT SCHEME 2017-18 – 2401-00-103-87 PLAN

DISTRICT -

Sl: No	COMPONENTS	Amount allotted (lakhs)	PHYSICAL		FINANCIAL (Lakhs)		REMARKS
			TARGET	ACHIEVE MENT	TARGET	ACHIEV EMENT	
	No. of Keragramams						
	Total Area						
I	Integrated management of Coconut gardens						
	Intercultural Operations- opening of coconut basins, weeding, mulching etc (50% subsidy @ Rs a)35/palm)						
	Coconut husk burial for moisture conservation b) (50% subsidy @ Rs 50/palm)						
	Application of Soil ameliorants, manures, c) fertilizer and PPC						
	1) Soil ameliorants (Lime/ Dolomite) (75% subsidy @ Rs 9/palm/kg)						
	2) Fertilizers (50% subsidy @ Rs 20/palm)						
	3) Magnesium sulphate (50% subsidy @ Rs 3.75/palm)						
	4) Organic manure (50% subsidy @ Rs 25/palm)						
	5) PPC operation (50% subsidy @ Rs 10/palm)						
	Appln of Bio-fertilizers / Bio-pesticides & Bio-control agents (50% subsidy @ Rs 25/palm & Rs d)50/palm as labour charges)						
	Cut & removal of disease affected, old and senile e) palms (@ Rs 500/palm limited to Rs 7500/ha)						
	Replanting with good quality seedlings (50 % f) subsidy limited to Rs 60/ seedling)						
	Intercropping in coconut garden (50% subsidy g) limited to Rs 6000/ha)						
	SUBTOTAL (@Rs 25000/ha)						
II.	Installation of irrigation Components including micro irrigation (50% subsidy limited to Rs 25000/ha)						
III.	Coconut climbing equipment for clusters (subsidy @ Rs 2000/unit)						
IV.	Est: of Organic manure production units (subsidy @ Rs 10000/unit)						
V.	Est: of Coconut nurseries (25% subsidy @ Rs 50000/6250 seedlings)						
VI.	Operational support @ Rs 10000/ KB/KG						
VII.	Assistance for panchayat level Kerasamithies @ Rs 5 lakhs						
	TOTAL						
	TE						
	POL						
	GRAND TOTAL						

Annexure-2
COMPLETION REPORT OF THE SCHEME FOR COCONUT DEVELOPMENT-"KERAGRAMAM 2017-18"
 (inclusive of 2016-17 ELA)
 H/A - 2401-00-103-87 PLAN

DISTRICT -

Sl. No.	COMPONENTS	Amount allotted (lakhs)	PHYSICAL		FINANCIAL (Lakhs)		No. of beneficiaries	
			TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT	Male	Female
	No. of Keragramams							
	Total Area						Gen	SC/ST Total Gen
							SC/ST	SC/ST
I.	Integrated management of Coconut gardens							
	Intercultural Operations- opening of coconut basins, weeding, mulching etc (50% subsidy @ a)Rs 30/palm)		ha	ha				
	Coconut husk burial for moisture conservation b) (50% subsidy @ Rs 50/palm)		ha	ha				
	Application of Soil ameliorants, manures, c) fertilizer and PPC							
	1) Soil ameliorants (Lime/ Dolomite) (50% subsidy @ Rs 6/palm)		ha	ha				
	2) Fertilizers (50% subsidy @ Rs 15/palm)		ha	ha				
	3) Magnesium sulphate (50% subsidy @ Rs 3.75/palm)		ha	ha				
	4) Organic manure (50% subsidy @ Rs 25/palm)		ha	ha				
	5) PPC operation (50% subsidy @ Rs 10/palm)		ha	ha				
	Appln of Bio-fertilizers / Bio-pesticides & Bio-control agents (50% subsidy @ Rs 25/palm & Rs d)50/palm as labour charges)		ha	ha				
	Cut & removal of disease affected, old and senile e) palms (@ Rs 500/palm limited to Rs 5000/ha)		No.s	No.s				
	Replanting with good quality seedlings (Rs 35/ f)seedling)		No.s	No.s				
	Intercropping in coconut garden (50% subsidy g)limited to Rs 6000/ha)		ha	ha				
	SUBTOTAL (@Rs 25000/ha)		ha	ha				
II.	Installation of irrigation Components including micro irrigation (50% subsidy limited to Rs 25000/ha)		ha	ha				
III.	Coconut climbing equipment for clusters (subsidy @ Rs 2000/unit)		No.s	No.s				
IV.	Est. of Organic manure production units (subsidy @ Rs 10000/unit)		No.s	No.s				
V.	Est. of Coconut nurseries (25% subsidy @ Rs 50000/6250 seedlings)		No.s	No.s				
VI.	Operational support @ Rs 10000/ KB/KG		No.s	No.s				
VII.	Assistance for panchayat level Kerasamithies @ Rs 10 lakhs		No.s	No.s				
	TOTAL							
	TE							
	POL							
	GRAND TOTAL							

Sd/-

PAO.....district

UTILIZATION CERTIFICATE

Certified that an amount of Rs---(Rupees...only) received under the head of account 2401-00-103-87 Plan for Coconut Development Scheme (Keragramam) during the year 2017-18 has been fully utilized for the purpose for which it was allotted.

Sd/-

PAO,district

COCONUT DEVELOPMENT SCHEME 2017-18

KERAGRAMAM

H/ac 2401-00-103-87 PLAN

Sl:No	COMPONENTS and rate of assistance	PHYSICAL		FINANCIAL (in lakhs)	
		one Keragramam	Total	one Keragramam	Total
	No.of Keragramams	1 no	44 no.s	75.35	3315.4
	Area / Keragramam	250 ha	11000 ha		
	Palms / keragramam @ 175 palm /ha	43750 palms	1925000 palms		
I	Integrated management of Coconut gardens				
	Intercultural Operations- opening of coconut basins, weeding, mulching etc (50% subsidy @ a)Rs 35/palm)	43750 palms	1925000 palms	13.125	577.5
	Coconut husk burial for moisture conservation b) (50% subsidy @ Rs 50/palm)	43750 palms	1925000 palms	21.875	962.5
	Application of Soil ameliorants, manures, c) fertilizer and PPC				
	1) Soil ameliorants (Lime/ Dolomite) (75% subsidy @ Rs 9/palm)			3.9375	173.25
	2) Fertilizers (50% subsidy @ Rs 20/palm)			8.75	385
	3) Magnesium sulphate (50% subsidy @ Rs 3.75/palm)			1.640625	72.1875
	4) Organic manure (50% subsidy @ Rs 25/palm)			10.9375	481.25
	5) PPC operation (50% subsidy @ Rs 10/palm)			4.375	192.5
	Appln of Bio-fertilizers / Bio-pesticides & Bio-control agents (50% subsidy @ Rs 25/palm & Rs d)50/palm as labour charges)			32.8125	1443.75
	Cut & removal of disease affected, old and senile e) palms (@ Rs 500/palm limited to Rs 7500/ha)			18.75	825
	Replanting with good quality seedlings (50% subsidy limited to Rs 60/ seedling for 7 palms f)/ha)			1.05	46.2
	Intercropping in coconut garden (50% subsidy g)limited to Rs 6000/ha)			15	660
	Total			132.253125	5819.1375
	SUBTOTAL(A) Limited toRs 25000/ha ie Rs 62.5 lakhs / Keragramam			62.5	2750
II.	Installation of irrigation Components including micro irrigation (50% subsidy limited to Rs 25000/ha) @ 21 ha/ keragramam	21 ha	924 ha	5.25	231
III.	Coconut climbing equipment for clusters (subsidy @ Rs 2000/unit) @ 60 units / Keragramam	60 no.s	2640 no.s	1.2	52.8
IV.	Est. of Organic manure production units (subsidy @ Rs 10000/unit) @ 8 units / Keragramam	8 no.s	352	0.8	35.2
V.	Est. of Coconut nurseries (25% subsidy @ Rs 50000/6250 seedlings) @ one nursery / KG	1 no	44 no.s	0.5	22
VI.	Operational support @ Rs 10000/ KB/KG	1 no	44 no.s	0.1	4.4
VII.	Assistance for panchayat level Kerasamithies @ Rs 5 lakhs	1 no	44 no.s	5	220
	SUB TOTAL (B)			12.85	565.4
	OC			75.35	3315.4
	TE				14
	POL				3.1
	GRAND TOTAL				3332.5