

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

(Present : Dr.K.Vasuki IAS)

Sub: Annual Plan 2020-21 – **Vegetable Development Programme** – Re-revised
Continuous Administrative Sanction accorded – orders issued.

Read: 1) Order no.ADFW/474/2020-TP2 dated 08/6/2020
2) Order no.ADFW/474/2020-TP2 dated 19/1/2021
3) G.O.(Ms)No.29/2021/AGRI dated 18/2/2021
4) Note no.VC 8115/2020 dated 18/2/2021

Order No. ADFW/474/2020-TP2

Dated: 22.02.2021

Continuous Administrative Sanction was accorded for the implementation of the scheme Vegetable Development Programme vide reference 1st cited for components worth Rs.4073.48998 lakhs after deducting the amount allotted for encashment of pending bills of 2019-20 debiting expenditure to Head of Account 2401-00-119-85 (P). The same was revised vide reference 2nd cited above without revision in the total financial outlay.

Vide reference 3rd cited, Government have revised the budget allocation for the component “Promotion of Rain shelter” from Rs.500.00 lakh to Rs.615.71426 lakh as per the request submitted from this office. As Government have provided sanction, the implementing section vide reference 4th cited have requested for revision of the Continuous Administrative Sanction accorded vide reference 2nd cited by allocating the savings under various components to meet the additional requirement under the component “Promotion of Rain shelter”. Therefore the continuing components under the scheme “Vegetable Development Programme” are revised again as follows:

1) Homestead vegetable cultivation, including onam vegetable production (Onathinu orumuram pachakkari) (Rs.1219.49893 lakhs)

Supply of Vegetable Seedlings

207.79957 lakh seedlings will be supplied to homesteads @ Rs. 2.50 per seedlings utilising an amount of **Rs.519.49893 lakhs**. The seedlings will be produced and supplied by the block Level and panchayat level nurseries established under Vegetable Development Programme and by Department Farms. The quality of seedlings will be certified by the District level VDP Implementing Committee.

The programme will be implemented observing the general guidelines as provided in administrative sanction mentioned in reference (1).

2) Cluster Development in Districts (Rs.1557.81399 lakhs)

Promotion of Nutrition Garden (Rs.23.91 lakhs)

(i) Distribution of Saplings (Rs.19.19 lakhs)

Inclusion of perennial vegetables such as bread fruit, muringa, agathy, curry leaves etc in our daily diet can ensure healthy living and reduce the occurrence of life style diseases owing to their nutritive value along with palatability. Considering this, it is proposed to popularize such varieties among the masses, by distributing sapling kits of the above varieties to raise nutrition garden in homesteads. A kit containing planting materials of 5- 6 varieties costing Rs.100/- will be distributed to households at 50% subsidy (Rs.50/kit). It is proposed to produce distribute 38380 perennial vegetable sapling kits during 2020-21 through department farms, utilizing an outlay of **Rs.19.19 lakhs**.

(ii) Commercial cultivation of perennial vegetables (Rs.4.72 lakhs)

Perennial vegetables such as breadfruit, muringa, agathi, curry leaves, raw papaya, sweet lime, lemon etc form an integral part of the daily diet of common Keralite. However considerable share of our requirement of these vegetables is sourced from outside the State. The fact that such imports are pesticide ridden poses high health risk to the consumer. Hence it is proposed to promote commercial cultivation of such varieties in our State in appropriate locations in a scientific manner to meet our domestic requirement. This programme is proposed to be implemented through A grade clusters or other well performing clusters by providing additional assistance of **Rs.20000/- per ha**. This activity will be taken up by the clusters concerned in addition to their normal activities. A minimum plot size of 50 cents is proposed for this purpose. An amount of **Rs.4.72 lakhs** is earmarked for implementing this component in an area of **23.6 ha**.

Abstract of Cluster Development in Districts

Sl. No.	Particulars	Rate (Rs.)	Sanctioned as per reference (2)		Revised sanction	
			No./Unit	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)	No./Unit	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
a.	Assistance to Clusters	1.00 to 1.25 lakhs for 5Ha/unit		698.0632		698.0632
b.	Assistance for PP Equipments	1500/unit	892 Nos.	13.29591	892	13.29591
c	Vegetable Cultivation in fallow Land	40000/Ha	757.35 Ha	209.92544		209.92544

d.	Staggered Clusters					
(i)	Staggered vegetable cultivation - with pandhal - without pandhal Sub-Total	25000/ Ha 20000/ Ha	752.17888 Ha 1522.8736 Ha 2275.05248 ha	492.61944	752.17888 Ha 1522.8736 Ha 2275.05248 ha	492.61944
(ii)	Cultivation of cool season vegetables in staggered clusters in Wayanad and Idukki	30000/ Ha	333.33 Ha	100.00	333.33 Ha	100.00
e.	Production and distribution of seeds of traditional varieties	25000/ Ha	80 Ha	20.00	80 Ha	20.00
f.	Promotion of Nutrition Garden					
	i) Distribution of saplings at 50 % subsidy @Rs.50/kit	50/kit	40000 kits	20.00	36760	19.19
	ii) Commercial cultivation of perennial vegetables	20000/ Ha	25 Ha	5.00	23.6 Ha	4.72
	TOTAL			1558.90399		1557.81399

(Rupees fifteen crores fifty seven lakh eighty one thousand three hundred and ninety nine only)

3. Technical Support & Contract Appointment (Rs. 46.052 lakhs)

For ensuring successful implementation of the project activities, technical support is envisaged at **District and State level**. *The tenure of the existing contract staff under the Scheme has been extended as per G.O.(Rt) No.396/2020/Agri dated 24/04/2020 of Agriculture (PB) Department.*

4. Promotion of Zero Energy Cool Chambers for storage of harvested vegetables (Rs. 1.35 lakhs)

Assistance will be provided for the construction of Zero Energy Cool Chambers for temporary storage of vegetables from clusters. The zero energy cool chamber can be constructed easily with materials like brick, sand, bamboo, straw, gunny bag etc. The chamber can keep the temperature 10 - 15°C cooler than the outside temperature and maintain about 90% relative humidity. Cold storage units can be made useful during periods of glut which necessitate transportation for longer distances for marketing. Assistance limited to a maximum of Rs.15000/- per unit will be provided for establishing 10 small pusa model zero energy cool chambers (3.76 x 1.35 x 0.67 m³) or assistance limited to a maximum of Rs.50000/- per unit will be provided for 3 large pusa model zero energy cool chambers. The specification will be finalised by the state level technical committee constituted under VDP. An amount of **Rs.1.35 lakhs** is earmarked for this purpose.

5. Promotion of Urban Clusters and Waste Management (Rs. 372.98175 lakhs)

- **Mini-drip/Wick irrigation units (Rs.18.64675 lakhs)**

Mini-drip/Wick Irrigation units will be established along with the growbag units to avoid excessive use of water, depletion of soil nutrients and for regular moisture supply to the crops. 50% subsidy to the drip units limited to Rs. 2000/unit will be provided for 960 units. An amount of Rs. 18.64675 lakhs is set apart for this component.

- **Formation of Haritha Groups (Rs.6.50 lakhs)**

Urban vegetable cultivation will be institutionalized by federating urban clusters of various residence associations at ward level to form "Haritha Groups". These groups will be registered under the Charitable Societies Act. At least 3 to 5 residence associations should join together to form a Haritha Group. An assistance of Rs.50000/- will be provided per Haritha Group to meet the expenses related to registration and other operational expenses.

An amount of **Rs.6.50 lakhs** is set apart for the institutionalization of urban vegetable growers into Haritha Groups and also for providing technical support and marketing facilities through local volunteers 'Haritha Mitras' to be engaged for this purpose. This will open a self employment opportunity for such volunteers.

The follow up and management of urban clusters shall be the responsibility of Project Director, ATMA of the district.

Development Support to Graded Clusters (Rs. 12.60 lakhs)

Cluster based development is the key component in the vegetable initiative and strengthening of potential clusters which is essential for the evolution of an efficient vegetable scenario in the state.

Support for 2 New 'A' Grade Clusters – Rs. 12.60 Lakhs

Two new 'A' Grade Clusters will be selected for 2020-21 with an outlay of **Rs.12.60 lakhs**. The rate of assistance will be Rs. 6.30 lakhs per graded cluster.

The clusters established in 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 will be further graded based on the performance covering group activities, increase in production and productivity, innovative activities, leadership, technology application and cluster dynamics. The best clusters will be graded as 'A' Grade Clusters and special development support will be provided for those clusters covering support for establishing nurseries, collection centers, pre cooling centers, input centers and other need based project based support. The technical programme of scheme implementation, grading criteria and cafeteria of component selection is as mentioned in the sanction vide reference (1) cited.

Each 'A' Grade Cluster selected for assistance should prepare a plan of action for assistance duly approved by Agricultural Officer concerned and the amount could be released to the clusters. A monitoring mechanism should also be introduced by the District Level Committee.

A minimum of three clusters surrounding the lead cluster should join the lead clusters for technical and marketing support. These clusters will be called satellite clusters. Lead clusters should be registered under the Charitable Societies Act. It is preferable to restrict the activities of the lead clusters within a Panchayat. At least 200 farmers should be benefited by the activities of the lead clusters through marketing, distribution of inputs and other technological interventions. Sustainability of the clusters should be ensured.

7. Promotion of Rain Shelter (Rs.615.71426 lakhs)

The concept of 'Rain shelter cultivation' gains importance in conditions where crops are to be protected from extreme climate (severe summer & heavy rains). Rain shelter is a low cost structure with frame work and roof cladding. Frame work can be made up of GI pipes or low cost materials like bamboo or palm poles. The roof cladding is done with transparent U.V. stabilized polythene film. The sides of the structure are kept open to ensure ample ventilation. It helps year-round cultivation of vegetables by protecting from heavy rain and extreme solar radiation that affect plant growth adversely.

Objectives

- a) To popularize the concept of Rain Shelter cultivation of Vegetables.
- b) To enhance production of vegetables through increased number of crops taken per year.
- c) To increase yield per unit area cultivated.
- d) To popularize physical and biological methods of pest control within a small manageable area.
- e) To utilize available spaces like terraces which are not utilized in traditional cultivation.
- f) To strengthen the concept of 'Family Farming'.
- g) To bring additional income to farmers during lean season.
- h) To utilize available space and time effectively.

Technical Programme

It is proposed to give financial assistance for construction of rain shelters as a permanent structure. The framework will be constructed using GI pipes fixed to the ground using concrete. The roof will be covered using UV stabilized sheet of 200 microns. All four sides will be covered upto 1m height using insect proof net to prevent straying of cattle etc. This will be done above a base made of one-brick thickness.

Cost estimate for rain shelter

The total cost for constructing a 100 m² rain shelter will be approximately about Rs. 67,000/- as shown in table:

Sl. No.	Item	No./ quantity	Rate/Unit cost (Rs.)	Total cost (Rs.)
1	GI pipes fixed with concrete (3 m length)	30 Nos.	Rs.1000/-	30000/-
2	UV-stabilised Polythene sheet (200 microns)	20m x 7m	50/sq.m	7000/-
3	Insect proof net (for sides)	50sq.m.	50/sq.m.	2500/-
4	Wages for labour	40no.	600	24,000/-
5	Miscellaneous (Floor preparation, coir, Copper wire etc.)			3500
	Total			67,000/-

Operationalization and activities

As per reference 1st cited, Rs.500.00 lakh was allotted for the construction of 1 lakh sq m of rain shelter using GI pipes with minimum area of 50sq.m and maximum of 100 sq.m. area in farmers fields with 75% financial assistance during 2020-21. This component was included under the Hon'ble Chief Minister's 12 point programme, and as per his direction, additional 23142.852 sqm of rain shelters have been constructed in the state creating an additional requirement of Rs.115.71426 lakh. Therefore, the total fund earmarked for the component "**Promotion of Rain Shelter**" during 2020-21 is hereby revised to Rs.**615.71426 lakh**. Details of assistance is given below.

Sl. No.	Type of Rain Shelter (100 sq.m.)	Total Estimated Cost (Rs)	Financial Assistance proposed	Total outlay required (Rs lakhs)
	Frame work with GT pipes fixed using concrete	67000	75% of total cost limited to 50,000/-	615.71426
	Total			615.71426

Selection of beneficiaries and technical advice will be done at Krishi Bhavan level in consultation with Asst. Director of Agriculture at the block level. Progressive farmers in each locality will be selected from among the vegetable cultivators. All activities like construction of rain shelter, selection of crops and their cultivation can be monitored at Krishi Bhavan level and necessary suggestions given wherever necessary. Good quality materials for construction can be arranged through RAIDCO, KAICO and other approved agencies like Agro Service Centres, Karshika karma Senas (KKS) etc. in order to avoid farmers getting cheated by private agencies. At the district level, the programme will be monitored by DDA (NWDPR), in consultation with Principal Agricultural Officer and at the State level by Vegetable Cell of Directorate headed by Addl. Director (Farms, Biogas Development and Vegetables).

The following directions shall also be complied with

- a) Wide publicity should be given for inviting applications and selection of beneficiaries through media.
- b) Selection should be through a transparent process.
- c) Changes in specification for smaller rain shelters may be made, if required, within the budget provision and rate of assistance.

Financial Outlay

An abstract of the total revised financial outlay is furnished below.

Sl. No.	Components	Amount sanctioned as per reference 2 (₹ in lakh)	Revised sanctioned amount (₹ in lakh)
1	Homestead vegetable cultivation	1272.60694	1219.49893
2	Institutional cultivation	200.00	200.00
3	Development of district clusters	1558.90399	1557.81399
4	Technical support and contractual appointments	50.00	46.052
5	Promotion of zero energy cool chambers	1.50	1.35
6	Promotion of urban clusters and waste management	375.00	372.98175
7	Development support to graded clusters	63.00	12.60
8	Digital Documentation	7.23	7.23
9	Promotion of rain shelter	500.00	615.71426
10	Micro-irrigation with fertigation	18.75	18.75
11	Additional support to best performing A grade clusters	5.00	-
12	Operational support	21.49905	21.49905
	Total	4073.48998	4073.48998

In the circumstances mentioned above, Continuous Administrative Sanction stands modified to the extent mentioned above only. The scheme shall be implemented abiding by the terms and conditions stipulated in the reference 1st read above.

Sd/-
Director of Agriculture

To
VC 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

Phe dij
Deputy Director of Agriculture (Pl),
Directorate of Agriculture
Thiruvananthapuram

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