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Directorate of Agricultural Development
and Farmers Welfare Department
Thiruvananthapuram
Dt 30/06/2020

CIRCULAR

Sub:- Annual Plan 2020-21 -Scheme on Production and Distribution of planting Materials through Departmental Farms - “Seed Production Programme in State seed Farms” Working Instructions – issued - regarding.

Ref: 1. G O(Rt) No .803/2019 AD dtd 19/08/2017.

2. Order No. ADFW/489/2020-TP2 dtd.15.6.2020 of Director of Agriculture.

Government of Kerala, vide order cited in the reference has been accorded administrative sanction for the implementation of the captioned scheme during 2020-21 with a budget provision of Rs 200 lakhs. According to the reference cited 2nd it is proposed to implement the scheme during 2020-21 for an amount of Rs 150 lakhs from the head of account 2401-00-104-91- (Plan) from current year’s budget provision subject to the strict adherence of the condition referred below.

Planting material is the basic and critical input for agricultural production. Inadequate availability of quality seeds and planting materials is a major constraint in improving productivity. The supply of adequate quality seeds is absolutely essential for increasing productivity of crops and agricultural production.

State Seed farms are engaged in the production of seeds and seedlings for distribution to farmers. These mainly include **seeds of paddy and vegetables which are vital crops to ensure food security of the State.** These are produced for meeting the seed requirement of the state for implementation of various Agriculture development schemes and also for general sale to public. The quality of seeds and seedlings produced

from Govt. Farms has wide acceptance among farmers and the general public. The demand is on the rise every year. The farms are not able to cope with the increase in demand with the existing facilities.

There are 33 State Seed Farms under the Department of Agriculture. They are entrusted with the task of producing good quality seeds, which are distributed to farmers mainly through Krishi Bhavans. This scheme aims to provide fund for purchase of inputs for seed production, meeting transportation costs, improving infrastructure facilities in these farms and mechanisation.

In the Annual Plan 2020-21, an amount of Rs.150.00 lakhs is set apart for preparation of Seed Plan for Departmental Farms.

Aim

1. Production of adequate quantity of good quality seeds of Paddy and Vegetables.
2. Popularising high yielding seed varieties among farmers.
3. Strengthening infrastructure facilities in Departmental farms
4. Mechanisation in Departmental farms

To achieve these objectives, the following components are proposed.

1) Input cost & transportation cost

Seed Production Programme involves purchase of breeder seed materials from reputed institutions like State Agricultural Universities. In addition, purchase of inputs like materials for preparation of media, organic manure, biofertilisers and biocontrol agents to cover nutritional and plant protection aspects, transportation cost etc are also needed. The expenditure involved for this item may be met from the budget provision.

2) Improved farm mechanization programmes

Farm operations like land preparation, sowing/planting, weeding and harvesting need deft hands to complete the works in a limited period of time. Shortage