

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

(Present : Dr.K.Vasuki IAS)

Sub: Annual Plan 2021-22 – **Vegetable Development Programme** – Continuous
Administrative Sanction accorded – orders issued.

Read: 1) G.O.(Rt) No. 137/2019/Agri. Dated.09.02.2019
2) Order No.ADFW/474/2020-TP2 dated 8/06/2020
3) Order No.ADFW/474/2020-TP2 dated 19/01/2021
4) Order No.ADFW/474/2020-TP2 dated 22/02/2021
5) Annual Plan 2021-22
6) G.O.(Rt)No.1009/2020/LSGD dated 29/5/2020
7) G.O.(Rt)No.478/2020/Agri dated 31/5/2020
8) G.O (Rt) No.393/2020/Agri dated.22/4/2020

Order No. ADFW/3000/2021-TP2

Dated: 23.04.2021

Government of Kerala, vide order read 1st above accorded Administrative sanction for the implementation of the scheme, Vegetable Development Programme through the Department of Agriculture during 2019-20 for components included in the Green Book debiting expenditure to Head of Account 2401-00-119-85 (P). Continuous administrative sanction was accorded for the scheme during 2020-21 vide orders mentioned 2nd, 3rd and 4th above.

As per the Annual Plan 2021-22 the scheme is proposed to be continued during the current financial year with a budget allocation of Rs.6720.00 lakh abiding by the norms and conditions of the Government Order read 1st above. Components worth Rs.6348.25 lakh is continuing during 2021-22, the components of which are given below:

1) Homestead vegetable cultivation, including Onam vegetable cultivation (Onathinu orumuram pachakkari) (Rs.1480.40 lakhs)

a) Supply of Seed kits

Scheme component aims to promote homestead vegetable cultivation by distributing assorted vegetable seed kits free of cost to school students and also to farmers who do not receive the seed supplied through the students, through Krishi Bhavans. Special drive for distribution of seed kits will be taken up during Onam season under the banner 'Onathinu Orumuram Pachakkari' for which Administrative Sanction was accorded by Government in 2017-18, as per G.O(Rt) No. 877/2017/AGRI dated.15-09-2017. **80 lakh number of seed kits** worth Rs. 10/- each will be distributed during 2021-22. An amount of **Rs.800.00 lakh** is earmarked for this purpose. The seed kits will be prepared and supplied by VFPCCK.

b) Supply of Vegetable Seedlings

In addition to the above, **272.16 lakh seedlings** will be supplied to homesteads @ Rs. 2.50 per seedling utilizing an amount of **Rs.680.40 lakh**. The seedlings will be produced and supplied by the block Level and panchayat level nurseries established under Vegetable Development Programme, Agro Service Centres and by Department Farms.

The programme will be implemented observing the following general guidelines.

- Principal Agricultural Officers will instruct the Agricultural Officers to finalize the schools for the distribution of seedkits urgently. Krishi Bhavan wise No. of kits to be distributed will be intimated to the agencies concerned.
- Once the schools are selected preliminary meetings should be conducted to create awareness about the programme.
- District-wise, Krishi Bhavan-wise list of schools along with the name of teacher in charge should be submitted to Director of Agriculture.
- Principal Agricultural Officers should make arrangement for raising the crop at the appropriate season and ensure supply of all required inputs at the critical stages of the crop.
- The germination of the seeds supplied should be ensured and at least 80% germination should be assured.
- Once the seeds received, Agricultural Officers should ensure the germination of the seeds before distribution. If the germination is less than 80% the same should be reported to the agencies concerned and to the Director of Agriculture for replacement/proportionate price reduction/imposing of penalty to the supplying agencies.
- Seed distribution should be entrusted to a teacher in each school. The distribution details should be registered by the teacher-in-charge of the programme and kept in the school for future verification by the Agricultural Officer. Seed distribution details through Krishi Bhavans should also be registered.
- The programme should be given wide publicity and inaugural function should be arranged by involving VIPs like Ministers, MPs, MLAs and representatives of LSGs.
- Students in each selected school should be briefed on the cultivation aspects by the Agricultural Officer/Agricultural Assistant concerned. Interactive DVDs supplied during previous years can be used for this purpose.
- It should be ensured through the Head of Institution that the programme is discussed in the school assembly.
- Periodical field verification should be done by Agricultural Assistant concerned with follow up action as and when needed, as per the directions given by the Agricultural Officer.
- The review of field level follow up should be conducted at Panchayath, Block and District level by the Officers concerned. Yield details should be collected and recorded at Krishi Bhavan level and submitted along with Monthly Progress Report.
- The Agricultural Officer should report the germination percentage of seeds and quality of seedlings, based on which payment will be made to the supplying agencies by the Principal Agricultural Officers / Director of Agriculture, as the case may be.
- A leaflet containing instructions for cultivation, supplied by Farm information Bureau, shall be given along with seeds/seedlings by the agencies concerned. The Agricultural Officer should ensure this before the supply.
- The amount related to seed kits will be drawn and disbursed by Director of Agriculture to the concerned agencies based on the invoice/bill submitted by them.
- The details of women beneficiaries shall be maintained separately and included in the monthly progress reports.
- As far as possible 10 % of the kits and seedlings should be distributed to SC/ST students/women.

2) Vegetable Cultivation through Institutions (Rs.200.00 Lakh)

In order to mobilize the student community into the field of agriculture, make them aware of safe to eat products and to bring uncultivable lands in the government and private institutions under vegetable cultivation, this component provides assistance.