

Directorate of Agriculture Development and Farmers' Welfare

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CIRCULAR

Sub:- **Development and Promotion of Location Specific Crops 2020-21** – Working Instructions issued – reg

- Ref:- 1) G.O.(Rt)No.782/2017/AD dated.04.08.2017
2) G.O. (Rt.) No. 964/2017/AD dated 07.10.2017
3) Annual Plan 2021-22.
4) G.O. (Ms) No. 14/2020/P &EA dated 18/05/2020
5) G.O. (Rt) No. 928/2020/LSGD dated 20/05/2020
6) G.O. (Rt.) No. 1009/2020/LSGD dated 29/05/2020
7) G.O. (Rt.) No. 478/2020/AGRI dated 31/05/2020
8) G.O. (Rt.) No. 393/2020/AD dated 22.04/2020
9) Order No. ADFW/3302/2021 - TP (2) dated 18.05.2021

A number of crops like sesamum, groundnut, sugarcane, ragi and minor millets are cultivated in the State especially in the traditional tracts. Ragi and minor millets are the major crops in tribal areas of Idukki district. These crops need to be provided developmental support to boost their cultivation. Therefore, to sustain cultivation of these crops in the traditional tracts as well as to promote and expand the cultivation to additional areas in the traditional as well as non-traditional tracts, a project was sanctioned to be implemented during the 13th FYP starting from 2017-18.

Government of Kerala, vide order read 1st and 2nd read above accorded Administrative sanction for the implementation of the scheme, '**Development and Promotion of Location Specific Crops**' during 2017-18. As per the Annual Plan 2021-22, there is a budget provision of Rs. 323.00 lakh for the scheme '**Development and Promotion of Location Specific Crops**' under the head of account 2401 – 00 – 103 – 75 (P). Out of this budget provision, Continuous Administrative Sanction for 2021-22 has been received for scheme components worth Rs. 226.00 lakh vide ref (9) cited, the details of which are given below:

1. Cultivation of Traditional millets in Idukki district

There is tremendous potential for cultivation of traditional millets in Idukki district. It is proposed to provide assistance for cultivation of traditional millets alone or in combination with pulses in Idukki in an area of **30 ha** by providing assistance @ **Rs. 20,000/ ha**. Assistance proposed is towards the cost of seeds, manures and fertilizers, plant protection chemicals and cost of land preparation. Revised rate of assistance will be followed as per G.O.s mentioned (6) and (7) above. An amount of **Rs. 6.00 lakh** is set apart for this purpose.

2. Promotion of Annual Oil seeds (Sesamum & Groundnut)

In order to promote the cultivation of annual seed crops like sesamum and groundnut, assistance will be provided for quality seeds and other expenses. Conservation of traditional varieties and traditional cultivation practices is also envisaged through the programme.

It is proposed to provide financial assistance @ Rs. 10,000/ha for cultivation of sesamum in potential pockets of the State like Onattukara region of Alappuzha and Kollam districts and in other traditional tracts of the State like Malappuram, Thrissur and Ernakulam districts.

It is also proposed to provide financial assistance @ Rs. 20,000/ ha for cultivation of ground nut in traditionally cultivated areas and non-traditional areas in Alappuzha, Palakkad and other districts.

Assistance will be provided towards the cost of seeds, manures and fertilizers, Plant Protection Chemicals and cost of land preparation. Revised rate of assistance will be followed as per G.O.s mentioned (6) and (7) above. It is proposed to provide assistance for cultivation of oilseeds in **800 ha** with a financial commitment of **Rs. 100.00 lakhs**. The details are as furnished below.

Sl. No	Crops	Target	
		Phy. (ha)	Fin. (Rs. in lakhs)

1	Ground nut	200	40.00
2	Sesamum	600	60.00
	Total (Oil seeds)	800	100.00

3) Promotion of Sugarcane

At present, the sugarcane crop is predominantly concentrated in central Travancore region, Marayur region in Idukki district and in tracts of Palakkad district.

Assistance will be provided for quality planting materials, land preparation, irrigation, plant protection, harvesting, transportation, setting up of processing units etc. It is proposed to provide assistance @ **Rs.20,000/ha**, for taking up sugarcane cultivation in an area of **350 ha**. An amount of **Rs. 70.00 lakh** is earmarked for this component.

4) Subhiksha Keralam – Additional target for fallow land Millet cultivation

Subhiksha Keralam scheme initiated and sanctioned during the financial year 2020-21 vide references (4) and (5) cited above for ensuring food security in the state of Kerala in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic, will be continued during the current financial year also. One of the major programmes included in this scheme is fallow land cultivation. An amount of Rs. 50.00 lakh is set apart for area expansion of millets through fallow land cultivation @ Rs. 30,000/- per hectare (Rs. 27000/- per Ha for cultivator + Rs. 3000/- per Ha for land owner) under Subhiksha Keralam as per G.O. cited in reference (7) above. Fallow land cultivation of millets can be done wherever possible, by land owner/ other farmers/ youth / home returned NRIs/ groups/ SHGs/ Kudumbasree/ LSGD/ etc., following the Subhiksha Keralam guidelines.

It is proposed to provide assistance of **Rs. 30,000/ha** (Rs. 27000/- per Ha for cultivator + Rs. 3000/- per Ha for land owner) for fallow land cultivation of millets in an area of **166.67 ha**, with a financial commitment of **Rs. 50 lakh**.

Financial Outlay

Development and Promotion of Location Specific Crops

H.Ac - 2401-00-103-75 P

Rs. 226.00 lakh

Sl. No	Particulars	Rate of assistance	Phy.Target	Fin. target (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Cultivation of traditional millets in Idukki district	Rs.20000/ha	30 ha	6.00
2.	Promotion of Annual Oil seeds			
a)	Sesamum	Rs.10000/ha	600 ha	60.00
b)	Ground nut	Rs. 20000/ha	200 ha	40.00
	Sub Total (Promotion of Annual Oil seeds)		800 ha	100.00
3.	Promotion of Sugarcane	Rs.20000 ha	350 ha	70.00
4.	Subhiksha Keralam - Additional target for Fallow land Millet cultivation	Rs. 30000/ha (Rs.27000+Rs.3000)	166.67 ha	50.00
	Grand Total			226.00

(Rupees Two Crore Twenty-Six Lakh only)

Abstract of the Location Specific Programme is furnished below.

Sl. No	Item	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Cultivation of traditional millets in Idukki district	6.00
2.	Promotion of Annual Oil seeds	
a)	Sesamum	60.00
b)	Ground nut	40.00
	Sub Total (Promotion of Annual Oil seeds)	100.00
3.	Promotion of Sugarcane	70.00
4.	Subhiksha Keralam - additional target for fallow land millet cultivation	50.00
	Grand Total	226.00