

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE
DIRECTORATE OF AGRICULTURE DEVELOPEMENT AND FARMERS
WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

(Present: Dr.K.Vasuki IAS)

Sub:- Annual Plan 2021-22 – **Scheme on Modernization of Department Laboratories –**

Continuous Administrative sanction accorded – orders issued- reg:

- Read:-
- 1) G.O.(Rt) No. 911/17/AD dated 23-9-2017
 - 2) G.O.(Rt) No. 951/17/AD dated 06-10-2017
 - 3) G.O.(Rt) No. 624/18/Agri dated 27-06-2018
 - 4) Order No. TP (2) 12932/2019 dated: 17.06.2020
 - 5) Order no.ADFW/476/2020-TP2 dated 24.07.2020
 - 6) Order no.ADFW/476/2020-TP2 dated 08.01.2021
 - 7) Order no.ADFW/476/2020-TP2 dated 03.03.2021
 - 8) Annual Plan 2021-22

ORDER NO. ADFW/3148/2021-TP2 Dated.06/07/2021

Government of Kerala, vide order read 1st and 2nd above accorded Administrative sanction for the implementation of the scheme, “**Modernization o f Department Laboratories** during the year 2017-18. Administrative Sanction was accorded for an amount of Rs.115.00 lakhs for the component Quality Control Enforcement Wing as per the Government order 3rd cited above. Vide reference 4th cited above continuous Administrative Sanction was accorded for the scheme with revisions as per references 5th, 6th and 7th mentioned above during 2020-21.

As per the Annual Plan 2021-22, the scheme is proposed to be implemented during the current financial year with a budget allocation of Rs.420.00 lakh under the Head of Account 2401-00-105-86 P. **The details of continuing components of the scheme to be implemented during 2021-22 for an amount of Rs.345.00 lakh** are given below:

1. Strengthening of Biotechnology and Model Floriculture Centre (BMFC), Kazhakootam (Rs.75.00 lakh)

Micro propagation or tissue culture is an ideal tool for the large scale production and propagation of plants within a reasonably short period of time, irrespective of climatic conditions. Tissue culture plants retain all characteristics of the mother plant and have uniform growth and so farmers can plan the planting time as per market requirement. Since tissue culture plantlets are produced after

virus indexing, the susceptibility to virus attack is minimum. The Biotechnology and Model Floriculture Centre (BMFC), Kazhakootam is involved in the mass multiplication and distribution of plantlets of different varieties of banana, pepper, orchids, anthurium, foliage plants and other ornamental plants through tissue culture technique. They are also engaged in standardizing protocols for other crops including medicinal plants and conducting training programmes.

During the current financial year, it is targeted to produce 10.6 lakh culture plantlets as follows.

Sl. No	Name of Crop	Targeted production (No. of plantlets)
1	Banana	10 lakhs
2	TC Ornamentals	0.5 lakhs
3	TC Medicinals	0.1 lakhs
4	Conventional production of ornamental plants and spices	0.5 lakhs

In order to achieve the above target, it is proposed to strengthen the activities of BMFC during 2021-22 with interventions such as routine purchase of chemicals, equipments and lab utilities, repair and maintenance of equipments and operational expenses including hiring of manpower utilizing an amount of **Rs.75.00 lakh**.

2. Strengthening of State Bio Control Laboratory (SBCL), Mannuthy, Thrissur (Rs.65.00 lakh)

Biological control is the best eco-friendly method of pest management. Use of bio-pesticides, releasing of predators and parasites and fungal/bacterial pathogens of pests are done in bio-control of pests. The State Bio Control Laboratory (SBCL) established in the year 2000 is involved in the mass production of biocontrol agents such as *Pseudomona fluorescens*, *Trichoderma viride*, *Trichocards*, *Beauveria*, *Verticillium*, Chitin enriched *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, etc in liquid and talc formulations. Recently the lab has started the mass production of biocontrol agents such as Entomo Pathogenic Nematodes (EPN), *Pochonia*, *Bacillus thuringiensis* (BT) and liquid formulation of *Beauveria*.

These products have become very popular among the farmers and the demand is often higher than the production capacity of the lab. To augment the production of bio-control agents, an amount of **Rs.65.00 lakh** is set apart during 2021-22 for all routine activities like purchase of chemicals, equipments and lab utilities, repair and maintenance of equipments, etc.

3. Strengthening of laboratories (Rs.130.00 lakh)

a) Strengthening of soil testing laboratories (Rs.100.00 lakh)

It is proposed to strengthening of activities of the Central Soil & Plant Health Centre, Thiruvananthapuram, 14 district soil testing laboratories and 9 mobile soil testing laboratories of the state for the analysis of major, secondary and micro nutrients and facilitate the timely issue of soil test results and soil health cards under the NMSA scheme. The strengthening includes purchase of modern equipments, replacement of old equipments, repair of equipments, purchase of glasswares and chemicals, AMC for laboratory equipments, purchase of filter paper, refilling of gas cylinders, enhancing infrastructural facilities of the laboratories etc.

Pooled purchase of equipments, chemicals and other essential inputs required for various labs as per approved action plan will be done by the Chief Soil Chemist, CSPHC, Parotukonam. Activities such as repair, AMC of equipments/ instruments/ machineries / other hardwares etc in each lab will be taken care of by the Assistant Soil Chemists of the labs concerned.

Purchases have to be effected abiding by the procedure, norms and rules applicable for Government purchases.

An amount of **Rs.100.00 lakh** is proposed for the strengthening of these laboratories.

b) Biofertiliser and Organic Manures Quality Control Laboratory at Pattambi (Rs.10.00 lakh)

Construction of the building and purchase of equipments of Biofertiliser and Organic Manures Quality Control Laboratory at Pattambi sanctioned as per G.O.(Rt) No. 1600/14/AD dt.29/8/2014, has been completed. During the current financial year, an amount of **Rs.10.00 lakh** is earmarked for activities like purchase of chemicals & glasswares and maintenance of equipments (AMC/CMC), infrastructure and allied works and miscellaneous expenses so as to make the laboratory fully functional, with flexibility for interchanging the financial provision of different components, within the total provision, in a need based manner.

c) Operational expenses (Rs.20.00 lakh)

For carrying out various activities of the laboratories like collection of parent material, distribution of tissue culture plantlets, sampling of pesticides, fertilizers, organic manures, soil and other official activities etc the officers of the department and laboratories have to conduct tours for which expenses are involved by way of fuel charge, maintenance charges, traveling expenses etc. An amount of **Rs.20.00 lakh** is provided to meet the operational expenses related to the scheme, under the following sub heads.

Sub heads	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
34 - OC	8.50
04-TE 1-Tour TA	10.00
05-4 OE 1- Other items	1.00
45-POL	0.5
Total	20.00

4) Quality control Enforcement Wing (Rs.75.00 lakh)

The Agriculture Development and Farmers' Welfare Department is the State agency empowered and authorized to enforce the the regulations on fertilizers, pesticides and seeds. However, at present there is no exclusive mechanism in the department for performing the enforcement activities.

During 2017-18 the department undertook steps for streamlining the enforcement activities in the certification, registration, licensing and quality control of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides by initiating the constitution of a

quality control enforcement cell as per G.O.(Rt.) No. 911/2017/AD dated: 23-09-2017.

During 2018-19 the activities for materializing the Quality Control Enforcement Wing and for the effective enforcement of regulations on seeds, fertilizers and pesticides have been started. These programmes were continued during previous years and the same will be continued during 2021-22 also.

Objectives

1. Ensuring availability of quality agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and pesticides in the State.
2. Strengthening the institutional mechanism of quality control.
3. Enforcement of regulations on seeds, fertilizers and pesticides.
4. Quality control by systematic sampling, analysis and proceeding action against non- standard items.
5. Maintaining strict vigilance on spurious products and also instill awareness among various stake holders on the quality aspects of different agricultural inputs.

Programme

a) Drawal of Statutory Samples of Fertilizers, Pesticides and Seeds for Quality Control (Rs.16.40812 lakh)

Sample analysis of Seeds, Fertilizers and Pesticides assumes importance as it provides an array of regulatory measures in assuring the quality standards in production, movement, distribution and consumption of these inputs in crop production. The fund will be utilized for meeting the expenditure on drawal of samples of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides for quality analysis. This amount shall be utilized for all related expenses on quality control, which may include cost of sample, cost towards containers, cloth bags, despatch of samples etc. and other miscellaneous expenses.

The annual potential of analysis of samples of fertilizers, pesticides and seeds in the laboratories under the Department are 5000, 2500 and 4000 no.s respectively.

b) Surveillance on Organic Protectants / Bio-Pesticides in the market (Rs.6.00 lakh)

There is growing concern about the integrity of many bio-pesticides (botanical / organic / biological origin) and growth promoters sold throughout Kerala under various proprietary names. At present, our State has no laboratory facilities to undertake such comprehensive analysis to identify the presence of any contaminants or chemical pesticides / hazardous ingredients in these organic products. NIPHM Hyderabad has consented to analyse such products in their laboratory as per our requirement to exclude the chances of contamination by any such ingredients. The fund is proposed to be utilized for meeting the related expenditure such as purchasing and sending of samples to NIPHM. Cost of analysis per sample at NIPHM ranging from Rs. 10000 to Rs. 20000 depending on the ingredient of the sample.

c) Mass Awareness Programmes (Rs.14.825 lakh)

To continue creating increased awareness among farmers, input dealers and public at large on the need for scientific use of fertilizers and pesticides, a Special Campaign / Awareness Week shall be organized throughout the State in the cropping season. During this period, mass awareness programmes @ Rs.2500/- per programme shall be conducted in every block aimed at creating awareness on Soil fertility / Soil Health Card based fertilizer application, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Good Plant Protection Practices (GPP), New generation & Organic / bio-pesticides, health hazards of indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides etc. An amount of Rs.14.825 lakh is set apart for the conduct of these programmes.

d) Training & Recognition of Input Agencies (Rs.22.772 lakh)

It is proposed that a workshop / seminar shall be conducted for all the input

dealers and stakeholders in every block in each crop season. Assistance will be provided @ Rs.3600/- per workshop and Rs.5000/- per seminar in every block. There will be one workshop each in every block for input dealers in all 152 blocks (152x3600=5.472 lakh). A district level seminar involving the participation of input manufacturers, distributors and dealers is also proposed to be conducted by the Principal Agricultural Officer during the year, for which a financial support not exceeding Rs. 15000.00 shall be provided. The total outlay set apart for these activities during 2021-22 is Rs.22.772 lakh.

e) Empowering Seed / Fertilizer / Insecticide Inspectors, Conduct of Workshops, Publication of Handbooks etc (Rs.10.00 lakh)

It is proposed that a Key Resource Group (KRG) / Master Trainers Group (MTG), competent in all aspects of the relevant Acts shall be developed by selecting suitable Officers and deputing them to national level accredited training institutes for special trainings or by organizing such trainings by SAMETI with the participation of expert faculties. Publications incorporating the new amendments on Insecticides Act / Insecticides Rules, Essential Commodities Act / Fertilizer Control Order, Seed Act / Seed Rule, etc. may also be made available to the Enforcement Officers. An amount of Rs.10.00 lakh is set apart for these activities during the current financial year.

f) Expert Committee on Quality Assurance & Enforcement (Rs.0.25 lakh)

Expert Group on Quality Assurance & Enforcement with Director of Agriculture as Convenor, shall be responsible for periodically reviewing the effectiveness of the quality assurance and enforcement activities and to recommend new strategies. Meetings/ workshops shall be conducted to this effect. . An amount of Rs. 0.25 lakhs is earmarked for related expenses including Honorarium, Travel expenses and related expenses during 2021-22.

g) Developing web-portal for on-line management of quality control enforcement of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides. (Rs.1.00 lakh)

Support to the Enforcement Cell at the Directorate will be provided for

providing computer infrastructure and accessories and web portal.

h) Computer infrastructure and other accessories and manpower support for the Enforcement Cell (Rs.3.74488 lakh)

It is proposed to provide support to the Enforcement Cell at the Directorate for providing computer infrastructure of required configuration to facilitate the On-line Management System and FQCS web portal. Accessories may include other facilities such as multi-functional printer, scanner etc.

Financial Outlay

During the financial year 2021-22, there is a budget provision of Rs.420.00 lakh under head of account 2401-00-105-86 (Plan) for implementation of the scheme 'Modernization of Departmental Laboratories. Out of this, continuing components under the scheme worth Rs.345.00 lakh are as furnished in the abstract below:

Sl. No.	Component	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1	Strengthening of Biotechnology & Model Floriculture Centre, Kazhakuttom	75.00000
2	Strengthening of Bio-Control Laboratory, Mannuthy Thrissur	65.00000
3	Strengthening of Laboratories	130.00000
4	Quality control enforcement wing	75.00000
	Total	345.00000

(Rupees Three crore forty five lakh only)

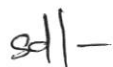
In the circumstances mentioned above, continuous administrative sanction is hereby accorded for the implementation of the scheme '**Modernization of Departmental Laboratories** during 2021-22, for an amount of **Rs.345.00 lakh (Rupees Three crore forty five lakh only)** as per the above statement, debiting expenditure to head of account **2401-01-105-86 (Plan)** from current years' budget provision, from the following sub heads.

Sub head	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
34-OC	333.50
04-TE 1-Tour TA	10.00
05-OE 1- Other items	1.00
45-POL	0.5
TOTAL	345.00000

The scheme shall be implemented abiding by the terms and conditions stipulated in the Government Orders read above.

Timely implementation of the various programmes under the scheme has to be ensured with a definite action plan and calender in advance and this should reflect in the monthly booking of expenditure from the 1st quarter onwards.

Monthly progress report should be submitted invariably containing component wise physical and financial targets and achievements, number of beneficiaries (wherever applicable), and the stage of implementation of each component.


DR. K. VASUKI IAS
DIRECTOR

To

TD/TF/TG/TQ/VC sections of the directorate for issue of detailed working instructions

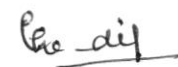
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TA to Director of Agriculture

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


Deputy Director of Agriculture (PIg)
Directorate of Agriculture
Thiruvananthapuram

