

**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 of 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)