

TV(3) 5672 /2021/ATMA

Directorate of Agriculture Development  
and Farmers Welfare Department  
Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram  
Date: 09 -07-2021

**CIRCULAR**

Sub:- Annual Plan 2021-22- Scheme on “**Krishi Padasala**” implementation–  
Administrative Sanction accorded- Working Instructions issued– reg.

Ref: - 1. G.O (Rt)No.631/2020/AGRI dated 02.07.2020  
2. G.O (Rt)No.716/2021/AGRI dated 15.08.2020  
3. Endt. No. TV(3) 12409/2020/ATMA dated 15.09.2020  
4. Annual plan 2021-22  
5. G.O (Rt)No.496/2021/AGRI dated 16.06.2021.

Krishi Padasala (KPS) is a participatory extension methodology which recognizes the need to involve farmers in technology development and transfer leading to sustainable agriculture. Imbibing knowledge through training forms an integral part in empowerment of farmers, rural youth, women etc, which in turn helps in strengthening the skills, abilities resources etc. Krishi Padasala is a platform for learning and experience sharing among farmers .It can be called as “schools without walls”. KPS consists of groups of people with a common interest who get together on a regular basis in the field to study and to make agriculture a profitable business.

Regular training for farmers, women and youth as well as students are envisaged through KPS. Different modules can be prepared for different target groups along with field visits mainly to increase the income of the farmers and to make agriculture a sustainable practice.

Through Krishi Padasala, new technologies regarding Agro Ecological farming as well as traditional best technologies will be popularized. Farmer Seed exchange programme can be linked in KPS. Classes could be spread depending on the crop stage/technology use/season. Awareness on health dimension of agriculture is to be included, especially awareness on dietary plate should be a part of the training programme. KPS will be integrated with the ongoing programmes like PKVY, BPKP and IFS.

Block Level Agriculture Knowledge Centres (BLAKC) have been established in all 152 blocks in order to support various activities under Subiksha Keralam and to solve farmers problems at field level. Every Block Level Agriculture Knowledge Centre has an Expert team with scientists from KAU, experts from State and Central Research

organizations , eminent farmers, representatives from Block/Panchayats and experts from allied sectors. Expert team, through constant field surveillance and monitoring, helps to solve field problems efficiently.

Government as per G.O cited (1) have accorded Administrative sanction for the implementation of the scheme **Krishi Padasala**. Vide reference (2) & (3) Block level Agriculture Knowledge Centres have been constituted. As per the reference (4) an amount of Rs. 50.00 lakh (Rupees Fifty lakh only) has been allotted for the scheme integrating certain component of Block Level Agriculture Knowledge Centre. As per reference (5) cited, Administrative sanction has been accorded for the scheme Krishi Padasala in 2021-22 under the Head of Account **2401-00-109-60(P)** for an amount of Rs.50.00 Lakh.

### **Objectives:-**

- To educate the farmers on the importance of environmentally safe food production through various scientific natural farming techniques such as soil health regeneration methods, recycling of farm wastes, methods of minimum tillage using mulching, use of Bio inputs etc.
- To showcase the importance of integrating different sectors such as animal husbandry, fisheries, Apiculture etc with farming which will fetch the farmer an additional income, besides maintaining an Ecological equilibrium in the field ,which will help in the avoidance of toxic inputs for farming to a very great extent.
- To demonstrate the scientific techniques of Sustainable Organic Farming with the support of Directorate of Extension, Kerala Agricultural University.
- To educate consumers on farm fresh mode of production and generating demand for organic and quality fresh produce and to get higher price for farmers for the same.
- To facilitate seed exchange of traditional varieties
- To help farmers to establish linkages for marketing organic produce which fetches a higher market price.
- To enable farmers to function as Community Resource Persons (CRPs) to spread the awareness on Agro ecological unit based methods of Scientific and Eco-friendly farming methods.
- To impart onsite solution to field problems with the support of expert team constituted at Block Level Agriculture Knowledge Centre.

**Programme:-**

The various components of the scheme are given below

**1. Krishi Padasala at 140 Krishi Bhavans (Rs.42.00 lakh @ Rs.30000/KB)**

Krishi Padasala can be conducted in IFS( Jaivagriham) plots where Agro ecological farming, Subiksha Keralam, Multilayer cropping system or any other innovative technology/practice is followed by farmers which is sustainable and income generating. Agriculture Department is giving emphasis to Agro ecological farming/BPKP and 200 officers have been identified as Master trainers. They have undergone training on Plant Health Management at NIPHM Hyderabad. These Master trainers will be giving training to Agricultural Officers and Agricultural Assistants of selected Panchayats including contract staffs under various schemes and willing farmers who will then work as Community Resource Person( CRPs) .Gradually this method of developing CRPs can be extended to other subjects. This training can be operationalised through SAMETI. CRPs can be utilized for conducting classes in KPS.

ATMA has already set up Farm Schools in progressive farmers fields to train neighbourhood farmers on various agriculture related topics and equip them with practical skills on various related scientific technologies during the crop season .This can be linked with KPS.

Financial support from Grama Panchayat, Service Cooperative Bank etc can be sought for the conduct of Krishi Padasala. Training components of PKVY/BPKP can be integrated with this.

**Selection of beneficiaries**

The potential beneficiaries for the school may be identified through existing mechanism of ATMA. Local bodies and services of social media groups active on agriculture and allied areas will be utilized in identifying the beneficiaries. Efforts will be done to reach out to youth (not more than 35 years),women,overseas returnees and to include Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes wherever possible. Farmers willing to share their knowledge and resources shall be selected .This can be finalized at the Block level and selected list with complete details is to be sent to PD ATMA for approval. Care should be taken to see that the group is homogenous in their knowledge level to the maximum possible extend. They should be able to use the social media tools. Farmers in clusters of PKVY/BPKP should be included to the maximum possible extend.

**Selection of progressive farmers where KPS is to be conducted**

KPS should be set up in the field of an IFS beneficiary. The farm should possess a land area of more than 40 cents and he/she should preferably practice multi tier cropping, agro ecological farming apart from IFS. The farmers should be willing to share their knowledge and resources. ATMA will have a list of successful and progressive IFS famers of the district which includes few award winners also. Care should be taken to cover all the Blocks in the District to the maximum possible extend within the financial limit.

## **Developing modules for training**

This will be done by the District ATMA with the support of Block Level Agriculture knowledge Centre team and Scientists from Kerala Agricultural University/KVK/SAMETI. This will be an awareness programme in the beginning which can later be expanded according to the needs of the participants. It should broadly cover the following.

- First day's session should give a broad outline on the importance of Agriculture in the state economy, food security and self sufficiency. Important schemes of the Department like Subhiksha Keralam, Fallow land cultivation, BPKP where they can venture can be explained.
  - Importance of fresh farm produces as food which will be a natural medicine for health and building up of immunity.
  - Creating awareness to consumers (all participants will be consumers as well) on the importance of dietary plate which should contain locally grown agriculture produce according to season.
  - Importance of producing healthy, nontoxic food through Scientific Agro Ecological Farming Techniques.
  - Marketing of Agricultural Produce.
  - Familiarization of all the activities of the farm and sharing farmer's experience.
- Second day's session should include Agricultural and Allied Technologies according to the composition of the farm where KPS is being held.
- Third day should involve hands on sessions involving all members and can be considered as a demonstration of Technology. Demonstration can be conducted on preparation and use of various Biomanures and Biocontrol agents and the use of different kind of traps (Pheromone/Light )

The above are only indicative guidelines for the modules and should be finalized by the Agricultural officer well before the start of KPS in consultation with KVK/KAU/Expert Panel/BLAKC team.

## **Conducting Krishi Padasala**

- The farmer in whose field Krishi Padasala is being conducted will also be the trainer and he will be sharing his experience and knowledge about the technology/ practices adopted in his field. He will be maintaining liaison with the participants even after the KPS classes for offering support. Participants can visit his field during the crop period to have an exposure directly on agronomic techniques being adopted.
- Each Krishi Padasala should sustain for minimum 3 years.
- 50 selected farmers will be trained through each Krishi Padasala. 3 day Training should be given to 25 farmers at a time as mentioned in the training module maintaining strict covid protocol. In the present covid situation the number of

farmers attending training can be limited and may be done in online mode also, if situation demands. The cost should be kept within the financial limit.

- Farmer trainer and CRPs will solve the field problems of farmers trained through Krishi Padasala.
- Agricultural Officers should schedule and supervise the conduct of Krishi Padasala in the respective Panchayat and Agricultural Assistants should facilitate the same.
- Krishi Bhavan officials can form social media groups for easy communication, dissemination of technology and solving queries by the farmers.
- Technical officers from Animal Husbandry/Dairy/Fisheries can be invited for taking classes in subjects in allied sectors. Experienced farmers in allied sectors can also be engaged for experience sharing. The service of BLAKC may also be utilized.
- Plant propagation techniques like Budding, Grafting, Layering etc can be demonstrated during Krishi Padasala if needed. Agricultural Officer can hire retired experts from Department/ KAU and skilled persons from other firms on need basis.
- During Krishi Padasala short videos on preparation of organic inputs and other evidence based agricultural practices can be displayed.
- LCD projector / PICO projector available in the block can be utilized.
- Contract staff working in the blocks should attend maximum Krishi Padasala and bridge the communication with Master trainers, CRP farmers and farmers trained from Krishi Padasala and help the Agricultural Officer in coordinating the programme. They should help in solving queries and reporting feed back to Master trainers or CRPs.
- ADA should schedule the conduct of all Krishi Padasalas in the block and complete the programme in a time bound manner. The schedule should be approved by PD, ATMA of the concerned district.
- Overall supervision at District level should be done by PD, ATMA. DPD II shall monitor the conduct of Krishi Padasala and report to PD.

**Unit cost of KPS ( For 50 farmers)**

Sl No	Item	Cost (Rs)	Total amount (Rs)
1	Demonstration of Technology ( Minimum 25 Cents(Cost of Bioinputs,labour charges etc)	7500	7500
2	Logistic support for farmers	2000	2000
3	Honorarium	400/ Hr limited to 1250/Day/Person	7500
4	Food/Refreshment	75/ Person	11250
5	Contingency/ Miscellaneous expense	1750	1750
	<b>Total</b>		<b>30000</b>

## **Block Level Agriculture Knowledge Centre(BLAKC)**

### **Field visit**

Block Level Expert Committee constituted as a part of BLAKC in all the 152 blocks should conduct field visits on a regular basis on KPS field demonstration plots to impart technical advice on selection of crops, adoption of innovative technology, conducting classes and other services as and when required. Team can conduct field visit to areas where sudden outbreak of pest and disease occurs and render technical advice wherever required. Details of field visit should be neatly documented at block level. They can help in preparation of MTA also. An amount of Rs. 27,000/- per district is set apart for conducting field visit.

### **Documentation, Publication and OE**

An amount of Rs 30143/-per district is set apart for documentation, publication and other expenses for the implementation of the project.

The constitution of BLAKC and the operational guidelines should be as per reference (2) & (3) .

### **Financial Outlay:**

The total financial outlay for the implementation of the scheme during 2021-22 is detailed below

Sl.No	Component	Number of Unit	Unit cost (In Lakh)	Total cost (In Lakh)
<b>I.</b>	<b>Krishi Padasala</b>			
1	Krishi Padasala at 140 KBs @Rs.30000 (two batches of 25 each for three days)	140 KPS	0.300	42.00
<b>II.</b>	<b>Block Level Agriculture Knowledge Centre</b>			
1	Field visit @ Rs. 27,000/ District	14	0.270	3.78
2	Documentation, Publication and OE @ Rs.30143/District	14	0.30143	4.22
	<b>Total</b>			<b>50.00</b>

During the current year 2021-22, an amount of Rs.50.00 Lakh is set apart for the implementation of the scheme “Krishi Padasala” which can be met from the budget provision under H/A 2401-00-109-60 (P).



### **Monitoring and Evaluation: -**

The project will be implemented by ATMA. ATMA will function as a nodal agency for facilitating and coordinating these programs through Blocks and Krishi Bhavans . ATMA will form a panel of experts (10 to 15 members).It will be set up by PD ATMA who will be the convenor and DD (E&T) will be the joint convenor. The panel should include representatives of Allied sector and KVK, Representative of NABARD/Other banks and two farmer representatives from DFAC. Bimonthly meetings for evaluation and follow up should be held.DDA (E&T) of PAO office should support PD ATMA to supervise the programme. The consolidated MPR of the scheme should be submitted to State Nodal Cell in the email ID ([nodalatmakerala@gmail.com](mailto:nodalatmakerala@gmail.com)) on or before the 5<sup>th</sup> of every month by PD,ATMA. The Additional Director of Agriculture (Extension) will monitor the scheme at State Level.

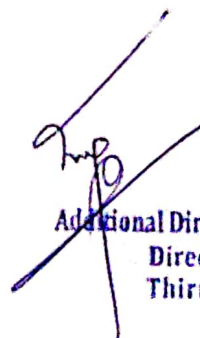
**Sd/-  
Director  
Agriculture Development and  
Farmers Welfare Department**

To

All Principal Agricultural Officers  
All Project Directors (ATMA).

Copy to

CA to all Additional Directors of Agriculture in HQ.  
CA to all Joint Directors of Agriculture in HQ.  
Director of Extension,KAU  
All DDA(E & T)  
Planning Section/SW Section  
CA to Director of Agriculture  
DDA (IT) for uploading in the website  
Stock File/Spare.

  
**Additional Director of Agriculture (Extension)  
Directorate of Agriculture  
Thiruvananthapuram-33**

**KrishiPadasala 2021-22**  
**Allotment to Districts**

<b>Name of District</b>	<b>Number of KPS</b>	<b>Amount for Krishi Padasala @ 0.3 Lakh /KPS</b>	<b>Field visit @ Rs.0.27 Lakh/ District</b>	<b>Documentation, Publication and OE@ Rs.0.30143 Lakh/ District</b>	<b>Total Amount to be allotted ( Amount in Lakh)</b>
TVM	10	3	0.27	0.30143	3.57143
KLM	10	3	0.27	0.30143	3.57143
ALP	10	3	0.27	0.30143	3.57143
PTA	10	3	0.27	0.30143	3.57143
KTM	10	3	0.27	0.30143	3.57143
IDK	10	3	0.27	0.30143	3.57143
EKM	10	3	0.27	0.30143	3.57143
TSR	10	3	0.27	0.30143	3.57143
PLKD	10	3	0.27	0.30143	3.57143
MLP	10	3	0.27	0.30141	3.57143
KOZH	10	3	0.27	0.30143	3.57143
WYN	10	3	0.27	0.30141	3.57141
KNR	10	3	0.27	0.30143	3.57143
KZGD	10	3	0.27	0.30143	3.57143
<b>Total</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>3.78</b>	<b>4.22</b>	<b>50.00</b>