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Directorate of Agriculture Development & Farmer's Welfare, Vikas Bhavan Dated: 15/07/2021

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Sub: Annual Plan 2020-21-Scheme on 'Modernization of Departmental Laboratories' -Strengthening of Central Soil and Plant Health Center, District Soil Testing Laboratories, Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories 2021-22 – working instructionsissued

Ref: 1. GO(Rt) No 911/17/AD dated 23/09/2017

2. GO (Rt) No 951/17/AD dated 06/10/2017

3. Order No. ADFW/3148/21-TP(2) dated 06/07/2021 of the Director of Agriculture

As per the reference 1st and 2nd cited, Government have accorded Administration Sanction for the implementation of the scheme 'Modernization of Departmental Laboratories' during 2017-18 for a total amount of Rs. 600 lakh under the Head of account 2401-00-105-86 Plan.

As per the reference 3rd cited, continuous sanction has been accorded for implementation of the scheme during 2021-22 for an amount of **Rs. 345 lakh** under the Head of Account 2401-00-105-86 Plan. Out of this **Rs 100 lakh** is earmarked for the strengthening of Soil Testing Laboratories.

Fourteen numbers of District Soil Testing Laboratories, eleven numbers of Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories and Central Soil and Plant Health Center are functioning in the state for analyzing the soil samples of the farmers.

Strengthening of Soil Testing Laboratories:

The strengthening of Soil Testing Laboratories includes pooled purchase of laboratory equipments and chemicals, glasswares, filter paper, polythene wares, etc, for meeting the special requirements of Central Soil and Plant Health Centre and other soil testing labs, other need based purchases, purchase of postage stamps, hifing of vehicle, POL, Repair and Annual Maintenance Contract of equipments, Infrastructural development of the laboratories including refilling of gas cylinders, repair and maintenance of computers, need based purchases, etc. An amount of **Rs. 100 lakh** is provided for the strengthening of these laboratories under the Head of Account **2401-00-105-86 Plan for carrying out the following** activities:

Sl.No.	Item	
1	Pooled purchase of filter paper	6.0
2	Pooled purchase of chemicals	4.0
3	Pooled purchase of equipments	19.0
4	Purchase of postage stamps	0.25
5	Hiring of vehicle	1.0
6	Repair of equipments	13.0
7	AMC of equipments	12.75
8	Special requirements of CSPHC complex	10.0
9	Purchase of Glassware, Polywares and other need based	
	purchases	5.0
10	Special requirements of DSTLs and MSTLs including purchase	
	of glasswares, polythene wares, refilling of gas cylinders, repair	10.0
	and maintenance of computers, need based purchases, etc	
11	Infrastructure development	15.0
	TOTAL	100.0

The Chief Soil Chemist will ensure the timely implementation of the various programmes under the scheme with a definite action plan and calendar of activities in advance, which has to be sanctioned by the undersigned, and this should reflect in the monthly booking of expenditure from the this quarter onwards.

Chief Soil Chemist will take urgent steps for Pooled Purchase of filter paper, Purchase of chemicals, Purchase of equipments, etc., observing Store Purchase Rules and utilizing the funds as above. Chief Soil Chemist is directed to allot funds to Assistant Soil Chemists of 14 District Soil Testing Laboratories and eleven Mobile Soil Testing Laboratories for the repair and AMC of equipments, purchase of glassware, polythene wares and other need based purchases, postage stamps, hiring of vehicle, POL, infrastructure development including refilling of gas cylinders, repair and maintenance of computers, need based purchases, etc., based on their requirement.

The fund set apart for Special Requirements of Central Soil and Plant Health Centre will be utilized for repair and maintenance of Laboratory equipments, expenses for conducting conferences, running and maintenance of diesel generator; requirements of

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Special equipments like Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer and other requirements of Central Soil and Plant Health Centre.

The analysis of soil samples under Soil Health Card Scheme of Government of India should be given priority.

The total number of soil samples to be analyzed under Soil Health Card Scheme (NMSA) during 2021-22 by the DSTLs /MSTLs should be fixed season wise/crop wise by the Assistant Soil Chemists in consultation with the Project Directors (ATMA) of Districts.

The Chief Soil Chemist should furnish the monthly progress reports on the activities of Soil Testing Labs and the soil samples analyzed to the Director of Agriculture by the 5th of every month. The Chief Soil Chemist will ensure that the capacity of each DSTL /MSTL is fully utilized and the Soil Health Cards are generated and distributed to the farmers at the earliest. It should be ensured that the results of the soil samples are given within seven days of receipt of the sample directly from the farmer.

The Principal Agricultural Officer assisted by the Deputy Director of Agriculture (E&T) will monitor the functioning of the Labs in the Districts. Chief Soil Chemist will coordinate the functioning of the labs and also give guidance to the Assistant Soil Chemists.

The Additional Director of Agriculture (Planning) will monitor the scheme at the state level.

Financial Outlay

The amount of **Rs. 100 lakh** set apart for the implementation of this scheme can be met from the funds provided under the Head of Account **2401-00-105-86 Plan**.

Copy to:

Chief Soil Chemist

All Principal Agricultural Officers

The Assistant Soil Chemists of all District and Mobile Soil Testing Labs

TA to Director of Agriculture

- CA to all Additional Directors of Agriculture
- Deputy Director, IT Cell (for publishing in the website) Planning section - to allot funds to Chief Soil Chemist SW section
- Stock File

MELVIN JOSE. V.J Assistant Director of Agriculture Directorate of Agricultural Development & Farmers Welfare, Vikas Bhavan Thiruyananthapuran - 695 033

Sd/-

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