

ADFW/5103/2022- I B1

Directorate of Agriculture Development  
and Farmers Welfare Department  
Thiruvananthapuram Dated:23/08/2022

**CIRCULAR**

Sub: Annual Plan 2022-23- Scheme for Coconut development-Working instruction for Keragramam I,II& III ,Kera raksha vaaram and Distribution of Coconut Seedlings under Coconut Development council issued- reg

Ref: G.o.(Rt)no.722/2022/AGRI, Dated ,9/08/2022

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In the annual plan, a budget provision of Rs. 7390.00 lakhs earmarked for the scheme "Coconut Development" under the head of Account 2401-00-103-87 Plan .The strategy proposed for coconut Development is to enhance the production and productivity of coconut through better management practices and through replanting with new and high yielding palms .The components under the scheme for which working instructions is issued are as follows:

1. **Comprehensive Coconut rejuvenation and planting programme** - Rehabilitation and rejuvenation of Coconut palms in Kerala as part of Coconut Mission and KERA RAKSHA VAARAM
2. Keragramam II year assistance
3. Keragramam III year assistance

**Major objectives of the scheme** are -

- Increase production and productivity of coconut
- Integrated pest and disease management
- Integrated nutrient management of coconut gardens
- Promotion of inter cultivation
- Promotion of intercropping
- Improvement of irrigation facilities
- Ensure availability of quality planting materials
- Popularisation of climbing devices for easy harvesting
- Promotion of value addition ventures in potential Panchayats
- Employment generation.

**Detailed programme and activities envisaged are as follows:**

**Comprehensive Coconut rejuvenation and planting programme :**

I. Keragramam

**1) Integrated management of coconut gardens** : The major programme under Coconut Development Programme is integrated management of coconut gardens on cluster basis .The programme will be implemented in 100 Keragramams with a project area size of 100 ha each during 2022-23. Thus a total area of 10000 ha will be covered under the programme. In the selected 100 ha units of coconut palms, all the keragramam activities will be adopted. Scientific and timely adoption of management practices of the existing and newly planted palms like opening of basins,husk burial,lime application , soil test based INM practices which includes application of fertilisers,biofertilisers,organic manure,secondary *Micronutrients* ,*IPDM* which includes crown cleaning ,*PPC* application *Biopesticides*/bio control agents etc,irrigation /intercropping are the activities targeted.

**a. Intercultural operations – opening of coconut basins,weeding, mulching etc.**

The coconut basins are to be kept weed free by periodical weeding. Mulching is an effective method of conserving soil moisture. Mulching coconut basins with green/dry leaves at the end of north-east monsoons will add organic matter to the soil and reduce soil temperature. Opening of coconut basins will help to conserve moisture and facilitate maximum percolation of rainwater and water conservation. It is estimated that an amount of Rs.70/- is required for opening coconut basins and application of fertilizers and manures. An amount limited to **Rs.35/- per palm** as 50% subsidy be given as financial assistance.

**b. Coconut Husk burial for Moisture Conservation in Coconut garden.**

For moisture retention, burying of fresh or dried husk around the palm is a desirable practice. The husks are placed in layers with concave surface facing upwards in trenches of 0.5 m width and depth taken around the palm at a distance of 2 meters away from the trunk. The benefit of moisture conservation will last for 5-7 years. It is estimated that an amount of Rs.100/- per palm is required for taking trench and burying coconut husks. An amount limited to **Rs. 50/- per palm** as 50% subsidy can be given as financial assistance.

**c. Intercropping in coconut garden.**

To ensure optimum resource utilization including better land utilization, harvesting of solar energy, efficient water use, better utilization of soil nutrient resource and for more returns, inter cropping with suitable crops like banana, tuber crops, ginger, turmeric etc can be taken up in coconut gardens. An assistance of **Rs. 6000/- per ha** as 50% subsidy will be given.

**d. Integrated Nutrient management (Soil test based )**

Coconut plantations which are not properly managed are to be supplemented with soil ameliorants, organic manures and chemical fertilizers in order to revive their production and productivity. The application of major/secondary/micronutrients /lime application should be done based on soil test recommendations.

- (i). **Soil Ameliorants:** Soil acidity is a major problem in Kerala Application of liming materials like lime / dolomite / gypsum / powdered lime improves the soil condition and accelerates uptake of nutrients. Liming materials can be provided at 75% subsidy limited to **Rs.9/- per palm**.
- (ii). **Fertilizers./Biofertilisers:** 50% subsidy limited to **Rs.20/- per palm** can be given as assistance.
- (iii). **Magnesium Sulphate /secondary /micronutrients :** In areas where yellowing of coconut is predominant, application of Magnesium sulphate is inevitable at the recommended dose of 0.5 kg / palm/year. Based on soil test reports ,in case of deficiency secondary /micronutrients can be applied .For this 50% of the total cost limited to **Rs.3.75/- per palm** can be given as subsidy.
- (iv). **Organic Manure:** 50 % of the cost of organic manures/farm yard manure /compost limited to **Rs.25/- per palm** per year can be given as assistance.

#### e. Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPDM)

- (i). **PP Chemicals:** For under taking PP operations, including prophylactic spraying, 50 % subsidy limited to **Rs.10/-per palm** will be provided as assistance.

#### (ii) Application of Bio-pesticides and Bio-control agents.

To limit the indiscriminate use of plant protection chemicals, bio-pesticides and bio-control agents are given thrust considering environment friendliness and health aspect of the society. 50% subsidy limited to **Rs.25/- per palm** can be given for promoting the use of Bio fertilizer, Bio pesticide and Bio control agents.

Assistance will be provided for the release of bio control agents and labour charge for climbing palms @ 50% subsidy of the total cost limited to **Rs.50/-per palm**. For the purpose of PPC operations and application of/ Bio-pesticides and Bio-control agents, it has to be ensured that all hot spot areas are completely covered irrespective of the small and marginal farmer category, for successful eradication of the source of infestation. The large farmer category restriction is waived for this purpose only.

#### f. Cut and removal of disease affected, old and senile unproductive palms

An amount of **Rs.1000/palm** limited to **Rs. 10000/ha** can be given as assistance for cut and removal of disease affected, old and senile unproductive

palms @ **10 palms per ha. 100** ha project area should be considered as a cluster and individual area ceiling need not be insisted for removing the disease affected, old and senile palms. However the total limit for the cluster as a whole should not be exceeded for financial assistance.

**g. Replanting with good quality coconut seedlings.**

The cut and removal of diseased, old and senile palms will be followed up immediately by a systematic replanting programme. The disease affected palms which are cut will be replanted with disease tolerant seedlings to standardize the density of population at 175 palms/ha. 50 % subsidy limited to **Rs 60 per seedling** can be given as assistance @ **7 seedlings per ha**. A cluster approach may be followed for this component also without exceeding the total financial limit for keragramams for this activity. Labour component for intercultural operations, application of inputs and plant protection activities can be met from MNREGS by placing appropriate proposals to the local self Government. Services of Karshika karma sena and Agro service centres also may be utilized for this purpose.

Subsidy to the components (a) to (g) is limited to **Rs.19200/-per ha** under the state plan share, for covering an area of 10000 ha @ **100 ha/ Keragramam**. An amount of **Rs.1920.lakh.is.set.apart for the above.7.sub components (a to g)** under Integrated Management of Coconut Gardens under the state plan share, for 100 nos of Keragramams @ **Rs 19.2 lakh per Keragramam unit**.

However the assistance under the integrated management component can be extended upto **Rs 25000/- per ha** by integrating the resources from the Janakeeyasoothranam funds of the respective local bodies, to undertake more components from the enlisted activities following the stipulated subsidy norms limiting to **Rs 5800/- per hectare**.

**2) Installation of Irrigation components including micro irrigation**

Irrigation is a major contributing factor in increasing the production and productivity of coconut gardens. Studies have proved that upto 20% yield increase can be attained through irrigation. It is proposed to bring a minimum additional area of 10 ha. in each Keragramam under irrigation. For this assistance shall be provided for digging new wells/ponds and installing pumpsets and for installation of pumpset alone if there is an existing water source. Assistance will be provided at 50% subsidy limited to a maximum of **Rs10000/- per unit** of well or pumpset with accessories for small and marginal farmers with a minimum area of 0.12 ha (30 cents).

Drip/Sprinkler irrigation units can be installed availing assistance from this scheme or can be integrated with any other micro irrigation schemes like that of

**State Horticulture Mission / PMKSY-PDMC (Micro irrigation)**. The maximum assistance for irrigation component is limited to Rs.25000/- per.ha. An amount of **Rs.250.00 lakhs** is set apart for this component@ **Rs 2.5 lakhs** per keragramam,for covering an additional area of 1000 ha, in 100 Keragramams. More area, if necessary, can be brought under the irrigation component utilizing the savings from items 1 to 4.

The irrigation component can also be integrated with the CSS scheme PMKSY . **Low cost eco-friendly water harvesting structures** including those models developed by KAU can be constructed in the cluster area, utilizing the fund provisions available, however the subsidy limit per irrigation unit (Rs.10,000/ha ) should not be exceeded. Additional assistance, if eligible as per approved cost norms, can be extended from appropriate State/ Central schemes. Size of the pond in the cluster area can be determined based on the water requirement.The valuation can be done either by the concerned Assistant Executive Engineer(Agri), LSGD Engineer or by the concerned Agricultural Officer, who himself is also a competent authority.

### **3) Coconut Climbing Equipment for Clusters.**

For popularizing mechanization in coconut harvesting, imparting training to overcome the shortage of skilled laborers in the field of coconut harvesting, spraying operations, supply of coconut climbing devices at subsidized rate is another objective of the project. 2500 nos. of climbing devices @ 25 devices per Keragramam are to be distributed to small and marginal farmers in the selected Panchayats through Krishi Bhavans. The equipments are to be purchased from KAICO/RAIDCO. Permissible subsidy is **Rs.2000/-per unit**. An amount of **Rs. 50.0 lakh @ Rs 0.5 lakh** per Keragramam is set apart for this component. More climbing devices can be distributed, if necessary, utilising the savings from items 1 to 4.

### **4) Establishing Organic Manure Production units**

Organic farming is an emerging area in the country and the export potential of organic products is increasing across the world. To meet the growing demand for organic products, organic manure production also has to be enhanced. To promote the production of organic manure by vermi-composting or coir pith composting, and to make use of the unused organic waste as a part of in situ waste management, financial assistance to the tune of **Rs. 10,000/- per unit** will be given to the beneficiary for establishing compost unit of 7.2 x1.2 x 0.6 metre size and for meeting material cost of inputs aiding in composting. It is proposed to establish 400 nos. of such organic manure production units in 100 keragramams @ 4 per keragramam. Assistance can be proportionately given to units of smaller size also.

Same assistance can also be given for the production of organic manure without construction of pits as in the case of Trichoderma enriched FYM which is found to

be effective against many fungal diseases like bud rot ,leaf rot etc and also by converting the piled up FYM which are the breeding sites of Rhinoceros beetles to enriched FYM ,the pest incidence can be reduced. The assistance is given for shed size of 10x5 ft and inputs and inoculants .

An amount of **Rs.40.00 lakh @ 0.4 lakh per keragramam** is set apart for this component.

The components 1 to 4 above are interchangeable as per local requirements without exceeding the total financial limit and rate of assistance subject to the approval of the technical resource group.

#### **5) Operational support to Krishi Bhavans.**

During the current financial year, the programme will be implemented in an area of 10000 ha. in selected 100 units @100ha/Keragramam. Expenditure for the conduct of cluster formation, cluster trainings, trainings, meetings, DTP outsourcing and other unforeseen related expenses can be met from the funds under this sub-component, for which an amount of **Rs 7.00 lakh @ Rs.7000/- per Keragramam** is earmarked.

#### **6) Assistance for panchayat level Kera samithies/societies :**

**(a)** An amount of Rs.300.00 lakhs is earmarked to provide assistance to 100 nos of Kera samithies/ societies formed in each Keragramam. An amount of Rs.3.00 lakh per Kera samithy/ society is for their establishment and to organise activities on a group approach for the cultural operations, application of manures and fertilisers, plant protection and other unforeseen expenses. Action plan /projects for the group activities should be prepared by the concerned Agricultural Officers and implemented with the approval of Block level Assistant Director of Agriculture .The expenditure is for registration of new samithies, conduct of campaigns, trainings, meetings, survey and other office related expenditure. However, purchase of computer and accessories ,office furniture etc .should not be met from this component.

The amount can also be utilised for undertaking activities related to coconut husk procurement and working capital to establish a coir processing unit or any other ~~value addition or processing unit as mentioned in 6(b) at the rate of Rs.2.0lakh per~~ Kera samithy. The assistance can be extended to a group /society or a SHG willing to undertake this activity. This activity can be linked with the schemes of the Coir Development department .

#### **(b) Value addition and Agro processing :-**

Value addition and Agro processing are regarded as sunrise sector of Kerala economy in view of its large potential for economic growth. Consequent on the declaration of 1193 Chingam 1 to 1194 Chingam 1 as Coconut Year, Government

of Kerala have announced to support value addition projects giving thrust to coconut. Value addition or Food processing units shall be started with the available working capital of Rs. 2.00 lakh given to kerasamithies. Elaneer parlour ,coconut oil, Virgin coconut oil, coconut milk cream,coconut palm jaggery,shell charcoal, shell powder, vinegar, handicrafts etc can be started with or without the support of SFAC ,subject to the conditions and guidelines laid down by SFAC. Viable projects by clusters,SHGs,NGOs,Partnership firms, FPOs and individual entrepreneurs availing loan from any nationalised/ scheduled/ co-operative/ Regional Rural Banks/other non banking financial institutions will also be considered under this scheme.

The scheme will be implemented in 100 units of 100 ha each.The assistance is limited to 25.67 lakh per Keragramam and an amount of **Rs. 2567 .00** lakh is set apart.

Cafeteria of Funds for Keragramam				
Sl.no	Components	one Keragramam		100 keragramams
		Physical	Financial(in lakh)	Financial(in lakh)
	Area / Keragramam	100ha		
	Palms / keragramam @ 175 palm /ha	17500 nos		
1)	<b>Integrated management of Coconut gardens</b>			
a	Intercultural Operations-opening of coconut basins, weeding, mulching etc (50% subsidy @ Rs 35/palm)	17500 nos	6.125	612.5
b	Coconut husk burial for moisture conservation (50% subsidy@Rs50/palm)	17500 nos	8.75	875
c	Intercropping in coconut garden (50% subsidy limited to Rs 6000/ha)	100ha	6	600
d	<b>INM activities : Soil test based approach</b>			
	1) Soil ameliorants (Lime/Dolomite) (75% subsidy @ Rs 9/palm)	17500 nos	1.575	157.5
	2) Fertilizers / Biofertilisers (50% subsidy @ Rs 20/palm)	17500 nos	3.5	350

	3) Magnesium sulphate (50% subsidy @ Rs 3.75/palm)/Secondary micronutrients	17500 nos	0.65625	65.625
	4) Organic manure (50% subsidy @ Rs 25/palm)	17500 nos	4.375	437.5
	<b>IPDM activities :</b>			
e	1)PPC operation (50% subsidy @ Rs 10/palm)	17500 nos	1.75	175
	2)Appln of Pesticides (needbased)/Bio-pesticides & Bio-control agents (50% subsidy @ Rs 25/palm & Rs 50/palm as labour charges)	17500 nos	13.125	1312.5
f	Cut & removal of disease affected,old and senile palms (@ Rs 1000/palm limited to Rs 10000/ha)	1000 nos	10	1000.00
g	Replanting with good quality seedlings (50% subsidy limited to Rs 60/ seedling for 7 palms /ha)	700 nos	0.42	42
	Total		56.27625	5627.63
	<b>State plan share A Limited to Rs .19200/ha.</b>		<b>19.2</b>	<b>1920</b>
2)	Installation of irrigation Components including micro irrigation (50% subsidy limited to Rs 25000/ha) @ 10 ha/ keragramam		2.5	250
3)	Coconut climbing equipment for clusters (subsidy @ Rs 2000/unit) @ 25 units \ Keragramam		0.5	50
4)	Est: of Organic manure production units/Production of Enriched FYM ( subsidy @ Rs 10000/unit) @ 4 units / Keragramam		0.4	40
5)	Operational support @ Rs 7000/ KB/KG		0.07	7
	Assistance for panchayat level samithies/ societies@			



6)	Rs.3.00lakh per unit( assistance for coconut husk procurement and mini coir processing units /Processing/Value addition units)		3	300
	Total		6.47	647.00
	State Plan Share B		6.47	647.00
	Total State plan share A+B		25.67	2567.00

**II. KERA RAKSHA VAARAM :** Kera Raksha vaaram will be conducted during September 2022 ,covering new and existing coconut plantations under the programme. Thrust will be given to areas where keragramam activities have been initiated in the previous and current years,since they are the major coconut growing tracts in the state. However,campaign activities are to be organised in other areas also.

As part of this campaign activity ,green manuring and green leaf manuring is the major activity proposed to be conducted in coconut gardens throughout the state .Green manure refers to the plant material incorporated with soil while green or soon after maturity for improving the soil to supply nutrients.It is the practice of ploughing and incorporating the undecomposed green plant tissue into the soil for improving the structure and fertility of soil through fixing of atmospheric nitrogen to soil.Besides it is also useful as fodder,cover crop and erosion control. Most of green manure crops are capable of growing in water stress condition . Green manure seeds like cowpea,Daincha,Sesbania,sunhemp etc will be given for application in the basins of 50 lakh palms .Assistance at the rate of Rs .6.25 /-per palm amounting to Rs. **312.5** lakh is provided.

Green leaf manures are fast growing moderate tall shrubs with ability to produce heavy foliage and will resist lopping .Green leaf manures are amenable for quick decomposition and having multipurpose uses like fodder,nitrogen fixation,providing shade and also used as standards .In Kerala, Glyricidia is mostly used for biofencing.

As part of KERA RAKSHA VAARAM, Glyricidia cuttings(*sheema konna*) will be given for planting ,for which an assistance of Rs.2/-per cutting will be given and 50 lakh cuttings will be arranged by krishi bhavans using the services of

MGNREGS, Agro service centre, Karshika Karma Sena, Kudumbasree etc. for the purpose for which an amount of **Rs.100.00** lakh is set apart. Glyricidia cuttings will be distributed in a campaign mode giving wide publicity. The planting of Glyricidia should be completed within the programme period .

In addition, as the Kera Raksha Vaaram is to be carried out throughout the state simultaneously , maximum awareness among the farmers should be created for which an amount of **Rs 20.5** lakh is kept apart @ Rs.2000/- per KB for 1025 Krishi bhavans. For this special focus will be given for the importance of **Crown cleaning**, where pests and diseases harbour and effective control measures for the control major pests of Coconut namely Red Palm Weevil and Rhinoceros beetle. The Red palm weevil is one of the most destructive pests of coconut and its control is very difficult. The management of red palm weevil requires a combination of cultural, chemical and semio-chemical control measures and prevention of attack is better than control. Preventive methods include field sanitation, preventing wounding of palm and mass trapping using Pheromone traps. Similar to Red palm weevil ,the Rhinoceros beetle is another major pest of coconut palms with adults feeding on leaves and burrowing into the crown thereby stunting plant development. As with Red palm weevil ,control measures range from cultural ,chemical, biological and use of pheromone traps . Creation of awareness regarding these control measures is proposed to be implemented as part of Kera Raksha vaaram. Kera raksha vaaram is an integration of activities in coconut garden by integrating the components under Keragramam, CDB, LSGD projects and Njangalum Krishiyilekku programme. For giving wide publicity and for organising keraraksha vaaram campaigns an amount of Rs.20.50 lakh is set apart @ Rs. 2000 /-per KB for 1025 krishi bhavans.

Activities for Kera Raksha Vaaram 2021-22			
Sl.no	Components	Physical	Financial( in lakh)
1	Pulses/Legumes/Green manure seeds @ Rs.6.25 /palm	50 lakh palms	312.5
2	Green leaf manure(Glyricidia)@ Rs.2 per cutting	50 lakh cuttings	100.00
3	Awareness campaign expenses for carrying out the activities during September 2022 @ Rs 2000/KB	1025 Kbs	20.5

<b>Total</b>	<b>433.00</b>
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### **III.Coconut seedling distribution as part of Coconut Development Council :**

Good and High yielding varieties of coconut seedlings produced by Government agencies like Department Farms, Kerala Agrl.University, CDB and Aralam Farming corporation is to be distributed to farmers with an objective of increasing the area under coconut .In order to achieve the vision of bringing additional area of 1.44 lakh Ha under coconut,Government of Kerala ,Vide G.O. (Ms) No. 138/2018 /Agri dated 21/11/2018 has constituted a Coconut Development Council for the improving the Production,Productivity and overall development of coconut sector . The fourth year activities of Coconut Development Council includes the distribution of coconut seedlings (WCT,Dwarf.Hybrid) to farmers at 50% subsidy.

Programme:

The following activities will be undertaken to increase the production and productivity of Coconut in the state

- 1)Distribution of quality coconut seedlings
- 2)Transportation of seedlings and awareness programme.

An amount of **Rs. 820.3191** lakh is kept apart for meeting the cost of seedlings and transportation charges for distribution of seedlings .

During 2022-23 ,11,99,709 WCT ,48566 Dwarf and 1,08,762 hybrid seedlings will be distributed under this component for which an amount of Rs.762.5 lakh and Rs.57.8191 lakh for the transportation of the seedlings is earmarked.

**IV . Keragramam II year** : The keragramams implemented during 2021-22 will be given 2<sup>nd</sup> year assistance @ Rs. 20.0 lakh per keragramam.Hence an amount of **Rs. 1680.00** lakh is set apart for 84 nos of keragramams,for the adoption of integrated management practices,assistance to kerasamithies and operational support to Kbs .

Sl.no	Activities Proposed	Amount in lakh per keragramam	Total amount ( in lakh)
1	Integrated management activities like taking of basins,INM,IPDM,etc	19.75	1659.00

2	Operational Support to Krishi bhavan	0.05	4.2
3	Assistance to Kerasamithies	0.2	16.8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>1680</b>

**V. Keragramam III year** : The keragramams implemented during 2020-21 is provided third year assistance for application of Organic/inorganic manure @ 6.0 lakh per keragramam and an amount of Rs 90.00 lakh is kept apart for the purpose

Sl.no	Activities proposed	Amount in lakh per Keragramam	Total Amount( Rs. in lakh)
1	Organic /inorganic fertiliser	6.0	90.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>90.0</b>

Besides ,an amount of Rs. 10.0 lakh towards T.E and Rs.5.00 lakh towards POL is kept apart in the scheme provisions.

**Mode of implementation:-**

The following guidelines will be followed for the implementation of Keragramam and Kera Raksha Vaaram :

- A compact area approach with an extent of **100 ha** shall be selected for the implementation of the scheme. All small and marginal farmers coming under the selected project area should be included as beneficiaries of the programme based on the suitability of the coconut gardens, irrespective of their land holding size to the maximum possible extent.
- Cluster formed at panchayat level should have a technical resource group for monitoring the implementation of the different components of the programme with Panchayat President as the Chairperson and Agricultural Officer as the Convener. The resource group will be constituted with field level functionaries of the Department of Agriculture, representatives of Kerala Agricultural University, CDB and scientists from Research Stations and DDA (YP) as members.
- The President, Vice President, Development Standing Committee Chairman of the LSGD and Agricultural Officer will be the ex-officio members of the

Panchayat level Kerasamithi/Society.

- A visit schedule of Agricultural Assistants should be prepared to ensure regular and systematic field visit to the cluster areas in a month.
- Assistance of Multi Disciplinary Diagnostic Team can be availed of, if situation warrants, in consultation with the Principal Agricultural Officer.
- The Panchayat level Technical Resource Group should prepare and finalise a plan of action for taking up the intercultural, manurial application and plant protection activities on a group approach. Accordingly, arrangement of required inputs should be made and an operational chart should be prepared so as to ensure the timely availability and utilization of MGNREGS workforce and skilled labourers of Agro Service Centres / Karshika Karma Senas.
- Assistance on a pro rata basis, as per holding size, will be utilized for the group activity through the clusters and remaining eligible assistance will be released to the farmers concerned through e-payment.
- The beneficiaries of the scheme should be enrolled in the state crop insurance scheme.
- Store purchase rules shall be strictly adhered to for all kinds of purchases. Tender/e-tender and other stipulated formalities shall be followed where ever applicable.

**In case of COVID -19 pandemic in the state** the following guidelines are issued for implementation of the scheme during 2022- 23.

1. Ward level kera samithies/panchayat level kera samithy may be convened wherever possible by following COVID 19 protocol or through video conferencing.
2. If public meeting is not possible due to COVID 19 restrictions, the scheme shall be implemented with the approval of panchayat level Agricultural Development Committee in a time bound manner during this cropping season itself.
3. In order to compensate for the crop loss due to natural calamities, all farmers are advised to insure their crops as per the State Crop insurance scheme. Since persuading all farmers is a cumbersome process for which considerable time loss

occurs and due to prevailing COVID 19 situations, this can be relaxed with the approval of ADC for the speedy implementation of the project.

4. Farmers are eligible for assistance during three years under Keragramam. If sufficient beneficiaries are not available for second year and third year assistance under Keragramam, a new beneficiary may be selected by Agricultural Officers after ensuring that such farmers have followed scientific management practices during previous years. Also if sufficient area is not available in the selected grama panchayat / LSGD, adjacent LSGDs shall be considered with the approval of Principal Agricultural Officer.

5. The Agricultural Officers shall ensure that farmers have applied all recommended inputs and conducted all cultural operations as envisaged in the scheme. However, Agricultural Officers are not required to purchase the inputs and distribute them to farmers. They are required to advise and monitor the implementation of the scheme in a scientific and time bound manner

#### **Guidelines for Kera Raksha Vaaram :**

1. Scheme will be implemented statewide during September 2022 – 23 . Wide spread publicity should be given for this programme. Leaflets and pamphlets will be given to the farmers.

2. It should be ensured that the seeds and cuttings distributed under the scheme are properly maintained in the field; hence the details like name and address of farmer, variety and number of seeds /cuttings , subsidy amount, signature of farmer, etc should be maintained.

3. The arrangements for distribution of Glyricidia cuttings will be made by the concerned Agricultural Officer using the support of karshika karma sena /kera samithies /agro service centres.

4. The green manure seeds like cowpea, daincha , sunhemp can be purchased from NSC/ other Government agencies .

5. Awareness Training campaigns should be conducted emphasising on the importance of Crown cleaning and remedial measures for Rhinoceros beetle and

Red Palm Weevil etc.

6. The Training programme can be clubbed with the LSGD programmes for carrying out IPDM measures

7. The implementation of CDB programmes can also be popularised through these training programmes .

8. Green manure seeds/Cowpea seeds @20- 25 kg/ ha may be arranged for application in the coconut basins which may be incorporated in the basins before flowering .

#### **Monitoring and Reporting:-**

The Agricultural Officer of Krishi Bhavans will be responsible for effective implementation of the keragramam and Kera Raksha Vaaram components at Panchayat level. The Assistant Director of Agriculture will monitor the scheme at block level and Deputy Director of Agriculture (YP) at district level. Principal Agricultural Officer will supervise the scheme implementation at district level. Additional Director of Agriculture (CP) will monitor the scheme at State level. The ADAs should submit a consolidated block wise report to the DDA (YP) who in turn will submit a detailed report in **Annexure-5 (first year assistance), Annexure-6 (second year assistance), Annexure-7 (Third year assistance) and Annexure 8 (Kera Raksha vaaram)** to the **Additional Director of Agriculture (CP)** by 5<sup>th</sup> of every month. (Reporting and official correspondence in respect of this scheme may be made in the email -id **adatbagridir@gmail.com**) .

The Principal Agricultural Officers shall furnish a detailed completion report including the no. of beneficiaries (male, female, SC/ST, general) and utilization certificate in proper format (**Annexure 9,10,11 &12**) immediately on completion of the project.

District wise physical and financial target for first year Keragramam ,second year Keragramam ,Third Year Keragramam and Kera Raksha Vaaram is appended as **Annexure 1,2,3,4 (The list of selected Keragramams for 1 yr will be given later)**

**General guidelines for distribution of coconut seedlings, collection and remittance of cost of seedling:**

- The maximum number of seedlings that can be distributed in a selected panchayat is 75 multiplied by the number of wards in the panchayat, and the seedlings can be distributed anywhere within the panchayat as per requirement. **Accordingly, the 75 number per ward rate of distribution need not be followed during the current year.**
- **The maximum number of seedlings that can be supplied to a farmer has been increased to 175 per ha based on the land holding of the farmer.** The Agricultural Officers should ensure the genuinity of the farmers and his area. Priority should be given to small and marginal farmers while distributing seedlings.
- The seedlings available in Departmental Farms should be supplied along with tag. Action should be taken at district level for ensuring that tags are made available to the farms before lifting of seedlings.
- Action should be taken by the Principal Agricultural Officers for procuring seedlings from other districts as per the list attached as Annexure -I. The distribution statement of Seedlings should be sent to this office after the seedling allotments for Krishi bhavans. In case in Corporations/Municipalities where the seedling requirement is less , Principal Agricultural Officer can suitably distribute the seedlings to other Krishi bhavans . It should be ensured that there are no complaints/reports regarding the short supply of coconut seedlings in these areas.
- Beneficiary selection should be made in consultation with the panchayat level Agriculture Development Committee or panchayat/ municipality/ corporation committee.
- The cost of seedlings is Rs. 100/- for WCT and dwarf varieties and Rs. 250/- for hybrids. 50% cost will be provided from the budget provision and the balance 50% is to be collected from beneficiaries.
- The Agricultural Officer of Krishi Bhavans should directly supply the coconut seedlings to the farmers and collect the 50% cost of seedlings through separate receipts printed for this purpose and remit the amount to **STSB Account no. 799011400005804 maintained in Sub Treasury, Vellayambalam, Thiruvananthapuram (Treasury Code-104, Customer ID- 1855113)** in the



name of Director of Agriculture.

- The receipt books issued last year may be used for this purpose. In case the required additional receipt books are not received in time, the accounts are to be maintained in a separate register until the receipt books are made available to the Krishi Bhavans. **Principal Agricultural Officers should distribute the receipt books to the Krishi Bhavans concerned and instruct Agricultural Officers to remit the amount to the above STSB account.**
- It should be ensured that the seedlings distributed under the scheme are properly maintained in the field; hence the details like name and address of farmer, variety and number of seedlings, address of farm where the seedling was produced, subsidy amount, signature of farmer, etc should be maintained.
- The details of agency wise (farm wise), variety wise number of seedlings distributed, along with invoice number, date, amount and bank details should be consolidated at district level and submitted to Head Quarters as per format available in **Annexure 14** within a period of one month from date of completion of distribution, for settling the subsidy payments to the agency. No changes should be made in the proforma.
- The details of Krishi Bhavan wise details of remittance of beneficiary contribution (Chalan no. and date of remittance along with amount) should be reconciled and consolidated at district level and submitted to Head Quarters as per format available in **Annexure 15** within a period of one month from date of completion of distribution, for settling the beneficiary contribution to the agency. No changes should be made in the proforma.
- Transportation of seedlings and awareness programmes. The coconut seedlings allotted to the districts from different farms *agencies should be distributed to farmers of the Krishi bhavans by the Principal Agricultural Officer/Assistant Director of Agriculture concerned.* Transportation of coconut seedlings of coconut of seedlings have to be carried out through department vehicles or private vehicles. Smaller vehicles ,preferably may be used for transportation so that seedlings damage can be minimised. Tender procedures should be followed for hiring of vehicles wherever necessary. Assistant Directors of Agriculture should take necessary arrangement for hiring vehicles for distribution of coconut seedlings to the Krishi Bhavans under their control, for which sanction should be accorded by the Principal Agricultural Officers.

- An amount of Rs. 57.8191 lakh is earmarked for meeting the cost towards awareness programmes, transportation charges and connected expenses such as loading and unloading charges. The Principal Agricultural Officers should inform the amount required for allotment of funds.

### Implementation and Monitoring

The Agricultural Officer of Krishi Bhavans will be responsible for effective implementation of the scheme at Panchayat level. The Assistant Director of Agriculture will monitor the scheme at block level and Deputy Director of Agriculture (YP) at district level. Principal Agricultural Officer will supervise the scheme implementation at district level. Additional Director of Agriculture (CP) will monitor the scheme at State level. The ADAs should submit a consolidated block wise report to the DDA (YP) who in turn will submit a detailed report to the Additional Director of Agriculture (CP) every week till disAnnexure IItribution is complete. **Weekly progress report of physical targets and achievements should be furnished as per Annexure-16.** Since Government is giving emphasis to women participation and gender budgeting, maximum efforts have to be made to include women beneficiaries in the scheme. (Reporting and official correspondence in respect of this scheme may be made in the email id [adatbagridir@gmail.com](mailto:adatbagridir@gmail.com) and [deputydacd@gmail.com](mailto:deputydacd@gmail.com)).

The Principal Agricultural Officers shall furnish a detailed completion report including the number of beneficiaries (male, female, SC/ST, general) and utilization certificate immediately on completion of the projeAnnexure IIct.

The expenditure for the scheme Coconut Development will be debited under the head of account **2401-00-103-87 OC Plan during current year's budget provision.**

### **Abstract of Coconut Development schemes 2022-23**

Coconut Development schemes 2022-23			
Sl.no	Component	Nos allotted	Amount allocated(in lakh)
	I .Comprehensive coconut Rehabilitation and planting programs- rehabilitation and		

1	Rejuvenation of coconut palms in kerala as part of coconut mission program		
	a)keragramam activities 100 ha per keragramam @ Rs.25.67 lakh per unit	100	2567
	b)Conduct of State wide Kera Raksha vaaram including expenses towards awareness campaign		433
	c)Coconut seedling Distribution including transportation charges	13,57,037	820,3191
2	Keragramam II year	84	1680
3	Keragramam III year	15	90
4	TE		10
5	POL		5
	Total		5605,3191

sd/-  
Director of Agriculture



To  
All Principal Agricultural Officers for information and n/a  
TA to Director of Agriculture  
CAs to Addl.DA(PIg), Addl.DA(CP), Addl.DA(Farms), Addl.DA(Extn),  
Addl.DA(Mktg), SAE.  
All Joint Directors of Agriculture (in the Directorate)  
Principal Information Officer, FIB, Thiruvananthapuram

Joint Director of Agriculture (WM)  
Directorate of Agriculture  
Thiruvananthapuram-53

Planning Section, Directorate of Agriculture

Finance section

IT Cell for publishing in the website.

The Managing Director, SFAC (with CL) for information and n/a

The Director, Coir Development Department (with CL) for information and n/a