

Directorate of Agriculture Development and Farmers' Welfare

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CIRCULAR

Sub:- International exposure tour for farmers – directions issued

Ref:- 1) G.O. (Rt) No.944/2022/AGRI dated 02.11.2022.
2) Government Letter No. AGRI-EB2/201/2022-AGRI dated 05.11.2022.
3) G.O. (Rt) No.1118/2022/AGRI dated 17.12.2022.

Government have accorded administrative sanction for conducting National /International tour for farmers for an amount of Rs. 200 lakh by meeting the expenditure from the Head of Account 2401-00-109-80 (Plan) vide reference (1) cited, subject to the following specific conditions:

- a. International exposure tour group shall include 10 farmers and one Government Official to co-ordinate.
- b. Online application shall be called for from progressive farmers with all requisite details.
- c. Transparent selection shall be ensured.
- d. The selection committee shall be chaired by Secretary, Agriculture Department, Director SHM with Director / Nominee and Additional Director (Extension) and Addl. Director, SAMETI.
- e. Duration of visit shall be fixed as four nights stay at the designated country of visit.
- f. Farmers willing to afford air fare at their own cost shall be given preference to a maximum of 50% of the total participants to accommodate maximum full cost participants.
- g. Tour shall be arranged through ODEPC or through credible private tour operators through quotation process.
- h. Government Official accompanying the farmers shall only seek Government approval as a Tour.
- i. The administrative Sanction for the farmers tour will be issued by the Agriculture Department.

Vide reference (ii) cited, Government had directed to create an online form for selection

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of farmers for the proposed international exposure tour and has also issued directions to be considered for the selection of farmers for the International tour as follows:

- Farmers who have registration in the AIMS portal.
- Farmers having 0.4 Ha or more area of land.
- Experience in farming (10 to 30 years).
- Income from Agriculture (Rs. 2 to Rs. 10 Lakh / year).
- Crop diversification and crop relevant to Israel will be given weightage.
- Having 10 + 2 qualification and adequate comprehension in spoken and written English.
- Farmers with age below 50 years.
- FPO membership of farmer will be given weightage.
- Income tax payee will be given weightage.
- 2 to 4 women farmers for ensuring gender equality.
- Farmer having passport with a minimum of six months validity from 1st February 2023 shall be insisted.
- Innovative farmer having keen interest in hi-tech agriculture.
- Farmers willing to defray the air fare.
- Consent from farmers for taking innovative activities and transfer of technologies.
- Certificate of verifying criteria from the concerned Agricultural Officer.
- Farmers should give a feedback after the visit as well as a report on activities undertaken based on the visit to the concerned Agricultural Officers.

Accordingly, online application form for the exposure tour has been developed in AIMS 2.0 portal.

Vide reference (iii) cited, Government have decided that the chosen farmer groups intending to adopt technology will be initially sent to elite Agricultural Institutes and renowned farms in Israel and has directed to proceed with the selection of farmers for the

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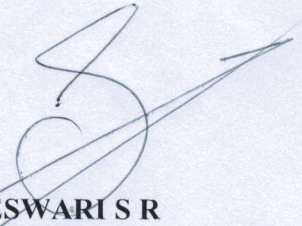
exposure visit to Israel.

The online application form for the exposure tour is made available in the AIMS 2.0 portal and the following schedule shall be strictly adhered to.

- 1 Tentative date of Tour : 07.02.2023
- 2 Date of start of online application : 19.12.2022
- 3 Last date of application : 29.12.2022
- 4 Approval of application by Assistant : 31.12.2022
Director

The marks shall be awarded by the Agricultural Officer and final approval of applications by the concerned Assistant Director of Agriculture. If two applicants have the same rank, then age shall be taken as the criteria and the older applicant shall be selected.

The scoresheet for evaluation of applications is attached as annexure.


RAJESWARI S R
ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE(EXT)
Additional Director of Agriculture (Extension)
For Director of Agriculture
Directorate of Agriculture
Thiruvananthapuram-33

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Annexure**International Exposure Tour for Farmers**

- The submitted applications will be available in respective AO login (Visit www.aimsnew.kerala.gov.in)
- Marks will be assigned to the applicants as per the following criteria:**
- Marks shall be assigned to each applicant by the Agricultural Officer as per the guidelines and after proper field level verification. After assigning marks, the AOs shall forward the applications to ADAs for verification and approval. Applications without the mandatory enclosures/uploaded documents will be returned with a maximum period of 3 days for resubmission of such documents. Agricultural Officers have to inform the applicant farmers in case of return of applications.

Criteria	Mandates	Marks	Maximum marks
FPO Membership	Yes	5	5
	No	0	
Farming Experience	Below 10 years	0	10
	10 to 20 years	5	
	20-30 years	10	
Experience in High-tech Farming	Ineligible	0	15
	Less than 5 years	5	
	5- 10 years	10	
	More than 10 years	15	
Educational qualifications	Ineligible	0	5
	Plus 2/Pre Degree	2	
	Graduate	3	
	Post Graduate	5	
Agricultural Income	Ineligible	0	10
	Rs. 2-Rs. 4 lakh	1	
	Rs. 4.01 to Rs. 6 lakh	2	
	Rs.6.01 to Rs. 8 lakh	4	
	Rs. 8.01 to Rs. 10 lakh	6	
	More than Rs. 10 lakh	10	
Defraying Airfare	Yes	10	10
	No	0	
	Ineligible	0	

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Vegetable cultivation	Up to 0.4 Ha	5	15
	0.41 to 1Ha	10	
	More than 1 Ha	15	
Cereals/Oilseeds/Spices cultivation	Ineligible	0	15
	Up to 0.4 Ha	5	
	0.41 to 1Ha	10	
	More than 1 Ha	15	
Fruit crops cultivation	Indigenous crops	5	15
	Exotic crops	10	
	Both indigenous and exotic	15	
Total			100

The Assistant Director of Agriculture of concerned Blocks have to approve each application after proper verification of the applications.

Resolving of tie in case of more than one-person secure equal marks while ranking

1. Older candidate will be given preference
2. Date of submission of application (earlier will be given preference)

The Selection Committee headed by the Secretary Agriculture shall finalize the rank list and final list of candidates for the exposure visit.

Selected farmers for the exposure visit are liable to undergo the requisite health check and protocols viz., vaccination, Covid test etc.

RAJESWARI S R

ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE (EXTENSION)
Additional Director of Agriculture (Extension)
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For Director of Agriculture
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