

Directorate of Agriculture Development and Farmers' Welfare

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CIRCULAR

Sub:- Scheme on Contingency Programme to Meet Natural Calamities and Pest & Disease Endemic 2024-25- Working Instructions issued-reg

Ref:- G.O.(Rt) No.360/2024/Agri dated 16/04/2024

During the financial year 2024-25, a budget provision of ₹ 750 lakhs has been earmarked for the scheme "Contingency Programme to Meet Natural Calamities and Pest & Disease Endemic" under the Head of Account 2401-00-800-91 (P).

Objectives:-

1. To create a buffer stock of short and medium duration high yielding varieties of seeds of crops like paddy, pulses, and vegetables and to provide sufficient quantity of seed materials to farmers for immediate re sowing without delay in the event of crop loss due to any natural calamity.
2. Management of pest and disease endemic problem.
3. To give timely assistance to the farmers for crop loss due to Natural Calamity.

The details of continuing components are furnished below.

Sl. No.	Components	Amount (Rs. In lakhs)
1	Creation of buffer stock of short duration varieties of seeds	
2	State share of relief assistance for crop loss due to natural calamities	725
3	Management of pest and disease endemic	25
	Total	750.00

1 .Creation of buffer stock of short duration varieties of seeds:-

The main objective is to keep a buffer stock of short duration varieties of paddy, pulses and vegetables in order to provide immediate relief to farmers at the time of natural calamities. Anticipated damage to the above crops will be assessed in advance and by utilizing the scheme fund, seeds of short duration varieties of paddy crop will be purchased and a buffer stock will be created for the purpose. Small and marginal farmers who suffer total crop loss will be eligible for assistance under the scheme. Seeds will be supplied to the farmers free of cost. The left over quantity of seeds/planting material at the end of the year will be sold to the farmers at the prevailing market rates by the concerned district officers.

The buffer stock of seeds has to be maintained by the Kerala State Seed Development Authority, Thrissur during all crop seasons of the year. The Principal Agricultural Officers will place the indents with the Kerala State Seed Development Authority, Thrissur for requirement of seeds under intimation to this office.

For the speedy and effective implementation of the scheme the following actions are proposed.

1. The Kerala State Seed Development Authority, Thrissur will make arrangements for the maintenance of short and medium duration High Yielding Varieties of seeds of paddy, vegetables and pulses during all crop seasons of the year so as to supply to the districts for the issue of seeds to the natural calamity affected farmers for resowing without losing time in the event of crop loss due to natural calamities.
2. The amount towards the cost of seeds will be drawn and paid to Kerala State Seed Development Authority Thrissur.
3. In the event of any natural calamities, if the Agricultural Officers of Krishi Bhavan is convinced himself / herself that the crop is lost and re sowing is required, he/she should immediately assess the quantity of seed required and report the same to higher authorities at district level. The Principal Agricultural Officers at district level should verify the requirement and the consolidated requirements should be reported to the Director of Agriculture through fax /e-mail and to Kerala State Seed Development Authority, Thrissur.
4. The Agricultural officers of Krishi Bhavans will obtain applications for seeds from cultivators who suffer crop loss due to natural calamities. The genuineness of the applications will be verified by the Agricultural Officers and he will issue the seeds to the farmers free of cost on proper acknowledgement.
5. If the required quantity / variety of seeds requested by the farmer is not available with KSSDA then Principal Agricultural Officers may arrange the seeds from other institutions like KAU, NSC, State Seed Farms etc, after ensuring the non availability of particular variety /quantity of seed from KSSDA.
6. The Agricultural Officers will send a detailed statement of distribution of

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seeds to the Assistant Directors of Agriculture at block level showing the name and address of farmer, crops damaged, extent of damage, quantity of seeds distributed. The Agricultural Officers should also maintain a register showing all relevant details mentioned above with the quantity of seeds distributed at Krishi Bhavan level. Seeds should be issued after obtaining proper acknowledgement.

7. The Assistant Directors of Agriculture and the Deputy Directors of Agriculture (C) should guide and supervise the distribution of seed to the farmers done by the Agricultural Officers.

8. The Agricultural Officers, after completing distribution of seeds, will furnish a completion report to the Assistant Directors of Agriculture at block level showing the following details.

Item	Paddy	Pulses	Vegetables
a) Area affected by natural calamity			
b) Type of calamity			
(1) Drought			
(2) Flood			
(3) Others (specify)			
c) Quantity and variety of seeds received.			
(c) Quantity and variety of seeds distributed.			
d. No. of farmers benefited			
e. Area benefited			

The Agricultural Officers in charge of Krishi Bhavans will be responsible for implementing the programme at panchayath level. The Assistant Directors of Agriculture will co-ordinate the activities in the block area. The Deputy Directors of Agriculture (C) will monitor the implementation of the programme at District level under the supervision of the Principal Agricultural Officers.

The Principal Agricultural Officers will forward the details of seeds received from the institutions like State Seed Development Authority, KAU, NSC, State Seed Farms etc, and details of seeds distributed to the farmers in the proforma prescribed above to the Addl. Director of Agriculture (CP).

The amount as per invoice submitted by the institutions supplying the seeds will be drawn and disbursed to them after receiving proper acknowledgement.

2. Management of pest and disease endemic (Rs. 25.00 lakh):-

Separate working instruction will be issued from TD section regarding this component.

4. State share of relief assistance for crop loss due to natural calamities:-

In order to safeguard the interest of all farmers of our State, assistance is being sanctioned to provide relief for crop loss due to natural calamities. This includes share from Central Government (NDRF) and also from State Government. However, Government of India made drastic reduction in the Central Government share and the State Government has shouldered the responsibility of providing the deficit in central assistance well enough to sustain the prevailing total rate of relief assistance in the interest and well being of farmers. Accordingly as per the norms of G.O (MS) No. 182/2015/Agri dated 29.09.2015, assistance for crop loss are to be given in the State including the deficit in central share. The fund will be released to the farmers, as per the claims from the districts.

All new applications for crop loss should be entered and processed through AIMS software only. After the occurrence of Natural calamity, Agricultural Assistants of Krishi Bhavan should enter and submit the FIR of concerned mapped wards within the stipulated time and Agricultural Officer should approve it accordingly. The farmers can apply for calamity assistance based on the FIR submitted only. The Agricultural Assistant should verify the application received, conduct field verification, make necessary entries regarding crop loss and forward to Agricultural Officer. The Agricultural Officer should verify the applications received, conduct field verification, make necessary corrections if needed and approve the application. The Agricultural Officer should generate statement of approved applications and forward to the concerned Assistant Director of Agriculture. The Assistant Director of Agriculture should verify the claim statement received, make necessary field verification and sanction statements for Rupees upto and including of Rs 50,000/-. Claim statements above Rs 50,000/- should be forwarded to Concerned DDA (Credit). The Deputy Director of Agriculture (Credit) should verify the claims received, do necessary field verification and sanction statements for Rs 50,001/- to Rs 1,00,000/-. Claims above Rs1,00,000/- should be forwarded to the Principal Agricultural Officer. The Principal Agricultural Officer should do necessary field verification and sanction statements from Rs 1,00,001/- to Rs.3,00,000/- and forward the statements above Rs.3,00,000/- to Director of Agriculture. Director of Agriculture should verify and sanction claims statements above 3,00,000/-.

The sanctioned statements will be available in respective PAO 's login. The statement should be forwarded from the PAO's login to the respective scheme manager login as per directions from the Directorate. The Centralized Direct

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Benefit Transfer (CDBT) should be done from the Directorate of Agriculture to the bank accounts of farmers. Scheme manager, TA , ADA, JDA (WM), Additional Director of Agriculture CP, Director of Agriculture , DDA (Planning), Finance and Accounts logins are available for bill and proceedings generation, payment authorization and e submission to Treasury .

Mode of implementation

The Agricultural Officer in charge of Krishi Bhavans will be responsible for implementing the programme at Panchayat level. The Assistant Director of Agriculture will co-ordinate the activities in the block level. The Deputy Director of Agriculture (C) will be in charge for the implementation of the programme at District level under the supervision and control of the Principal Agricultural Officers. At State level a separate monitoring committee headed by the Additional Director of Agriculture (CP) will monitor the scheme for effective and timely implementation.

Financial Outlay

During the current financial year there is a budget provision of ₹ 750.00 lakhs for the scheme, "Contingency Programme to meet Natural Calamity & Pest and disease endemic", under the head of account 2401-00-800-91 Plan. Required amount for scheme implementation will be met from this budget provision. The scheme shall be implemented abiding by the terms and conditions stipulated in the Government Orders read 1st above.

Yours faithfully,



SEERAM SAMBASIVA RAO IAS
DIRECTOR
Director of Agriculture

Copy to: 1)TA to Director of Agriculture
2)Planning section
3)All Principal Agricultural Officers

DIRECTOR
AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT
AND FARMER'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, KERALA



