

## Directorate of Agriculture Development and Farmers' Welfare

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### CIRCULAR

Sub:- Annual Plan 2024-25-Scheme on Coconut Development -working Instructions for implementation of component “Coconut seedling distribution as part of Coconut Development Council including seed nut procurement and seedling production”- Reg

Ref:- 1) G.O (Rt)No.500/2024/Agri dated 11/6/2024

In the Annual Plan 2024-25 , a budget provision of ₹6500.00 lakh is earmarked under the head of Account 2401-00-103-87 -34-03 Plan. As per the government order read above , continuous administrative sanction has been obtained for an amount of ₹ 2500.00 lakh for implementation of component Coconut seedling distribution as part of Coconut Development Council including seed nut procurement and seedling production.

Out of this an amount of ₹ 1243.49 lakh has been kept apart for the component Coconut seedling distribution as part of Coconut Development Council as per reference cited above. Accordingly the working instructions for the coconut seedling distribution as part of Coconut Development Council and coconut seedling production in Aralam farm is given here under.

#### **1.coconut Seedling Production in Aralam Farm – Fourth year and Fifth year assistance:**

The main objective is to produce coconut seedlings to be distributed to farmers under Coconut Development Council.An amount of ₹200 lakh has been sanctioned as per G.O (Rt)No.85/2021/Agri dated 28/01/2021 and G.O (Rt)no.91/2022/Agri dated 07/2/2022 for the production of 2.5 lakh coconut seedlings over a period of 5 years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 and accordingly, ₹49.35 lakh, ₹77.3806 lakh and ₹54.6806 lakh has been provided as assistance for coconut seed nut procurement and nursery management activities of Aralam farming in the last three years respectively. These funds have been utilized for procurement of seed nuts and for meeting nursery management expenses.

An amount of ₹ 18.5889 lakhs is to be provided to Aralam Farm during 2024-25.

This includes the committed expenditure of ₹16.8369 lakh of 2023-24 and the amount ₹1.752 lakh eligible to be paid to Aralam Farm during 2024-25.

Year	Project cost (Rs. In lakh)
2020-21	49.35
2021-22	77.3806
2022-23	54.6806
2023-24	16.8369
2024-25	1.752
Total	200.00

## **2.Coconut seedling distribution as part of Coconut Development Council :**

Good quality 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 a vision of increasing the area under coconut cultivation.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 t h e Coconut Development Council for the improving the Production, Productivity and overall development of coconut sector . The fifth year activities of Coconut Development Council includes the distribution of coconut seedlings (WCT, Dwarf, Hybrid) to farmers at 50% subsidy

Programme:

An amount of ₹ **811.0076** lakh is kept apart for meeting the cost of seedlings(1307963 nos) including transportation charges for distribution of seedlings .

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

The previous instruction that the maximum number of seedlings that can be distributed in a selected panchayat is 75 multiplied by the number of wards in the panchayat need not be strictly adhered to and the seedlings can be distributed anywhere as per requirement. **Accordingly, the 75 number per ward rate of distribution need not be followed.**

**The maximum number of seedlings that can be supplied to a farmer has been increased 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.

All rules ,formalities and procedures shall be strictly followed up wherever applicable while implementing the scheme. The norms of financial propriety shall be adhered to.

The expenditure would be met only from the provisions available under the appropriate head of account

The fund release will be based on actual requirements and fund released should be parked in banks

Store purchase rules shall be strictly adhered to for all kinds of purchases

Tender/e-tender and other stipulated formalities shall be followed wherever necessary.

Beneficiary selection should be made in consultation with the panchayat level Agriculture Development Committee or panchayat/ municipality/ corporation committee.

The Quality of seedlings should be assured before lifting of seedlings from different agencies and for this District technical team should be formed with Principal Agricultural Officer /any representative, Deputy Director of Agriculture (YP), Senior agriculture Officer of Farms or any Assistant Director at Block level.

The distribution of coconut seedlings should be completed by July 31st of 2024. The distribution should be streamlined such that the distribution is completed by July 31st.

**Advance booking facility of coconut seedlings should be sufficiently published. In the coming years in each and every panchayath advance booking should be obtained from farmers to get assessment of the demand for coconut seedlings.**

Coconut Seedlings distribution can be merged with MGNREGS scheme using the labour component for planting of seedlings in the Grama panchayath .

The cost of seedlings as per the Coconut Development Council is ₹100/- for WCT and dwarf varieties and ₹ 250/- for hybrids as in previous years. 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 2** 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 Principal Agricultural Officer should ensure that the distribution of seedlings is completed by **July 31<sup>st</sup> 2024**

### **Mode of Payment of Subsidy**

Of the plan share to be given to supplying agencies ,the payment to agencies- KAU farms,CDB and Aralam Farm will be made from Directorate and payment to Department farms will be disbursed by Assistant Director at Block level .The invoices given to the ADAs for payment to agencies other than Department farms (KAU farms,CDB and Aralam Farm) may be collected from the ADA s at Block level after due stock entry from the concerned Agricultural Officers and consolidated and submitted to Directorate by the second week of August as delay in obtaining the invoices causes delayed payment to supplying agencies.The amount towards 50% cost of coconut seedlings of Department farms will be allotted to the districts and disbursement will be done at Block level based on the request from the Assistant Directors.

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 and submitted to Agricultural Directorate Head Quarters as per format available in **Annexure 3** within a period of one month from date of completion of distribution, for settling the beneficiary contribution to the agency(Both Department Farms and other supplying agencies. 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 minimized. 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. 811.0076** lakh is earmarked for meeting the 50% cost of coconut seedlings and towards transportation charges and connected expenses such as loading and unloading charges . The Principal Agricultural Officers should inform the amount required for allotment of funds towards transportation of coconut seedlings.

Coconut seedlings distribution is also included in the **kera samriddhi** scheme in the selected Panchayaths. Details will be intimated in the Kera samriddhi scheme which will be issued later.

### **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 distribution is complete. **Weekly progress report of physical targets and achievements should be furnished as per Annexure-4** 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 **tb1sectionagridir@gmail.com** and **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 project.

### 3.Committed expenditure of 2023-24

An amount of ₹413.8935 lakh has been kept apart for meeting the committed expenditure of coconut seedling distribution for 2023-24 including transportation cost.and also the committed expenditure of ₹16.8369 lakh of 2023-24 payable to Aralam farm as fourth year assistance for production of Coconut Seedlings is kept apart ,the amount for committed expenditure totally to ₹ 430.7304 lakh.

ABSTRACT			
Sl.no	Components	Particulars	Amount in lakh
1	Coconut seedling distribution 2024-25 as part of Coconut Development Council.	50% cost of seedlings for 10,91,919 nos of WCT seedlings ; 76,793 nos of Dwarf seedlings and 1,39,251 nos of Hybrid seedlings and transportation charges towards the distribution of coconut seedlings in the state	811.0076
2	Coconut seedling production in Aralam Farming Corporation	Assistance for Coconut Seedling Production at Aralam Farm - Fifth instalment for production of seedlings to Aralam Farm	1.752

	Committed expenditure of coconut seedling distribution for 2023-24 including transportation cost	50% cost of seedlings for 5,42,013 nos of WCT seedlings; 30365 nos of dwarf seedlings and 80887 nos of Hybrid seedlings of IDK, WYD, PTA, MLM KKD, ALP, KTM and KSD, and transportation charges. Assistance for Coconut Seedling Production at Aralam Farm Fourth instalment 16.8369 lakh	430.7304
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1243.49</b>

sl/-  
**SEERAM SAMBASIVA RAO IAS**

**DIRECTOR**

Director of Agriculture

Encl: 1) Annexures 1 to 4- targets and reports

Copy to: All Principal Agricultural Officers for information and n/a  
 TA to Director of Agriculture  
 CAs to Addl.DA(Plg), 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  
 Planning Section, Directorate of Agriculture  
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