

Directorate of Agriculture Development and Farmers' Welfare

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No: ADFW/6664/2024-TA3

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CIRCULAR

Sub:- Annual Plan 2024-25 - Scheme on Modernization of Departmental Laboratories
- Strengthening of Seed Testing Laboratories - Working Instructions - reg

Ref:- 1) Order No. ADFW/4620/2024-TP2 dated 28.04.2024

As per reference cited, Administrative sanction has been accorded for the implementation of Scheme on Modernization of Departmental Laboratories during 2024-25 for an amount of Rs. 400.00 lakh, out of which, an amount of **Rs. 20.00 lakh** (Rupees Twenty lakh only) is set apart for strengthening of Seed Testing Laboratories at Alappuzha and Thiruvananthapuram under the head of account 2401-00-105-86 Plan, during the current year. Out of this, an amount of **Rs. 19.5 lakh is set apart for Strengthening of State Seed Testing Laboratory, Alappuzha and Rs. 0.50 lakh for the Seed Testing Laboratory, Parottukonam, Thiruvananthapuram** for purchase of equipments, chemicals, furniture, AMC, repair and maintenance etc., and for providing manpower support and wage support for the effective functioning of these two Seed Testing Laboratories.

Objectives:

- Strengthening of seed testing activities to ensure the quality of seed supplied to farmers.
- Providing additional infrastructure facilities for the seed labs.

Programme:

The Annual target of 4000 nos of seed samples are assigned to the two Seed Testing Laboratories (3000 nos. for Seed Testing Laboratory, Alappuzha and 1000 nos for Seed Testing Laboratory, Thiruvananthapuram). Creation of additional infrastructure facilities, purchase of equipments, chemicals, furniture, repair and maintenance, providing manpower support and wage support etc. will be undertaken by the two seed testing laboratories at Alappuzha and Thiruvananthapuram for ensuring the quality of seeds supplied to farmers through scientific analysis of seed samples. The activities for strengthening the facilities of two seed testing laboratories for implementation of the scheme during 2024-25 are as detailed below.

Strengthening of State Seed Testing Laboratory, Alappuzha

Sl. No.	Items	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
1	Repair and Maintenance of Water supply system	0.10
2	Repair and Maintenance of computer, printer, toner refilling for printers and photocopier machine, purchase of accessories for computer, inverter, antivirus software, etc.	0.2
3	Purchase of raw materials for grow-out test (Fertilizers, manures, plant protection chemicals, coir pith etc.)	0.25
4	AMC for Air conditioners, seed germinators, Photocopier machine etc.	0.60
5	Purchase of 8" x 6" Cloth bags for Seed Sample Storage.	0.15
6	Maintenance of Fire Extinguishers.	0.07
7	Purchase and Maintenance of Generator	0.25
8	Cost of fuel for Generator	0.10
9	Engaging Laboratory Assistant for 6 months with honararium @19,280 per month (should have experience as Lab Assistant in a notified Seed Testing Laboratory for a minimum of 3 years) and enhancement of critical Manpower support for other activities of SSTL@ Rs. 675/day for 160 days	2.2368
10	Purchase of Postage Stamps	0.07
11	Unforeseen expenses	0.4732
12	Repair and Maintenance of glass house	15.00
	Total	19.5

(Rupees Nineteen lakh Fifty thousand only)**Strengthening of State Seed Testing Laboratory, Thiruvananthapuram**

Sl. No.	Items	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
1	Purchase and Repair of Lab equipments	0.10
2	AMC for generators	0.30
3	Miscellaneous expenses Repair and maintenance of electrical & water supply system, purchase of glass wares, chemicals, stationery items, cleaning items etc.	0.10

Total	0.50
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(Rupees Fifty thousand only)

The officers of the respective Seed Testing Laboratories will purchase the required equipments, chemicals, furniture etc. well in advance strictly observing store purchase rules and shall take necessary arrangements for repair / maintenance works and infrastructure development works in consultation with the concerned Assistant Executive Engineer (Agri). Principal Agricultural Officer, Alappuzha shall take necessary action for providing the manpower support based on the requirement of State Seed Testing Laboratory, Alappuzha.

As per Circular No. 8873/2023-TA3 dated 02.10.2023, sanction was issued for the implementation of the component "Repair and maintenance of glass house of State Seed Testing Laboratory, Alappuzha" under the scheme, "Modernisation of Department Laboratories - Strengthening of State Seed Testing Laboratories 2023-24" for an amount of Rs. 15 lakh under the head of account 2401-00-105-86 plan from the budget provision of 2023-24. Though the tender procedures were initiated, work was not started within the financial year 2023-24 due to delay in release of funds and other issues. Hence, sanction is revalidated for implementation of the "Repair and maintenance of glass house of State Seed Testing Laboratory, Alappuzha" from the budget provisions of 2024-25 under the scheme on "Modernisation of Department Laboratories - Strengthening of State Seed Testing Laboratories 2024-25" with directions to complete works within the financial year 2024-25.

The following general guidelines have to be followed during the implementation of the scheme during the current year.

- i. All rules, formalities and procedures shall be strictly followed for the implementation of the scheme. The norms of financial propriety shall be adhered to.
- ii. The expenditure shall be met only from the provisions available under the appropriate head of account.
- iii. The fund release will be based on actual requirement and the fund released should not be parked in banks.
- iv. Store purchase rules shall be strictly adhered to for all kinds of purchases.
- v. Tender / e-Tender and other stipulated formalities shall be followed wherever necessary.

- vi. Post creation and purchase of vehicles are not admissible under the scheme.
- vii. Principal Agricultural Officer, Alappuzha / Chief Soil Chemist, Thiruvananthapuram shall monitor the implementation of the scheme and ensure that the implementation is as per the existing procedures, rules and regulations.
- viii. The implementing officers should prepare an implementation schedule to complete the activities, in time and send regular progress reports on financial and physical progress on a monthly basis.
- ix. The expenditure will be debited under the H/A 2401-00-105-86 Plan, from budget provision for the year 2024-25.

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The financial outlay of the components can be interchanged subject to the conditions that the overall financial limit is not exceeded and for any such changes, prior permission should be obtained from the undersigned.

Monitoring:

Monitoring of the scheme at state level will be done by Additional Director of Agriculture (CP).

Dr ADEELA ABDULLA IAS

DIRECTOR

Director of Agriculture

- Copy to:
- 1) Senior Seed Analyst, State Seed Testing Laboratory, Alappuzha
 - 2) Chief Soil Chemist, Central Soil and Plant Health Centre, Thiruvananthapuram
 - 3) Agricultural Officer, Seed Testing Laboratory, Thiruvananthapuram
 - 4) Principal Agricultural Officers, Thiruvananthapuram and Alappuzha
 - 5) Executive Engineer (Agri), Thiruvananthapuram and Alappuzha
 - 6) CA to Director of Agriculture/Additional Director of Agriculture (Plg) /Additional Director of Agriculture (CP)
 - 7) Planning Section to allot funds to the respective officers
 - 8) IT Cell (for publishing in Department website)

