

Directorate of Agriculture Development and Farmers' Welfare

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No:ADFW/14439/2024-TA2

Date:04-06-2025

CIRCULAR

Sub:- Agricultural Department – Central Sector Scheme - National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) – Rainfed Area Development (RAD) Programme 2025-26- Working instructions- issued – reg.

Ref:- 1)Letter No. 7-1/2025-RKVY dated 13.12.2024 from GoI

2)Letter No. 1-13/2025-RKVY dated 07.05.2025 from GoI

3)Administrative approval of the Mother Sanction dated 19.05.2025

As per the reference cited 1st, Government of India have conveyed the approval allocation of Rs. 749 Lakh in the funding pattern of 60:40 between the Central and State Governments under Rainfed Area Development (RAD) component of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) during 2025-26. Accordingly action plan for an amount of Rs. 1320.20 lakh (Rs. 792.12 lakh - Central Share) was submitted and the same was approved vide reference (2) cited.

As per reference 3rd cited, Government of India have given administrative approval for Rs.396.00 Lakh. Corresponding State share is Rs.264.00001 Lakh for implementation of RAD component of NMSA in the funding pattern 60:40 during 2025-26. The details of first installment is as detailed below. **The field level implementation should be done, only based on the allocation of funds.**

Sl. No.	Category	Central Share (Rs. in lakh)	State Share (Rs. in lakh)	Total (Rs. in lakh)
1	General	331.00	220.66667	551.66667
2	SCPSC	32.50	21.66667	54.16667
3	TSP	32.50	21.66667	54.16667
	Total	396.00	264.00001	660.00001

The working instruction towards the implementation of the programme during 2025- 26 is issued herewith for compliance. General provisions of RKVY Guidelines shall be applicable for the component.

1) Background:

- a. Sustaining agricultural productivity depends on quality and availability of natural

resources like soil and water. Agricultural growth can be sustained by promoting conservation and sustainable use of these scarce natural resources through appropriate location specific measures. Indian agriculture remains predominantly rainfed covering about 50% of the country's net sown area. Thus, conservation of natural resources in conjunction with development of rainfed agriculture holds the key to meet burgeoning demands for food grain in the country. National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) has been launched for enhancing agricultural productivity especially in climatically vulnerable rainfed areas focusing on integrated farming, rain water management its use efficiency, soil health management and augmenting resource conservation.

- b. To mainstream development of rainfed areas in a sustainable manner, Rainfed Area Development (RAD) Scheme was made operational from 2014-15 in the country as a component of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). Rainfed Area Development (RAD) aims at promoting sustainable agriculture production through adaptation of agricultural climatic zone wise Integrated Farming System (IFS) models developed by Indian Council of Agriculture research (ICAR). RAD aims at promoting location specific improved agronomic practices through soil health management, enhanced rain water use efficiency, judicious use of chemicals, crop diversification and progressive adoption of crop-livestock-tree farming systems in an integrated approach.
- c. RAD will adopt an area based approach for development and conservation of natural resources along with farming systems. This component has been formulated in a 'watershed plus framework' to explore potential utilization of natural resourcesbase/assets available/created through watershed development and soil conservation activities/interventions under MGNREGS, PMKSY-WDC, RKVY, etc. This component will introduce appropriate farming systems by integrating multiple components of agriculture such as crops, horticulture, livestock and fishery with agro based income generating secondary agriculture activities and value addition.

A cluster based approach of 20 ha. (contiguous or non contiguous in difficult terrain with a close proximity in a village/adjoining villages) would be developed to derive noticeable impact of convergence and encourage local participation and for future replication of the model in larger areas. Supplementary support from this component will be admissible for gap-filling resource conservation activities under converging programmes

Farming Systems recommended by ICAR and successful findings of NICRA flag ship project shall also be considered in development of integrated project plan. Since millets

can grow under adverse climatic conditions on marginal poor soils with little inputs and are resistant or tolerant to drought, pests and diseases, they can also be part of broader farming strategy to adopt to increasingly harsh growing conditions brought by climate change, while also reducing over-reliance on more commonly grown crops with high input use thus fostering more diverse diets and promoting food security and nutrition. Besides millets, pulses and oilseeds are also climate resilient and to further boost the vegetable oil production in the country, farming systems that are envisaged to promote are mainly based on PMO (Pulses, Millets and Oilseeds)

2) Objectives

- a. To undertake location specific and landscape-based approach to dry-land areas to ensure natural resources conservation and sustainable use, strengthening of agriculture production systems and livelihood development through integration/convergence of schemes in an area based approach.
- b. To make agriculture more productive, sustainable, remunerative and climate resilient by promoting location specific Integrated/Composite Farming Systems;
- c. To conserve natural resources through appropriate soil and moisture conservation measures;
- d. To develop capacity of farmers and stakeholders in conjunction with other on-going Missions such as National Food and Nutrition Security Mission, National Initiative for Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) etc., in the domain of climate change adaptation measures;
- e. To improve the productivity of rainfed farming by mainstreaming rainfed technologies refined under All India Coordinated Research Project on Dry land Agriculture (AICRPDA-NICRA) and by leveraging resources/provisions made under other Schemes/Missions like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), PMKSY-WDC, NFNSM, RKVY, Krishionati Yojana, SMAE, National Mission on Natural Farming etc.

3) The salient features of Rainfed Area Development are;

1. RAD promotes enhancing soil productivity through crop diversification and crop rotation increasing soil cover (mulching) periods which is important to enhance organic matter of the soil.
2. Expanding protective irrigation from rain water source through efficient water management techniques that is required to secure rainfed crops in times of short interval droughts.
3. Encouraging indigenous seeds with better adaptability while ensuring its quality, diversity and timely availability for climate resilience.

4. Location specific agronomic innovations while enhancing farmers' knowledge and management skills towards developing regenerative integrated farming systems. Appropriate small farm mechanization (small machines and implements for women) for ensuring timely operations and reducing drudgery of woman labour.
5. Development and strengthening of FPOs to deal with multiple and diverse commodities in small quantities and varied quality.
6. Strengthening support systems for Extensive Livestock Systems (health care, breeding, drinking water, fodder in commons, etc.)
7. Promote fisheries in rainfed water bodies through institutionalized support systems.
8. Integrated value chain support systems to realize growth potential in pulses, millets and oilseeds based farming production systems including infrastructure and processing facilities – focus on local markets.
9. Risk minimization, resilience building and enhancing private investment.

4) Strategy:

To achieve the objectives, RAD will have following multi-pronged strategy:

- a. Promoting integrated farming system covering crops, livestock and tree plantation (horticulture and/or agroforestry) based composite farming for enhancing livelihood opportunities, ensuring food security and minimizing risks from crop failure through supplementary/ residual production systems;
- b. Popularizing resource conservation technologies (both on-farm and off-farm) and introducing practices that will support mitigation efforts in times of extreme climatic events or disasters like prolonged dry spells, floods etc.
- c. Promoting effective management of available rain water resources and enhancing water use efficiency through application of technologies coupled with demand and supply side management solutions;
- d. Interventions on Agriculture Extension shall be emphasized upon for capacity building, awareness generation, information support, pulling resources together through convergence etc. Capacity building for improved agronomic practices through extension programs for higher farm productivity, improved soil treatment, increased water holding capacity, judicious use of chemicals/energy, enhanced soil carbon storage etc. is the key to the success of the program
- e. Millets perform exceptionally well in rainfed areas due to its hardiness and capacity to withstand climatic aberration. Cultivation of millets shall be preferred in RAD thus contributing to Government's strategy to promote millets. Cluster approach in a village or an area of not less than 20 ha. to be adopted to utilize the potential of available/created common resources. At least 25% area of the cluster shall be taken up for Millets cultivation.

- f. RAD system increases carbon storage potential due to multiple plant species and enhances green coverage in agricultural lands. Carbon sequestration potential in RAD system is generally greater than that of single cropped based system. RAD thus contributes to increasing the scope for emerging carbon market.
- g. Involving knowledge institutions and professionals in developing climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies for specific agro climatic situations and promoting them through appropriate farming systems. Recommendations of ICAR's Contingency Plans and technologies developed under NICRA project on climate resilient farming shall also be integrated in the project plan
- h. Programmatic interventions as per land capability and conducive to climatic parameters for ensuring integrated development through dissemination and adoption of rainfed technologies with greater reach in disadvantaged areas & location specific planning by way of coordination, convergence and leveraging investments from other Schemes/Missions like MGNREGS, PMKSY, RKVY, National Food and Nutrition Security Mission(NFNSM), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Sub Mission on Agricultural Extension (SMAE) etc. A consortium approach would be evolved with various stake holders including knowledge partners like State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) institutes, other professional/academic organizations like DST, DBT etc. to provide single window service/knowledge provider system for the benefit of farming community
- i. Efforts should be made to make optimum utilization of field cadre of SRLM, NF program, BTM/ATM under ATMA. State Govt. may select field NGO/Young Professionals to supports programs implemented through Women SHGs/ FPOs.
- j. Strong technical monitoring and feedback systems on climate change mitigation and adaptation issues for regular updates on technical feasibility of various components and their effectiveness in bringing about the climate resilience.

The experts of central institutes and state agricultural universities would be part of such technical monitoring/feedback. The capacity building of the implementing agencies would be steered by MANAGE.

The programme is intended to be taken up in the three agriculturally predominant districts of Kerala viz., Kannur, Wayanad and Thrissur. These districts are among the distress districts of Kerala affected by severe drought and heavy runoff. RAD will be implemented with the active participation of Department of Agriculture, Department of Soil Survey & Soil Conservation and Department of Animal Husbandry.

The programme will be implemented on a cluster approach as shown below

Sl.No	District	Block	Panchayat/Municipality	Name of Cluster	Total Area Under Cluster
1	Thrissur	Chavakkad	Chavakkad	Chavakkad	20
2			Guruvayoor	Guruvayoor	20
3			Kadappuram	Kadappuram	20
4			Orumanayur	Orumanayur	20
5			Punnayur	Punnayur	20
6			Punnaurkulam	Punnaurkulam	20
7			Pookode	Pookode	20
8			Thaikkad	Thaikkad	20
9			Vadakkekad	Vadakkekad	20
10		Chownannur	Arthat	Arthat	20
11			Choondal	Choondal	20
12			Chownannur	Chownannur	20
13			Kadangode	Kadangode	20
14			Kadavaloor	Kadavaloor	20
15			Katakampal	Katakampal	20
16			Kunnamkulam	Kunnamkulam	20
17			Kandanissery	Kandanissery	20
18			Porkkulam	Porkkulam	20
19			Velur	Velur	20
20		Thalikkulam	Valappad	Valappad	20
21			Nattika	Nattika	20
22			Thalikulam	Thalikulam	20
23			Vatanappally	Vatanappally	20
24			Engadiyoor	Engadiyoor	20
25		Mullassery	Elavally	Elavally	20
26			Mullassery	Mullassery	20
27			Pavaratty	Pavaratty	20
28			Venkitangu	Venkitangu	20
29		Anthikkad	Anthikkad	Anthikkad	20
30			Arimpur	Arimpur	20
31			Chazhur	Chazhur	20
32			Manalur	Manalur	20

33		Thanniam	Thanniam	20
34		Adat	Adat	20
35		Avanur	Avanur	20
36		Ayyanthole	Ayyanthole	20
37		Kaiparambu	Kaiparambu	20
38		Kolazhy	Kolazhy	20
39		Mulamkunnathukavu	Mulamkunnathukavu	20
40		Tholur	Tholur	20
41		Avinissery	Avinissery	20
42		Cherpu	Cherpu	20
43		Koorkenchery	Koorkenchery	20
44		Ollur	Ollur	20
45		Paralam	Paralam	20
46		Vallachira	Vallachira	20
47		Irinjalakuda	Irinjalakuda	20
48		Kattoor	Kattoor	20
49		Porathissery	Porathissery	20
50		Muriyad	Muriyad	20
51		Parappukkara	Parappukkara	20
52		Karalam	Karalam	20
53		Desamangalam	Desamangalam	20
54		Erumapetty	Erumapetty	20
55		Mulloorkkara	Mulloorkkara	20
56		Mundathikkode	Mundathikkode	20
57		Thekkumkara	Thekkumkara	20
58		Varavoor	Varavoor	20
59		Wadakkanchery	Wadakkanchery	20
60		Pozhuthana	Pozhuthana	200
61		Vythiri	Vythiri	200
62		Meppadi	Meppadi	200
63		Kalpetta	Kalpetta	200
64		Muttill	Muttill	200
65		Moopainad	Moopainad	200
66		Kottathara	Kottathara	200
67		Padinjarethara	Padinjarethara	200
68		Thariode	Thariode	200
69		Vengapally	Vengapally	200

70	Wayanad	Sulthan Bathery	Noolpuzha	Noolpuzha	200
71			Meenangady	Meenangady	200
72			Ambalavayal	Ambalavayal	200
73			Nenmeni	Nenmeni	200
74			S.Batheri	S.Batheri	200
75		Mananthavadi	Thirunelli	Thirunelli	200
76			Thavinjal	Thavinjal	200
77			Thondernadu	Thondernadu	200
78			Edavaka	Edavaka	200
79			Vellamunda	Vellamunda	200
80			Mananthavadi	Mananthavadi	200
81		Panamaram	Pulpally	Pulpally	200
82			Panamaram	Panamaram	200
83			Poothadi	Poothadi	200
84			Mullenkolli	Mullenkolli	200
85			kaniyambetta	kaniyambetta	200
86	Kannur	Payyannur	Peringome	Peringome	80
87		Thaliparamba	Alakkode	Alakkode	60
88			Pariyaram	Pariyaram	80
89		Irikkur	Payyavoor	Payyavoor	60
90		Iritty	Aralam	Aralam	80
91			Mattannur	Mattannur	80
92			Koodali	Koodali	80
93		Peravoor	Kolayad	Kolayad	75
94			Maloor	Maloor	80
95			Peravoor	Peravoor	80
		Total			7135

(Approved Action Plan and Cluster-wise details are annexed as Annexure II & III respectively)

5 Interventions

- RAD aims at promoting Integrated Farming System (IFS) with emphasis on multi-cropping, rotational cropping, inter-cropping, mixed-cropping practices with allied activities like horticulture, livestock, fishery, plantation, apiculture, etc. to enable farmers not only in maximizing the farm returns for sustaining livelihood, but also to mitigate the impacts of drought, flood or other extreme weather events which are occurring frequently due to climate change; (Details annexed as Appendix-I)

- b. Depending on the type and extent of natural resources/assets/commodities already developed or supported, location-specific crops, fruits, feed & fodder, livestock, fisheries, apiculture, mushroom, medicinal & aromatic plantation and related income generating activities would be supported. Activities like construction of ponds, land treatment, wells, supply of pumps, micro irrigation/other water saving devices, seed and sapling support etc. would be converged/supplemented to promote value addition through a sustainable farming system;
- c. Adoption of a cluster approach in a village or in an area of not less than 20 Ha. (contiguous or non- contiguous in difficult terrain with close proximity, in a village/adjoining villages and at least 25% area to be covered for Millets cultivation) may be preferred for injecting investments to utilize the potential of available/created common resources
- d. Support will be given to those who wish to add other compatible farming component(s) to their existing crops/ system. It should have the potential to introduce/merge at least one or more major components/activities apart from cropping system of the farming systems to qualify for the support. Support for only cropping system will not be allowed under this component unless it is diversified from the regular practice to a farming system suitable to that particular ecological conditions through effective on farm rain water management and soil health care. Farmers would have the option to choose one or the other combination of farming systems suitable to the specific eco- system supported through local KVKs, SAUs, ICAR institutes, ICRISAT, ATMA etc., for maximizing agricultural productivity from the existing natural resource assets
- e. Support to each farming family under RAD component will be restricted to financial assistance of Rs.30,000/-. The amount of assistance shall be uniform for all farmers irrespective of the size of their land holding. Credit support, if required, may be arranged to meet the balance.
- f. Monitoring and capacity building of the beneficiaries through Community Resource Persons (CRPs) under SRLM, Self Help Groups, Champion Farmers under NF program etc. shall be taken up. Provision of Rs.10,000/- per cluster has been made for such field level support.
- g. Farmland development would be taken up through location specific interventions like resource conservation, rainwater harvesting, land development in watershed areas, last mile connectivity etc. Farmers' Producer Companies/Organizations, Registered Farmers' Societies, Farmers' Cooperatives would also be eligible for developing a cluster.
- h. Converging the upgraded utilities developed through watershed development programs (WDC- PMKSY)/ NREGA in terms of water harvesting and micro water storages through effective application and distribution systems like improved

conveyance, field channels, pressurized irrigation, water lifting devices etc. to enhance the potential of farming systems.

- i. Suitable linkage for agro-processing and Marketing may be established for the cluster. Possibilities of building post-harvest and market linkage under PPP model may be explored

6. Convergence:

Convergence of relevant developmental programs in project areas like watershed development programs (WDC- PMKSY)/MGNREGA/ other schemes of Ministry of Rural Development in terms of soil and water conservation and micro water storages can be made use to enhance the potential of farming systems. Areas/Commodities being developed under National Food and Nutrition Security Mission (NFNSM), National Mission on Edible Oil-Oilseeds (NMEO-OS), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Mission on Natural Farming, Sub Mission on Agricultural Extension (SMAE) etc. can be supplemented with other interventions under RKVY to make it an Integrated Farming System facilitating additional livelihood opportunities to farmers. Interventions on Agriculture Extension shall be appropriately made use for capacity building, awareness generation, information support, farm mechanization, availability of seeds/planting materials etc

Support to RAD through MNREGA:

- i. Under MNREGA mandatory expenditure of at least 60% on the works to be taken up is for agriculture and allied activities. The scheme provides for various plantation models such as block plantation, canal side plantation, sericulture, horticulture plantation, boundary plantation, farm forestry, wasteland plantation, shelter belt trees plantation, coastline plantation, development of silvipasture grassland etc. There are many line Departments such as the Forest Department, Agriculture Department, Horticulture Department, Soil Conservation Department, Tribal Development, Watershed Department etc. that are working as implementing agency under MNREGS in the States. Every asset/land based intervention is geo- tagged in three stages, stage 1- before, Stage 2- during and Stage 3 -after completion of work under MNREGA and these assets would be utilized under RAD for promoting sustainable farming systems.
- ii. Since MNREGA provides sufficient opportunities for agriculture and allied activities, convergence of RAD with MNREGA to augment the impact of the scheme must be ensured. Further, as MNREGA has robust monitoring system, monitoring of works at the micro level shall be carried out by Panchayat institutions through existing mechanism of MNREGA

Support to RAD through PMKSY-WDC:

- i. The objectives of Watershed Development Program includes; a) Securing production and farmers' income against climate variability and its risks of drought spells through diversification of crop systems & animal husbandry, and varied livelihood portfolios; efficient water harvesting and retention of rainwater in soil profile; and entitling all project members to ground and surface water resources for life saving irrigation on equitable basis. b) Improving intensity and productivity of various crops, livestock, fisheries and biomass production systems through optimal, integrated, sustainable and efficient use of natural resources in project areas. c) Recognizing the stake of non- land holding project members, and promoting alternate livelihood opportunities. d) Building an ecosystem of enterprises for facilitating efficient scales of operations, access to credit, and market linkages; knowledge sharing; and resource convergence led by vibrant member managed farmers' institutions.
- ii. Convergence of RAD with PMKSY-WDC (Department of Land Resource) shall compliment the much needed resources for promoting Integrated Farming System. Watershed Development Projects of MoRD are to improve productive potential of rainfed / degraded land through integrated watershed management. It strengthens community based local institutions for promotion of livelihoods. At macro - level, the vision of WDC-PMKSY projects is to accelerate the economic growth rate of agriculture in the less endowed rainfed areas of the country. Moreover, this is to be achieved by adopting harmony with ecological principles of development for ensuring sustained transformation of economy and ecology. The guiding principles are better Economy, Ecology and Equity in the rainfed regions of the country. At watershed level, the development plan is guided by the need to achieve higher incomes for farmers, expanded livelihood options for landless, equity in distribution of benefits, community ownership and management, and ecologically sustainable action plan.
- iii. Similarly, RAD aims at promoting location specific improved agronomic practices through soil health management, enhanced water use efficiency, crop diversification, progressive adoption of crop-livestock farming systems and integrated approaches like crop-sericulture, agro-forestry, fish farming, etc. Priority should be given to the areas covered under Watershed projects for RAD implementation.

Support to RAD through National Food and Nutrition Security Mission (NFNSM):

- i. NFNSM supports increase in production of food crops including PMO through production and productivity enhancement in a sustainable manner in the identified

Districts of the country, restoring soil fertility and productivity at the individual farm level and enhancing farm level economy (i.e. farm profits) and post-harvest value addition at farm gate for better price realization to farmers through efficient market linkage.

- ii. NFNSM promotes intensive package of practices (crop production & protection technologies) on compact blocks in cluster approach. This ensures inclusion of all the farmers in the block irrespective of their size of holding or the social status of the farmers.
- iii. Accordingly, latest crop production & protection technologies including quality seeds, nutrients, plant protection measures, resource conservation technologies, exposure visit of farmers are promoted in compact blocks in cluster approach.
- iv. New extension models involving non- governmental organizations are also adopted for reaching out to the farmers in remote and inaccessible areas. RAD should be closely supported under NFNSM through various interventions including extension activities for promotion of PMO based farming systems.

Support to RAD through National Mission on Natural Farming:

- i. Natural Farming if done effectively enhances restoration of soil fertility and environmental health, and mitigating and/or reducing greenhouse gas emissions thus aiding to move towards chemical free agriculture. Natural Farming builds on natural or ecological processes that exist in or around farms. Under this, soil is always supposed to be covered with organic mulch, which creates humus and encourages the growth of friendly microorganisms. Farm made bio-cultures named 'Jeevamrit, Beejamrit etc.' are added to the soil instead of any fertilizers to improve microflora of soil.
- ii. Extension program is an important component of National Mission on Natural Farming. Under the Mission, natural farming practitioners shall be identified in consultation with local Gram Panchayat who are successful natural farmer with their entire land holding under natural farming since last 2-3 years. Such practicing natural farmers are identified as "Champion Farmers". Selected champion farmer shall have adequate land for demonstration of natural farming practices, have necessary facility for monthly trainings on field (like preparation of Bijamrit, Jivamrit etc) and have organizational capacity and good communication skills. In addition, one rural youth belonging to a family of natural farmer (other than Champion farmer) is identified as "Community Resource Person (CRP) in consultation with Gram panchayat. Champion Farmer (CF) and Community Resource Persons (CRPs) lead the natural farming cluster right from Farmer Field School to registration of farmers, regular meetings, motivating the farmers to join

natural farming movement and support participating farmers in implementation of best natural farming practices, problem solutions, farm management, certification, collective marketing of their produce etc.

- iii. RAD also emphasizes on the principles of natural farming. This requires adequate awareness and capacity building efforts for farmers. RAD shall be supported by Natural Farming programs especially on the capacity building of the farming community through Champion Farmers. Priority should be given to areas taken under Natural Farming while identifying clusters for RAD program in order to achieve close convergence.

Support to RAD through Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE):

- i. The Scheme ATMA (Agriculture Technology Management Agency) supports State Extension Programmes for bringing Extension Reforms across the country and it has now been included as a Centrally Sponsored component of the Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE).
- ii. Innovative and restructured institutional arrangements have been made for technology dissemination amongst the farmers on a pilot tested Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) model at district level.
- iii. Under the Scheme, fund is provided with an objective to support efforts of revitalization of their extension system and making available the latest agricultural technologies and good agricultural practices to farmers in different thematic areas to increase agricultural production through various extension activities.

7 Rainfed Area Development – NRAA as Knowledge Partner

1. National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA), Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare serves as a knowledge and technology platform for promoting the growth of agriculture and welfare of farmers in rainfed regions of the country. In this capacity, NRAA is actively engaged with various Ministries and Departments at the union level, and with the State Governments as well. The focus of such engagements is always promotion of rainfed agriculture by enabling knowledge-based interventions and efficient coordination with various agencies, and convergence of different services. The Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) amongst a bouquet of its several programmes targeting growth of the country's agricultural sector including the rainfed area, has specifically designed 'Rainfed Area Development' (RAD) to enhance greater resilience to the production systems, and promote egalitarian agricultural growth. NRAA with its specific mandate dedicated to the accelerated growth of the country's rainfed agriculture can be a useful partner in this regard.

2. In this context, National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) is notified as a 'Knowledge and Partner' to the DA&FW in carrying out its flagship programme. Some of the specific mandates of NRAA vis-a-vis this partnership are as follows:
 - i. Provide technology and knowledge support including identification of project clusters and priority areas
 - ii. Formulate guidelines and operational manuals for promoting integrated farming and livelihood systems (IFLS)
 - iii. Serve as a supervising agency and towards this, undertake field visits and coordinate with state and field implementation agencies
 - iv. Design and help in adopting a system of 'Monitoring and Information System (MIS)
 - v. Undertake capacity building, training and skill development activities for the states and its implementing agencies
 - vi. Anchor the process of convergence with IWMP and such other initiatives (projects, programmes, schemes etc.) that will enhance inter-initiative convergence and yield synergistic outcome
 - vii. Provide any other support as is felt necessary from time to time on issues, that emerge as a result of consultation between concerned Division(s) of the DA&FW and NRAA.

8 Monitoring and Evaluation:

1. The scheme will be implemented on a cluster basis through the Krishibhavans of Thrissur, Kannur and Wayanad districts. The Agricultural Officers of the concerned Krishibhavans will be the implementing Officers at Panchayat level. The Assistant Director of Agriculture will monitor the scheme at Block level. At district level, Principal Agricultural Officer will co-ordinate the activities of RAD-NMSA. Deputy Director of Agriculture (WM) of District HQ should assist Principal Agricultural Officer in the implementation and monitoring of the programme. At the Directorate level, the programme will be monitored by the Additional Director of Agriculture (CP).
2. Geo- Tagging of land based interventions: A robust Monitoring and Evaluation mechanism using modern technology shall be emphasized upon. Monitoring and Evaluation(M&E) mechanism to keep a tab on project areas/ physical assets created, name of beneficiaries, assistance provided etc. under RAD would be developed. All land based interventions shall be Geo-tagged through Apps based monitoring system. Monitoring of works shall be carried out through existing mechanism of MNREGA/schemes of Ministry of Rural Development also.

9 Reporting System:

Principal Agricultural Officers concerned will ensure submission of Quarterly Progress Reports which should reach by the 5th of the month following each quarter in the proforma I&2 (Annexure - IV) to the Directorate of Agriculture for onward submission to the RFS division, Government of India. Annual Progress Report (APR) and Utilization certificate in Form GFR-12C should be submitted immediately after the end of the year in the format prescribed by Government of India. The beneficiary details with Aadhar number should be entered separately in the register maintained at Krishibhavan.

10 Documentation:

The implementing officers should ensure that all the activities implemented under the scheme is documented and submitted along with monthly progress report.

11 Financial Outlay:

The funds for the implementation of the scheme will be released through SPARSH to districts. Administrative cost to the tune of 2.5% of the amount expended may be utilised and the same may be reported. **Submission of UC and Progress report for the utilization of 1st installment of fund released is a pre-requisite for getting the balance funds for the scheme during the current year.**

RAD - NMSA - First Installment allotment of Funds

Rs. in lakh

District	General		SCPSC		TSP		Total	
	CS	SS	CS	SS	CS	SS	CS	SS
Thrissur	124.29	82.86029	12.2	8.13333	12.2	8.13333	148.69	99.12695
Wayanad	80.29	53.52335	7.8	5.2	7.8	5.2	95.89	63.92335
Kannur	125.22	83.48303	12.5	8.33334	12.5	8.33334	150.22	100.14971
HQ	1.2	0.8					1.2	0.8
Total	331	220.66667	32.5	21.66667	32.5	21.66667	396	264.00001

Dr Sriram Venkitaraman IAS

DIRECTOR

Director of Agriculture

To 1) The Principal Agricultural Officers –Thrissur, Kannur & Wayanad

Copy to: 1) TA to Director of Agriculture

2) CAs to all Additional Director of Agriculture

Signed by

Nizam. S. A

Date: 05-06-2025 10:35:39

- 3) All JDAs at HQ / SFO/Deputy Director of Agriculture, Planning section
- 4) IT Cell, Directorate of AD&FW for department website
- 5) Stock File/Spare

Annexure -I

Rain-fed Area Development (RAD) Cost Norms

Sl. No.	Item	Practices	Proposed Cost Norms
1	Integrated Farming System	Crops (Millets Crops / Oilseed/ Pulses/Vegetables/ fodder) + Trees (Horticulture/ Agro Forestry)+ Livestock {Milch cows/ Buffaloes / small ruminants (10 animals (Sheep or Goat or Pigs) / 50 birds (Duck/ Poultry)	Rs. 30,000/- (thirty thousand) will be provided to each farming family for taking up Integrated Farming System as given at S. No. 1 and at least two activities given at S. No. 2 to 5 shall be included depending on the need of farm house hold, resource available and convergence mechanism identified. The assistance of Rs.30,000/- shall be uniform for all farmers irrespective of the size of their land holding.
2	Fishery (Fingerlings) Units	Fisheries in ponds or Rice field	
3	Apiculture(Bee Keeping)	One unit per farm plantation/Millets/ Crops.	
4	Silage making for increased availability of green fodder round the year	Construction of Silo Pit either below ground or above ground with provision of Chaff Cutter and Weighing Balance	
5	Vermicompost Units/organic input Production unit, green manuring	Construction of Vermicompost units, organic input production units and green manuring.	
		Monitoring and capacity building of the beneficiaries	

6	Capacity Building	through Community Resource Persons (CRPs) under SRLM, Self Help Groups, Champion Farmers under NF program etc.	Rs. 10,000/- cluster
7	Admin Cost	As per RKVY norms	

Note: (RAD should be complimented by schemes such as WDC-PMKSY, MGNREGA,NFNSM, other components of RKVY, National Mission on Edible Oil-Oilseeds (NMEO-OS), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Mission on Natural Farming, Sub Mission on Agricultural Extension(SMAE) etc. through convergence.)

Annexure -II

Target As per approved AAP

Implementing Agency : Agriculture Development and Farmers Welfare Department

Total Area proposed for development :7135 Ha

Total Nos. of Cluster :98

Total Nos. of beneficiaries :4280

Farming System	Area proposed (ha)/ Nos.	Number of Beneficiaries	Estimated Total Cost (CS+SS)	Assistance Sought from RAD (in Lakhs)
Integrated Farming System (ha)	7135 ha	4280	1284	770.4
Fishery (fingerlings) units	1040 nos.	1040		
Apiculture Unit	4280 nos.	4280		
Sillage Unit	0	0		
Vermi Compost Units/Organic Input Production Unit, Green Manuring	4280 nos.	4280		
Capacity Building	98 nos.	562	9.8	5.88
Admin Cost (HQ)			26.4	15.84
			1320.2	792.12

THRISSUR

Farming System	Area proposed (ha)	Number of beneficiaries	Estimated cost (Rs. In Lakhs)	Proposed Assistance (Rs.in lakhs)
Integrated farming system				

(Millets, Vegetable, Pulses, Livestock, Horticultural crops)	1180	1606	481.8	289.08
Apiculture Unit		1606		
Vermicompost		1606		
Fishery (fingerlings) Units		0		
silage making with accessories		0		
Capacity Building		62	6.2	3.72
Total	1180	4880	488	292.8

WAYANAD

Farming System	Area proposed (ha)	Number of beneficiaries	Estimated cost (Rs. In Lakhs)	Proposed Assistance (Rs.in lakhs)
Integrated Farming System	5200ha	1040	312	187.2
Fishery (fingerlings) Units	1040nos	1040		
Apiculture Unit	1040nos	1040		
silage making with accessories	0	0		
Vermi compost	1040nos	1040		
Capacity Building	26nos	1040	2.6	1.56
TOTAL		5200	314.6	188.76

KANNUR

Farming System	Area proposed (ha)/ Nos.	Number of Beneficiaries	Estimated Total Cost (CS+SS)	Assistance Sought from RAD (in Lakhs)
Integrated Farming System (ha)	755	1634		
Fishery (fingerlings) units	0	0		

Apiculture Unit	1634 Nos	1634	490.2	294.12
Sillage Unit	0	0		
Vermi Compost Units/Organic Input Production Unit, Green Manuring	1634 Nos	1634		
Capacity Building	10 Nos	500	1	0.6
Total			491.2	294.72

Annexure -III

Details of Cluster/Village - THRISSUR				
Sl.No	Name of Cluster	Total Area Under Cluster	Proposed area under RAD	Nos. of Beneficiaries
1	Chavakkad	20	20	26
2	Guruvayoor	20	20	26
3	Kadappuram	20	20	26
4	Orumanayur	20	20	26
5	Punnayur	20	20	26
6	Punnaurkulam	20	20	30
7	Pookode	20	20	26
8	Thaikkad	20	20	26
9	Vadakkekad	20	20	30
10	Arthat	20	20	26
11	Choondal	20	20	26
12	Chownannur	20	20	30
13	Kadangode	20	20	26
14	Kadavaloor	20	20	26
15	Katakampal	20	20	30
16	Kunnamkulam	20	20	25
17	Kandanissery	20	20	25
18	Porkkulam	20	20	25
19	Velur	20	20	30
20	Valappad	20	20	25
21	Nattika	20	20	25
22	Thalikulam	20	20	30
23	Vatanappally	20	20	25

24	Engadiyoor	20	20	30
25	Elavally	20	20	25
26	Mullassery	20	20	25
27	Pavaratty	20	20	30
28	Venkitangu	20	20	25
29	Anthikkad	20	20	30
30	Arimpur	20	20	30
31	Chazhur	20	20	30
32	Manalur	20	20	30
33	Thanniam	20	20	30
34	Adat	20	20	30
35	Avanur	20	20	25
36	Ayyanthole	20	20	25
37	Kaiparambu	20	20	25
38	Kolazhy	20	20	25
39	Mulamkunnathukavu	20	20	25
40	Tholur	20	20	30
41	Avinissery	20	20	25
42	Cherpu	20	20	25
43	Koorkenchery	20	20	25
44	Ollur	20	20	25
45	Paralam	20	20	30
46	Vallachira	20	20	30
47	Irinjalakuda	20	20	25
48	Kattoor	20	20	25
49	Porathissery	20	20	25
50	Muriyad	20	20	25
51	Parappukkara	20	20	25
52	Karalam	20	20	25
53	Desamangalam	20	20	30
54	Erumapetty	20	20	30
55	Mulloorkkara	20	20	30
56	Mundathikkode	20	20	30
57	Thekkumkara	20	20	30
58	Varavoor	20	20	30
59	Wadakkanchery	20	20	30
		1180	1180	1606

Details of Cluster/Village - WAYANAD				
SL NO	NAME OF Cluster	TOTAL AREA UNDER RAD IN CLUSTER (ha)	PROPOSED AREA UNDER RAD IN CLUSTER (ha)	NO. OF BENEFICIARIES
1	Pozhuthana	250	200	40
2	Vythiri	250	200	40
3	Meppadi	250	200	40
4	Noolpuzha	250	200	40
5	Muttill	250	200	40
6	Moopainad	250	200	40
7	Meenangady	250	200	40
8	Thavinjal	250	200	40
9	Thondernadu	250	200	40
10	Edavaka	250	200	40
11	Pulpally	250	200	40
12	Kalpetta	250	200	40
13	Vengapally	250	200	40
14	Padinjarethara	250	200	40
15	Kottathara	250	200	40
16	Thariode	250	200	40
17	Ambalavayal	250	200	40
18	Nenmeni	250	200	40
19	S.Batheri	250	200	40
20	Thirunelli	250	200	40
21	Mananthavadi	250	200	40
22	Vellamunda	250	200	40
23	Panamaram	250	200	40
24	Poothadi	250	200	40
25	Mullenkolli	250	200	40
26	kaniyambetta	250	200	40
	Total	6500	5200	1040
Details of Cluster/Village - KANNUR				
Sl.No.	Name of Cluster	Total Area Under Cluster (Ha)	Proposed area under RAD in Cluster (Ha)	Nos. of Beneficiaries

1	Peringome	80	80	167
2	Alakkode	60	60	166
3	Pariyaram	80	80	133
4	Payyavoor	60	60	166
5	Aralam	80	80	167
6	Mattannur	80	80	167
7	Koodali	80	80	167
8	Kolayad	75	75	167
9	Maloor	80	80	167
10	Peravoor	80	80	167
	Total	755	755	1634

Annexure -IV

Rainfed Area Development (RAD) Progress Reporting Format

Sl. No.	Activity	Unit (ha/nos)	Physical		Financial				
			Approved Target Financial	Achievement	Total cost	Achievement			Incurred Cost per unit Total (Rs.)
						Central Share	State Share	Total	
	Integrated Farming System (ha)								
	Fishery (Fingerlings) Units								
	Apiculture Unit								
	Silage Unit								
	Vermicompost Units/ Organic input								

	production unit, Green Manuring								
	Capacity Building								
	Admin Cost								
	Total								

Progress reporting format for TSP and SCSP component under RAD

A. Physical achievement

Cluster/District	Physical Target						Physical Achievement				
	SC		ST		General		SC		ST		G
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male

B. Finanacial achievement

Cluster/District	Financial Target						Financial Achievement				
	SC		ST		General		SC		ST		G
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male

C. Average enhancement of farmer’s income:

D. Average enhancement in cropping intensity: