

Directorate of Agriculture Development and Farmers' Welfare

Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram – 695033

e-mail: cru.agridir@kerala.gov.in, Phone: 0471-2304481

No. **ADFW/8919/2026-TG3**

Date: 17-08-2026

CIRCULAR

Sub :- Annual Plan 2026–27 – Coconut Development Scheme – State Top-Up Subsidy for introduction of Micro-Irrigation/Fertigation in Coconut Gardens under Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) – Working Instructions – issued – reg.

- Ref :-
1. G.O.(Rt) No.715/2026/AGRI dated 29.07.2026.
 2. Note No. ADFW/4401/2026-TB1 dated 10.08.2026.
 3. Operational Guidelines for Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) – Per Drop More Crop (PDMC).
 4. Circular No. ADFW/622/2026-TG3 dated 05.06.2026 – Working Instructions for implementation of PM-RKVY-PDMC during 2026–27.
 5. Letter No. ADFW/EXE/KKD/87/2023-EE2 dated 20.03.2026 of the Executive Engineer (Agri), Kozhikode.

Government have accorded Continuous Administrative Sanction for implementation of the Coconut Development Scheme under the Annual Plan 2026–27 for a total outlay of ₹6,300.00 lakh under the Head of Account 2401-00-103-87 Plan. Irrigation support, including micro-irrigation/fertigation, is one of the approved objectives of the scheme. An amount of ₹244.162 lakh is provided for subsidy assistance for introduction of micro-irrigation/fertigation in coconut gardens.

The Working Instructions issued for implementation of PM-RKVY–PDMC during 2026–27 provide the general framework for implementation of Micro-Irrigation and envisage convergence with the Coconut Development Scheme, with detailed modalities for the State Top-Up assistance to be issued separately.

Accordingly, the following Working Instructions are issued for implementation of the State Top-Up Subsidy for Micro-Irrigation/Fertigation in Coconut Gardens through

convergence with PM-RKVY–PDMC during 2026–27. These instructions shall be read together with the PM-RKVY–PDMC Working Instructions, the Operational Guidelines and subsequent Government orders/instructions issued from time to time.

1. Objective

The State Top-Up Subsidy is intended to promote wider adoption of water-efficient Micro-Irrigation systems in coconut gardens by providing additional financial assistance over and above the assistance admissible under PDMC. The component also seeks to encourage Micro-Irrigation in coconut gardens where eligible intercropping and scientific multi-tier cropping are practised, thereby improving water-use efficiency and supporting sustainable coconut cultivation.

2. Convergence with PDMC

The State Top-Up Subsidy shall be provided only to eligible beneficiaries receiving assistance under the Micro-Irrigation component of PDMC. The eligibility of beneficiaries, admissibility of Micro-Irrigation systems, technical specifications, system design, installation, verification and other implementation requirements shall be governed by the PM-RKVY–PDMC Operational Guidelines and the Working Instructions issued for 2026–27, except for the specific provisions relating to the State Top-Up contained herein.

The Top-Up assistance shall be calculated with reference to the admissible PDMC assistance and the eligible cost determined under the applicable norms. Separate records shall be maintained for the PDMC assistance and the State Top-Up assistance.

3. Extent and Determination of Top-Up Subsidy

A State Top-Up Subsidy of up to 30% of the admissible eligible cost shall be provided to eligible coconut farmers in convergence with the assistance available under PDMC. The combined assistance under PDMC and the State Top-Up Subsidy shall be limited to 85% of the admissible eligible cost in the case of Small and Marginal Farmers and 75% in the case of other farmers, subject to the applicable provisions of the PM-RKVY–PDMC Operational Guidelines.

For determining the admissible eligible cost, the indicative unit cost prescribed under PDMC or the actual technically approved Bill of Quantities (BoQ), whichever is lower, shall be considered, subject to the admissible components, technical

specifications and other applicable norms. In coconut gardens where eligible intercropping or scientific multi-tier cropping is practised, the system design and admissible cost may be determined with reference to the actual field conditions, spacing, crop configuration and water requirement, subject to the applicable PDMC norms.

Only the cost of eligible Micro-Irrigation/Fertigation components included in the technically approved BoQ shall be considered for calculation of the State Top-Up Subsidy. The cost of Other Interventions, wherever included in the project or sanctioned separately under PDMC, shall be excluded from the cost reckoned for State Top-Up assistance.

4. Eligible Micro-Irrigation Systems

The State Top-Up Subsidy shall be applicable to eligible Drip Irrigation and Sprinkler Irrigation systems installed in coconut gardens in accordance with the PM-RKVY–PDMC guidelines. In the case of Drip Irrigation, a suitable fertigation device such as a Venturi injector or fertilizer tank shall form part of the system, as prescribed under the applicable PDMC norms. Proportional weightage will be given to those units where full-scale automation is integrated into the installations.

The admissible components, technical specifications, unit costs and system configurations shall be as prescribed under the PM-RKVY–PDMC Operational Guidelines and the Working Instructions issued for 2026–27.

5. Intercropping and Scientific Multi-Tier Cropping

Where eligible intercropping is practised in coconut gardens, the spacing and configuration of the eligible intercrop may be considered for determining the technically admissible system design and eligible cost, in accordance with the applicable PDMC norms. In scientific multi-tier cropping systems, the system design may be prepared based on actual field conditions and the individual water requirement of the crops forming the different tiers. The spacing adopted shall be determined on the basis of field assessment and technical requirements.

The system design and BoQ in such cases shall clearly indicate the crops proposed to be covered and the basis adopted for determining the irrigation requirement.

6. Implementation Procedure

The State Top-Up Subsidy shall be implemented as part of the PDMC Micro-Irrigation process. Applications shall be processed through the prescribed PDMC mechanism, and the procedures relating to beneficiary selection, technical approval, installation, verification and DBT shall be followed as prescribed under PDMC.

The Assistant Executive Engineer (Agri) shall verify the eligibility for Top-Up assistance and process the proposal. The Deputy Director (WM) shall coordinate implementation at district level and monitor progress. The Executive Engineer (Agri) shall supervise implementation and assess the requirement of funds.

7. Processing and Release of Top-Up Assistance

The Top-Up Subsidy shall be processed after completion of the prescribed PDMC procedures relating to technical approval, installation and verification of the Micro-Irrigation system. The admissible Top-Up amount shall be calculated separately and recorded in the beneficiary-wise subsidy calculation statement.

The combined assistance released under PDMC and the State Top-Up shall not exceed the applicable overall assistance prescribed under these Working Instructions. The Top-Up assistance shall be released through the prescribed DBT mechanism after completion of the required verification and documentation.

8. Priority

Subject to availability of funds and approved norms, priority may be given to coconut gardens located in rainfed, water-scarce, stressed and critical groundwater areas. Cluster-based implementation may also be encouraged wherever feasible for effective coverage.

9. Institutional Arrangement

The Assistant Executive Engineer (Agri) shall function as the District Implementing Officer for the Top-Up component. The Deputy Director (WM) shall function as the District Nodal Officer and coordinate district-level implementation. The Executive Engineer (Agri) shall supervise implementation and coordinate the requirement and allotment of funds. The State Agricultural Engineer shall coordinate implementation at State level and monitor overall progress.

10. Records and Reporting

Beneficiary-wise records of the Top-Up assistance, including area covered, type of Micro-Irrigation system, PDMC assistance and Top-Up assistance, shall be maintained. Details of intercropping or multi-tier cropping, wherever applicable, shall also be recorded.

The Executive Engineer shall consolidate the physical and financial progress and furnish reports to the State Agricultural Engineer in the prescribed manner.

11. Financial Provision and General Provisions

An amount of ₹244.162 lakh is provided under the Coconut Development Scheme for subsidy assistance for introduction of Micro-Irrigation/Fertigation in coconut gardens, under the Head of Account 2401-00-103-87 Plan. The provision shall also cover eligible committed liabilities pertaining to 2025–26, in accordance with the applicable orders and instructions.

The expenditure shall be regulated within the sanctioned provision and allotment and in accordance with the applicable financial rules and procedures. Duplicate assistance for the same intervention shall not be permitted. The State Top-Up Subsidy shall be implemented in accordance with the Government Order cited first, the PM-RKVY–PDMC Operational Guidelines, the PDMC Working Instructions for 2026–27 and these Working Instructions. In matters not specifically covered herein, the provisions of the PM-RKVY–PDMC Operational Guidelines and Working Instructions for 2026–27 shall apply.

These Working Instructions shall come into force with immediate effect.

Dr Sriram Venkitaraman IAS
DIRECTOR

Digitally signed by
JAYARAJAN R
Date: 18-08-2026
09:28:50

Encl: .References

Copy to:

1. All Additional Directors of Agriculture
2. All Executive Engineers (Agriculture)

3. All Principal Agricultural Officers
4. All Assistant Executive Engineers (Agriculture)
5. All Deputy Directors (WM)
6. Technical Assistant, RTTC, Vellayani
7. IT Cell – for publishing on the Department website