

**CIRCULAR**

Sub:- Annual Plan 2016-17- Scheme for Strengthening of Agricultural Extension-  
Administrative sanction accorded by Government of Kerala- Continuing Sanction –  
Capacity building of Field Assistants and Block Technology Managers through  
practical training- Working instructions issued –reg.

Ref:- 1) G.O (MS) No. 28/2016/AD dated 3.02.2016  
2) Circular No. TP(2) 10507/16 dated 01.04.2016 and 04.04.2016

**Introduction:-**

Field Assistants [FA] and Block Technology Managers [BTM] are involved in the implementation of ATMA and ATMA Plus activities. The Field Assistants are with VHSE qualification and BTMs are with B.Sc. [Agri.] or B. Tech, B.Sc., B.Sc. [Aquaculture] etc. A systematic Training Programme is required for the effective implementation of the scheme components. Separate courses will be designed for the BTMs and FAs based on the nature of activities involved.

The courses will be conducted through five RATTCS and 2 FTCs. In order to facilitate practical training, Field Training Schools in the farmer's plots will be established through RATTCS and FTCs.

Govt. have accorded sanction vide reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited for implementation of the component "Training to Field Assistants and Block Technology Managers on Regular Basis" under the scheme "Strengthening of Agricultural Extension" with a budget provision of Rs.50 Lakhs during the year 2016-17.

**Objectives:-**

The main objectives of the programme are given below.

- Imparting technical training to FAs and Technology Managers
- Getting better experience for the FAs and Technology Managers through field schools
- Enrichment of the technical knowhow of the FAs and Technology Managers

- Improve the field activities of the FAs and Technology Managers
- Better performance and service delivery by BTM and FA

**Programme:-**

The main programmes envisaged under this scheme are given below.

**1. Training programmes**

The component wise breakups of the training programmes are shown below:

Sl. No.	Item	Amount (Rs. In lakhs)
1	Training to FAs, BTMs & TA, DA, Honararum to faculties, TA, DA of participants	28.0
2	Development of Practical Field Training Schools (PFTS)	14.0
3	Course material preparation and support to SAMETI for facilitation	8.0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50.0</b>

The FAs and BTMs are engaged on contract basis and TA and DA are included as part of the training programme Training to Block Technology Managers and Field Assistants will be conducted in separate batches. Honorarium for the faculties engaged for taking classes will be given @ Rs. 400/ hr. Farmers also will be given honorarium at this rate, if farmers are taking classes and sharing the success stories. TA & DA of faculties as per eligible norms, honorarium as well as hiring of vehicles are included over and above the ceiling fixed for each course for the effective implementation of the training programme. Controlling officers of training centres will prepare an estimate for the training based on the above guidelines and get it sanctioned from this office on or before 31-05-2016.

## **2. Development of Practical Field Training Schools (PFTS)**

The training programmes are proposed for implementation with a practical orientation. In order to facilitate practical training, it is proposed to develop Practical Field training Schools in the farmers fields. Four best farmers will be selected under each RATTC and FTC and assistance @ 0.50 lakh will be provided for maintaining the PFTSs in proper and scientific way for facilitating field training programmes. The amount required for up keeping the centre in proper way can be paid to the farmer based on an estimate prepared by the local Agricultural Officer and sanctioned by the controlling officer of the training centre. The trainees will be taken to the farmers fields for the training programmes. The farmers for the development of PFTS will be selected based on the willingness of farmers. The farmers who conducted Farm Schools under ATMA may be given preference. The selection could be done in association with Project Director ATMA. Other lead farmers may also be selected based on transparent criteria. The responsibilities of PFTS are shown below.

- Visit of at least 15 batch of trainees in an year to the school
- One day programme should be arranged on the visit day to study about the cultivation practices followed, practices adopted, benefits etc received by the farmers from the period.
- Facilitation with RATTCs/ FTCs

### **Characteristics of PFTSs:-**

1. Should be a lead farmer
2. Should have a well-established farm for providing training to about 30 farmers/ officers
3. Should be willing to associate with the training programme
4. Should have good communication skills
5. Should have adopted modern practices in agriculture
6. Should be willing to keep diaries on the activities conducted in the farm
7. Should be willing to document the activities including visual documentation

### **Selection of PFTSs: -**

A committee may be formed under the Head of the training institution with representatives from ATMA, an award winning Assistant Director of Agriculture, and KVK for the identification and selection of PFTSs. ATMA may identify good progressive farmers for the setting up of the school. Award winners may be given preference, if ready to co-operate the activities listed. Farmers those have completed good Farm Schools under ATMA will also be considered as priority group for selection. After the identification of the willing farmers the committee will visit the farm and based on the score obtained for the criteria indicated, the farmer will be selected for the setting up of the school. The assistance will be given in two installments and will be valid for one year. Based on the performance evaluation by the committee the school may be allowed to continue in the next year. It is preferable to change school in every year for the programme.

### **Cost of the component: -**

The cost of the component is shown below:-

<b>Item</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Amount (Rs. In Lakh)</b>
Development of 28 Practical Field Training Schools @ 4 per RATTTC/ FTC	@ 0.50 lakh per school	14.0

### **3. Course material preparation and support to SAMETI for facilitation**

An amount of Rs. 8.00 lakhs will be provided to SAMETI for Course material preparation and support to SAMETI for facilitation

#### **Implementation: -**

The scheme will be implemented by the Head of RATTTCs/ FTCs in association with Project Director ATMA. Regular monitoring report should be sent on PFTSs to the ATMA for integration in the training programmes. DDA and PD ATMA will maintain close contact with the beneficiaries and document the activities undertaken in the selected plots.

**Financial Outlay: -**

The total requirement of funds for the implementation of the programme is Rs. 50 lakh which is summarized below.

SI No	Item	Amount (Rs. In Lakh)
1	Training through RATTCs/ FTCs	28.0
2	Development PFTSS	14.0
3	Course material preparation and support to SAMETI for facilitation	8.0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50.0</b>

Training Centre wise allocation of fund is as follows:


SI No	Name of training centre	Components					Total
		Training programmes & TA/ DA		PFTSS		Course material preparation and support to SAMETI for facilitation	
		Phy	Fin	Phy	Fin		
1	RATTC Kazhakuttom, TVPM	1	4.0	4	2.0	0	6
2	RATTC Kozha, Kottayam	1	4.0	4	2.0	0	6
3	RATTC Vytilla Ernakulam	1	4.0	4	2.0	0	6
4	RATTC Malampuzha, Palakkad	1	4.0	4	2.0	0	6
5	RATTC Taliparumba, Kannur	1	4.0	4	2.0	0	6
6	FTC Vengeri, Kozhikode	1	4.0	4	2.0	0	6
7	FTC Pandalam, Pathanamthitta	1	4.0	4	2.0	0	6
8	SAMETI	0	0	0	0	8	8
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>50</b>

During the current year an amount of Rs. 3690 lakhs is set apart for the implementation of Scheme on "Strengthening Agricultural Extension" as per Green Book. The amount of 50.00 lakhs required for the implementation of the programme during 2016-17 can be met from the Budget provision under the head of account 2401-00-109-80 (Plan)

**Monitoring and Evaluation:-**

The Scheme will be monitored at Directorate level by the Additional Director of Agriculture (Extn). At district level Project Director, ATMA will monitor the scheme. Details of activities undertaken along with expenditure details will be reported to Directorate on a monthly basis through mail ID [jdatrng@gmail.com](mailto:jdatrng@gmail.com) on or before 5<sup>th</sup> of succeeding month.

Sd/-  
Director of Agriculture



Joint Director of Agriculture (A&T)  
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To

All Additional Directors of Agriculture  
All Principal Agricultural Officers  
The Director, SAMETI  
All Project Directors (ATMA)  
JDA RATTTC, Vytilla  
DDA, RATTTC, Kozha, Malampuzha, Thaliparambu  
DDA, FTC Pandalam, Vengeri  
Planning Section  
CA to Director of Agriculture  
DDA (IT) for uploading in website  
Stock File