

TM (1) 21190/16

Directorate of Agriculture
Vikas Bhavan
Thiruvananthapuram
Dated : 20/07/2016

CIRCULAR

Sub: - Annual Plan 2016-17 – Scheme on Modernization of Departmental Laboratories - Administrative sanction accorded – Detailed working Instructions for Implementation of the component – Strengthening of State Agmark Grading Laboratories – orders issued – reg:-

Ref : Order No TP (2) 14659/16 dated 18/05/2016 of DA

*** **

Strengthening of State Agmark ^{Grading} laboratories has been implemented as one of the components of the Scheme 'Modernization of Departmental Laboratories' during the year 2015-16. As per the reference cited, administrative sanction has been accorded for the implementation of the above scheme during the current year for an amount of Rs. 25.00 lakhs for purchase of chemicals/glass wares, repair/ purchase of equipments, creation of additional infrastructure facilities, payment of honorarium to Lab assistants, conduct of trainings for farmers /officers and organizing exhibitions /melas.

Grading of agricultural produce and quality control of processed food is of utmost importance in the present scenario. Grading of agricultural produce will result in the farmers getting a premium price for their produce and the consumers will have the assurance of getting quality and safe agricultural products, which contain no harmful chemical residues.

The main objectives of the scheme are:

1. Assessing the quality of the farm produce marketed.
2. Fixing grades of commodities based on testing in the SAGL
3. Guarantee movement of quality commodity from producer to consumer
4. Facilitating export
5. Creating awareness among public regarding Agmark certification

The detailed working instructions for each component are issued follows;

1. Purchase of chemicals, equipments, strengthening of Laboratories and creation of infrastructural facilities in the SAGLs :

Agmark Grading laboratories have been established in all the 14 districts of Kerala. These labs require annual purchase of chemicals, glasswares, repair/purchase of equipments etc connected with the analysis of samples and also some of the labs need further strengthening including creation of infrastructure facilities to make them fully equipped.

An amount of Rs. 14.10 lakhs is earmarked for Purchase of chemicals/glasswares/equipments, repair of equipments and strengthening of laboratories in the SAGLs during the current year.

2. Training to Officers and Farmers :

Agricultural marketing occupies an important place particularly in the context of the new liberalization process and value addition requirement of the Agricultural sector. The existing marketing system needs to be updated through improvement in skills, knowledge, attitude etc. The following areas have been identified for undertaking training to create awareness to field functionaries and to farmers.

1. Information technology application in agricultural marketing
2. Food safety, quality certification and standardization
3. Marketing infrastructure
4. Modern terminal markets and their operation and management
5. Cooperative management
6. Market led extension
7. Sanitary and Phyto sanitary measures
8. Grading, standardization and certification
9. Implementation of WTO on Agricultural marketing
10. Warehousing and storage
11. Price discovery mechanism of different agricultural commodities
12. Decentralized grading of vegetables and fruits

For imparting training, officials from DMI, CTCRI, VFPCCK, KAU, Spices Board, and stake holders at district level and connected with Marketing may be invited. The trainings may be organized through RATTCS, FTC's, KVK etc Assistant Directors of Agriculture (M) of the districts will be the officer in charge for organizing trainings at the district level. The Principal Agricultural Officers should give all necessary support for the successful conduct of the trainings. It should be ensured that the training programmes are completed by October 2016.

An amount of Rs 2.80 lakhs is set apart for conduct of one farmers training and one officers training each in all districts.

a. Training to Officers:

25 Agricultural officers/ Agricultural Assistants of each district will be given training on the topics mentioned above. An amount of Rs.10000/- can be utilized for each training.

b. Training to Farmers :

25 farmers of each district will be given training on any of the topics mentioned above. The packers involved in Agmark certification programme should also be included wherever possible. An amount of Rs.10000/- can be utilized for each training.

The schedule for the training programme should be forwarded to the Directorate by August 2016. The amount allotted for the trainings can be utilized to meet the expenditure for food, honorarium to resource persons and other related expenditure. Trainings should be completed by October 2016.

3. Organizing of exhibition and melas :

It is proposed to organize one District level exhibition/mela in each district. An amount of Rs.15000/- per district is allotted for the purpose. The exhibition must highlight the objective of Agmark certification and exhibit the Agmark labelled products. The process of grading and analysis should be described through chart,

pictures, pamphlets etc in order to purchase only Agmark products and help to distinguish between spurious products kept for sale. Awareness on salmonella estimation being done in the SAGLs may be made known to the public. The public should also be made aware of the adulterants being used in the agricultural produce being marketed. Exhibition should be organized by the Assistant Director of Agriculture (M) of the districts and Principal Agriculture Officers should extend necessary support for the conduct of the programme. Assistance from the DMI officials should be sought wherever possible for the conduct of mela/exhibition. Exhibition should be organized before December 2016.

An amount of Rs 2.10 lakhs is earmarked for this component.

4. Honorarium to Lab Assistants :

Out of the 14 SAGLs, Government of India has given approval only for 11 SAGLs. In the remaining 3 non approved SAGLs of Idukki, Malappuram & Wayanad, the PAO should take necessary action to get the labs approved by GOI at the earliest. Hence to equip these labs for approval by GOI, a Lab Assistant may be posted in these labs, if required.

Payment of honorarium to Lab Assistants may be continued in the SAGLs of Pathanamthitta and Kannur taking into consideration the additional quantum of work carried out there. In the newly approved SAGL Kasargod, where posts have not been sanctioned, a Lab Assistant may be posted for carrying out the analytical works there.

Hence Lab Assistants having BSc Chemistry qualification may be engaged on contract basis by paying an honorarium of Rs. 10000/- per month in the SAGLs of Idukki, Wayanad, Malappuram Kasargod, Pathanamthitta & Kannur. An amount of Rs 6.00 lakhs is earmarked payment of honorarium for the Lab Assistants during the current year.

The Principal Agricultural Officers of the districts should take necessary action to post a Lab Assistant for carrying out the works in the above labs and issue necessary orders in this regard. If a lab assistant has already been posted for continuing the above scheme, payment can be effected from April 2016 or the date from which the Lab assistant is posted.

The Physical and financial targets for Strengthening of Agmark Labs/purchase of chemicals/equipments, creation of infrastructure facilities, conduct of trainings, exhibition, payment of honorarium to lab assistants are appended in Annexure I. and the Physical target for grading of Agricultural commodities are appended in Annexure II.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

The scheme will be monitored at the State level by the Additional Director of Agriculture (Marketing). At the district level, the Assistant Director of Agriculture (M) is the Officer in charge of implementation of the scheme with over all supervision of the Principal Agricultural Officer. The Monthly progress report of the implementation of the schemes should be forwarded to the Directorate of Agriculture by 5th of every month by the Principal Agricultural Officers. In case of Agmark Analysis, details of samples analysed each month has to be forwarded to the Directorate of Agriculture along with the copy of the analytical report of each sample. A copy of the computerized analytical report of the UV visible Spectrophotometer should also be enclosed along with the analytical report.

The Principal Agricultural Officers of Idukki, Wayanad and Malappuram should bestow personal attention for equipping these new Labs and getting approval from Government of India during the current year itself so as to ensure complete functionalization of the 14 labs in the state this year itself.

Budget Outlay :

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. Purchase of chemicals, equipments, strengthening of SAGLs and creation of infrastructural facilities in the SAGLs | : Rs 14.10 lakhs |
| 2. Training to Officers and Farmers | : Rs 2.80 lakhs |
| 3. Organizing exhibitions/mela | : Rs 2.10 lakhs |
| 4. Honorarium to Lab Assistants | : Rs 6.00 lakhs |
| TOTAL | : Rs 25.00 lakhs |

The expenditure for the same will be met from the budget provision for current year from the Head of Account 2401-00-105-86 Plan under the scheme for Modernization of Departmental Laboratories – Strengthening of the State Agmark Grading Laboratories 2016-17.

sd/-

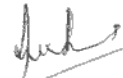
Director of Agriculture

To

All Principal Agriculture Officers
Assistant Director of Agriculture (M) of the districts
All Chemists of the SAGLs

Copy to:

TA to Director of Agriculture
CA to all Additional Director of Agriculture
Deputy Director IT cell for publishing in the website
TP (2) section
KASMOS Cell (SW Section)
Stock file



SUSEETA P. THAMBARAN
Deputy Director of Agriculture (M)
Directorate of Agriculture
V. K. S. Bhaman
Thiruvananthapuram-33

Annexure - I
Statement of Physical and Financial Target under the Scheme for Modernization of Departmental Laboratories
-Strengthening of State Agmark Laboratories 2016-17 (Amt in lakhs)

Sl No	District	Strengthening of Agmark Lab	Honorarium to Lab Assistants		Training to Officers		Training to farmers		Exhibition cum mela		Total Amount (Lakhs)
			No of months	Amount	No	Amount	No	Amount	No	Amount	
1.	TVM	0.70	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	1.05
2.	KLM	0.10	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.45
3.	PTA	0.25	12	1.20	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	1.80
4.	ALP	0.20	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.55
5.	KTM	0.10	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.45
6.	EKM	0.30	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.65
7.	TSR	-	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.35
8.	PLK	9.52	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	9.87
9.	KZD	0.13	-	0	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	0.48
10	KNR	1.20	12	1.20	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	2.75
11	IDK	1.00	8	0.80	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	2.15
12	MLP	-	8	0.80	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	1.15
13	WND	0.50	8	0.80	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	1.65
14	KSG	0.10	12	1.20	1	0.10	1	0.10	1	0.15	1.65
TOTAL		14.10	60	6.00	14	1.40	14	1.40	14	2.10	25.00

Sd/-
Director of Agriculture

(Signature)
 Deputy Director
 Agriculture

Annexure - II
Physical Target fixed for 2016-17 (Quantity in Qtls)

Sl. No	District	Coconut Oil	Gingelli Oil	Honey	Ground Spices	Ghee	Wheat/ Atta	Tamarind	Asafetida	Whole Spices	Rice
1	Trivandrum	50		800	800		100	25	10		10
2	Kollam	5000	100	500	200		50	25	70		10
3	Pathanamthitta	2500	50	400	1000					10	50
4	Alappuzha	200	50	200	1000	350	50				50
5	Kottayam	100	800	500	10000		3000				50
6	Ernakulam	50	50	450	1500		50	25		1000	50
7	Thrissur	50	50	650	200		100				20
8	Palakkad	50	200	600	400		100				50
9	Kozhikode	7000	50	350	250		50				50
10	Kannur	5000	50	300	1000	250	100				
11	Idukki	50	20	250	100		10				
12	Malappuram	50	20	100	100		10				
13	Wayanad	50	20	100	100		10				50
14	Kasargod	50	20	100	100		10				10
	Total	20200	1480	5300	16750	600	3640	75	80	1110	350