



ABSTRACT

Horticulture – Announcement made by Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture – Financial sanction to implement the Project of “High Density Planting in Cashew promoted in Cuddalore and Pudukottai District” - at a cost of Rs. 6.27 crore – Orders – Issued.

Agriculture (H2) Department

G.O. (Ms.) No. 169

Dated: 03.08.2020

சார்வரி வருடம், ஆடி, 19
திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு 2051

Read:-

1. Announcement made by Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture on the floor of the Assembly on 24.03.2020.
2. From the Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Horticulture Development Agency, Letter No.TAN/Non - National Horticulture Mission (Non-NHM)/1939/2020, dated 05.06.2020.

ORDER:-

During the Demand for Agriculture session on 24.03.2020 the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture among others made the following announcement on the floor of Legislative Assembly that

“High Density Planting in Cashew would be promoted in Cuddalore and Pudukottai Districts at an outlay of Rs. 627.00 lakh”.

2. In the letter second read above, the Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Horticulture Development Agency has stated that the cultivation of Cashew in Tamil Nadu is mainly concentrated in Ariyalur, Cuddalore, Perambalur, Pudukottai, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, Pudukottai and Villupuram and now it has started to spread almost to all Districts of the State. The cashew is cultivated at an extent of 91,058 ha with production of 57,988 tonnes during 2017-2018.

Need for Cashew cultivation

- With its capacity of wide adaptability to varied soil and climatic conditions, Cashew cultivation has been promoted even in neglected dry lands. Though it is planted in poor soils, it always showed good crop without impairing production much.
- Cashew kernels produced in Tamil Nadu are of good quality with high demand in local as well as international market and fetch remarkable foreign exchange earnings.

(P.T.O.)

- Cashew plantations were damaged in an area of 3,500 Ha mainly in the districts of Pudukottai, Nagapattinam, Thanjavur, Cuddalore and Thiruvavur due to the Gaja cyclone that struck Tamil Nadu on 16.11.2018.
- Providing assistance to these farmers will revamp the Cashew plantations and afford a means of livelihood to them. Around 30% of this whole Cashew nuts processed in Tamil Nadu are imported from African countries like Ghana, Ethiopia, etc and then again exported to countries like UAE, Switzerland, Dubai, etc.
- Providing assistance to the farmers to take up Cashew cultivation will considerably help in bridging this gap.

Objectives:

- To bring more area under Cashew.
- To provide suitable variety for increased yield and adaptability.
- To get higher yield per Hectare by efficient use of inputs.
- To increase the total production by increasing the yield.
- Soil conservation due to canopy coverage.

High Density Planting in Cashew

Cashew with its wide adaptability to prevailing soil and climatic conditions and high export potential, the cultivation and processing is highly promoted in the state. High density planting technique in cashew has provided higher yield and better economic returns per unit area in the initial years, but also helped more efficient use of inputs. Further, high density planting reduces the weed growth by early canopy coverage, reduces soil temperature thereby increasing the soil moisture content especially during peak summer season and provides mulching effect.

From the results of research studies from Directorate of Cashew Research, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Puttur it is recommended that High Density Planting of cashew is more suitable in less fertile area. Because, in area where soil fertility is low, growth of the plant is very much slow resulting less ground coverage in the initial years. In such locations if normal density planting with 7m x 7m spacing (204 trees/ha) is done the yield is very low in the initial stages of plant growth. Cashew yield can be increased to 4 folds up to 6 years and 2.5 folds up to 12 years if high density planting system with 5m x 4m spacing (500 trees/ha) is maintained.

Advantages of High Density Planting

- Efficient use of inputs.
- Higher yield per Ha during initial years.
- Weed control.
- Soil conservation due to canopy coverage.
- Increase in total production capacity.

(P.T.O.)

Cashew area in Cuddalore and Pudukottai Districts

The area of cashew in Cuddalore and Pudukottai Districts are around 29,325 hectares and 6,365 hectares respectively. In order to use the land intensively for realizing higher productivity per unit area, especially in the early phase of the plantation and also to achieve the higher economic returns in the early phase, it is proposed to adopt high density planting technique in Cuddalore and Pudukottai Districts. Additionally 1700 ha of Cashew area will be brought in these Districts under High Density Planting method. Assistance will be provided for distribution of quality planting materials, Micro irrigation, other inputs, etc.

3. The Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Horticulture Development Agency has proposed to implement High Density Planting method in cashew in Cuddalore and Pudukottai Districts at an outlay of Rs.627.00 lakh by dovetailing funds of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) – Micro Irrigation schemes as detailed below:-

Sl. No.	Scheme	Physical (in Ha)	Financial (Rs in lakh)
1.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana / NADP (@ Rs.24,000 / Ha)	1700	408.00
2.	PMKSY – Micro Irrigation		219.00
	Total		627.00

4. The Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Horticulture Development Agency has requested the Government to issue orders to implement High Density Planting method in Cashew at Cuddalore and Pudukottai Districts at an outlay of Rs.627.00 lakh under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana / National Development Agriculture Programme and Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana – Micro Irrigation scheme funds of 2020-2021.

5. The Government after careful examination of the proposal of the Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Horticulture Development Agency accord financial sanction an amount of Rs. 627. 00 lakh to implement High Density Planting method in Cashew at Cuddalore and Pudukottai Districts by dovetailing of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana / National Development Agriculture Programme and Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana – Micro Irrigation scheme funds of 2020-2021 and order accordingly.

6. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance Department vide its U.O. No. 20407/SS/AK/Fin/2020-1, dated 30.06.2020.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

GAGANDEEP SINGH BEDI
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION COMMISSIONER
AND PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
 The Managing Director,
 Tamil Nadu Horticulture Development Agency, Chepauk, Chennai – 5 .

(P.T.O.)

The Principal Accountant General(G&SSA) (E&RSA)/
AAD/FSA, Cell/ Audit-I/II),
No. 361, Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai -18.

The Residential Audit Officer, O/o. Principal Accountant General
(General and Social Sector Audit), Tamil Nadu Secretariat,
Chennai-9.

The Pay and Accounts Officer (East) Chennai-8.

Copy to :

The Senior Personal Assistant to Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture,
Chennai-9.

The Finance (Agriculture /BGI/BGII) Department, Chennai-9.

The Senior Private Secretary to Agricultural Production Commissioner
and Principal Secretary to Government, Agriculture Department,
Chennai-9.

The Agriculture (OPIII) Department, Secretariat, Chennai-9.

The Assistant Programmer, Agriculture Department,
Chennai – 9.

Connected File No.7313/H2/2020.

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//FORWARDED BY ORDER//

P. Santhi
5.8.20

SECTION OFFICER

JH