



Agriculture and Farmers
Welfare (AU) Department,
Secretariat, Chennai-9.

Letter (Ms).No.278, Dated: 21.11.2022.

From
Thiru C.Samayamoorthy, I.A.S.,
Agricultural Production Commissioner
and Secretary to Government.

To

The Registrar, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore – 3.

The Director, Indian Council of Agricultural Research -Sugarcane Breeding
Institute, Sugar Cane Institute Road, Karumalai Chettipalayam,
Veerakeralam, Tamil Nadu 641007.

The Director , Indian Council of Agricultural Research -Central Institute of
Brackishwater Aquaculture, Indian Council of Agricultural Research
(Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare), #75, Santhome High
Road, RA Puram, MRC Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600028.

The Director, ICAR-National Research Centre for Banana,
Somarasempettai - Thogaimalai Road, Thayanur, Tiruchirapalli,
Tamil Nadu 620102.

The Head, MYRADA – Mysore Resettlement and Development Agency
Krishi Vigyan Kendra, 272 Perumal Nagar, Pudevalliampalayam Road,
Kalingiyam Post, Gobichettipalayam Taluk, Erode District,
Tamil Nadu 638 453.

The Senior Scientist and Head, Centre for Rural Education and Economic
Development (CREED) Indian Council of Agricultural Research -Krishi
Vigyan Kendra Cholamadevi Post, Jayankondam via, Udayarpalayam
Taluk, Ariyalur District-612 902, Tamil Nadu.

Sir / Madam,

Sub: Agriculture and Farmers Welfare – Tamil Nadu Agricultural
University – Announcement made by the Hon'ble Minister for
Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in the Agriculture Budget
2022-2023 – "SI.No.11- Digital Agriculture" and "SI.No.68 -
Use of drones in precise application of agricultural inputs in
Farmers field" – Executive instructions - Issued.

- Ref: 1. Agriculture Budget Speech Announcement No.11(iii) and
68 of 2022-2023.
2. Email dated 15.07.2022 received from the Director (A),
Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Agricultural
Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI),
Zone-X, CRIDA Campus, Santoshnagar, Hyderabad.

3. From the Under Secretary (AE), Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan, Pusa, New Delhi Order F.No.A. Extn. 9-12/2022 AE-II, dated 20.06.2022.
4. From the Registrar, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University letter No.TNAU/WTC/ Budget announcement on KISAN drone / ATR / 2022, dated 16.11.2022.

With the advent of technologies, Agriculture has been revolutionized by the invention of fertilizers, pesticides and deployment of smart irrigation systems. Now, Drone technology, one of the world's latest technologies has transcended agriculture, one of the world's oldest occupations, to the next level.

2. Drone technology, the next big thing in agriculture has given rise to precision agriculture, which is the accurate and sustainable use of agricultural resources to optimize yield and gain efficiencies all around. Drones provide a Sustainable & Scientific Approach to Agriculture for Soil and field analysis, Planting, Crop spraying, Crop monitoring, Irrigation and Health assessment.

3. During the Agriculture Budget 2022-2023, among others, the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has made the following announcements on the Floor of the Assembly :-

"11. Digital Agriculture

(iii) In co-ordination with Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and Tamil Nadu Drone Corporation, farmers will be imparted with training and demonstration in seven Farmers Training Centres (FTC) for the usage of drones in pesticide spray and survey of crop growth stages"

"68. Use of drones in precise application of agricultural inputs in Farmers field

To overcome the shortage of labourers and to ensure precise application of the required agricultural inputs in farmers' field, drone infrastructure will be created in Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and its Constituent Colleges, Research Institutes and Krishi Vigyan Kendras. Under Farm Mechanization – "Kisan Drone" Scheme, 60 drones will be purchased at a cost of Rs.10.32 crore during 2022-2023. Awareness will be created in Drone Technology by imparting adequate training on the use of drones and demonstration will be conducted by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University in 14,400 Hectare area."

4. The Director (A), Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Zone-X, CRIDA Campus, Santoshnagar, Hyderabad, in his email second cited has informed that Indian Council of Agricultural Research has sanctioned

"Agricultural Drones Project (ADP)", a project funded by Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare under Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (Component No.1 Drone Technology Demonstration during 2022-2023) to be implemented by select Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Indian Council of Agricultural Research institutes and SAUs during 2022-2023. Each Krishi Vigyan Kendra gets one drone and each Indian Council of Agricultural Research institute and SAU get two drones under the project. All the implementing agencies have to take up demonstrations, (250 ha demonstrations in agriculture / drone) and can use budget @ Rs.0.03 lakhs / hectare for demonstrations.

5. The institution-wise approved list under Agri-Drone Project (ADP) relating to Tamil Nadu and the details of fund allocation for drones and drone demonstrations are as follows:-

S. No.	Name of the institution	Number of drones allotted	Total fund for drones (Rs.10 lakhs / drone) (Rupees in lakhs)	Area of drone demonstrations (ha.) @ 250 ha / drone	Total fund for drone demonstration (Rupees in lakhs) (@ Rs.3000/- per hectare)	Total fund allocated (Rupees in lakhs)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7) [(4)+(6)]
1.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Cuddalore	1	10.00	250	7.50	17.50
2.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Erode	1	10.00	250	7.50	17.50
3.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Ariyalur	1	10.00	250	7.50	17.50
4.	Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore	2	20.00	500	15.00	35.00
5.	Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Central Institute of Brackish-water Aquaculture, Chennai	2	20.00	500	15.00	35.00
6.	Indian Council of Agricultural Research - National Research Centre for Banana, Tiruchirapalli	2	20.00	500	15.00	35.00

7.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University	2	20.00	500	15.00	35.00
	Total	11	110.00	2,750	82.50	192.50

6. In this regard, I am directed to request that Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institutes and Krishi Vigyan Kendra of Erode and Ariyalur may procure the drones as per the Indian Council of Agricultural Research norms and create awareness on the use of drones in agriculture among farmers of Tamil Nadu through organizing drone demonstration in the farmers field, in close co-ordination with the extension officials of Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture and Plantation Crops and Agricultural Engineering.

7. I am also request you to take necessary steps to impart training to the youth on the procedures involved in getting pilot licence from the authority concerned in close co-ordination with Tamil Nadu Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Corporation.

8. Further, I am also to request you to send monthly progress on the area of the drone demonstration organised district-wise to Government and number of farmers participated.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. S. S. S. S. S.
21/11/2022

for Agricultural Production Commissioner
and Secretary to Government.

Copy to:-

The Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Corporation,
53, Sardar Patel Road, Baktavatsalam Nagar, Guindy, Chennai,
Tamil Nadu 600025

The Director of Agriculture, Chennai-5.

The Director of Horticulture and Plantation Crops, Chennai-5.

The Director of Agricultural Marketing and Agri. Business, Chennai-32.

The Commissioner of Sugar (FAC), Chennai-35.

The Executive Director, Tamil Nadu Watershed Development Agency,
Chennai-32.

The Chief Engineer (AE), Chennai-35.

The Director of Seed Certification and Organic Certification, Guindy,
Chennai-32.

The Special Personal Assistant to the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and
Farmers Welfare, Secretariat, Chennai-9.

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

The Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (AE.I/B&P/OP.3) Department,
Chennai -9.

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