



ABSTRACT

Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business – Part-II Schemes for 2011-2012 - Strengthening of State Agmark Grading Laboratories by providing UV-Spectrophotometer, Digital Refractometer, Digital Muffle Furnace, Digital Hot Air Oven and Moisture Meter – Sanction of Rs.41.00 lakhs – Orders – Issued.

Agriculture [AM-3] Department

G.O.(Ms) No.199

Dated: 31.10.2011

(திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு 2042, ஐப்பசித் திங்கள் 14-ஆம் நாள்)

Read:

1. Agriculture Department's U.O. Note No.10820/B&P/2011-4, dated 21.06.2011
2. From the Commissioner of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business letter No.PLN1/12676/ 2011, dated 21.06.2011
3. Agriculture Department's U.O. Note No.10820/B&P/2011-6, dated 24.08.2011

ORDER:

The Commissioner of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business has stated that in Tamil Nadu, 30 State Agmark Grading Laboratories and one Principal Laboratory are functioning for testing of Agmark graded products. These laboratories are functioning with minimum and age old testing facilities. The strengthening of Agmark grading Laboratories with latest equipments was carried out during 2010-2011 at a cost of 20.00 lakhs as per the G.O. (Ms) No.113, Agriculture (AM.3) Department, dated 01.06.2010 and G.O. (Ms) No.117, Agriculture (AM.3) Department dated 01.06.2010. Agmark grading is done both for centralized commodities like ghee, vegetable oils, honey, ground spices, wheat atta, Maida, gram flour and decentralized commodities like rice, pulses, jaggery , egg, potato. So far, 191 commodities have been notified by Government of India under Agricultural Produce Grading and Marking Act, 1937.

[P.T.O.]

2) The Agmark grading scheme is a voluntary scheme, which is the most beneficial, health based welfare scheme implemented for ensuring the availability of unadulterated quality food products to the consumers. Every year this Department is achieving targets fully under Agmark grading scheme earmarked by the Government. In order to cater the needs of the packers for grading their produce and for ensuring the quality to the consumers, the following facilities like provision of UV-Spectrophotometer, Digital Refractometer, Digital Muffle Furnace, Digital Hot Air Oven, and Moisture Meter may be provided to State Agmark Grading Laboratories.

3) Agmark grading in Spices and Honey involves lot of analytical test such as Moisture, Total ash, Acid insoluble Ash, Lead content, starch, aniline chloride test, Sucrose, Specific gravity, Government of India instructed to analyse some of the new components as per the PFA rules such as Curcumin in turmeric, piperin in Pepper and HMF in Honey which are essential for Agmark grading also. For the above tests U.V. visible spectrophotometer is essential. In the second phase during the year 2011-2012, four State Agmark Grading Laboratories viz., Trichy, Madurai (South), Chennai (South) and Coimbatore, may be provided with UV Visible Spectrophotometer each at a cost of Rs.5.00 lakhs.

4) Digital Refractometer utilized for analyzing the Refractive index of all vegetable oils, Ghee and also used to determine the Sugar content in Honey. For the above tests Digital Refractometer is essential. During the year 2011-2012 all the 30 State Agmark Grading Laboratories may be provided with Digital Refractometer each at a cost of Rs.0.40 lakhs.

5) Digital Muffle Furnace is used for analyzing the ash content in all food products. During the year 2011-2012 it is proposed to provide the Digital Muffle Furnace in 5 State Agmark Grading Laboratories viz., Erode, Madurai (North), Coimbatore, Tiruppur and Chithode and it may be provided each at a cost of Rs.0.60 lakhs.

6) Digital Hot Air Oven is used for analyzing the Moisture content in Ghee, Spices and edible oils. During the year 2011-2012 State Agmark Grading Laboratories viz., Erode, Karur, Cuddalore, Madurai (North) and Perundurai may be provided with Digital Hot Air Oven each at a cost of Rs.0.60 lakhs.

7) Moisture meters are utilized for estimating moisture content in rice and pulses. This instrument is used manually and it is felt that provision of Digital Moisture meter to State Agmark Grading Laboratories will enable quick and accurate moisture estimation. During the year 2011-2012 it is proposed to provide Digital Moisture Meter for 10 State Agmark Grading Laboratories at Vellore, Thiruppur, Panruti, Perundurai, Tuticorin, Vellakoil, Thenkasi, Dharmapuri, Tanjore and Marthandam each at a cost of Rs.0.30 lakhs.

8) The Commissioner of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business has requested that Government to sanction a sum of Rs.41.00 lakhs (Rupees Forty One lakhs only) as non-recurring expenditure by providing UV-Spectrophotometer, Digital Refractometer, Digital Muffle Furnace, Digital Hot Air Oven and Moisture Meter for Strengthening of State Agmark Grading Laboratories in the Department of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business under Part-II Scheme during the year 2011-12.

9) The Government after careful consideration have decided to accept the above proposal of the Commissioner of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business and sanction a sum of Rs.41.00 lakhs (Rupees Forty One lakhs only) as non-recurring expenditure by providing UV-Spectrophotometer, Digital Refractometer, Digital Muffle Furnace, Digital Hot Air Oven and Moisture Meter for Strengthening of State Agmark Grading Laboratories in the Department of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business under Part-II Scheme during the year 2011-2012.

10) The Commissioner of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business is authorized to draw and disburse the amount sanctioned in para 9 above and incur the expenditure by following the rules & tender procedures now in force.

11) The expenditure sanctioned in para 9 above shall be debited to the following head of account.

“2435-Other Agricultural Programmes 01 Marketing and Quality Control-102 Grading and Quality Control Facilities - Schemes in the Eleventh Five Year Plan - II State Plan- JG Labs for Grading Agmark” – 19 Machinery & Equipments-01 Purchase. (DPC No.2435-01-102-JG-1913)”

12) The Commissioner of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business is also instructed to send a detailed report to Government indicating the utilization of the amount sanctioned in para 9 above.

13) This order issues with the concurrence of the Finance Department vide its U.O. No.48205/Finance (Agri)/2011, dated 29.09.2011.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

K. ARULMOZHI
Agricultural Production Commissioner
and Principal Secretary to Government

To

The Commissioner of Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business, Chennai – 32
The Chief Executive Officer, Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board,
Chennai -32.

The Accountant General (Audit), Chennai-18/Chennai-18(B/N)

The Accountant General, Chennai-18/Chennai-18(B/N)

The Pay and Accounts Officer (East), Chennai-5

The Pay and Accounts Officer (South), Chennai-35

The Pay and Account Officer, (Secretariat) Chennai-9

Copy to

The Private Secretary to Agricultural Production Commissioner and
Principal Secretary to Government, Chennai – 9

The Agriculture (B&P) Department, Chennai - 9

Finance (Agri) (BGII) Department, Chennai-9

SF/SC

/FORWARDED BY ORDER/

SECTION OFFICER

