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New Delhi, November 8, 2019

Shri. V Ramachandran
Director General
Directorate of Economics & Statistics,
Vikas Bhavan,
Thiruvananthapuram - 695033

Subject: Ground-truth and Crop Cutting Experiments (CCE) for Rice Crop Assessment under FASAL Project-Reg.

Ref: Letter no. EARAS/HC/21092/2019/DES dated 06/11/2019 regarding remote sensing based data collection.

Sir,

As you are aware Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare (MoA & FW) is carrying out Crop Production Forecasting under FASAL project with the support of State Agriculture & related Departments. Earlier, we have received valuable ground truth information from your department. We are now planning for Rice crop production forecast for the year 2019-20 for Kerala.

Following periods are proposed for ground-truth data collection for your State: -

Crop	Number of District	List of Districts	Number of Sites	Ground-Truth period
Rice	2	Palakkad, Alappuzha	40	December-January*

*Tentative period may be modified as per current season (December-January to February-March)

In order to improve the yield estimates, we are also planning selected **Crop Cutting Experiments for Rice crop** in the villages selected using remote sensing data. The number of CCEs will be 20 per district. The list of villages for CCE will be communicated to you in February, 2020.

I sincerely request you for your kind support in this activity to provide us the ground-truth information and conduct the CCEs. The ground-truth and CCE data may be collected using Smartphone based Application, provided by MNCFC. Like last year, a lump-sum amount computed on the basis of ground-truth and CCE sites to be covered will be sent to you soon.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(S S Ray)

Director, MNCFC