



ABSTRACT

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare - Agricultural Engineering Department – Strengthening the availability of Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) owned Agricultural machinery at block level - Online booking App for hiring Agricultural Machinery – Orders – Issued.

AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS' WELFARE (AE.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O. (Ms). No.138

Dated: 29.09.2021

திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு 2052

பிலை, புரட்டாசி 13-ஆம் நாள்

Read:

1. Minutes for the discussion on IT Initiatives in Agricultural Engineering Department held on 18.06.2021 by Agricultural Production Commissioner and Secretary to Government, Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Department, Government of Tamil Nadu.
2. Minutes of meeting held on 22.07.2021 and 29.07.2021 by Honourable Chief Minister Secretary – III.
3. Minutes of meeting held on 05.08.2021 by Honourable Chief Minister Secretary – III.
4. Announcement made by Honourable Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare in the floor of Assembly during Agriculture Budget speech on 14.08.2021.
5. The Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering), Letter No. T1 /16313/ 2019, Dated: 03.09.2021

ORDER:

During the Agriculture Budget speech on 14.08.2021, the Honourable Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has made the following announcement in the floor of Assembly:-

1. At present, all agricultural machinery are available only at Revenue division level in Agricultural Engineering Department. During the current

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year, as a first phase, hiring of the agricultural machinery at block level at nominal charges will be taken up in Delta Districts for the benefit of farmers.

- II. Further, in order to facilitate the farmers to avail these services at block level, steps will be taken to book agricultural machinery and payment of advance hire charges online through suitable web based services.

2. Consequently the Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering) has sent the proposal in the letter 5th read above, he has stated that the Agricultural Engineering Department has a fleet strength of Agricultural machinery viz., 87 Bull Dozers, 275 Tractors along with suitable implements, 47 Paddy Combine Harvesters, 2 Paddy Mobile Dryers, 60 Backhoe with front end loaders, 10 Crawler Excavators, 1 Sugarcane Harvester and two Sugarcane Infielder with Tractors, 5 Mini Tractors, 20 Truck Operated Coconut Hoists, 25 Rotary Drills, 4 Percussion Drills, 22 Mini drills and 21 Resistivity meters. These Agricultural machinery are being hired out to the needy farmers at Government fixed nominal hire charges.

3. The Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering) has informed that during the discussion of IT initiatives in Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) held on 18.06.2021, the Agricultural Production Commissioner and Secretary to Government has instructed that all advance bookings may be done through online for farm machinery under Tractor Hiring Scheme and Minor Irrigation Scheme of Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) through "Uzhavan" mobile app, TN Agrisnet portal and AED website.

4. In the minutes 2nd and 3rd read above, during the review meeting conducted on 22.07.2021, 29.07.2021 and 05.08.2021 the Honourable Chief Minister Secretary – III has instructed that the details of hiring of Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) owned Agricultural machinery to the farmers should be monitored on Real-time basis by linking log books of each machinery to the online portal and also insisted that the mobile app should be functional at the earliest.

5. Strengthening the availability of Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) owned Agricultural machinery at block level:

As per the announcement made in the Agriculture Budget 2021-2022, to benefit the farmers at block level, the Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering) has proposed that agricultural machinery and implements will be hired out to the needy farmers at block level for nominal hire charges in the Delta districts as first phase from the current year.

- i) It is informed that the machinery fleet available at 18 revenue divisions of the Delta districts will be pooled and redistributed to 85 blocks of 8 Delta districts namely Cuddalore, Ariyalur, Perambalur, Trichy, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Mayiladuthurai, Nagapattinam and

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Pudukottai as first phase to benefit the Delta districts farmers at block level.

- ii) It is also informed that the requirement of machinery in the Non delta districts will be analyzed and will be diverted to 85 blocks of Delta districts based on the potential and the needs of the farmers.

6. The Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering) has proposed to develop an online Mobile App for hiring Agricultural Engineering Department owned Agricultural Machinery and facilitating booking of Agricultural Machinery from Custom Hiring Centers, individual category (given under SMAM subsidy assistance) and Tractor from Private Owners. The Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering) has proposed to develop an online mobile app for farmers to hire Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) owned agricultural machinery for the required dates at nominal hire charges fixed by Government and facilitate booking of agricultural machinery from Custom Hiring Centers, individual category (given under Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation (SMAM) subsidy assistance) and Tractor from private owners. The scope of the Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) online booking Mobile App is as follows;

- The farmers can book the agricultural machinery accessing through the already established "Uzhavan" mobile app.
- The farmers can book the Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) owned agricultural machinery for their required dates at nominal hire charges fixed by Government
- When the Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) owned agricultural machinery is not available, the farmers can book the machinery from Custom Hiring Centres, individual category (given under Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation (SMAM) subsidy assistance) and from private Tractor owners.
- The farmers can make payment through Mobile App by means of Net Banking, Debit Card, UPI (Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM), PhonePe, GPay etc.)
- In case the farmer does not have online payment facility, the farmer can make payment by means of cash in concerned Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) sub division office and can obtain the receipt for booking Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) owned agricultural machinery.
- In case of the Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) owned agricultural machinery, the machinery will be allocated to the farmer as per the seniority by the sub division office and a SMS in Tamil through registered phone and an e-mail in Tamil will be communicated to the concerned farmer.
- On completion of the work, the refund if any will be made on the same payment channel to the farmer, after the approval of concerned sub divisional officer duly following rules in vogue.

- Provision for cancellation, refund, rescheduling and extension of working machinery is proposed in the Mobile App.
- A common bank account will be created at the office of the Chief Engineer (AE) for entire department transactions, for receiving / returning the payments operated through payment gateway.

7. In this context, a "Payment Gateway" needs to be integrated with the centralised bank account through the mobile application to transfer the collected revenue amount (Hire charges) to the Government account through Integrated Financial and Human Resource Management System (IFHRMS) by means of Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) / e-Challan

8. Further, the Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering) has requested the Deputy General Manager, IDBI Bank, Ashok Nagar, Chennai-83 to develop the software for integrating "Online Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) Machinery Hiring System" mobile application with the payment gateway under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund on "No cost basis" and the work is under progress.

9. Hence, the Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering) has requested the Government to permit him,

- i) To strengthen the availability of Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) owned Agricultural machinery at block level in the Delta districts as a first phase.
- ii) To provide the facility to the farmers to book the machinery for Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) owned Agricultural machinery, machinery from Custom Hiring Centres, individual category (given under Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation (SMAM) subsidy assistance) and Tractor from Private owners through "Uzhavan" Mobile App.
- iii) To open a centralized bank account at IDBI, Ashok Nagar, Chennai-83 for integrating "**Online AED Machinery Hiring System**" mobile application with the payment gateway, to maintain the hire charges at Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering) office level and remit the collections on the following day in the Government account through Integrated Financial and Human Resource Management System (IFHRMS) by means of Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) / e-Challan following the rules in force.

10. The Government, after careful examination of the proposal of the Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering), and issue the orders on the following lines:-

- i) The Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering) is permitted to strengthen the availability of Agricultural Engineering Department

(AED) owned Agricultural machinery at block level in the Delta districts as a first phase.

- ii) The Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering) is permitted to provide the facility to the farmers to book the machinery for Agricultural Engineering Department (AED) owned Agricultural machinery, machinery from Custom Hiring Centres, individual category (given under Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation (SMAM) subsidy assistance) and Tractor from Private owners through "Uzhavan" Mobile App.
- iii) To permit the Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering) to open a centralized bank account at IDBI, Ashok Nagar, Chennai-83 for integrating "Online AED Machinery Hiring System" mobile application with the payment gateway, to maintain the hire charges at Chief Engineer (AE) office level and remit the collections on the following day in the Government account through Integrated Financial and Human Resource Management System (IFHRMS) by means of Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) / e-Challan following the rules in force.

11. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance Department vide it's U.O.No.39192/Finance(Agri&FW)/2021, dated: 27 .09.2021.

/BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR/

C. SAMAYAMOORTHY
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION COMMISSIONER
AND SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT


To

The Chief Engineer (Agricultural Engineering), Chennai – 35.
The Principal Accountant General (G&SSA), Chennai – 18.
The Principal Accountant General (E&RSA), Chennai – 18.
The Pay and Accounts Officer (South), Chennai - 35.
The Residential Audit Officer, office of the Principal Accountant
General (General and Social Sector Audit), Secretariat,
Chennai – 9.

Copy to:

The Senior Private Secretary to Agricultural Production
Commissioner and Secretary to Government, Chennai – 9.
The Finance (Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare) Department, Chennai – 9.
The Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (OP3/B&P) Department,
Chennai – 9.
The Assistant Programmer, Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Department,
Chennai – 9.
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SECTION OFFICER
30/9/21
30.09.2021

