



## GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

### Abstract

Disaster Management Department- 'Living labs approach' for supporting Kanichar Panchayath of Kannur District - Sanction accorded -orders issued.

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### **DISASTER MANAGEMENT (A) DEPARTMENT**

G.O.(Rt)No.493/2024/DMD  
2024

Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 21-07-

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Read- 1. GO (Ms) No. 5/2023/DMD dated 7-6-2023.

2. Letter No.MTO VII/2094/2022/Admin dated 05/12/2023 from Member Secretary, Kerala State Disaster Management Authority.
3. Minutes of State Executive Meeting of Kerala State Disaster Management Authority held on 27/06/2024.

### ORDER

The landslides that happened in Kanichar Panchayat in the year 2022 resulted in the loss of lives and wreaked havoc life and livelihoods. Considering the disaster impacts in Kanichar as a special case, as per 1<sup>st</sup> paper read above,Government have declared the land slide disaster in Kanichchar and Kelakam panchayath as a specific disaster.

Kanichar Grama Panchayath of Kannur district faced multiple landslides between 1<sup>st</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2022 and 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2022, resulting in loss of lives, livelihood and property. The Grama Panchayath unanimously requested the Government for direct investigation by Kerala State Disaster Management Authority to the causes of numerous landslides in the area. Government directed Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) to conduct a detailed investigation. An

expert team lead by the Hazard and Risk Analyst of Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) visited Kanichar Grama Panchayath on 23rd and 24th September 2022.

The report of the expert team was submitted to the Government and District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Kannur specifying the immediate measures to be adopted to prevent further landslide events in the area. The DDMA adopted the measures recommended by KSDMA and enforced the directions in Kanichar Grama Panchayath.

It was understood from the investigation that Kanichar needs external technical support to evolve as a resilient community. A discussion was held with the Panchayath Committee and KSDMA on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022 in which various vulnerabilities were discussed and the need to have a risk informed approach to resilient development was highlighted.

KSDMA in its five year plan for 2022-27 is approved to undertake a programme titled 'living labs' wherein the Authority intends to directly handhold highly vulnerable Grama Panchayaths of the State to evolve into resilient communities. Living Lab is a conceptual platform that offers shared resources and connects a range of private and public stakeholders in order to gather, create, communicate, and deliver new knowledge, validate existing products, services, and processes and facilitate overall resilience building in realistic settings. Living Lab is people-centered, which means that people who will benefit from a solution or innovation or change are actively involved at all stages of the process. The end-users are supported throughout the process by professionals. The core functions in living labs are often carried out in a step-wise manner, consisting of three phases,

- 1) Understanding the challenge or problem at hand and identifying stakeholders that would collaborate on the problem

2) Developing and testing of a solution or product

3) Evaluating efficacy of the above

KSDMA has decided to explore the possibility of adopting Kanichar Grama Panchayath as its first 'living lab' to facilitate the much needed external technical help, and guide the Panchayath towards a resilient path way of development. As part of the living labs approach, various interventions are to be planned and implemented. The interventions are grouped under four categories, they being:

1) Operational: Optimizing existing governance framework in the Panchayath for ensuring resilient development, ensuring risk informed spatial master plan and local action plan on climate change

2) Financial: Optimizing resource allocation based on risk information and, converging and mobilising financial resources from Own/Development funds of the Panchayath, National/State DRMF, NAFCC, NABARD, CSR, CER etc.

3) Policy: Develop and adopt risk informed spatial development plan

4) Future: Ensuring climate change adaptation and long term risk transfer

The smooth implementation of 'living lab' approach in Kanichar Grama Panchayath requires the creation of a Resilience Centre with a dedicated Resilience Officer who needs to work closely with the Panchayath, DDMA, KSDMA and Kerala Climate Change Adaptation Mission. The Grama Panchayath is to provide a working space within the Grama Panchayath Office for the Resilience Centre and Resilience Officer. He/she will report to the Secretary of the Grama Panchayath on a daily basis and will advice the

Working Group for Disaster Management, Climate Change and Biodiversity of the Panchayath in preparing Risk Informed Master Plan and Grama Panchayath Committee in mainstreaming disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. The Sectoral Experts and Hazard Analysts of KSDMA will closely work with the Kanichar Resilience Centre and ensure that on need basis they will visit the panchayath and technically support the panchayath in its resilience building programmes. The Kanichar Resilience Centre needs to be supported for a period of 3 years under State Disaster Mitigation Fund after which the Grama Panchayath should maintain the Centre with own funds or funds mobilised from sources other than SDRMF. The position of Resilience Officer will only be permitted to continue after the three year period if other sources of funding is ensured by the Panchayath.

The category of the Resilience Officer may be fixed as contract Category XI of 4<sup>th</sup> paper and amendments thereof with TA/DA norms of Hazard Analysts of KSDMA. Qualification and experience for the post may be fixed as that of Hazard Analysts of KSDMA. The Member Secretary, KSDMA may be entrusted to conduct the recruitment through Centre for Management Development.

The remuneration for the staff under the Kanichar Panchayat Resilience Project is proposed under the SDMF. The payment from SDMF shall be based on the General Financial Rules 2017 and extant Government of India guidelines.

Additional expenses for the preparation of the risk informed master plan, location action plan on climate change and costs for preparing detailed project reports for various projects to be undertaken by the Resilience Centre shall be sourced by the Panchayath from its own funds or development funds as part of the Panchayath Disaster Management Plan.

The Appraisal Committee for SDMF considered the proposal and recommended the proposal to State Executive Committee of KSDMA. State Executive Committee Meeting of KSDMA held on 27/06/2024 examined the matter and approved the proposal submitted by Member Secretary, KSDMA for implementing the Living Lab approach in Kanichar Panchayath for supporting local government in building resilience to prepare and respond to potential disasters.

Government have examined the matter in detail and are pleased to accord sanction for the proposal of KSDMA for implementing the Living Lab approach in Kanichchar Panchayath for supporting local government in building resilience to prepare and respond to potential disasters.

(By order of the Governor)  
TINKU BISWAL  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

To:

The Accountant General (Audit)(A&E) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Commissioner, Land Revenue, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Commissioner, Disaster Management.

The District Collector, Kannur.

The Member Secretary, Kerala State Disaster Management Authority.

Director of Treasuries, Thiruvananthapuram.

Local Self Government Department.

The Information Officer, Web & New Media, I&PRD.

Stock File/Office Copy.

Forwarded /By order

Section Officer