

TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToR) For Horticulture Consultant

1. Background:

Department of Horticulture, Government of Madhya Pradesh is dedicatedly working towards sector development reflected in the form of increase in horticulture production and quality of the produce. State also aims at attracting private sector investment in technology of production and processing. To support this mission, state department of horticulture is looking for technically strong and committed professionals to contribute effectively in a time-bound fashion. Department requires need base (part time-maximum ten days in a month) consulting services from individual consultants with expertise in different sectors related to Horticulture viz. plant propagation, productivity and quality management, mechanization in production, marketing linkages, food Processing, entrepreneurship development, post-harvest management, protected cultivation, etc.

2. Objective/Purpose of the Assignment:

- The subject matter expert will have to visit farmer fields in order to identify the problems ,if any, and suggest remedial measures to the same.
- To train Farmers and help them develop their professional skills and experience;
- Review the present situation of horticulture development in particular area/ State and identify gaps therein.
- Identify constraints in horticulture development and suggest remedial measures
- Bring in latest technology relevant to crop and agro-ecology of the state in all aspects of horticulture
- Develop extension material for farmers based on recent advancements on horticulture
- Orient village/block level extension functionaries on recent advancements on horticulture
- Suggest the appropriate and sustainable marketing model for farmer produce.

3. Scope of Work:

- The incumbent will work closely with Department of Horticulture and Food Processing under the supervision and direction of Director for the attainment of above goal. They will have to:-
 - 3.1 Assist farmers in crop management and enhance productivity of different horticultural crops in the state.
 - 3.2 Assist the horticulture department in identifying, improvising and implementing appropriate technologies of horticulture.
 - 3.3 Train village and block level extension functionaries on spreading latest technologies, conduct field visits of farmer fields and demonstrations sites at state and district level.
 - 3.4 Attend and participate in project meetings and give input to related matters.

3.5 Expert Services for project identification, formulation, implementation, monitoring & evaluation, etc.

4. Required Qualifications and Experience:

Subject Matter Experts	Qualification and Years of Experience	Experience/ Expertise expected
Subject Matter Expert (SME)- Horticulture	M.Sc. Horticulture with 5 (five) years post-qualification experience.	The Horticulture expert is required to have a deep understanding of different horticultural crop management. The expert should have experience of developing and implementing reforms supporting crop production growth & strengthening price realization by farmers.
Subject Matter Expert (SME)- Agriculture Engineering	B.Tech Agriculture Engineering with 5 (five) years post-qualification experience.	The Ag. Engineering Expert is required to have deep knowledge and experience of techniques of irrigation, farm mechanization and drudgery reduction related to horticulture/ floriculture.
Subject Matter Expert (SME)- Plant Protection	M.Sc. Plant Pathology/ Entomology with 5 (five) years post-qualification experience.	The expert must have thorough knowledge of insect-pest and diseases of horticulture and floriculture crops and the remedial measures based on integrated pest management (IPM)
Subject Matter Expert (SME)- Organic Farming	B.Sc. Agriculture with 5 (five) years post-qualification experience on organic farming practices	The expert must have deep knowledge of national and international norms and standards of organic cultivation. The expert must have led organic cultivation projects with established organic certifying agencies
Subject Matter Expert (SME)- Post Harvest Management/ Food processing	B. Tech Ag. Engineering / Food Technology with 5 (five) years post-qualification experience on grading & packaging for marketing in to national/ international market	The expert must have knowledge on grading and packaging parameters /food processing ,related to horticultural crops like Fruits, vegetables, spices ,flowers and medicinal plants
Subject Matter Expert (SME)- Marketing/ Value chain expert	MSc. Ag. Economics/ MBA-Agriculture Marketing with 5 (five) years post-qualification experience	The expert must have thorough knowledge of agri- value chain and marketing strategies of horticulture, floriculture crops. He/ She must have led initiatives of agriculture marketing

5. Duration of Service:

- The Experts shall be empanelled initially for 36 months with possibility of revision based on performance evaluation.
- Evaluation will be done by the committee.

6. Selection Criteria:

The experts shall be shortlisted based on the prescribed criteria mentioned above followed by an interview by panel of experts, if required.

7. Duty Station:

The experts are not expected to be based in Bhopal. They are expected to visit Agriculture Production commissioner, Principal Secretary of Horticulture and Directorate of Horticulture & Food Processing and farm fields in the state to assess diseases and other problems in crops and suggest remedial measures.

He/she will have to visit districts based on need of the subject and support to the district horticulture officers and farmers.

8. Financial Conditions:

- The specialist shall be paid a lump sum amount of remuneration i.e. Rs.3000 to 5000 per day which should include all overheads, based on experience and salary history, as decided by Director.
- In case of travel requirement outside duty station for project related assignments, specialist shall be paid travel expenses and hotel expenses on actual basis as per his/her entitlement in the parent institute .For freelancer – II class AC train fair or economy class flight fair.

9. Output/Reporting Requirements:

The consultant will report to the Director. In addition to the assigned tasks, the consultant should be responsible for providing /preparing documents and reports during assigned period, and submit the same to Director Horticulture within stipulated time frame.