

S.No	Monthly Progress Report HADP Project No. 02 Promotion of Niche crops in UT of J&K					MPR March, 2026				
	Project Code No.	Activity	Phy Unit	Target 2025-26		Funds released (Lakhs)			Work under progress	% of Completion
				Phy.	Fin.		Fin.	Phy. Ach.		
1	P02NC 33H40/35 P02NC H35	Collection, evaluation and conservation of germplasm and development of markers of Niche crops (Saffron, Kalazeera, Mushkbudji, Red Rice and Chilli)	No. of collections	50 new collections for five (Niche Crops)	100.00	96.00	50 Accessions of (05) Niche crops collected during 2025-26	61.59	A total of 163 accessions were collected and are currently under evaluation for varietal development. Observations on vegetative growth parameters, including sprouting, plant height, leaf characteristics, & leaf area index (LAI), were recorded for Saffron , Kalazeera and Shallot during this month to assess crop establishment and performance. Further observations will be recorded at regular intervals to evaluate crop variability for selection and further improvement	60
2		Standardization of Production Technology of Niche crops and their demonstration (Saffron, Kalazeera, Mushkbudji, Red Rice and Chilli)	No. of trials	05(Niche Crops)			02 research trails laid and are under evaluation		Weeding of Saffron and Kalazeera trials was carried out. Observations on vegetative growth parameters attributed to corm development and flower production were recorded during this month	62
3		Devising Package of Practices for Shallot	No. of trials	01 (Shallot)			Field trial on Shallot laid during this season		The bulb-to-bulk multiplication trial is under continuous progress under field conditions and observations on vegetative parameters and yield attributes are being recorded at regular intervals. Trails are well established as per the technical programme.	70
4		Conduct of OFT's on Shallot	No. of OFTs	20 No			Twenty (20) OFTs conducted		OFTs laid are being regularly monitored, and advisory support regarding weeding, hoeing, fertilizer application and mitigating strategies for excess moisture is being provided to ensure uniform crop establishment and production of healthy planting material.	100
5	P02NC H26/27	Establishment of processing and handling unit for Mushkbudji	No. of Units	01 No			One Unit established	5.00	Established	100
7	P02NC H28/29	Establishment of processing and handling unit for Red Rice	No. of Units	01 No			One Unit established	10.00	Established	100
9	P02NC H21	Establishment of processing and handling unit for Chilli along with equipment's	No. of Units	01 No			One Unit established	15.21	Processing and handling unit of Chilli will be equipped with procured/required equipment's and machinery during May/June 2026.	90
11	P02NC H30,31,32,35,37 &38	Trainings/ HRD	No. of Trainings	15 No			Eleven (11) training programmes were conducted during 2025-26	4.20	Human Resource Development (HRD) of 417 farmers through conduct of 11 training programmes	73
			Total					96.00		



Fig.1: Weeding of Research trials of Saffron, Kalazeera and Shallot at Agronomy research farm FoA Wadura



Fig.2: Data Recording on Growth parameters of Saffron



Fig.3: Installation of a rainout shelter for assessing the actual moisture requirement during corm development.



Fig.4: Capacity Building



Fig.5: Fertilizer application

[Signature]
Principal Investigator
HADP PROJECT No. 02
Promotion of Niche Crops in the J&K