



Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) trial on farmers

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Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme, seeking to provide income support to all small and marginal landholder's farmer's families with cultivable land up to 2 hectares across the country, related to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs by way of payment of Rs. 6000 per year, subject to certain exclusions, has been launched on the 24th February, 2019. The amount is being credited in to the accounts of the beneficiaries held in destination banks. Under the Scheme, the entire financial liability towards transfer of benefit to targeted beneficiaries will be borne by Government of India.

To provide an assured income support to the small and marginal farmers, The Government has launched a new Central Sector Scheme Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) to provide income support to all small and Marginal landholding farmer families to supplement their financial needs for procuring various inputs related to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs. Under the Scheme, the entire financial liability towards transfer of benefit to targeted beneficiaries will be borne by Government of India. Farmer's families with cultivable up to 2 hectares will be provided direct income support at the rate of Rs. 6,000 per year. This income support will be transferred directly into the bank accounts of beneficiary farmers, in three equal installments of Rs. 2,000 each. This programme will be funded by Government of India. Around 12 crore small and marginal farmer families are expected to benefit from this. The programme would be made effective from 1st December 2018 and the first installment for the period up to 31st March 2019 would be paid during this year itself. This programme will entail an annual expenditure of Rs.75, 000 crore". PM-KISAN would not only provide assured supplemental income to the most vulnerable farmer families, but would also meet their emergent needs especially before the harvest season. PM-KISAN would pave the way for the farmers to earn and live a respectable living.

Objective:

– With a view to augment the income of the Small and Marginal Farmers (SMFs), the Government has launched a new Central Sector Scheme, namely, “Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)” in the

current financial year.

– The PM-KISAN scheme aims to supplement the financial needs of the SMFs in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields, commensurate with the anticipated farm income at the end of the each crop cycle.

– This would also protect them from falling in the clutches of moneylenders for meeting such expenses and ensure their continuance in the farming activities.

Cut-off date:

– The scheme shall be effective from 01.12.2018 for transfer of benefit to eligible beneficiaries.

– The cut-off date for determining the eligibility of beneficiaries has been kept as 01.02.2019.

– Changes, if any, in the cut-off date for eligibility of benefit under the scheme for next 5 years will only be considered with approval of the Cabinet. However benefit will be allowed on transfer of ownership of cultivable land on account of succession due to death of the landowner.

Definition of families:

– The SMFs landholder farmer family is defined as “a family comprising of husband, wife and minor children who collectively own cultivable land up to 2 hectare as per land records of the concerned State/UT”.

Basis for identification:

– The number of eligible SMFs under the scheme has been estimated on the basis of projection of Agricultural Census 2015-16 data for 2018-19.

– The projected number of holding of SMFs landholder farmer families for FY 2018-19 is 13.15 crore.

– Due to likely exclusion of certain categories of



beneficiaries of higher economic strata, the total number of eligible beneficiaries has been taken as 12.50 crore.

– The existing land-ownership system will be used for identification of beneficiaries for calculation of financial benefit under the scheme.

Scheme contours and financial outlay:

– The scheme to be implemented as Central Sector Scheme with 100 per cent financial support by Government of India (GoI).

– For financial year 2018-19, a budget provision of Rs. 20,000 crore has been kept for disbursement of financial benefit to the eligible landholding SMFs families.

– Similarly, a budgetary provision of Rs. 75,000 crore has been kept in the financial year 2019-20 for disbursement of financial benefits to eligible landholding SMFs families.

Benefit to eligible SMFs:

– Under the scheme, a direct payment of Rs. 6000 per year will be transferred in three equal installments of Rs. 2000 each every four months into the Aadhaar ceded bank accounts of eligible landholding SMFs families.

– The first installment for the period 01.12.2018 to 31.03.2019, under the scheme will be transferred to the eligible beneficiaries in the current financial year (2018-19) itself. First installment shall be transferred immediately on identification of the beneficiaries.

Aadhaar capturing:

– For availing benefits under the scheme, Aadhaar is mandatory. However, in cases, where the beneficiaries at present are not having Aadhaar or Aadhaar Enrollment number, alternate prescribed documents can be collected for identity verification and transfer of benefit to such farmer families for transfer of 1st installment in 2018-19.

– All such beneficiaries not having Aadhaar card shall

have to be compulsorily enrolled under Aadhaar, since transfer of subsequent installments will be done only on basis of Aadhaar seeded data base.

– States/UTs to ensure that there is no duplication of the payment transferred to eligible families. Speedy reconciliation in case of wrong/incomplete bank details of the beneficiary to be ensured.

Monitoring of the scheme:

– For effective review and monitoring of the scheme, a Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) at Central level will be set up in DAC and FW.

– The PMU headed by Chief Executive Officer (CEO), shall also undertake publicity campaign (Information, Education and Communication-IEC).

– A stratified review/monitoring mechanism at National, State and District Level.

– At the National level, there will be a Monitoring Committee headed by Cabinet Secretary. State Govt. shall also notify the Monitoring Committees at the State and the district level.

Conclusion: The scheme would benefit around 12 crore farmers in the country. In every year, an amount of Rs. 75,000 crore would be given under this scheme. PM-KISAN would not only provide assured supplemental income to the most vulnerable farmer families but would also meet their emergent needs especially before the harvest season.

Reference:

<https://pmkisan.gov.in/>

<http://agricoop.nic.in/recentinitiatives/faqs-pradhan-mantri-kisan-samman-nidhi-pm-kisan>.

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